## THE BUNDLE

Deo Volente Solicitors Newsletter

## deo volente solicitors



### Is Video Calling in Court reliable enough?

Britain's biggest fraud trial, currently running at the Rolls Building in London, has shown a preview of what the court could look like in the future. Last week, the marathon civil action brought by information technology company HP against the former executives of Autonomy, a UK start-up it acquired in 2011, heard by video from Christopher Egan, the British company's former US head of sales.

Mr Egan who was in California at the time was lined-up face to camera. The video cross-examination began well until technical glitches started to intervene and disrupt the natural flow of the courtroom.

Despite the efforts of the technician, the connection struggled to stay long enough for the court to hear his say. Even after 20 minutes both display screens in the courtroom powered down, leaving Robert Miles QC cross-examining a black screen.

Although video calling could be convenient to the court when dealing with international cases, current technology may not be reliable enough to provide uninterrupted testimonies in the court room. However, this trial in particularly could open up new ideas to IT Solution companies for future uses and so we could expect to see more developed approaches in the next few years.

## resolution





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## Choosing a home: what to know

#### **Conveyancing Department**

So you've decided to buy your first home. You've started your search online and have walked-in to a number of estate agents to browse through your options.

But there's more to just finding the home you like the most. In fact, there's lots of different criteria to consider before making the bold move.

- Affordability How much can you afford? The larger your deposit the more favourable the mortgage deals you are likely to be able to access.
- Location Can you see yourself living in the area? Its important to get a feel of the town and region you're looking at as well as the house.
- Transport links Do you work in London? Make sure the commute to work is one you'll be comfortable with everyday.
- Flat or House? Flats tend to always be leasehold meaning you will have to pay a regular service charge and you may also have to renew the lease later.
- New build or second hand? New builds have become very appealing to first-time buyers because they are clean and more energy efficient. However, they tend to be more expensive with what's called a 'new-build premium'. Some buyers may prefer the opportunities for improvements with secondhand homes.
- Bedrooms How many bedrooms do you need? Will you be adding a new addition to the family later? Make sure to think this through in advance.
- Energy Performance Have you looked at the property's Energy Performance Certificate (EPC)? If there's anything that needs to be done to improve this be sure to include it with the total costs.
- Drawbacks Is the house close to busy roads? No shops near? If so, are these compromises you're willing to make?



At DV Solicitors We deal with both residential and commercial property law, and provide a straightforward service designed to make the legal process of moving house, transferring title, or remortgaging as stress free as possible.

For more information or to book an appointment with us please call 01234 350 244 or visit www.dvsolicitors.com/conveyancing

## NEED HELP FROM THE EXPERTS?



TOQEER MASUD
HEAD OF PROPERTY
E: T.MASUD@DVSOLICITORS.COM
TEL: 01234 868848

# New Legal webchat Service for Junior Lawyers and Trainees

New webchat service for junior lawyers to go live in July.

The legal mental health charity, LawCare, is piloting a new messenger service to reach legal professionals online. LawCare has designed the service for junior and trainee solicitors who are more likely to seek help this way than over the phone.

LawCare's CEO, Elizabeth Rimmer, said: "more and more people in the legal community are reaching out to us for support every year so it is vital we expand our support service. Our webchat service will allow anyone working in the legal profession to contact one of our trained team members online for emotional support on any issue that is troubling them."

The service comes after last year's LawCare report which showed that calls were at its highest, increasing by 5% from 2017. LawCare also revealed that some junior lawyers had called in regarding bullying and harassment at work, an 80% increase on the previous year.

LawCare's mission is to help the legal community with personal and professional concerns that may be affecting an individual's mental health and wellbeing, and to promote understanding of how and when to seek help, without fear or stigma.

Anyone from the legal profession can call their helpline which is free and confidential on 0800 279 6888. Their lines are open from Monday to Friday 9am - 7.30pm and weekends and bank holidays from 10am -4pm.

LawCare will never share your personal information and any given information from phone calls will only be used to measure statistics. For more information visit https://www.lawcare.org.uk/





## Visa for family of four granted in 24 hours!

#### **Immigration Department**

We recently had a family, who had been living in the UK without valid leave since 2014, approach us to help them with their visa application.

Their eldest child had just turned seven and therefore was now a qualifying child for the purpose of the Immigration Rules, meaning that he qualified for leave to remain in his own right.

We instructed an expert who interviewed the family and prepared a detailed report setting out that it was not in the child's best interests to be removed from the UK with his family.

Together with the report, DV Solicitors prepared detailed representations in support of the application, and arranged for the family to have their application considered on a super priority basis.

The application was granted within 24 hours.

Our client left the following feedback following the visa being issued:

"I would proudly recommend DV Solicitors, especially Khurshid Ali for any kind of immigration matters. They dealt our case in highly professional and most efficient way. Very responsive and readily available to clients! Couldn't have asked for more, as we got our decision in first attempt. Khurshid Ali covered each and every aspect of documents that were needed. Excellent preparation and presentation of the file. Thanks."

If you require legal advice in support of your visa application contact us on 01234 350 244 or book a free 30 minute consultation

on www.dvsolicitors.com/book-online

