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**Australian Advocacy Institute**

**WORKSHOP INFORMATION,  
TIMETABLE  
AND  
TASK ALLOCATIONS**

**Advocacy Skills Workshop**

**Wednesday 26 February 2025 - 5.00pm\* to 6.30pm - ONLINE**

**Thursday 27 February 2025 - 5.00pm\* to 6.00pm - ONLINE**

**Saturday 1 March 2025 - 8.45am to 3.45pm – IN-PERSON**

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

**All times are Australian Eastern Daylight-Saving Time [Sydney Time]**

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

# Advocacy Skills Workshop – online/in-person.

26, 27 Feb., 1 March 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, how to be persuasive in court.

## Workshop Program:

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**Part 1:** Introductory Session 1. ONLINE – Wednesday 26 February 2025

Time: 5.00pm\* to 6.30pm

**Part 2:** Introductory Session 2. ONLINE – Thursday 27 February 2025

Time: 5.00pm\* to 6.00pm

**Part 3:** Advocacy Performance Skills Workshop IN PERSON

Saturday 1 March 2025, VENUE: Family Court, 99 Goulburn Street, Sydney

Time: 8.45am to 3.45pm.

**All times are Eastern Daylight-Saving Time (Sydney time).**

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

## Workshop Format

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### 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)

If you wish to test your connection, the AAI Coordinator will be available to do a quick test in the week before the workshop. Email: [aai@advocacy.com.au](mailto:aai@advocacy.com.au).

### 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.

Your performance in some sessions will be videoed. Each advocate will then have the opportunity of a private trainer review of that performance.

## The Workshop Case Studies

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We acknowledge that for some of you, the case studies we will use 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. You may also find that you have been allocated a Prosecution (or Defence) task when your daily role is for the Defence (or 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.

## Preparation before the workshop

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Your 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.

Please don’t get bogged down in your preparation with any legal technicalities within the case studies. **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.

### 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 an advocate from your group to act 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” 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.

## Task Performances

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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.

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](mailto:aai@advocacy.com.au) Mobile & Text: 0418 473 303

# Workshop Timetable

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**Wednesday 26 February 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)**

<b>General Session</b>	Introduction to Advocacy. Case Theory and Argument.
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**Thursday 27 February 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)**

<b>General Session</b>	Techniques in Cross Examination. Communication in court.
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**Advocate Task Number allocations for Saturday performance sessions:**

No	RED GROUP	BLUE GROUP	YELLOW GROUP	GREEN GROUP
<b>1</b>	<b>Rosanna Huggett</b>	<b>Megan Batchelor</b>	<b>Mischa Davenport.</b>	<b>Timothy Roberts</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Harry Lollback</b>	<b>Patricia Gandolfo</b>	<b>Jamie Brigland</b>	<b>Yarra Sefian</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Stephanie Le</b>	<b>Ian Westrip</b>	<b>Sophie Clutterham</b>	<b>Qi Wang</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Jordan Lee</b>	<b>Sean Lamb</b>	<b>Zali Kelly</b>	<b>Hanisah Mohamat-Tucker</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Sarah Vinall</b>	<b>Caity Suchanow</b>	<b>Benjamin Thompson</b>	<b>Cameron Meaney</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Bernadette Rumteen</b>	<b>Elise Fordham</b>	<b>Waheda Nazari</b>	<b>Samira Friis</b>

# SATURDAY 1 March 2025

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

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

SESSION 2      10.15 to 11.20am (65 mins)	
<b>Group Session</b>	<u><b>EVIDENCE-IN-CHIEF AND CROSS EXAMINATION</b></u>
Advocate Performance in Group: <b>5 minutes per task</b>	<u><b>Case Study 3: DPP v Evelyn Cannon</b></u> <b>ADVOCATE</b>
	<b>TASK:</b> Lead Evidence from Const. O'Rourke for Prosecution <b>3</b> <b>TASK:</b> Cross Examine Const. O'Rourke for Defence <b>4</b> <b>TASK:</b> Lead Evidence from Peter Porter for Prosecution <b>1</b> <b>TASK:</b> Cross Examine Peter Porter for Defence <b>2</b> <b>TASK:</b> Lead Evidence from Evelyn Cannon for Defence <b>6</b> <b>TASK:</b> Cross Examine Evelyn Cannon for Prosecution <b>5</b>
AAI Trainer Review in Group: <b>5 minutes per task</b>	<i>Please be completely familiar with all witness statements.</i> <i>The AAI Trainer will nominate another advocate to act as the witness.</i>
	<i><b>ALL advocate performances during this session will be videoed.</b></i>
	<b>PRIVATE VIDEO REVIEW WITH AAI TRAINER:</b> Following their performance, Advocate <b>3, 4 and 1</b> will each have a private session with an AAI Trainer to review and discuss their performance. (Advocates 2, 6 and 5 in Session 5)
SESSION 3      11.20 to 11.50am (30 mins)	
<b>General Session</b>	<u><b>CASE THEORY</b></u>

<b>SESSION 4</b> 11.50am to 12.15pm (25 mins)	
<b>Group Session</b>	<b><u>REVISION</u></b> 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.*

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

*SHORT BREAK 1.50 to 1.55pm (5 min)*

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

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

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