



# Best Practices in training of judges and prosecutors

Category of practice: **Innovative Curricula or Training Plan in any Given Area**

Type of practice: **Best Practice**

Country: **England and Wales**

**April, 2014**

Title of practice	Simulated Mock Tribunals and Role Play Programmes
<i>Key features:</i>	<p>In their recent series of continuous training seminars, the Property Chamber in <b>England and Wales</b> identified a number of areas of jurisdiction and practice in which training was required. It was decided to incorporate the relevant law topics into a scripted mock hearing of an application.</p> <p>Delegates working in groups of five or six were asked to determine the issues at large in syndicate groups. Each of the topics was then addressed in turn as part of the training event through scripted hearing accompanied by small formal presentations and plenary discussion. As well as addressing issues of law, the mock hearing was scripted to demonstrate issues of case management and conduct of a hearing, using interactive role play involving a great deal of spontaneous intervention. The ‘players’ were the trainers, supported by two delegates who were nominated to sit on the mock tribunal.</p> <p>The training was in the form of a two-day seminar (12.5 hours in total).</p> <p>Wishing to avoid subjecting participants to two days of formal lectures, the training team also wanted to make the training as topical and relevant as possible. The opportunity to view the areas of case management, law and practice in the context of a tribunal hearing and then receive instruction and information made the learning outcomes more relevant. It also enabled the trainers to use a variety of training methods, which made the seminar more interesting and enjoyable for delegates.</p>

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<i>Other comments</i>	The use of mock trials is already a training practice in use in the great majority of national training institutions within the EU. The <b>BEST PRACTICE</b> detailed above is used as an example of how legal topics may be addressed within this interactive context.

Source: Pilot Project - European Judicial Training: "Lot 1 – Study on best practices in training judges and prosecutors", carried out by the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN)