Obtaining one’s **Higher Rights of Audience** is a major boost to the credibility, professionalism and service that solicitors can offer to their clients. The City Law School offers the relevant training and assessments to qualify as a Solicitor Advocate via both the Civil and Criminal routes.

The City Law School, formerly the Inns of Court School of Law, are world renowned experts in the preparation of Advocates. We have devised a thorough and cost effective course and assessment which enables practitioners to qualify as Solicitor Advocates and to represent their clients in the higher courts. We offer training in preparation for both the Civil and Criminal assessments, and our courses are authorised by the Solicitor’s Regulatory Authority (SRA) under the Higher Rights of Audience Regulations 2011.

**Preparation for assessments**

Whilst there is no compulsory requirement to undertake any training for the assessments, it is understandable that most candidates prefer to prepare as thoroughly as possible. However, you may proceed straight to taking them if you wish and you can book this option through us.

It is our recommendation that individuals undertake training before attempting the assessment, and our sessions are specifically geared towards ensuring that candidates are fully prepared. Training can only improve one’s chance of passing the assessments and provides the following advantages:

- Learn through use of case studies that will be similar to those used for assessments
- Gain specific knowledge that assessors are looking for in the assessments
- Gauge how well prepared you are to take the assessments, and whether you are likely to pass
- Familiarise yourself with the syllabus and format of the assessment
- Improve your confidence as an advocate.

**Format for the training**

The City Law School offers the following assessment preparation:

- Three days of intensive, small group practical training
- A mock written paper for you to sit to help you to evaluate your level of knowledge and identify any gaps in knowledge
- Full and practical advocacy training, including skeleton drafting, trial plans, making an interim application and a mock trial.

**Our training expertise**

Our trainers are all ATC accredited and are current practitioners. The City Law School, incorporating the former Inns of Court School of Law, was the first University Law School in London to educate students and practitioners at every stage of legal education and we have a rich heritage as a legal education provider.

**Taking the Assessment**

Our assessment is designed to ensure that potential Solicitor Advocates are fully equipped to perform at the level required when appearing in the higher courts. Successful candidates will know that they have achieved a high standard of advocacy skills and be well prepared and confident to appear in court. The assessment itself comprises three elements:

1. A two hour written assessment to deal with the knowledge elements presented in a MCT format
2. An interim submission advocacy assessment in a contested context that will require the preparation of a skeleton
argument in advance. The duration will be 10 minutes for each delegate and will involve judicial intervention by the assessor.

3. A trial advocacy assessment in a contested context. Each delegate will have to furnish a trial strategy plan to demonstrate case analysis and then participate in an opening speech, cross-examination of a lay witness and then a closing speech. Each element will be of 10 minutes duration.

### Learning Outcomes
Candidates successfully passing the assessment will achieve their Higher Rights of Audience and be able to appear as Solicitor Advocates in the High Court/Crown Court.

### Benefits
After passing the assessment, new Solicitor Advocates will be able to offer their clients a full service including all aspects of litigation work. Benefits will also include the likelihood of greater fee earning potential and an enhanced status and reputation.

### How to book
To book your place for either training or the assessment, or both, then please click here.

Alternatively you can call us on: 020 7040 0364.