



**National Heavy Vehicle Regulator and
The Australian Advocacy Institute**

**WORKSHOP INFORMATION,
TIMETABLE
AND
TASK ALLOCATIONS**

Advocacy Skills Workshop

Wednesday 30 April 2025 - 5.00pm* to 6.30pm - ONLINE

Thursday 1 May 2025 - 5.00pm* to 6.00pm - ONLINE

Saturday 3 May 2025 - 8.45am to 3.45pm – IN-PERSON

Venue: Family Court of Australia, 99 Goulburn Street, Sydney

All times are EST [Sydney time].

* Wed/Thurs Zoom will open 30 minutes early each day for online connection.

Advocacy Skills Workshop – online/in-person.

30 April, 1, 3 May 2025



Please read the information below immediately and thoroughly as it is important to your preparation and contribution to learning at the workshop.

Dear Workshop Advocates,

The AAI is pleased to be able to provide this advocacy workshop for you and we are sure that you will find this course helpful in improving your advocacy skills.

The purpose of this workshop is to help you with how to structure a case, how to prepare, how to ask purposive relevant questions, how to argue and how to be persuasive in court.

Workshop Program:

Part 1: Introductory Session 1. ONLINE – Wednesday 30 April 2025

Time: 5.00pm* to 6.30pm

Part 2: Introductory Session 2. ONLINE – Thursday 1 May 2025

Time: 5.00pm* to 6.00pm

Part 3: Advocacy Performance Skills Workshop IN PERSON - Saturday 03 May 2025,

Time: 8.45am to 3.45pm.

Venue: Family Court of Australia, 99 Goulburn Street, Sydney

All times are Eastern Standard Time (Sydney time).

*Wed/Thurs Workshop Zoom will open 30 minutes early each day for online connection.

Workshop Format

Introductory sessions ONLINE Wednesday and Thursday:

The Wednesday and Thursday sessions will be held ONLINE, with all advocates joining using the AAI ZOOM platform through their own computer connection. Further details on using and connecting by ZOOM are in the “Workshop Materials” document, part of the download on the AAI webpage for this workshop.

Click on this link for automatic log-on:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2716263497?pwd=cjZmOXRROUp0dUVpaTdaWEM2TEwyQT09>

(ID = 2716263497 Password = Advocacy)

Workshop IN-PERSON Saturday:

The following “**Timetable and Task Allocation**” details the format for Saturday. At the start of the Timetable you will find a table that allocates a GROUP and ADVOCATE TASK NUMBER for each advocate.

Group Performance Sessions and General Skills Sessions have been scheduled through Saturday.

In the Group Sessions, you will break into smaller groups to individually **present your allocated advocacy tasks** before a Judge/Trainer in the same manner that you would present in court. You will find your allocated advocacy tasks set out within each session of the timetable below. The case studies and materials are available for download on the Workshop webpage.

Once you have finished each performance you will be given a review by the AAI Trainer. This review is designed to be positive, not critical. You will be given advice on ways that your individual performance can be improved using various advocacy skills, including an explanation and demonstration of the particular skills relevant to your performance.

The Workshop Case Studies

Why have we used a ‘criminal’ case study? We acknowledge that for some of you, the case studies being used may not be of the type you generally deal with. We use these case studies deliberately as we believe them to be very good for the teaching of advocacy, demonstrating skills that can be applied in any jurisdiction, be it criminal, civil, family law or commercial, etc. You may also find that you have been allocated a Defence task when your daily role is for the Prosecution. The advocacy skills you will learn will be of universal application – the same skills apply regardless of the type of case, the jurisdiction you appear in or the side you appear on. This has been proven over three decades of advocacy instruction by the AAI.

We have also included two applications. These require no further research or additional material preparation and are designed to demonstrate advocacy skills in presenting an urgent, oral application.

Preparation before the workshop

The pre-workshop preparation of your allocated tasks is essential to this performance-based workshop. You are required to prepare each of your set tasks between now and the commencement of the workshop. Please **allow yourself time to prepare properly** – it is anticipated that you should allocate 6 hours + for this preparation. Please prepare in advance – do not wait until after the Wed/Thurs. introductory sessions.

If you are not totally familiar with the requirements of any particular advocacy task, you may find it helpful to refer to the “Specific Advocacy Tasks” summary at the end of the Course Materials document.

Again, we acknowledge that you may not be familiar with the law relating to each case study. Please don’t be concerned or get bogged down in your preparation with any legal technicalities. **Don’t research or bring statutes or precedents.** Do not be distracted with the law or with jurisdictional procedure. Evidence is restricted to **only** that contained within each case study so you do not need to look outside the immediate information provided.

Remember, the purpose of this workshop is to help you with how to structure a case, how to prepare, how to ask purposive relevant questions, how to argue and how to be persuasive in court. It is not about the law.

You will be asked to act as a witness for other advocates.

When a task requires a witness in Evidence in Chief or Cross Examination, the AAI Trainer will nominate someone from your group to take the witness role. **THIS MAY BE YOU**, so a thorough knowledge and understanding of the facts of each case study will help both you and your colleagues get the most out of the workshop. Know the witness statements to the same degree you would expect of the witness when it is your turn to present.

I recommend you consult the “AAI Advocacy Manual” pdf document provided as part of your materials, which has detailed chapters on all the aspects of advocacy you will be using at this workshop. Use this Manual in your preparation and for future reference. There is no need to bring this with you to the workshop. Please note that this document is AAI Copyright, so is print and copy protected.

Task Performances

You will see in the timetable task allocations that a time limit has been set for each task performance. Please prepare as if you were to present the whole of the task. The time allocation means you may not be able to present all the task and you are not expected to be able to finish your performance. Do not rush and try and fit it all into the allocated time. Your review will be on that part of the task you present, not the parts you may not have reached.

Dress for the Saturday workshop is casual. Morning tea and a light lunch will be provided.

I look forward to seeing you both online and at the workshop on Saturday.

Regards



Scott Wallace

General Manager, Australian Advocacy Institute.

Email: aai@advocacy.com.au Mobile & Text: 0418 473 303

Workshop Timetable

Wednesday 30 April 2025 - ONLINE

4.30 to 5.00pm	
Advocates log-on to Zoom Workshop. Click on this link for automatic log-on: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2716263497?pwd=cjZmOXRROUp0dUVpaTdaWEM2TEwyQT09 (ID = 2716263497 Password = Advocacy)	
SESSION 1	5.00 to 6.30pm (90mins)
General Session	Introduction to Advocacy. Case Theory and Argument.

Thursday 1 May 2025 - ONLINE

4.30 to 5.00pm	
Advocates log-on to Zoom Workshop. Click on this link for automatic log-on: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2716263497?pwd=cjZmOXRROUp0dUVpaTdaWEM2TEwyQT09 (ID = 2716263497 Password = Advocacy)	
SESSION 1	5.00 to 6.00pm (60mins)
General Session	Techniques in Cross Examination. Communication in court.

Advocate Task Number allocations for Saturday performance sessions:

No	RED GROUP	BLUE GROUP	YELLOW GROUP	GREEN GROUP
1	Johnny Tu	Simon Ridley	Melissa Davis	Anthony Joseph
2	Cheryl Tesch	Tamara Savage	Michael Maka	Vasanthini Velautham
3	Eugene Lagana	Benjamin Michell	Georgia Hazzard	Danielle Kooke
4	Stephen McGrath	Andrew Hanshaw	Charlotte Davidson	Niel van der Linde
5	Mark Fenlon	Teghan Coates	Rory Oremerod	Hayden Geddes
6	Diana Zreik	Nirasheeni Shanmugaratnam	Anastasia Kolos	Kymberley Skillen

SATURDAY 3 May 2025

Venue: Family Court of Australia, 99 Goulburn Street, Sydney

8.45 to 9.00am (15 mins)	
General Session	Introduction to the AAI trainers. Introduction to the workshop.
SESSION 1 9.00 to 10.00am (60 mins)	
Group Session	<u>APPLICATIONS</u>
Advocate Performances in Group: 5 minutes per task	<u>Case Study 1: Porcine v Royal Bridgewater Golf Club</u>
	TASK: Apply for an ex-parte injunction ADVOCATE: 1 TASK: Apply for an ex-parte injunction ADVOCATE: 2
AAI Trainer Review in Group: 4 minutes per task	<u>Case Study 2: Middleton v Blanchard and Handy Bros</u>
	TASK: Apply for an urgent injunction ADVOCATE: 3
	TASK: Oppose the application ADVOCATE: 4
	TASK: Apply for an urgent injunction ADVOCATE: 5 TASK: Oppose the application ADVOCATE: 6

MORNING TEA BREAK 10.00 to 10.15am (15 mins) – provided.

SESSION 2 10.15 to 11.20am (65 mins)	
Group Session	<u>EVIDENCE-IN-CHIEF AND CROSS EXAMINATION</u>
Advocate Performance in Group: 5 minutes per task	<u>Case Study 3: DPP v Evelyn Cannon</u> ADVOCATE
	TASK: Lead Evidence from Const. O'Rourke for Prosecution 3 TASK: Cross Examine Const. O'Rourke for Defence 4 TASK: Lead Evidence from Peter Porter for Prosecution 1 TASK: Cross Examine Peter Porter for Defence 2 TASK: Lead Evidence from Evelyn Cannon for Defence 6 TASK: Cross Examine Evelyn Cannon for Prosecution 5
AAI Trainer Review in Group: 5 minutes per task	
	<i>Please be completely familiar with all witness statements. The AAI Trainer will nominate another advocate to act as the witness.</i>

SESSION 3 11.20 to 11.50am (30 mins)	
General Session	<u>CASE THEORY</u>

SESSION 4 11.50am to 12.15pm (25 mins)	
Group Session	<u>REVISION</u> Advocates privately review and prepare their allocated task performance for Sessions 5 and 6, based on earlier trainer reviews.

LUNCH BREAK 12.15pm to 12.45pm (30 min) – Light lunch provided.

SESSION 5		12.45 to 1.50pm (65 mins)	
Group Session	<u>LEADING EVIDENCE AND CROSS EXAMINATION</u>		
	<u>Case Study 3: DPP v Evelyn Cannon</u>		ADVOCATE
Advocate Performance in Group: 5 minutes per task	TASK: Lead Evidence from Const. O'Rourke for Prosecution		5
	TASK: Cross Examine Const. O'Rourke for Defence		6
	TASK: Lead Evidence from Luigi Fiorelli for Defence		4
	TASK: Cross Examine Luigi Fiorelli for Prosecution		3
AAI Trainer Review in Group: 5 minutes per task	TASK: Lead Evidence from Evelyn Cannon for Defence		2
	TASK: Cross Examine Evelyn Cannon for Prosecution		1

SHORT BREAK 1.50 to 1.55pm (5 min)

SESSION 6		1.55 to 2.55pm (60 mins)	
Group Session	<u>CLOSING ARGUMENT</u>		
	<u>Case Study 3: DPP v Evelyn Cannon</u>		
Advocate Performance in Group: 5 minutes per task	TASK: Present closing argument for Prosecution	ADVOCATE:	3
	TASK: Present closing argument for Defence	ADVOCATE:	4
	TASK: Present closing argument for Prosecution	ADVOCATE:	5
	TASK: Present closing argument for Defence	ADVOCATE:	6
AAI Trainer Review in Group: 5 minutes per task	TASK: Present closing argument for Prosecution	ADVOCATE:	1
	TASK: Present closing argument for Defence	ADVOCATE:	2

SESSION 7		2.55pm to 3.30pm (35 mins)	
Group Session	<u>REPEAT PERFORMANCES</u>		
Advocate Performance in Group: 3 minutes per task	Advocates repeat an earlier allocated task performance, taking into account earlier performance and video review feedback.		
AAI Trainer Review in Group: 2 minutes per task			

SESSION 8		3.30 to 3.45pm (15 mins)	
General Session	<u>DISCUSSION AND CLOSING SESSION</u>		