BOND SOLON
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THE ANNUAL BOND SOLON EXPERT WITNESS CONFERENCE 2015

The largest annual gathering of expert witnesses in the UK

Friday 6 November 2015

The Church House Conference Centre
Dean's Yard, Westminster, London SW1P 3NZ

CPD/CME accredited

Keynote:
The Right Hon Lord Hughes, Justice of the Supreme Court

£255 + VAT
Corporate bookings: for every four places booked you will receive a free place

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Timetable

9.15 Registration and refreshments

9.45 Welcome and introduction from the Chair
Mark Solon, Solicitor and Director, Bond Solon
Isabel West, Solicitor and Bond Solon Trainer

10.00 Keynote address
The Right Hon Lord Hughes, Justice of the Supreme Court

10.40 The illusion of impartial and objective experts
- Why are experts intrinsically biased?
- How to identify and demonstrate that experts are biased
- Ways to maximise objectivity and impartiality of experts

Dr Itiel Dror, Senior Cognitive Neuroscience Researcher, University College London

11.20 Refreshments

11.45 Annual legal update
- Key cases and legislation for experts in civil, criminal and family courts
- Procedure update
- Practical issues arising over the last 12 months

Jason Tucker, Solicitor, Cardiff University Law School, Centre for Professional Legal Studies

12.15 Question time
Topical debate in which you, the expert, will pose questions to our panel consisting of a judge, QC, solicitor, two experienced experts and a Bond Solon chairman. Questions are submitted by the audience in advance of the Question Time and others will be selected from the audience throughout the session. Questions can be aimed at any one, or all, of the panel who never know the questions beforehand.

Panel:
His Honour Judge Topolski QC
Ben Holland, Partner, Squire Patton Boggs
Tim Owen QC, Matrix Chambers
Akhtar Khan, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon
Brent Wilkinson, Forensic Accountant and Partner, BDO

Chairman:
Nick Deal, Barrister and Bond Solon Trainer

13.00 Lunch

14.00 Parallel sessions. Please choose one:

Medico-legal

The aftermath of the Montgomery judgement
- Empowering patients
- Reaching a balanced, informed decision
- Identifying material risks
- Evidencing the patient's understanding
- The value of the consent form

Andrew Andrews MBE, Director of Health & Social Care, Bond Solon

Update on revalidation
- Suitable persons – for independent practitioners
- Common problems
- Tools for reflection

Jo Wren, Regional Liaison Adviser, GMC

Family

Legal Aid and the Litigant in Person
- Working with litigants in person and lawyers
- The new guidance from the Legal Aid Authority
- Getting paid and charging more than the Legal Aid limit

Jerry Bull, Managing Director, Atkins Hope Solicitors

Criminal

David Hughes, Barrister, Nine Bedford Row

Commercial

Arbitration and the expert
- The current landscape
- Gaining instructions and working effectively within arbitrations
- How can experts improve the arbitration process?

Jeremy Winter, Independent Arbitrator

15.15 Refreshments

15.40 Instructions and understanding your solicitor
- Where you fit into the process
- Getting clarity on the issues to be addressed
- Developing a relationship with your instructing solicitor whilst maintaining independence

Joanna Page, Partner, Allen & Overy LLP

16.10 Mandatory accreditation of experts (whiplash)
- Background to the reforms and creation of MedCo
- Accreditation of experts
- The randomisation system of selecting experts
- Six months in: how is the system working?
- Is this the start of accrediting other areas of expertise?

Lorraine Rogerson, Chair, MedCo
Richard Mason, Deputy Director for Civil Justice, MoJ

16.45 Closing comments
Do you have any questions or comments?

17.00 Complimentary drinks reception and presentation of Cardiff University Law School Bond Solon Expert Witness Certificates

18.30 Close

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Speakers

Lord Hughes was appointed a judge of the Court of Appeal in 2006, serving as the Vice President of its Criminal Division from 2009 until his appointment as Justice of the Supreme Court in April 2013. The Supreme Court, as well as being the final court of appeal, plays an important role in the development of UK law.

Dr Itiel Dror (PhD in cognitive neuroscience, Harvard) has demonstrated in over 100 research articles that specific components in the cognitive underpinning of expertise entail vulnerabilities. Building on these insights he has developed unique ways to identify and combat these weaknesses and improve expert performance.

Jason Tucker is is a solicitor (non-practising) and Reader in Law, and is Deputy Director of the Centre for Professional Legal Studies at Cardiff Law School. Away from the University, he sits as a magistrate and deputy district tribunal judge.

Nick Deal was called to the Bar in 1989 and had a mixed common law practice. He has trained for Bond Solon since 2003 and is now lead trainer within the expert witness group, developing programmes and qualifications as well as continuing to deliver training courses.

Judge Michael Topolski QC is a circuit judge based at the Old Bailey. In his time as a solicitor and barrister he acted in a number of high profile domestic and international cases, including the appeal of Karen Henderson, the Bloody Sunday Inquiry and the Baha Mousa Inquiry.

Ben Holland is a partner in Squire Patton Boggs' International Dispute Resolution Practice Group. He specialises in handling multi-jurisdictional large-scale dispute resolution for energy-sector clients around the world. These complex cases can involve a number of expert witnesses.

Tim Owen QC is a highly regarded specialist whose practice spans the fields of criminal, public, human rights and civil law. He has appeared in more than 40 appeals to the House of Lords/Supreme Court as well as numerous appeals to the Court of Appeal, particularly those which raise novel, legally complex issues.

Akhtar Khan is a Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at Salford University Hospital, Manchester. He has been an expert witness for over 12 years undertaking both personal injury and medical negligence instructions. He is a also a Director of OPIL/Bond Solon: an online training portal for medical experts undertaking whiplash work.

Brent Wilkinson is a Partner with BDO LLP and leads the accountancy firm's forensic accounting/expert witness team in the North. He has gained experience in over 400 cases acting as an expert witness. He has also acted as a single joint expert and appeared at the International Court of Arbitration.

Jo Wren is a Lead Regional Liaison Adviser at the General Medical Council. She coordinates activities across the South of England, as well as leading specific work streams and projects for the team and organisation. Jo also covers the East of England, talking to groups and individuals about the work of the GMC.

Andrew Andrews MBE is a lawyer by profession and a respected legal advisor, whose practice is and has been in the public service (predominantly in health). His present responsibilities include: Visiting Lecturer Royal College of Psychiatrists, Chairman of One in Four and Trustee Florence Nightingale Foundation.

Jerry Bull is Managing Director of Atkins Hope and has over 30 years experience in child care cases. He lectures on legal aid and represented the Law Society on the Legal Aid Agency consultation on experts' remuneration and high costs cases.

David Hughes specialises in serious crime including murder, terrorism, fraud, cyber crime, drugs, sexual offences and confiscation. He has been involved in a number of high profile murder and/or terrorism cases (including the murder of Lee Rigby) and cases requiring a detailed knowledge of scientific evidence.

Jeremy Winter is an independent arbitrator. He recently left Baker & McKenzie, where he was head of their International Arbitration Group in London. Jeremy was also one of the first solicitors to be admitted as a Solicitor Advocate in the higher civil courts of England and Wales.

Joanna Page is a seasoned litigator and leads Allen & Overy's Corporate & Commercial Disputes group. She is described as 'truly excellent' (Chambers UK 2011) and exercising 'good judgement and is like a terrier with a bone' when it comes to resolving issues for clients (Legal 500 UK 2009).

Lorraine Rogerson is the Chair of MedCo. Set up in late 2014, MedCo is responsible for the implementation and running of the Government's policy of randomly sourcing accredited experts to prepare medical reports in soft tissue injury claims. All experts undertaking this work must be registered and accredited with MedCo.

Richard Mason is the Deputy Director in the Ministry of Justice responsible for policy on Civil Justice, Administrative Justice, Coroners, Burials, Cremation and Inquiries. As such he is currently concerned, among other things, with the course whiplash reform.

Mark Solon is a solicitor and US Attorney at Law. He has organised the training and conferences for tens of thousands of experts. He has written several books and numerous articles dealing with expert evidence.

Isabel West is a solicitor qualified in both England and Scotland. After years as a civil litigation partner who routinely relied on the evidence of experts she joined Bond Solon in 2005 and was Head of Expert Witness Group for several years.

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Feedback from last year's conference included:

"A vital day in maintaining current knowledge"
"Very informative review with key speakers with invaluable expertise and experience"
"Good to network with fellow experts, exchange experiences and ensure up to date knowledge"
"Single most useful bit of expert witness CPD there is in my opinion"

Booking form:
The Annual Bond Solon Expert Witness Conference 2015
Friday 6 November 2015
Church House Conference Centre, Dean's Yard, London SW1P 3NZ

Title:	**Name:**
Expert area:	
Address:	
	Postcode:
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Please indicate which parallel session you would like to attend:
☐ Medico-Legal
☐ Family
☐ Criminal
☐ Commercial
If you can't decide, let us know at a later date or call us for more information.

For further information or to make a booking over the phone, call us on
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London N1 7JQ

For further information, call us on 020 7549 2549

Confirmation of registration
On receipt of your booking, confirmation will be sent to you by email.

Cancellations must be received in writing by Friday 16 October 2015 and will be subject to a 25% administration fee. Cancellations received after Friday 16 October 2015 and those not received in writing, will not be accepted and the delegate(s) will be liable for the full conference fee. Delegate names may be changed at any point.

Please note that due to circumstances beyond Bond Solon's control, speakers and timings may vary. We reserve the right to cancel the conference if necessary and issue a full refund of fees.

Specific requirements
If you have any specific needs, such as a hearing or visual impairment, limited mobility or dietary requirements, please speak to us about how can improve the event for you. A vegetarian option is available as standard.