

The Council of the Inns of Court

ADVOCACY TRAINNG

"Training the Trainers" Manual and DVD

Introduction – Charles Haddon-Cave QC (transcript of <u>video</u>)

Charles Haddon-Cave QC: As chairman of the Advocacy Training Council; the body responsible for standards of advocacy at the Bar of England and Wales, I'm delighted to welcome you to this advocacy training DVD.

The DVD and accompanying handbook mark an exciting in the advocacy training of barristers, and I hope will become regularly used by the inns and circuits and bar vocational course providers when training advocacy trainers. Advocacy is the key defining skill of the barrister, excellence in advocacy is what every barrister strives for - or should do - every time they stand up in court or a tribunal. Maintaining the highest standards in advocacy is key to the future of the profession, it is also important for the good administration of justice and the rule of law.

As advocacy trainers you will be playing a vital role in helping young barristers learn and practice the tools of the trade, and thereby ensure both the future health and success of the Bar, and the high standards of advocacy the public interest requires.

This DVD sets out the principals of the Hampel Method, used by the Bar for almost 20 years in the training of advocates. The method has its origins in both NITA; the National Institute of Trial Advocacy in the United States and the pioneering training of Professor George Hampel of the Australian Advocacy Institute (AAI).

The brilliance of the Hampel Method is it's recognition that advocacy is primally a performance skill, which can be refined and perfected by repeated practice. As you will discover, the method cleverly requires the trainers to select just one aspect of an advocacy performance at a time that particularly calls for improvement and to concentrate on that. Using a process of structured repetition

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and demonstration the trainee is able to focus their efforts on improving his or her advocacy performance, step by step. Believe me - it works.

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The training you are undertaking will show how the method can be applied to both those at the earlier stages of their career, and the more established practitioners who equally need to consistently hone and prove their advocacy technique through a more sophisticated application of the method.

The DVD is presented in three sections; the first two sections will take you through application of the method in relation to witness handling and argument advocacy. The third section of the DVD considers the uses and challenges of DVD reviews. You will need to look at the training booklet which accompanies this DVD for guidance on trial advocacy reviews, teaching advanced advocacy, and case analysis.

Both training and objective assessment standards are essential components in assuring competence in advocacy. The final section of the handbook accompanying the DVD includes both the documentation for continuously assessing the competence of Pupils, and the criteria for the assessment of Pupil advocacy tutors. These have been developed by the advocacy training Council and are used by all the inns and circuits. They're designed to ensure that assessments are objective, fair and reliable, and also clarify the standard of performance required.

Finally, the Bar vocational course providers would be unable to prepare students for call as barristers, nor would the inns and circuits be able to provide the top-class advocacy training courses for which they're known, without the remarkable efforts of our advocacy trainers. We are very grateful to you for your willingness to give your time and expertise - we very much hope that this DVD will you in your task, and that you will enjoy it - good luck.

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