THE BARRISTERS'
BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

APPEAL ON BEHALF OF THE BARRISTERS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE BAR ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY COVID -19 AND THE CLOSURE OF THE COURTS

The Covid-19 Emergency Fund Appeal

14 April 2020

Dear Member of the Bar,

This Appeal is made jointly by the four Inns of Court and the Barristers' Benevolent Association ("the BBA"). The BBA is the Bar's own charity which supports needy and deserving members of the Bar and their dependants.

The aim of this Appeal is to help those members who have contracted the corona virus and are unable to support themselves and their families as well as those many members of the Bar, particularly but not exclusively, those who do publicly funded work, who now find themselves in an extraordinarily difficult position through no fault of their own. For example, the closure of the criminal courts has resulted in the stopping of work for many criminal barristers. Many of those practising at the publicly funded Bar do not have a substantial aged debt or monies to tide them over till the courts reopen and life is back to normal. The BBA is well aware of barristers in, or who expect to be shortly in, severe financial difficulties even if they are in the fortunate position of being a member of a set of chambers which is expected to continue; some

chambers have already made the decision to close and others are considering their future. A number of chambers cannot pay their outgoings such as rent because their members cannot pay their chambers' expenses.

There will be members of the Bar without money to put food on the table for themselves and their families. The irony of this is that many of the members of the Bar who will suffer most by the closure of the criminal courts and certain tribunals are those who provide – beyond any argument - a vital public service which is rarely acknowledged by the public. We have all heard of the unprecedented assistance offered by the Government. Regrettably some of that assistance will not be available to many members of the Bar or will be available too late to alleviate their immediate basic needs. We estimate that a substantial number of members of the Bar are likely to find themselves in severe financial difficulties.

The main source of private emergency funding for these Barristers is going to be from the Bar and the Judiciary through the BBA and that is why the Inns have joined together with the BBA in this Appeal for funds. The BBA is well-experienced in administering funds for the benefit of the Bar and there should be little or no costs incurred in administering the fund.

In order to launch the Appeal the Inns are making a substantial donation to the BBA.

The Lord Chief Justice, the Rt Hon Lord Burnett of Maldon, has asked us to say that he "enthusiastically supports the Appeal and urges barristers and judges who were members of the Bar to give generously to support it".

We would urge you to make a generous donation to the Covid-19 Appeal. We appreciate that the demands on the BBA are likely to exceed what can be satisfied but if some of the hardship suffered by some of the members of the Bar and their dependants can be alleviated, something very worthwhile will have been achieved.

Attached to this Appeal is a form enabling you to make a donation. We hope you will see your way to making a substantial initial contribution as well as a regular contribution for several months thereafter. In order to enable the BBA to start making distributions with some understanding of the size of the fund available we would ask you to make your initial donation as soon as possible which will enable the BBA to give assistance where it is urgently required.

Like everyone else we do not know how long the current situation will continue but even if the Courts resume their ordinary work in June it is likely that the adverse consequences will be felt by members of the Bar for some time thereafter.

Your donation could make a very real difference.

A copy of a donation and gift aid declaration form is attached. The form explains how the donation can be made.

We hope you and your family stay safe and well.

Regards,

The Rt Hon Lord Justice David Richards
Treasurer Lincoln's Inn

The Rt Hon Sir Brian Leveson
Treasurer Middle Temple

Guy Fetherstonhaugh QC
Treasurer Inner Temple

The Rt Hon Lord Justice Stephen Irwin
Treasurer Grays Inn

Terence Mowschenson QC
Chairman the BBA

THE BARRISTERS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION
Established 1873

THE COVID 19 EMERGENCY FUND APPEAL
DONATION AND GIFT AID DECLARATION FORM

Your Help

As described in the Appeal we urgently need your help to raise substantial additional funds as soon as possible. This is to enable us to provide emergency assistance to members of the Bar who are needy and deserving.

How To Donate

Option 1- CAF

If you use **Charities Aid Foundation (CAF)** this may be the easiest route.

1. Click here to access CAF
2. In 'Find a charity' type *Barristers Benevolent Association*
3. Select payment method
4. Select amount you would like to donate
5. Tick special instructions and add COVAP
6. Follow the on-screen instructions for Gift Aid.

Option 2 - Just Giving

You can make donations through JustGiving on the Barristers' Benevolent Association "Covid-19 Emergency Fund Appeal". Click here to go directly to this site. Donations through the JustGiving site will **NOT** require the attached gift aid form to be completed and returned.

Option 3 - Direct Bank Transfer

You can donate directly into our bank account. To do this you will need to send donations to the following:

Barristers' Benevolent Association
National Westminster Bank
Account: 15565173
Sort Code:60-80-08

Set up a direct payment using **REF:** COVAP and your First Name and your Surname e.g. COVAP John Smith.

Gift Aid

If using Option 3 (Direct Transfer), please complete the attached Gift Aid declaration form and email it to annette@the-bba.com. This is to enable the BBA to claim back an additional 25% of what you have donated. So, if you donate £100 the BBA will receive an additional £25 that will be allocated towards the Appeal funds.

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Gift Aid Declaration – Multiple donation

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate.
Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box below:

☐ I want to Gift Aid my donation of £_____ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to **The Barristers' Benevolent Association.**

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

My Details

Please print full name and title in capitals

Title: _____First Name: _____

Surname: _____

Full Home address: _____

Post Code: _____

Dated: _____ _____ Signed_____

Please Notify the Barristers' Benevolent Association if you:

- Want to cancel this declaration
- Change your name or home address
- No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Return to:
BBA by email to **annette@the-bba.com**