

PRESS RELEASE - WIG & PEN PRIZE 2019

City's Wig & Pen Prize awarded to two trainee solicitors in recognition of pro bono work with refugees

Sienna Smallman and Kathryn Collar, trainee solicitors at Cleary Gottlieb, have been awarded this year's Wig & Pen Prize in recognition of their pro bono work with The Entrepreneurial Refugee Network (TERN).

The prize, awarded jointly by the City of London Law Society and City of London Solicitor's Company, celebrates the pro bono legal work of lawyers within the catchment area of the CLLS. For the first time this year, eligibility and prize criteria have been widened to include individuals at all career levels and to acknowledge examples of outstanding management of a pro bono initiative.

Sienna and Kathryn have been awarded the prize for their work with The Entrepreneurial Refugee Network (TERN) on an innovative project assisting refugees via a Legal Tool-kit. This is a comprehensive guide for refugee entrepreneurs beginning their business journey in the UK, providing legal guidance on adapting to a new jurisdiction.

Together they assembled a team of over twenty lawyers across Cleary Gottlieb's London offices to contribute to the Tool-Kit, creating a resource which covers 9 areas of business law and is now available to over 160 members of the TERN community. In addition, they are setting up a free legal advice clinic in order to assist TERN's refugee clients with bespoke legal issues.

Kathryn Collar & Sienna Smallman: "We are truly delighted to have been awarded the Wig and Pen Prize. Cleary Gottlieb is a vibrant and engaging community where the values of diversity and inclusion are exemplified via the firm's commitment to pro bono work. Our partnership with TERN, therefore, is a natural fit. They enable refugees to thrive through the power of their own ideas, building networks and changing preconceptions in the process. We look forward to a long and successful partnership with this incredible organization."

Edward Sparrow, CLLS Chairman: "The CLLS and CLSC are pleased to award Kathryn and Sienna with this year's Wig & Pen Prize. Their work with TERN is an excellent example of pro bono work going on within City firms, and demonstrates their commitment to access to justice and diversity, as well as their promise as lawyers."

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For Further information please contact Katy Barney, Project Associates on +44 20 7321 0773

NOTES TO EDITORS

The City of London Law Society is the professional representative body for the largest national and international law firms in the City of London. Its membership includes almost 60 firms practising in the City and employing 17,000 solicitors in London, the UK and overseas.