## THE 21ST ANNUAL



# ENTRY GUIDE

Deadline for Entries: Tuesday 30th April 2024 Celebratory Dinner and Awards Ceremony: Thursday 19th September 2024 at the Doubletree by Hilton, Glasgow Central

www.scottishlegalawards.com

Supporting:



and







































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**About Us** 

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Now entering its 21st year, The Scottish Legal Awards is Scotland's national awards programme for the law in Scotland and promotes and celebrates the high-quality work of Scotland's legal industry. We are delighted to have the support of our headline sponsor 123 Medical Services.

The wide-ranging programme is judged by a highly experienced and independent judging panel and culminates in an event which is the largest industry dinner in the Scottish calendar.

This year, the event will take place at the Doubletree by Hilton, Glasgow Central on Thursday 19th September.

The objectives of the Scottish Legal Awards are to provide an all-inclusive programme which:

**Improves** the perception of Scottish law by profiling excellence in skill, business management, client care and community service.

**Rewards** high performing teams with industry wide recognition and an opportunity to celebrate at our annual awards dinner.

Recognises excellence in business achievements, customer care, career progression and team working.

**Assists** finalists and winners with marketing advantages geared towards achieving publicity and boosting team morale.

# **Key Dates**

Tuesday 30th April 2024 Deadline

for entries

June 2024

Finalists Announced

Thursday 19th September 2024

Awards Ceremony Doubletree by Hilton Glasgow Central

## **Our Charities**





## Law Scot Foundation

Imagine having the talent and ambition to study law at university but be unable to due to financial barriers. That's the reality facing many young people in Scotland, and the Lawscot Foundation has been established to help people who most need assistance. We believe that talent, rather than background and/or finances should be the deciding factor in whether a young person should be able to pursue a career in law.

All of the students we support receive:

- An annual bursary to help pay for accommodation, books and living costs
- · A trainee or solicitor mentor to provide careers advice and guidance
- A student mentor to provide support making the transition to university
- Visits to firms, and opportunities for work experience

We are now supporting 25 students and hope to support more each year. We are committed to ensuring the legal profession is diverse and continues to attract the brightest and the best.

www.lawscotfoundation.org.uk | Scottish Charity No: SCO46547



## It's Good 2 Give

The Ripple Retreat: A Haven of Healing and Hope

Nestled on the tranquil shores of Loch Venacher, The Ripple Retreat offers young cancer patients and their families a sanctuary of peace and rejuvenation. This award-winning retreat, opened in 2017, provides a home away from home, filled with toys, books, games, and activities to create cherished memories.

The Ripple Retreat also hosts one-day events for families, fostering a supportive community. Open to young cancer patients throughout Scotland, the retreat offers a place of solace and strength during challenging times. Behind The Ripple Retreat's compassionate mission lies Its good 2 give, a charity set up fourteen years ago by Ian and Lynne McNicoll OBE and is dedicated to supporting families facing cancer. With each family that visits, a wave of healing and hope washes over them.

To learn more: www.itsgood2give.co.uk Registered Charity No: SC041416

# Company Awards

Firm of the Year

**Excellence in Client Care** 

Community Care Award

Excellence in Legal Technology

Excellence in Diversity & Inclusion (NEW)

Excellence in Support & Wellbeing (NEW)

Team Awards

Litigation Team of the Year

Property Team of the Year



In-House Legal Team of the Year

Criminal DefenceTeam of the Year

Legal Support Team of the Year

Family Law or Private Client Team of the Year

## Individual Awards

Lifetime Achievement Award

Business Leadership Award

Lawyer of the Year

In-House Lawyer of the Year



# Paralegal of the Year

Rising Star of the Year

Advocate of the Year (NEW)

Law Champion of the Year (NEW)



## Firm of the Year



## Sponsored by Amiqus



The ultimate award of the night, this will be presented to the firm which stands out as a high achiever within the last year.

**Eligibility:** For legal firms based in and operating in Scotland.

- Provide an overview of the firm and an outline of key activity in 2023
- Provide a short biography of the executive members of the team
- Give evidence of strategic business planning, marketing effectiveness and financial results
- Provide an overview of business culture and team working
- Provide evidence of credentials and testimonials from clients and business partners

## **Excellence in Client Care**

This category recognises the work which advances client relations with services which deliver added value. Judges will consider creative approaches to client communications in topical changes such as tax, new legislation and Brexit, while considering the firm's approach to developing emerging areas of practice.

Eligibility: Open to legal firms, legal teams, charities and legal business providers based in Scotland.

- Provide an overview of how client relationships have been developed within the business in 2023.
- Provide evidence of a proactive approach to working with business associates, partners and clients to achieve excellent client care
- Provide examples of initiatives to further client services in the last 12 months
- Provide evidence of how the client experience is measured and how the outcomes have impacted on overall business success

# Community Care Award



# Sponsored by Frasia Wright Associates



Legal teams continue to be among the most generous of professions with a full and active programme of community engagement, pro bono and charitable work. This award will recognise the efforts of a firm to deliver a significant contribution to a local community or chosen charity.

Eligibility: Open to Legal firms, charities, in house teams or legal faculties based in Scotland.

#### **Entry content:**

- Provide an overview of the business and its key community contribution in 2023
- Provide information on the outcomes achieved and evidence of the positive impact created
- Provide information and evidence of a proactive approach working with colleagues and the community to create impact.
- Provide evidence from partners in the community which have benefitted from the success

# Excellence in Legal Technology

With the digital transformation of the legal industry, this award will recognise the development and use of technology in the Scottish legal sector. This award will be presented to a company which can demonstrate business success through technology-driven innovation

**Eligibility:** For companies proactively using or supplying technology in legal businesses which supports people and processes in a positive way.

- Provide an overview of the technology and its purpose in relation to business operations
- Describe how the technology integrates into the business
- · Provide an overview of the transformative impact of the technology on the business or legal sector
- Give evidence of how the use of the technology has impacted on business success

# Excellence in Diversity & Inclusion (NEW)



Sponsored by Law Society of Scotland



This category recognises the work which promotes diversity and inclusion in legal businesses in Scotland.

Judges will consider creative approaches which have driven organisational change in the workplace leading to a diverse and inclusive work force.

Eligibility: Open to legal firms, legal teams, charities and legal business providers based in Scotland.

#### **Entry content:**

- Provide an overview of the organisation's approach to diversity and inclusion
- · Provide evidence of a proactive approach to working with business associates, partners and clients to
- achieve the desired outcomes
- Provide examples or initiatives to further the organisations success in this area as seen in the last 12 months

# Excellence Support & Wellbeing (NEW)

This category recognises the work which supports the health and well being if individuals working in legal businesses in Scotland.

Judges will consider creative approaches which have driven organisational change in the workplace leading to a supported workforce which has health and well-being high on the agenda.

Eligibility: Open to legal firms, legal teams, charities and legal business providers based in Scotland

- · Provide an overview of the organisation's approach to health and well-being
- Provide evidence of a proactive approach to working with business associates, partners and clients to achieve the desired outcomes
- Provide examples or initiatives to further the organisations success in this area as seen in the last 12 months

# Litigation Team of the Year



## Sponsored by 123 Medical Services



This award will recognise a top performing litigation team or litigator, covering any area of litigation in Scotland

**Eligibility:** For litigation teams based in Scotland.

#### **Entry content:**

- Provide an overview of the team and an outline of key activity in 2023
- Provide information of relevant case studies in the last 12 months
- Provide evidence of a proactive or innovative approach to working with clients and business partners to achieve results
- Provide evidence of how work undertaken has impacted on overall business success

# Property Team of the Year

## Sponsored by Property Searches Scotland



Innovative and forward-thinking property teams will be recognised in the presentation of this popular award. Entrants should demonstrate a strong success rate in all aspects of property work including commercial real estate, residential property and conveyancing work.

**Eligibility:** For property teams based in Scotland

- Provide an outline of key activity of the team in 2023 including relevant case studies
- Provide an overview of business strategy and evidence of market insights and knowledge
- Provide evidence of a proactive or innovative approach to working with clients and business partners to achieve results
- Provide evidence of team performance resulting in overall business success, including key financial results

# In-House Legal Team of the Year



This award will recognise the hard-working teams of in-house lawyers working across the commercial spectrum.

Eligibility: For in-house legal teams based in Scotland

#### **Entry content:**

- An outline of key activity in 2023 including any landmark cases
- Provide evidence of success via relevant case studies
- Provide biographies of the team and their roles
- · Provide Industry credentials, client testimonials or supporting statements which evidence success
- Provide a short biography of the key members of the team

# Criminal Defence Team of the Year

For firms or teams of lawyers working for clients across the whole spectrum of criminal law, this award will be presented to firms delivering first class streamlined advice to clients.

Eligibility: For teams or firms based in Scotland working in any aspect of criminal law

- Provide an overview of key activity of the team in 2023
- Provide information and evidence of the outcomes achieved in 2023
- Provide evidence of a proactive approach to working with clients to achieve results
- Provide evidence of how these achievements have impacted on overall business success
- Provide a short biography of the key members of the team



# Legal Support Team of the Year

Teams in HR, IT, finance, marketing and business development are essential to the everyday delivery of a successful firm. The award recognises the work of these support teams in the advance of client services. In addition to internal teams, external support teams in areas such as software, support services or marketing will also be considered.

**Eligibility:** For internal or external support teams based in Scotland

### **Entry content:**

- Provide an outline of key activity in 2023
- Provide information on relevant case studies, demonstrating expertise
- Provide relevant Industry credentials, client testimonials or supporting statements which evidence success
- Provide an evidence of team performance and how this has contributed to overall business success

# Family Law or Private Client Team of the Year

This category will recognise family law or private client teams that have demonstrated excellence in client service delivery. Judges will consider high volume quality provider or a team delivering a landmark case outcome.

**Eligibility:** For family law firms or private client teams based in Scotland.

- Highlight your key activity and achievements in the last year
- Provide an overview and of the team's performance in the last 12 months and how it has impacted on overall business success
- Provide information and evidence of the outcomes achieved in 2023
- Give evidence of a proactive approach to working with clients to achieve results
- Provide an overview of how client relationships have been developed in 2023

## Lifetime Achievement Award



### Sponsored by The Times



This award seeks to recognise an individual who has dedicated their lifelong career to the Scottish legal profession, championing positive impact and change. This award will be presented at the discretion of the judging panel and is not open for entry, however suggestions can be made to the panel via email to kirsten@kdmedia.co.uk

# **Business Leadership Award**



This award will be presented to the leader of a law firm, legal business, charity or faculty based in Scotland who has demonstrated outstanding business leadership in the last year.

This award will be presented at the discretion of the judging panel and is not open for entry, however suggestions can be made to the panel via email to kirsten@kdmedia.co.uk

# Lawyer of the Year



This award will be presented to an individual who has achieved unparalleled success in a chosen field. The individual may be working as a specialist or delivering essential advice to any area of legal services including in house teams, government services or in a charity capacity.

**Eligibility:** For lawyers based in Scotland.

- Provide a detailed biography of the individual nominated.
- Provide an overview of the individual's key achievements in 2023
- Provide evidence of how these achievements have impacted on overall business success
- Provide supporting statements from colleagues, clients or other external sources to support the individual's nomination

# In-House Lawyer of the Year



This award will be presented to an individual working as part of an in-house team who has achieved unparalleled success in their field. The individual may be working as a specialist or delivering essential advice to any area of legal services.

Eligibility: For all in-house lawyers based in Scotland, operating in a Scottish based firm.

#### **Entry content:**

- Provide a detailed biography of the individual nominated
- Provide an overview of the individual's key achievements in 2023 including any landmark transactions
- · Provide evidence of how these achievements have impacted on overall business success
- Provide supporting statements from colleagues, clients or other external sources to support the individual's nomination

# Paralegal of the Year

This award will be presented to an individual working as part of an in-house team who has achieved unparalleled success in their field. The individual may be working as a specialist or delivering essential advice to any area of legal services.

Eligibility: For all in-house lawyers based in Scotland, operating in a Scottish based firm.

- An outline of key achievements in 2023
- A detailed biography and career history of the individual nominated
- Provide examples of the individual's fundamental contribution to the firm
- Provide relevant credentials and testimonials which evidence success

# Rising Star of the Year



This award seeks to recognise an outstanding individual who is up to seven years qualified and who has demonstrated exceptional ability in any number of areas and may be in an in-house or private firm.

Eligibility: For individuals based in Scotland working in a Scottish based firm

#### **Entry content:**

- An outline of the individual's key activity in 2023
- · A detailed biography and career history of the individual nominated
- Provide examples of excellence in practice in 2023
- Provide evidence of achievements and how these have impacted overall business success

# Advocate of the Year (NEW)

This new award will be presented to a working advocate who has achieved a major success and outcome in their chosen field in the last 12 months.

The individual must be nominated by a fellow advocate, clerk, instructing solicitor and be practising at the Scottish bar.

Eligibility: For advocates called to the Scottish bar

#### **Entry content:**

- Provide a detailed biography of the individual nominated.
- Provide an overview of the individual's key achievements in the last 12 months
- Provide evidence of how these achievements have impacted on cases and individuals involved.
- Provide supporting statements from colleagues, clients or other external sources to support the individual's nomination

# Law Champion of the Year (NEW)

This award seeks to recognise an individual who has raised the awareness of Scots law, or the Scottish legal profession by championing positive impact and change.

This award will be presented at the discretion of the judging panel and is not open for entry, however suggestions can be made to the panel via email to kirsten@kdmedia.co.uk

# The Judging Panel

## Meet our judging panel HERE







## How to Enter



- Please visit: www.scottishlegalawards.co.uk
- Click on Enter now for details on how to enter
- Entries must be completed online using the online entry form
- To enter the competition all entrants must register as a new user by creating an online account
- You are invited to submit as many entries as you wish
- Please note that a separate submission is required for each entry
- All entries must include a summary statement that can be used by the Scottish Legal Awards for PR purposes
  to promote the entry, as indicated in the entry form
- Please use appendices for relevant supporting material and evidence
- All entries must include company logo in high resolution JPEG, PNG and EPS formats
- All accompanying images and appendices must be provided using a Dropbox link which must contain all
  assets and information to be considered with the entry. Please enter the link in the relevant section of the entry
  form
- To create a Dropbox Account, please follow the instructions <u>HERE</u>.
- Upon submitting your entry, you will receive an automated email response to confirm your submission. If you do not receive this within 24 hours of submission, please contact us on Louise@kdmedia.co.uk
- Closing date for entries is 12 noon on Tuesday 30th April 2024
- No late submissions will be accepted

# **Entry Terms & Conditions**

- The Scottish Legal Awards cost £145 + VAT per company or firm to register. This is a non-refundable registration fee.
- The judges reserve the right to move entries into other categories, to remove categories or create new awards.
- The judges' decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- By entering the Scottish Legal Awards you give permission for the images and logos included in your submission to be used at the awards ceremony and in the awards marketing materials.
- The information contained in each entry is kept strictly private and confidential unless approval from the
  entering company is received, however all entries must include a summary statement that can be used by the
  Scottish Legal Awards for PR purposes to promote the entry, as indicated in the entry form.
- All queries should be directed to KDMedia by email to louise@kdmedia.co.uk
- The email address provided on the entry will be passed to The Times for them to contact you regarding features. If you do not wish for your email to be passed on, please advise by Tuesday 30th April 2024.

# Sponsors





## 123 Medical Services

Since 2017, our dedicated in-house team of highly experienced medical experts (across many specialities) have delivered concise and accurate reports. We provide the fastest turnaround in the industry, facilitating timely resolution of legal cases.

123 Medical Services is proud to be the headline sponsor of the Scottish Legal Awards 2023 and 2024. Our multi-year sponsorship reflects our ambition and commitment to supporting our legal partners, industry leaders and experts. We hope to contribute to driving efficiencies and effectiveness in the medico-legal reporting process.

Visit: www.123medicalservices.co.uk | 0141 459 2123



## Frasia Wright Associates

Established in 1995, Frasia Wright Associates (FWA) remains the only specialist legal recruitment consultancy based in Scotland, dedicated to placing lawyers.

Our values define our culture. Integrity and confidentiality are the cornerstones of our service and we recognise that the services we provide impact significantly on the businesses, careers and lives of others.

Our team of recruitment consultants have the skills and knowledge to provide a relevant and effective recruitment service. As a niche consultancy, our expertise and market knowledge allow us to make an enhanced offering to our clients and candidates.

Over these last 27 years we have worked with lawyers throughout their careers, from starting out as NQ lawyers, to returning to us as recruiting partners, now responsible for the direction of the new generation of lawyers. Finding the right person for any job requires much more than the simple exchange of CVs, our approach is different. Our services are adapted to meet the specific needs of individual candidates, as well as our clients.

Visit: www.frasiawright.com | 01294 850501



## **Amiqus**

Amiqus is the market-leading compliance platform for legal, recruitment, public sector and financial services. It enables firms to digitally verify and onboard staff or clients in minutes; helping firms to quickly identify if the people they want to work with or hire are who they say they are, which is often the first step to getting to work on the things that matter.

As part of the global fight against money laundering, identity fraud and terrorism financing, regulation is on the rise. Guided by our values of truth, privacy, and accessibility, our award-winning team continually updates Amiqus to meet or surpass the latest regulatory standards.

So whether you're hiring a new member of staff; legally supporting someone through their first house purchase or carrying out due diligence on an exciting new client, Amiqus covers the full range of compliance checks needed.

Visit: www.amiqus.co



## Law Society of Scotland

The Law Society of Scotland is the professional body for over 13,000 solicitors, supporting and regulating our members working in high street and multi-national firms, in-house, across Scotland and further field.

We have a statutory duty to work in the public interest – we set and uphold standards to ensure our members provide excellent legal services and that the public can continue to have confidence in Scotland's legal profession.

We seek to influence the creation of a fairer and more just society providing invaluable specialist support for policy and law makers across the UK.

Our members play a vital role in the deals that fuel our economy and we are delighted to sponsor the Solicitor of the year and Excellence in Diversity & Inclusion awards and celebrate the Scottish legal profession

Visit: www.lawscot.org.uk

# **Sponsors**





## Property Searches Scotland

Property Searches Scotland have an outstanding record of delivering fast and reliable property reports in a highly efficient manner. Our online ordering platform is constantly evolving to ensure it continues to provide conveyancing customers with the most user-friendly, convenient and practical experience possible. Uniquely, this platform includes search alerts for coal mining reports. We can also provide customers with multiple free updates and No Sale No Fee on manufactured products – all at competitive prices.

Our customers tell us our service is unrivalled, and this is supported by our recent award of the Support Team of the Year at the Scottish Legal Awards in November 2020 and our latest Net Promoter Score of 86 rating our service as world class.

We continue to offer customers a next day service as standard with more than 99% of Property Enquiry Certificates, Legal Reports, Remortgage Searches and Company and Charges reports being returned on the same or next day.

Visit: www.propertysearchesscotland.co.uk

## Media Partner



## THE TIMES

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The Times Scotland, driven by brilliant Scottish journalism, is the fastest-growing news title in the country thanks to the unrivalled quality of our work both in print and online. We are committed to giving our readers the best news, commentary and analysis on the issues that really matter to the people of Scotland. We are proud of our success and are confident our coverage of news, sport, business, and the arts across Scotland, coupled with the superb work of our colleagues in London and around the world, makes us unbeatable. With editor Magnus Llewellin and outstanding writers such as Magnus Linklater, Alex Massie, Greig Cameron, Mike Wade, Michael Grant and Graham Spiers, we are at the front and centre of the Scottish news agenda.

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