

Publication for the Public Good

Distribution Proviso

The author and publisher has restricted access to this series of articles to National Union of Journalists (NUJ) and International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) members (also named parties) pending investigation of alleged criminal activity and legal action under: Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992; Solicitors' Code of Conduct 2007; Solicitors Act 1974; Administration of Justice Act 1985; Courts and Legal Services Act 1990; Fraud Act 2006; Employment Equality (Age) Regulations 2006; Vienna Convention on Consular Relations; and, Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

This proviso in no way restricts NUJ and IFJ members from releasing excerpts (with accreditation) to interested third parties including news media. Separate exposés cover unethical and illegal activities by London Freelance Branch officials in a consort with National Executive Council officers.

Independent investigation by law enforcement agencies involves an alleged pattern or practice of joint and several illegal or criminal activities by: National Union of Journalists (NUJ) executives, lawyers, and staff; National Executive Council (NEC) officers; and, London Freelance Branch (LFB) officials.

The author has little personal knowledge of other branches and chapels which do not form part of intended civil and criminal complaints; therefore, he has no opinion on their activities. Adverse comments, all verified and validated to insure accurate reporting, meet legal requirements.

Pro Bono Publishing

Michelle Stanistreet, NUJ Deputy General Secretary has personally attacked the author, a long-standing NUJ/IFJ member who writes for the public good, by maliciously disseminating libel to officials and members of the international trade union movement. Her scurrilous slagging alone provides grounds for impeachment.

Lawyers frequently use the Latin term "*pro bono publico*" (or in the vernacular "*pro bono*") which means "for the public good". They represent needy litigants without a retainer or fees and provide counsel to individuals or groups by filing applications or petitions with government on behalf of clients or acting for defendants in criminal cases. Judges frequently order the party losing the case to compensate *pro bono* counsel which, in principle, law firms recycle to help other impecunious litigants.

While some lawyers use *pro bono* services for disingenuous ends and political expedience, others have integrity and genuinely work for the public good. Ethical lawyers take instructions from indigent clients with deserving cases without payment. However, both lawyers and clients frequently ignore the difference between taking instructions and entering into a retainer. The former focuses on whether or not a solicitor can act, the latter on the terms of retainment.

Thousands of retired professional people in a variety of professions also donate voluntary time and resources to the needy although they do not receive compensation or the same publicity

as lawyers. Seldom do courts grant them remuneration for their services and they rely upon charity for their operating expenses.

Journalists use a lifetime of experience to reveal crimes that prejudice elderly or vulnerable people who cannot express or defend themselves. They provide a voice for people who have no voice by performing similar investigative work to that of lawyers; however, lawyers test cases in the courts while journalists publish their findings. Both lawyers and journalists must comply with ethical and legal codes of conduct formulated by members of their professional associations.

To avoid any conflict of interest, *pro bono* journalists receive no fees and donate court awards of damages to charitable foundations. Acting for the public good should neither diminish their standing as journalists nor should they suffer harassment and derogation inflicted by National Union of Journalists (NUJ) officials.

[*Nmesis*]

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