

City's 2021 *Wig & Pen Prize* for pro bono legal work awarded to Hogan Lovells' Angela Dimsdale Gill

Angela Dimsdale Gill, Partner in the Litigation Practice at Hogan Lovells, has been awarded the 2021 *Wig & Pen Prize* in recognition of her remarkable commitment to pro bono work over a 30-year career.

The prize, jointly awarded by the City of London Law Society and City of London Solicitor's Company, celebrates the pro bono legal work of City lawyers.

Throughout her career, Angela has worked to ensure those who need legal advice have access to it in a sensitive and dignified manner. Using her extensive litigation experience, she provides pro bono support to clients across a range of innovative, complex, and often traumatic issues.

Angela was instrumental in setting up the full-time pro bono practice at Hogan Lovells in 1997, then the first of its kind in the UK and continental Europe. She is also a renowned mentor to junior associates, reinforcing the critical message that pro bono clients are entitled to the same service as mainstream clients.

In recent years, Angela has dedicated hundreds of pro bono hours to supporting Hostage International. With diligence and compassion, she has provided essential advice and support to individuals and families facing the unimaginable trauma of the kidnap or disappearance of a loved one.

Often there is no playbook for this type of work. The law, as it stands, can be unsuited to such extreme situations. Angela's unwavering professionalism has often seen her lead first use of a particular law, or novel applications of legislation to a specialist situation.

Angela Dimsdale Gill said in response to receiving the prize: *'I am delighted and honoured by this award. There are so many practitioners in the City of London who generously devote their time to pro bono work, and I hope this award highlights the collective effort made by them all. Hostage International is a wonderful charity dedicated to providing compassionate support and practical help to those in the most distressing circumstances, and I feel privileged to have been able to help them in such a worthwhile cause.'*

Edward Sparrow, Chairman of the City of London Law Society, said: *'Over the course of a brilliant career, Angela Dimsdale Gill has made – and continues to make – an outstanding pro bono contribution to the law. She is a worthy winner of the 2021 Wig & Pen Prize. As well as demonstrating understanding of complex and often highly specialist legal issues, she has acted at all times with compassion and empathy for those she advises. Her impact on the pro bono landscape in the City deserves acclaim.'*

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NOTE 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.