

## The Association of Child Abuse Lawyers – ACAL

### ACAL SOLICITOR’S LIST APPLICATION FORM

#### **MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA**

- The ACAL Executive Committee has formed a sub committee to consider the admission of all new applicants to the Solicitors’ Referral Scheme together with those existing members who wish to renew their membership of the Scheme.
  - (a) The sub committee shall be composed of the President, the Vice President and the Treasurer who shall be advised/supplied with the relevant papers by the Co-ordinator at the time when each applicant applies to join the Referral Scheme or renews his/her membership of the Referral Scheme.
  - (b) The sub committee shall briefly discuss each new application/renewal by email, telephone or at a meeting.
  - (c) The decision to admit a solicitor shall be at the sole discretion of the sub-committee who shall if they refuse the application, give written reasons for their decision to the unsuccessful applicant. There is no appeal against their decision but it is open to any applicant to re-apply in the following year. The criteria for joining the Solicitors’ List can be found on the Membership section and is set out below.
- Membership of the Solicitor’s List will enable the successful applicant to be referred to potential clients who contact ACAL. One of ACAL’s roles is to ‘signpost’ legal services for members of the public and the details in this application form may be provided to callers to the ACAL office to allow them to make an informed choice as to which lawyer to contact and instruct. ACAL may also publish and distribute the information gathered for the establishment of the Solicitor’s List in order to raise awareness of the scheme among members of the public.
- When considering applications for membership, the sub-committee will take into account practical experience as well as training attended previously, and any other relevant factors.
- All questions must be answered in full and legibly, and the declaration at the end of the form must be signed. Incomplete or unsigned applications will be returned.
- The application must be accompanied by a cheque for **£500.00** to help cover ACAL’s administration expenses and the costs in running the signposting scheme. Cheques should be crossed and made payable to “The Association of Child Abuse Lawyers”. The cheque is non-refundable.

- Payment of the cheque and successful completion of the application form will entitle the applicant to receive referrals for one year.
- Should any further space for answers be required, please continue on a separate A4 piece of paper but ensure that these are cross-referenced and clearly marked.
- The completed application should be sent to: ACAL, Suite 5, Claremont House, 22-24 Claremont Road, Surbiton, KT6 4QU : DX 57714 Surbiton 1 and marked "Solicitor's List Application".

**ABOUT YOU**

1. Title (Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms, Dr etc.): \_\_\_\_\_
2. Your full name: \_\_\_\_\_
3. ACAL Membership number: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Job title (Sole Practitioner, Partner, Consultant, Associate, Assistant Solicitor, Legal Executive etc.):  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Date of qualification (if appropriate): \_\_\_\_\_
6. Solicitor's roll number (if appropriate): \_\_\_\_\_
7. Date of membership to Law Society's Personal Injury Panel (if appropriate):  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Other relevant qualifications: \_\_\_\_\_  
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9. Other relevant memberships: \_\_\_\_\_

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**ABOUT YOUR FIRM**

10. Firm name: \_\_\_\_\_

11. Firm address: \_\_\_\_\_

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12. Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

13. Fax number: \_\_\_\_\_

14. DX number: \_\_\_\_\_

15. Email: \_\_\_\_\_

16. How many other fee earners deal with compensation claims for survivors of child abuse in your firm? \_\_\_\_\_

17. Approximately how many “live” child abuse cases are you dealing with currently?  
\_\_\_\_\_

18. Approximately how many “live” child abuse cases is your firm currently dealing with in total?

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**TRAINING & OTHER ISSUES**

19. Please confirm the dates when you attended:

ACAL Introductory Course I \_\_\_\_\_

ACAL Introductory Course II \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Practitioner's Workshop (if appropriate) \_\_\_\_\_

20. Please list any other training courses that you have attended in the last 3 years which have specific relevance to dealing with child abuse claims.

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21. Please list publications/ articles you have had published relating to child abuse claims.

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