

The Legal Profession

Law

The roles within legal practice, and what each does.

Roles and duties.

Roles

Solicitor or attorney — advises, prepares, may advocate

Barrister or advocate — specialist court advocacy

Judge — decides cases impartially

Paralegal and legal executive

In-house counsel within an organisation

Core duties

Duty to the court above the client

Confidentiality and privilege

Avoiding conflicts of interest

Competence and diligence

Educational reference. The duty to the court takes precedence over the client's instructions where the two conflict.