STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICE REPORT TO THE COURT OF APPEALS OF MARYLAND

March 2018

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICE REPORT TO COURT OF APPEALS MARCH 2018

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Court of Appeals' Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service promotes increased efforts by lawyers to provide legal assistance to persons of legal means, and works to ensure greater and more coordinated access to the justice system.

Specifically, the Standing Committee is charged with helping to establish and continue to work with local pro bono committees – including members of the Judiciary, the bar, and legal services and pro bono providers – and to ensure that lawyers are given the opportunities to engage in pro bono efforts that address local community needs. While the local committees vary in activity and composition, most jurisdictions are working diligently to adopt practices that will enhance volunteer legal services in their community.

Over the last few years, the Standing Committee's role has evolved from helping to design and respond to local pro bono action plans to offering specific project ideas, resources and technical assistance to the local committees including gathering information and insight into the local pro bono culture.

This year in particular, Committee members made new connections with local and specialty bar associations to engage them in a more coherent and direct way. The Committee also sought to endorse rules and policies that systemically impact access to the courts for indigent litigants, enhance pro bono participation, and foster court efficiency in managing unrepresented indigent clients. With the sizable shift in the courts to provide direction for self-represented litigants, through the establishment of the Judiciary's Self-Help Centers, Lawyer of the Day Programs, alternative dispute resolution services and pro se clinics, it is important not only to ensure coordination of services, but to integrate appropriate referrals to volunteer and staff programs for full representation. The Standing Committee believes that the Self-Help Centers in particular offer a unique opportunity to collaborate with the local committees and other programs so that litigants are being directed seamlessly for extended legal representation when necessary.

The Standing Committee found that the local bars, legal services programs and Judiciary welcomed the Committee's support, ideas and convening of stakeholders to strategically and collectively strengthen the bar's response to the overwhelming needs of the poor and vulnerable members of their communities.

Finally, the Standing Committee is also responsible for working with the Court to facilitate the required reporting of pro bono hours in compliance with Rule 19-503¹ and reminding lawyers of their professional responsibility to render pro bono legal service. Staffed by the

¹ See all related Rules on Pro Bono Legal Service, Appendix A.

Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland (PBRC), the Standing Committee continues to facilitate a smooth, accurate and informative pro bono reporting process and data analysis, which will inform the Committee's strategies for the future.²

The Standing Committee's typical activities over the last reporting period included:

- A. Continued encouragement and expansion of judicial support of pro bono activities, on the appellate, circuit and district court levels;
- B. Effective promotion of National Celebration of Pro Bono Week/Month activities with record numbers of public service events;
- C. Assistance with reconstitution or reinvigoration of local pro bono committees and local efforts to meet the legal needs of their communities through new legal clinics, education and outreach;
- D. Showcasing successful examples and models for pro bono projects implemented on a local or regional level;
- E. Recommending rule changes that would ease access to legal services and the courts for pro bono clients; and
- F. Improving the annual Lawyer Pro Bono Legal Service Report to capture more specific data on motivational factors that encourage or discourage pro bono service and how lawyers find clients.

A number of positive outcomes resulted from these statewide efforts during the last reporting period. Among the highlights, the Standing Committee:

- A. Increased the number of local pro bono committees that were previously not in compliance, but now are either in compliance or working toward compliance with MD Rule 19-502. These include namely Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore City, Cecil, Frederick, Montgomery, Prince George's, St. Mary's, Washington, and Wicomico counties.
- B. Increased the number of local pro bono committees with greater county bar and/or Judiciary involvement: Allegany, Baltimore City, Cecil, and Washington counties (the listing does not account for counties with notable sustained Judiciary involvement and support, such as Anne Arundel, Calvert, Frederick, Harford, Mid-Shore Regional Pro Bono Committee, Prince George's, and St. Mary's counties).
- C. Facilitated a new partnership between St. Mary's County and the Homeless Persons Representation Project for Veterans Benefits and Expungement attorney training to be followed by an opportunity for trained attorneys to provide pro bono services to indigent clients in those areas of law.

² One important caveat: the discussion and examples of pro bono activity included in this report do not represent the wide range of pro bono services being rendered and orchestrated throughout the state. The Standing Committee is including the activities that it learned of primarily through the local committees and is reporting on those related closely to the local committees or Judiciary. It is not intended as an exhaustive review of pro bono legal services statewide.

- D. Connected bar members with a Special Immigrant Juvenile Status training through PBRC so they could train and engage others.
- E. Facilitated an Administrative Order authorizing the Allegany Law Foundation (ALF) the rights and duties to function as the county local pro bono committee and first time attendance of the ALF at a meeting of the Allegany County Bar Association meeting.
- F. Made one hundred percent (100%) contact with all 23 counties and Baltimore City regarding their local pro bono committee efforts.
- G. Successfully converted the annual report template from local pro bono committees to the Standing Committee via electronic survey for ease in sharing information and complying with reporting requirement.
- H. Disseminated electronic copies of each counties' Lawyers Care Brochures (i.e. local legal services directories) to local committee chairs for update as needed.
- I. Updated and disseminated the latest web-based links and resources to replace outdated forms and manual references listed in the Local Committee Best Practices Manual (Appendix B).
- J. Connected the Prince George's County Pro Bono Committee incoming chair with Community Legal Services and educated the committee about their services as a primary legal service provider for the county and resource for volunteer attorney opportunities.

The Standing Committee also analyzed the data compiled in the *Current Status of Pro Bono Service among Maryland Lawyers (2016).*³ The report revealed interesting observations about the correlation of hours of pro bono service for those practicing in large, urban areas compared to those practicing in more rural communities, and the most likely prospects for engaging lawyers in pro bono service based on location, area of practice, and size of firm.

By and large, a higher percentage of lawyers report doing pro bono work in more rural communities. Solo and small firm practitioners also far outpace those in medium or large firms in terms of participation, while more senior practitioners perform a greater number of hours than their less experienced colleagues. It is important to note that the potential pool of volunteer lawyers in Maryland is limited by a significant number of lawyers who practice outside of the state, do not actively practice, or are in government service. Even with those demographics, 53% of full-time Maryland lawyers still report donating their legal skills and time to assist individuals or organizations serving those of limited means.⁴

The Standing Committee will utilize its experience, along with the recently acquired reporting data, to engage in 2018 strategic planning and continue to:

³ <u>https://mdcourts.gov/sites/default/files/import/probono/pdfs/probonoreport2016.pdf</u>

⁴ The American Bar Association conducted a pro bono survey in 2017 and reported Maryland specific results. The voluntary response rate was about 8%, so not statistically reliable. Still, the responses were similar in most aspects to the AOC report.

- foster accurate reporting of pro bono hours;
- increase lawyers' involvement in well-established civil legal services pro bono programs;
- assist in replicating successful pro bono models in local and regional communities with limited resources;
- share information on resources, training modules and support services (such as mentoring) for lawyers statewide;
- promote greater awareness of a lawyer's professional responsibility to render pro bono legal service;
- facilitate compliance with the Court's rules on pro bono committee structure and reporting;
- set policy and practices that advance a more integrated and collaborative delivery system for civil legal aid to those in need;
- encourage innovative pro bono outreach programs such as linkages with public libraries and community centers; and
- facilitate the greatest amount of participation in meaningful pro bono opportunities for lawyers desiring to fulfill their professional responsibility.

I. RECOMMENDATIONS

Pursuant to Rule 16-901(c)(6), the Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service makes the following recommendations regarding the work of the Local Pro Bono Committees and the implementation and effectiveness of the Local Pro Bono Action Plans.

A. For the Court of Appeals

Recommendation #1. The Court of Appeals should encourage and support integration of volunteer lawyers and referrals for case placement into the matrix of Self-Help Centers in the courthouses by connecting with local and regional pro bono legal services providers for extended direct representation.

Recommendation #2. The Court of Appeals should encourage all County Attorney Offices, State's Attorney's Offices, and bi-county agencies to adopt pro bono policies permitting and facilitating pro bono work by the attorneys on their staff.

Recommendation #3. The Court of Appeals should continue to emphasize the appropriate role and ability of the Judiciary to encourage and support pro bono activities, including at judicial conferences and other forums.

<u>Recommendation #4.</u> The Court of Appeals should encourage court personnel to join and actively participate in local committees as consultants.

Recommendation #5. The Court of Appeals should consider establishing an Honor Roll for outstanding pro bono lawyers based on designated criteria.

<u>Recommendation #6</u>. The Court of Appeals should consider expanding the Attorney Information System (AIS) period to a rolling basis to allow attorneys to report pro bono hours in real time.

Recommendation #7. The Court of Appeals should encourage all state and county legal offices and departments and all private law firms with 10 or more staff attorneys to adopt pro bono policies that permit administrative leave for up to 15 hours of pro bono work by the attorneys on their staff per year.

<u>Recommendation #8.</u> The Court of Appeals should support state tax reform legislation that provides an income tax credit to attorneys who meet or exceed the aspirational goal of 50 pro bono hours.

Recommendation #9. The Court of Appeals should consider annual notification to the local district and circuit court administrative judges whose counties are non-compliant with MD Rule 19-502 for more than two consecutive reporting periods.

Recommendation #10. The Court of Appeals should include the Chief Judge Mary Ellen Barbera's memo regarding permissible activities that members of the Judiciary can engage in to support pro bono access and participation. (Appendix M).

B. For Local Pro Bono Committees

Recommendation #11. The Local Committees should encourage court personnel to join the Committee as consultants and actively participate in the process.

Recommendation #12. The Local Committees should encourage representatives from pro bono and legal services providers serving the county to join the Committee as consultants and actively participate in the process.

Recommendation #13. The Local Committees should encourage members of the Judiciary to send a "welcome" letter to newly admitted attorneys expressing the Court's strong belief in the importance of pro bono service and to explore other means of encouraging pro bono participation.

Recommendation #14. The Local Committees should partner with Maryland Self-Help and Walk-In Centers to provide direct, full pro bono legal representation.

II. HISTORY AND PURPOSE OF COURT OF APPEALS' STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICE

In 1989, in response to a legal needs study commissioned by the Advisory Council of the Maryland Legal Services Corporation (MLSC) which found that less than 20% of Maryland's poor had access to civil legal help, the Court of Appeals of Maryland (hereafter "the Court") considered mandating pro bono legal service for all lawyers licensed in the state. In an

attempt to forestall the adoption of a mandatory pro bono rule, the Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA) pledged to implement and sustain a voluntary pro bono effort that would recruit and train lawyers to offer free civil legal services and help local bars establish pro bono programs to connect clients with volunteer lawyers. The Court also mandated that the MSBA keep accurate records on its progress and report back to the Court on a regular basis.⁵ In 1990, the MSBA established a separate non-profit, the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland, Inc.⁶, to assume those responsibilities and help fulfill the Court's mandate. Since that time, there has been a marked increase in the amount of pro bono civil legal services being rendered and the number of volunteer lawyers donating their legal skills to those in need.

In 2002, the Court took another significant step toward improving the legal services delivery system in the state by creating and refining the pro bono Rules. Rule 16-901 established the Court's Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service (hereafter the "Standing Committee"). Rule 16-902 required operation of a Local Pro Bono Committee in each county and Rule 16-903 required annual reporting of pro bono hours by every attorney authorized to practice in the state. Additionally, Rule 6.1 of the MD Rules of Professional Conduct further defined "*pro bono publico*" service and created the aspirational goal of 50 hours of volunteer service annually for attorneys engaged in the full-time practice of law.

In 2006, the Court considered the Standing Committee's State Pro Bono Action Plan (required by Rule 16-901) drafted with the intent of promoting a systemic approach toward optimum delivery of pro bono legal services to the State. Recognizing that "grass roots" efforts had the greatest potential for success, local and regional efforts were strongly encouraged. Visits to the local jurisdictions revealed that lawyers wished to volunteer in their own communities and address the pressing legal problems of those communities. Similarly, clients were more apt to call, visit or seek legal help from a local agency or lawyer. Thus, the Action Plan focused on devising pro bono practices and policies that would benefit the entire state but that also allowed for local implementation based on the unique local needs, culture, and bar composition.

The Court adopted virtually all the recommendations of the Plan to ensure the growth of the local pro bono committee structure and assessment of local legal needs and plans. The Standing Committee has been working with local pro bono committees, court personnel, legal services providers, judges, bar associations, and individual lawyers around the state to ensure that the rules are being adhered to and that pro bono engagement as part of a lawyer's professional responsibility is acknowledged and pursued.

In 2016, acting upon the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Rules of Practice Procedure, a significant renumbering of the Rules occurred that extended to the pro bono Rules. Without significant substantive changes, Rule 19-501 replaced Rule 16-901, Rule 19-502 replaced Rule 16-902, Rule 19-503 replaced Rule 16-903, and Rule 19-306.1 replaced

⁵ The mandate was memorialized in the Maryland Register on January 13, 1989. See Appendix C.

⁶ The original name of the organization was the People's Pro Bono Action Center. It was later renamed the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland.

Rule 6.1. The recent new rules continue to be the state's pillars to enhance access to free legal assistance and introduce organized pro bono service into new areas of the state.

The Standing Committee's role is expanding in line with evolving needs. The Committee continues its efforts to maximize full-time attorney pro bono participation to reach the aspirational goal. At the same time, it is ever expanding and evolving to continually develop innovative policies that have a statewide impact for greater pro bono opportunities and practice.

In general, much of the Standing Committee's focus remains on the local committee work, including assessing legal needs, connecting committees with relevant resources, and offering technical assistance on effective pro bono projects and models to address those needs. Standing Committee liaisons, and representatives of PBRC as its delegated staff, attend local committee meetings and assist in orchestrating local programs. The Standing Committee also organizes meetings and forums for local committees to share information and exchange ideas with one another. In fact, some of the most innovative and far-reaching initiatives are the result of local pro bono committee and provider meetings facilitated by the Standing Committee and PBRC working to address the needs of the poverty population.

The Standing Committee and PBRC also continue to work with the Court and the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) in crafting a streamlined and effective pro bono reporting process and serve as a resource for those lawyers unclear about their reporting responsibility. Finally, when appropriate, the Committee focuses on systemic changes that enhance pro bono participation and court efficiency in managing unrepresented indigent litigants, typically by way of suggested rule changes, court-based projects or judicial education.

The purpose of this report is to update the Court on the Standing Committee's recent work and progress in implementing the rules. The ultimate goal of the Standing Committee's efforts is to further expand access to the justice system for those without the means or ability to access it on their own.

III. COMPOSITION OF STANDING COMMITTEE RULE 19-501

The Standing Committee's composition prescribed by Rule 19-501 requires eight members of the Maryland bar, including one from each of the appellate judicial circuits and one from the state at-large, a maximum of three circuit and district court judges, one organizational representative from each of three legal services programs (i.e., the Maryland Legal Aid Bureau, Inc. LAB, Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service MVLS, and the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland, Inc. PBRC) and one additional pro bono referral organization, the Public Defender or designee, and a member of the general public. The Committee can appoint other representatives from court personnel or organizations concerned about the "provision of legal services to persons of limited means" as consultants as well. Additionally, the Standing Committee appointed liaisons from its membership for each of the 24 jurisdictions, government attorneys, and local and specialty bar associations. The purpose of the liaisons is to offer a personal and direct line of communication between the Standing Committee and each local committee. Liaisons attend local committee meetings, offer information on resources and statewide policy, and keep the Standing Committee apprised of local activities. They also relay concerns and suggestions from the local committees to the Standing Committee. This exchange of information and ideas through the liaisons has fostered greater collaboration and coordination among programs and helped to inform statewide policies and recommendations. (For a list of current Standing Committee members, see Appendix D. For a list of designated liaisons, see Appendix E.)

Since 2012, the Hon. Karen Murphy Jensen has served as Chair of the Standing Committee. Under her leadership, and with additional judicial membership, the Standing Committee has bolstered judicial involvement in state, local and regional pro bono efforts.

IV. SUMMARY OF STANDING COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Over the last year, the Standing Committee met with or communicated with every county in the state through the collective efforts of the Chair, Standing Committee liaisons, and the Executive Director and staff of PBRC. The result was continued, and in some instances, renewed collaboration between the counties and the Standing Committee, which in virtually all instances created immediate sharing of resources and connections leading to increased pro bono legal services for the local impoverished populations.

Specifically, the gatherings increased training and volunteer opportunities for local attorneys, sparked greater Judiciary and bar involvement, and helped to establish partnerships between committees and existing civil legal service providers for new local pro bono programs and support. The Standing Committee and local pro bono committee communications empowered the Standing Committee with an updated and more comprehensive understanding of statewide pro bono best practices and lingering challenges, such as ways to engage younger, transactional and government lawyers, connecting volunteers in more rural communities and hosting clinics and other public events with limited or no dedicated funding.

Through its communications the Standing Committee gained an understanding of some counties' innovations and well-established projects that have gone through trial and error, making them easily transferable to other counties with similar pro bono needs. The Standing Committee used the insight gained to identify and offer solutions to each county related to its unique challenges, statewide trends, and trends specific to rural and sparsely populated areas versus trends in cities, towns and more densely populated areas. (*See aforementioned accomplishments in Executive Summary.*)

V. JUDICIAL ENGAGEMENT IN PRO BONO

In the Standing Committee's experience, judicial involvement has been essential to activating and sustaining pro bono initiatives. The local pro bono committee plans and reports clearly demonstrated that the most successful efforts benefited from strong judicial support. While judges on the Standing Committee have always been active supporters, more recently, educating the bench about the availability of free legal resources and ways to support pro bono initiatives became a priority for the members.⁷

As an example, Standing Committee Chair Judge Karen Murphy Jensen presented to the Conference of Circuit Court Judges during their January 23, 2017 meeting to update them about pro bono initiatives across the state and to encourage each court to actively participate in the local pro bono committees. Judge Miriam Hutchins addressed the new trial judge orientation in December 2016, to discuss the judges' roles in promoting pro bono within the bar. Judge Cathy H. Serrette helped coordinate and presented at various forums on Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, as well as family law, and hosted the monthly Prince George's County Local Pro Bono Committee meetings in her chambers. Along with several of her colleagues, she also met with Catholic Charities to provide advice regarding the opening of a new pro bono legal clinic in Prince George's County. In Harford County, over the last couple of years, at the request of Judge Angela M. Eaves, the local bar association has included as part of the meeting agendas a report regarding pro bono activities and events, such as the "Lawyer in the Lobby" and recognition of lawyers handling pro bono cases. Judge Ron Silkworth consistently attends meetings in Anne Arundel County and encourages bar leadership on pro bono activities.

Beyond local committee work, judicial support for pro bono initiatives has been critical. With a new emphasis on courthouse pro bono clinics, Self-help Centers and Lawyer of the Day Programs, assistance and support from local judges has become invaluable. For example, Judge Lisa Hall Johnson, Administrative Judge of Prince George's County District Court, facilitated a coordinated schedule for operating a Volunteer Lawyer of the Day Consumer Protection Project clinic⁸ during the resolution docket, encouraging more settlements and enabling pro se litigants a chance to speak with a volunteer lawyer to discuss their defense. Her action saved substantial court time and resources. A similar program established in Baltimore City years ago for the affidavit judgement docket is now monitored by Judge Mark Scurti who convenes the pro bono program staff, court personnel and plaintiffs' counsel periodically to ensure that the program is operating effectively for all parties. Baltimore City Administrative Judge Barbara Waxman facilitated the new pilot Tenant Volunteer Lawyer of the Day Program's operation by opening the courthouse doors early so volunteers and staff could meet with prospective pro se tenants and offer information and representation. Years

⁷ In order to encourage judicial education and support, the Standing Committee recommended that the Court of Appeals communicate with the bench about its support of pro bono activity. In 2014 Chief Judge Barbera issued a memorandum outlining the types of permissible activities in which judges could engage to support pro bono service. With clear leadership from the Court, the Standing Committee met with greater success in making presentations to other judicial bodies about both the need for and availability of pro bono legal service. (See Appendix M).

⁸ The Consumer Protection Project was instituted in 2015 by PBRC. The CPP clinic in Prince George's County's courthouse is operated by PBRC; the Baltimore City clinic is administered by PBRC and MVLS.

ago, Judge Anne Albright of the Montgomery County Circuit Court initiated a volunteer program with the Montgomery County Bar Association's Lawyer Referral Service, staffing the courthouse with volunteer lawyers to triage pro se litigants for direct, full representation with pro bono, low bono or lawyer referral services. That program still operates.

The instances cited above are by no means an exhaustive list, but demonstrate the impact that judicial encouragement, cooperation and leadership can play in enhancing access to legal services for the poor. In sum, the involvement of judges in encouraging lawyers' involvement, facilitating courthouse access, educating fellow members of the bench and court personnel, and advising litigants of available legal resources makes a marked impact in the justice system and beyond.

The Standing Committee shared information about these and similar types of activities with the local committees and members of the bench to alleviate concerns from judges about the permissibility of their participation in local pro bono efforts. Judicial engagement in various sectors of the state included, among other activities, training lawyers, inviting volunteers to lunch with members of the bench, and sending letters to bar members encouraging volunteer work through an organized pro bono program. It is important that the message from the bench remains clear and consistent to ensure similar successes and sustain or raise the level of engagement. The Standing Committee encourages promoting these activities in every county and at every judicial level.

V. REQUIRED REPORTING OF PRO BONO

The Standing Committee works with the AOC to oversee the annual reporting of pro bono service hours required by Rule 19-503. Pursuant to the Rule, notice and forms are sent to licensed attorneys by January 10 for reporting on the prior calendar year's hours. By February 15, all reports should be completed and filed either online or by mailing the forms to the AOC's designated post office box. The AOC contracts with a statistical consulting company to distribute, collect, and compile the results of the individual reports. That process has proven to be extremely effective. Online filing has steadily increased from 81.4% in 2013 to 87.5% in 2016. In 2016, the compliance rate was 99.9%.

In 2017, the AOC notified all attorneys to create new online accounts via the Attorney Information System (AIS) in preparation for exclusively online reporting, which will start with the 2018 reporting year.

The final report issued to the AOC that summarizes the reporting results from the prior calendar year (normally issued in the fall) includes aggregate statistics with demographics on the bar and those benefiting from its service. Entitled *Current Status of Pro Bono Service Among Maryland Lawyers*, these reports contain the only known data on demographics of the bar in Maryland and provide useful information in analyzing who and how to approach lawyers in the context of pro bono assistance.

In the early years of reporting, the Standing Committee and PBRC staff responded to numerous requests for assistance in the process, both in terms of interpretation of Rule 6.1's

definition of pro bono (now Rule 19-306.1) as well as the process for filing. Unless the Standing Committee received a question of new import requiring specific guidance, PBRC responded to all requests for assistance. Since the combination of required reporting of IOLTA and the Pro Bono Legal Service Reports several years ago, PBRC staff also responded to inquiries about the IOLTA reporting process. With reporting now an accepted practice, fewer interpretation questions are filed.

Ensuring Compliance

This past year, as has been the practice for a number of years, PBRC staff contacted noncompliant attorneys whose reports remained outstanding to encourage them to file. Lawyers received information as to the consequences of failing to file, and assistance as required. Additionally, the staff spent time informing judicial law clerks, judges, and servicemembers about their exemptions from filing. They further assisted the elderly, the disabled, and other lawyers who have some difficulty filing online. This well-honed process typically operates without any issues. This past year, the process again ran smoothly, and the effort by PBRC resulted in dramatically reducing the number of non-compliant lawyers. In fact, for the last three years, despite the increase in licensed attorneys, PBRC successfully decreased the number of attorneys who needed to be decertified as a result in non-compliance in filing.

For the most recent reporting cycle (conducted in 2017 for calendar year 2016), the number of non-compliant attorneys decreased from 1,060 in July to only 125 ultimately decertified in September. This significant improvement in compliance resulted directly from thousands of phone and email contacts initiated by PBRC to noncompliant attorneys.

Reporting Results

For most of the reporting period, results on pro bono practice have remained relatively consistent. The latest report found that approximately 53% of the full-time lawyers practicing in Maryland reported rendering some type of pro bono service in 2016, and the majority of the work focused on services to people of limited means. As in the past, those practicing in more rural communities tend to boast the highest involvement in pro bono legal service, and those in practice over 25 years give more time than any other experience bracket. The number of hours devoted to pro bono service reached 1,150,205 in 2016, an increase from the prior year. This past reporting cycle included a breakdown of hours more specifically, revealing that the vast majority of full-time lawyers dedicated 10-50+ hours of time. However, the percentage of lawyers involved reflected a slight decrease.

These statistics continue to shed light on the challenges facing the pro bono delivery system in recruiting and retaining volunteers. Only about 57% of all lawyers licensed in the state report practicing in the state or having a business address in Maryland. A significant percentage of Maryland lawyers (approximately 20%) serve in governmental positions which they believe prohibit them from engaging in pro bono practice. Finally, fewer than three quarters of the lawyers in the state practice full-time (71%), diminishing the pool of potential volunteer lawyers even further.

The Impact of Practice Area and Pro Bono

Primary practice areas have been relatively consistent over time, but do not necessarily align with pro bono demand. For instance, the top legal area in which lawyers provide pro bono assistance is family/domestic law; yet family law ranked fourth in primary practice area among full-time lawyers. While family law practitioners make up only about 8.7% of all full-time lawyers, as a practice group, they donated the second highest percentage of pro bono hours (73.7% reported doing some pro bono), only outranked by trusts and estates lawyers (74%). Given the needs of low-income clients, elder law and family law attorneys were more likely to meet the 50-hour goal than their colleagues in other practice areas. Government attorneys were the least likely to meet the goal.

The top five practice areas listed in order were litigation, criminal, corporate/business, family/domestic and real estate. The chart below compares the primary practice areas chosen by lawyers and the primary pro bono case areas lawyers handle. It suggests a lack of alignment of the areas in which lawyers typically practice and the areas of pro bono need.

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Rank	Pro Bono Service Area	Primary Practice Area
1	Family/Domestic	Litigation
2	Corporate/Business	Criminal
3	Other	Corporate/Business
4	Criminal	Family
5	Real Estate	Real Estate

The lowest areas of participation include insurance, government, health, banking/finance, administrative, and intellectual property. A very small percent (about 1.9%) of full-time lawyers work for a legal services organization providing legal help to people of limited means. About another 1.3% report they work for a public interest organization. Thus, the pool of lawyers available to serve the needs of the poor is severely limited, increasing demand for the pro bono contributions of private counsel.

Geographic Impact

The Eastern Shore (70.7%) and Western Maryland (65.7%) continued to report higher proportions of lawyers rendering pro bono services overall than lawyers in other regions. Lawyers in Garrett County again reported the highest percentage of lawyers rendering some pro bono service (68.6%), with Talbot County coming in second (68.1%), followed by Allegany County (63.8%). Among full-time lawyers in Maryland, Talbot County topped the ranking at 78.9%, with Somerset (75%) and Wicomico (74%) counties next in line with the highest percentage of pro bono hours. Lowest levels of participation include: Anne Arundel, Montgomery, Charles, Howard counties and Baltimore City respectively.

Those Benefiting from Pro Bono Legal Service

It appears as if pro bono legal work targets the intended beneficiaries of Rule 19-306.1. Tracking the breakdown of the beneficiaries of the services, approximately 69.3% of the pro bono services provided directly impact impoverished Marylanders, a slight increase from last year. The numbers break down as follows:

- 52.6% rendered their services to people of limited means;
- 16.7% assisted organizations serving people of limited means;
- 22% gave organizational help to non-profits; and
- 8.7% worked with entities on civil rights matters.

Motivational Factors

This past year, for the first time, the Standing Committee requested that the reporting form include two questions to help determine what inhibits lawyers from doing pro bono work and why they may choose to offer services directly versus through an organized program.

As for not participating, about one-half of the lawyers responded to the question. Approximately 53.8% of those responding stated that they lacked the time to do pro bono work, while a fair number claimed that they preferred non-legal charitable work (29.9%). Other top reasons included prohibited by their employer, lack of training/experience and financial constraints.

While less than a quarter responded to the question about working outside of a program, their principle reason was that clients came to them directly. The second most common rationale was that they were never contacted by an organization.⁹

Financial Contributions

The report also found that attorneys reported an increase in financial contributions to organizations that provide legal services to people of limited means. In 2012 attorneys reported providing over \$4.1 million to these organizations. In 2016, that figure jumped to over \$4.9 million.¹⁰

The actual donation page, now part of the reporting process (on a voluntary basis), directs individuals to pledge an amount to a legal services organization, and then allows them to make a donation online after clicking onto the organization's website for payment. In 2016, lawyers pledged \$100,228. ¹¹

⁹ It may be assumed that those already working through an organization did not respond.

¹⁰ Rule 19-306.1 also offers an alternative for those who cannot render legal pro bono service by way of a financial contribution. While the annual reports suggest substantial donations, it has been difficult to determine whether the organizations actually receive the level of funding reported.

¹¹ For a summary of Key Findings of the report, see Appendix F.

Activities to Improve the Law

While the primary focus on pro bono service hours is on representing indigent clients, lawyers can also count activities "devoted to activities for improving the law, the legal system, or the legal profession." In fact, 7,512 lawyers indicated that they participated in such activities, donating 394,301 hours.

Observations

As evidenced by these statistics, the amount of pro bono work contributed varies significantly depending upon the location, practice area and size and type of firm through which the lawyers practice. A more in-depth analysis reveals the specific factors that may help determine whether a lawyer will engage in pro bono work. As a general rule, those living in smaller or more rural jurisdictions, who work in solo or small firms, and/or who engage in a more generalized law practice tend to offer a greater proportion of pro bono services. These factors explain why the Eastern and Western regions of the state consistently boast the highest rate of pro bono participation.

Solo and small firm practitioners also tend to donate a greater percentage of pro bono hours than those in larger practices, to some extent, presumably, because a majority of the practicing bar belong to smaller firms. Even so, with the exception of lawyers in very large firms, there appears to be an inverse relationship between the size of the firm and the amount of service hours (i.e., the larger the firm, the fewer hours of pro bono).

Not surprisingly, private practitioners continue to substantially outpace those in government service or who serve as corporate counsel in terms of pro bono assistance. Close to 80% of those in government practice did not render any pro bono service as compared to 33.8% of those in private practice. Alternatively, close to 24.5% of the private attorneys reported achieving the aspirational goal of 50 hours or more of service for the year versus 5.9% of government lawyers and 8.2% of corporate counsel.

The Standing Committee typically analyzes the results of the annual report and utilizes the data to help inform changes to its pro bono policies and outreach efforts. For example, the large percentage of government lawyers inspired the Standing Committee to engage in targeted recruitment of government lawyers and in developing a uniform government pro bono policy. The Standing Committee also supported the adoption of the Special Authorization for Out of State Attorneys Affiliated with Programs Providing Legal Services to Low-Income Individuals, Rule 19-215, which enables those without a Maryland license to handle pro bono work under the supervision of a legal services organization. This Rule is particularly helpful to government attorneys and corporate counsel licensed elsewhere. The Standing Committee consistently emphasized informing bar members about malpractice insurance, training, mentoring and other litigation support services to further support government, corporate counsel and out-of-state attorney participation and alleviate the concerns of inexperience.

VI. CHANGES TO RULES IMPACTING PRO BONO CLIENTS AND COUNSEL

A. Special Authorization for Out of State Attorney Rule

As noted above, the Standing Committee helped craft and endorse a rule (along with the Access to Justice Commission) that would directly permit lawyers licensed outside of the state, or on inactive or retired status to engage in pro bono representation under the supervision of a legal services organization. The Standing Committee believed that the "Pro Bono Practice Rule" could potentially make a significant difference in the pro bono effort by reaching attorneys barred in other jurisdictions, and especially federal government attorneys or corporate counsel living near Washington, DC. In January 2016, Rule 19-215 went into effect. Legal services organizations began publicizing the option for government and other practitioners not barred in Maryland to engage in pro bono work utilizing the Rule and accepting pro bono cases or other legal service activities under their auspices. To date, 223 lawyers have received certification to practice under the Rule.¹²

B. Fee Waiver Rules

Over the years, pro bono providers consistently complained about the uneven application of the advanced waiver of court filing fees as proscribed in Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article's Section 7-202 (Court Fees). Section III(B)(1)(J) of the notes to Section 7-202 allows for Maryland Legal Services Corporation (MLSC) grantees to submit a form memorandum to the Court on behalf of a client represented by the organization (through a staff or volunteer lawyer) for an automatic advance waiver of filing fees. In brief, a number of jurisdictions would not accept the memorandum from the MLSC-funded program and instead would require counsel to file a complete petition and go through the motion process pursuant to Rule 1-325. This consumed unnecessary time for volunteer lawyers, added additional processing for the courts, and delayed access for clients.

The Standing Committee along with PBRC supported amending Rule 1-325 to bring greater ease and clarity to the fee waiver process for indigent persons in Maryland. Rule 1-325 et al., became effective July 1, 2015 for waiver of prepaid, final, and appellate fees for poor Maryland residents. Attorneys and the public may access the Rules and forms on the Court's website.¹³ The Rules create significant relief and equality that give indigent litigants their due day in court for final resolution to their legal issues. Adoption and implementation of the Rule proved successful. It appears as if few, if any, complaints have been lodged since the Rule's passage.

¹² A summary of the Rule can be found at:

https://www.courts.state.md.us/sites/default/files/import/accesstojustice/pdfs/probonoattorneysrulefactsheet01 0216.pdf

¹³ <u>https://mdcourts.gov/courts/feewaiverprocedures</u>.

VIII. LOCAL PRO BONO COMMITTEES

A. Introduction

A principal role of the Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service is to oversee and facilitate the work of the Local Pro Bono Committees in each county. Pursuant to Rule 19-502, the Local Pro Bono Committees were charged with establishing goals and priorities for pro bono services in their counties and devising a Local Pro Bono Action Plan tailored to the needs of their jurisdiction. In its early years, the Standing Committee assisted the work of the Local Pro Bono Committees by creating a template for the Local Pro Bono Action Plans, conducting a statewide survey of legal services providers in the state and providing county-specific information to the Local Committees, designing a survey of human and social services agencies and a client survey for use by the Local Committees, and preparing a *Local Pro Bono Committee Resource Manual*, commonly known as "The Pro Bono Best Practices Manual." The Manual was recently updated to reflect the current links and resources. The Standing Committee is working with the Baltimore City Bar to update the Manual to add a chapter on law firms and has provided online resources for forms, references, applications, and services that were previously executable only by hard copy.

As in the past, the Standing Committee Chair, liaisons, and PBRC staff culminated the reporting period by meeting with Local Pro Bono Committees from October 2017 to March 2018. These meetings created opportunities to share ideas, encourage program planning, review existing plans, develop action plans and provide clarity of the pro bono rules, particularly in counties with new committee, judicial, and bar officials. As indicated below, the meetings resulted in efforts to fill openings in committee composition, increased partnerships amongst committees, service providers, community organizations and local bars, and the generation of more opportunities for engaging attorneys for pro bono legal services to indigent persons.

B. Joint Meeting of the Standing Committee and Regional and Local Pro Bono Committee Chairs

Historically, the Standing Committee hosted a joint meeting with the local pro bono committee chairs (Appendices G & H). This started at the behest of the committees and for a number of years occurred during the annual Maryland Partners for Justice Conference at the Baltimore Convention Center. However, some of the attendees suggested a stand-alone meeting so as not to miss out on conference panels.

In 2017, the Standing Committee convened an annual Joint Meeting of the local pro bono committee chairs, members of the Pro Bono Coordinating Council and the Standing Committee independently from the conference. It reviewed the variety of resources available to assist Local Pro Bono Committees in their work, including training, an MLSC Litigation Fund, mentoring and other support services available for pro bono attorneys, short-term pro bono opportunities available for attorneys unable to provide full representation of pro bono clients, and resources available to the public, such as The People's Law Library of Maryland. The well-attended meeting facilitated interesting discussions and meaningful connections. It also allowed participants to raise important, practical issues related to operating organized pro bono efforts, sustaining volunteer interest, meeting emerging legal needs and reaching hard to reach populations. The local committee representatives and legal services providers ranked the meeting as highly productive and helpful.

C. National Celebration of Pro Bono Month

In 2010, the ABA Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service launched the concept of a National Celebration of Pro Bono Week (or Month). The annual event in October significantly promoted and enhanced the level of short-term pro bono opportunities locally and inspired innovative projects statewide. Several members of the Standing Committee and Local Pro Bono Committees actively participated in the planning and coordination of the events and in promoting and sharing ideas. Each year the celebration has brought in new partners, and PBRC publishes a statewide calendar of training seminars, public service events, recognition programs and special celebrations for the month. Over the years, a number of these events that began as one-time projects quickly became integrated on a weekly or monthly court or community schedule.

In October 2017, Maryland boasted the coordination and facilitation of over 35 pro bono service projects, trainings and recognition events that took place across the state during National Celebration of Pro Bono Month (Appendix I). The vast majority of those events (31 of them) centered on engaging pro bono lawyers in direct legal assistance to the public. In fact, 14 legal clinics are recurring clinics throughout the year. It is especially encouraging to note the diversity of sponsors for the events and activities spanning from local pro bono committees, to sororities, non-profits, the courts, and libraries. An impressive array of public service projects including courthouse clinics for civil and domestic cases, courthouse Lawyer of the Day Programs, Homeless Resource Day, Pro Bono Day, Know Your Rights sessions, community legal clinics and "Ask a Lawyer" programs occurred in a dozen different locales.

D. Training of Volunteer Lawyers

Substantive legal training of lawyers is typically provided for free or at a reduced cost in exchange for a pro bono commitment by a variety of legal service providers ¹⁴. A primary means of attracting volunteer lawyers, training has become an integral part of the pro bono delivery system's toolkit. Local committees used training in conjunction with other legal services providers to both entice volunteers and enhance the comfort level of unseasoned lawyers (Appendix K). The Standing Committee and PBRC constantly remind local committees and bar associations about the availability of training resources.

¹⁴ A sampling of the breadth of trainings can be found at Appendix J.

F. Volunteer Opportunities

<u>Alternative Dispute Opportunities</u>: The Standing Committee encourages a wide range of pro bono opportunities for lawyers, including transactional work and alternative dispute resolution, which offer non-litigation practitioners a meaningful way to use their skills. While there have been a handful of volunteer opportunities, this is an area that could benefit from wider integration of pro bono lawyers.

<u>Homeless Resource Day</u>: Coordinated by the Department of Social Services, these "one-day, one-stop" events offer individuals and families experiencing homelessness access to benefits, medical care, substance abuse resources, mental health counseling, pro bono legal advice, and a variety of social services which can ultimately lead to housing and self-sufficiency. The Standing Committee assisted in publicizing and educating members of the legal services community and the bar about these events.

<u>Pro Bono Day</u>: Typically sponsored by the LAB, local pro bono committees, and local and statewide pro bono providers, these one-day clinics allow anyone with a legal issue to walk into a clinic and receive brief legal advice.

<u>"Ask a Lawyer</u>: "Ask a Lawyer in Library" (either law library or public library) events were inspired by a local committee and now replicated in various jurisdictions and locations, including courthouse lobbies and libraries. Volunteer lawyers from the local committees spend time answering legal questions from people on a walk-in basis. "Ask a Lawyer" is yet another effective way to engage volunteers in limited pro bono service with minimal resources.

<u>Free Legal Answers</u>: As part of an American Bar Association initiative, Maryland launched the statewide Maryland.FreeLegalanswers.org website in 2016, following about 40 other states committed to their respective Free Legal Answers sites. The website allows low-income Marylanders to create an account on the site and ask a civil legal question for free at any time. Maryland attorneys can then register for an account and answer as many questions as they desire. The opportunity to volunteer on the site is 24/7 as the lawyer can proffer legal advice and information from any location or at any time. PBRC serves as the site administrator for the state of Maryland. Similar to a walk-in legal clinic, except entirely online, clients can submit a question to be answered by an attorney via email-like back and forth dialogue. There were 478 questions asked by clients in 2017, with the majority answered by volunteer attorneys. Questions answered involved 14 areas of civil legal issues (with an "other" category) which included family law, housing, debts and purchases, and civil/constitutional rights.

G. Lawyer Care Brochures

The Standing Committee compiled and published legal services directories for each county to assist in educating the public of the available resources in their locale. Dubbed Lawyer Care Brochures, the standard template is updated by PBRC with the assistance of the local committees as necessary. PBRC disseminates the

brochures to each committee for review and update as needed. On an annual basis, the Baltimore City committee makes updates and the court distributes them in the courthouse to those seeking legal help. (A sample of the brochure is included at Appendix L). A number of other jurisdictions periodically request updates which PBRC sends to them for review and publication. The overwhelming response is that they are an invaluable public resource. These brochures become particularly useful at Pro Bono Day events and resource fairs where large members of the public gather.

H. Summary of Local Pro Bono Committee Activities

The Local Pro Bono Committees have continued to work at the county level through a broad spectrum of activities to assure access to justice for Maryland's indigent and underrepresented. While the nature and degree of the work done by each Local Pro Bono Committee varies, most of the Local Pro Bono Committees remain actively engaged in the effort to increase the amount of pro bono service provided by attorneys in their counties. A number of counties admitted that it has been a challenge to maintain the full complement of members dictated by Rule 19-502. Nonetheless, they were actively attempting to include members and adhere to the spirit of the Rule to encourage and support pro bono legal work.

The Standing Committee recently conducted a brief survey of the local committees to determine the extent to which they were supporting a variety of pro bono initiatives and the challenges they faced in doing so. The committees confirmed a broad range of pro bono service activities for lawyers, including outreach events, community education, self-help desks, community clinics, "Lawyer in the Library" or courthouse lobby sessions, courthouse Lawyer of the Day programs, mediation and hotline services in addition to direct representation. At the same time, they articulated their challenges in recruiting sufficient volunteers, keeping young lawyers engaged, conducting community outreach, and sustaining activities with no dedicated staff or resources.

The following summarizes some of the recent activities of the Local Pro Bono Committees in Maryland's 24 jurisdictions.

1. Allegany County

By Administrative Order issued in February 2018, the Allegany Law Foundation, Inc. (ALF) assumed the responsibility and duties for the county's local pro bono committee under MD Rule 19-502. This took place as a result of a meeting with members of the Allegany bar, bench and Allegany Law Foundation, Standing Committee Chair and PBRC Executive Director.

In preparation for assumption of the local committee responsibility, ALF held its first committee meeting and began working with its Board to amend its bylaws to better align with local pro bono committee composition membership requirements. The ALF committee composition includes representatives from the county bar, bench, a civil legal service provider, the public, private law firms, and is pending representation from the Office of the Public Defender (OPD).

ALF's other goals included coordinating a family law training with the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland (PBRC) to grow the pool of family law pro bono attorneys available to meet the ongoing need of unrepresented, indigent family law litigants. That training is scheduled for the spring. ALF continues to be the county's primary source to screen and place pro bono and Judicare cases, provide in-house brief legal advice, staff a referral hotline, address senior issues, and coordinate attorneys for pro bono client services in the Family Law Self-Help Clinic at the Allegany Circuit Court. Volunteer attorneys also may learn about and be matched with clients through the Western District of the LAB and by self-selection of available pro bono cases that ALF periodically shares with PBRC for listing in PBRC's bi-weekly E-Bulletin. ALF uses a variety of outreach venues and resources to educate and inform indigent clients about available pro bono attorney services, such as senior centers, Department of Social Services, religious organizations, and public libraries. Accordingly, the county is among the top three counties with the highest percentage of attorneys reporting pro bono hours in 2016.

2. Anne Arundel County

The Anne Arundel County Pro Bono Local Committee continued to operate in harmony with county bench, bar, private sector and community organizations. The committee regularly met throughout the past 12 months to identify and provide pro bono opportunities for attorneys in partnership with its primary civil legal services provider, MVLS, the court, and other nonprofit organizations to meet the needs of indigent and pro se litigants. The Anne Arundel County Law Librarian serves as the Standing Committee's public member and as the liaison to the local committee. Under the law librarian's leadership, the local committee became more active and brought new ideas for lawyer engagement, recognition, and retention. The committee supported greater public outreach as well, such as use of its model pro bono website, www.aacpll.pbworks.com, which serves as a comprehensive host of the county's pro bono information, including key historical documents, committee meeting minutes, available civil legal services, self-help, events, programs, relevant rules, legal templates, and points of contact.

The committee continued to coordinate its "Lawyer in the Library" program where volunteer attorneys offer free, limited legal advice on civil matters on a weekly basis in the court's law and public libraries. It continued its participation in the county's annual Homeless Resource Day, presented to the Inns of Court, sponsored a free legal fair and an expungement clinic, collaborated with MVLS to host monthly remote foreclosure clinics, and coordinated its annual recognition lunch for volunteers. Volunteer attorneys were thanked for their services by guest speaker, the Hon. Mary Ellen Barbera, Chief Judge, and hosts, the Hon. L. Kiessling, Administrative Judge, and the Hon. R. Silkworth, circuit court judicial committee member.

Despite these efforts, the committee was concerned about its county's last place ranking for the percentage of attorneys reporting pro bono hours. It took proactive measures to address the lack of participation by polling attorneys at two well-attended holiday bar events for greater insight on the issue and has invited Standing Committee members and PBRC staff to its April 2018 meeting to brainstorm solutions based on the results of the two polls. New outreach initiatives by the committee also included a themed day at the courthouse during the Pro Bono Celebration Week entitled "Pro Bono Is Not So Scary," where members of the committee staffed tables to share pro bono opportunities and services information. New resource and recognition initiatives included design and dissemination of a pro bono hours reporting tool for attorneys and work on the nomination process for the AABA President's 2017 Pro Bono Award that was presented to an AABA member at a joint AABA and Inns of Court meeting.

3. Baltimore City

The Bar Association of Baltimore City's Pro Bono and Access to Legal Services Committee meets monthly to encourage and support pro bono activity. While it includes almost the complete composition required by the Rule, it operates as a committee of the local bar. In addition to its effort on member composition, the BABC Committee focused on resolving the imbalance of the ever-growing number of unrepresented, indigent clients in need of civil legal pro bono services compared to the reduced number of volunteers actively engaged in direct legal representation. The city ranked in the lower half percentile for attorneys with pro bono hours by jurisdiction. Accordingly, the committee, comprised of bench, bar, and several civil legal service providers, invited pro bono coordinators from various large firms to meet and strategize. It discussed how to expand pro bono engagement with pro bono providers and opportunities already existing in the city in a wide range of areas such as family, immigration, veterans, expungement and other areas of civil law. The committee shared information through outreach and the bar's listserv about available training and opportunities through LAB, MVLS, PBRC, and Tahirih Center.

The BABC also continued its support of LAB's bi-annual Pro Bono Days (administered in conjunction with other city legal services providers), promotion of the district court's legal clinic and self-help services, and coordinated a training with PBRC and Catholic Charities that enabled attorneys to provide free legal advice to undocumented persons. It completed an extensive overhaul and dissemination to the legal community and the public of its Legal Services directory (created and updated by the Standing Committee), which more accurately identifies the vast amount of free services available for unrepresented persons. These abbreviated guides are invaluable to the courts as litigants seeking legal assistance know little about the resources available.

4. Baltimore County

The Baltimore County Pro Bono Committee consists of representatives from the private sector and civil legal services providers who work well collectively to provide a wide range of free legal services. The committee works in tandem with the Women's Law Center, MVLS, LAB, and PBRC to train, share information and connect volunteer attorneys with indigent, pro se clients in need of pro bono services. Attorneys in the county are engaged and support the committee's and the civil legal service providers' events, such as two pro bono community service legal clinics annually, a family and civil "Lawyer in the Lobby" program monthly staffed by volunteers, and training for attorneys, typically held during the National Celebration of Pro Bono Week. The committee also hosts an awards reception in conjunction with a local law firm annually to honor those who have made outstanding contributions.

An ongoing challenge that the committee seeks to address is increasing outreach to the public about the free legal clinics that are hosted and address issues such as elder law, benefits, and expungement legal needs, particularly in the east side of the county. Civil legal service providers and public libraries are instrumental sources that support the committee's public outreach efforts. The committee, however, is looking forward to having a dedicated bench member, who may assist with coordination to post pro bono flyers in courts as a natural venue to reach poor civil litigants. The committee recently coordinated a joint meeting with members of PBRC and the Standing Committee to help identify ways to improve its connection to the bench and public outreach.

5. Calvert County

The Calvert County Pro Bono Committee continues to work closely with the Calvert County Bar Association to connect unrepresented and low income family law clients with bar members for pro bono or low fee legal services. The committee also handles referrals to and from the OPD, LAB, and MVLS for county residents seeking pro bono or reduced fee representation. The Local Chair personally screens and places these cases with volunteer attorneys or the appropriate provider for free or low-fee services. Despite the relatively small bar size, the Local Chair has successfully placed cases by recruiting volunteers through phone calls, emails, and announcements at bar association meetings.

A challenge has been increasing public outreach. For example, the committee held informal classes to educate the public about family law and other civil

matters in response to the demand for unrepresented family law litigants. Public attendance, however, was low. Conversely, the committee had great success in partnering with civil legal service providers and the the MSBA and the AOC to ensure ample and well-attended training opportunities for volunteer attorneys. It also coordinated with judges and magistrates for the recognition and celebration of family law volunteer attorneys at bi-annual best practices luncheons. This year it participated in a joint meeting convened by the Standing Committee with members of Charles County Pro Bono Committee, Charles County and Calvert County Bar Associations, private sector attorneys, bench, and civil legal service providers and community organizations to share and discuss pro bono best practices. The bench further supported the committee's efforts to motivate attorneys to engage in pro bono services by giving sequential preference to attorneys who donate pro bono hours to qualified client cases. Accordingly, the county ranked within the top third of the state's 24 jurisdictions for the highest percent of attorneys with pro bono hours in 2016.

6. Caroline County – Mid-Shore Pro Bono Regional Committee

By Administrative Order, MidShore Pro Bono, Inc. (MSPB) was designated as the regional pro bono committee for Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot counties. That designation meant that MSPB assumed all the duties and responsibilities under MD Rule 19-502 for those five counties. Since then, MSPB has built upon existing pro bono services to meet the low income residents' needs of each county. It continued the Foreclosure Prevention and Debtors Assistance Project (DAP) partnerships with a variety of legal service providers to offer pro bono training opportunities to volunteer attorneys, and screening and placement of various civil pro bono and Judicare cases.

Additional services included its weekly civil legal clinics, such as the Consumer Protection Project (CPP), Women's Family Law, Elder Law and Self Help (pro se) court house and public library clinics, held on a re-occurring basis in Salisbury and other cities throughout the five counties. MSPB also opened two satellite offices, began holding clinics at a local college and started the Collaborative Project, which is an out of court settlement process for potential litigants in domestic disputes, using a panel of trained attorneys, financial neutrals and family coaches. Individually, the counties ranked from 2nd to 15th place for attorneys by county with pro bono hours.¹⁵ Collectively, the counties' most pressing pro bono needs are family, elder and foreclosure matters. MSPB partners with senior centers, social services agencies, religious organizations, shelters, libraries, ethnic groups and other non-profits to

¹⁵ Of the five MSPB county rankings, Talbot ranked the highest in the state. Kent ranked 5th, Queen Anne's ranked 11th, and Caroline ranked 13th. Chart 3, Anasys Report, p. 7.

maximize outreach to clients in far-flung areas. MSPB also partnered with other civil legal service providers, such as Pro Bono Resource Center and Anne Arundel Community College for attorney training and outreach, but faced challenges with limited funds and engaging large firms and more attorneys for consumer protection and pro bono bankruptcy cases.

7. Carroll County

The Carroll County Pro Bono Committee meets regularly and is strongly supported by the bench and the local bar. The Committee works closely with the courts and Family Law Administrator to improve the delivery of legal services in Carroll County, particularly in the area of family law. The Family Law Pro Se Clinic in the Circuit Courthouse operates two days a week. Fifteen pro bono attorneys staff the clinic on a rotating basis. The Pro Bono Committee also engages volunteers to participate in Homeless Resource Day. Recently, the chair secured a commitment from the LAB for staff to conduct intake at the courthouse on a weekly basis and determine pro se clients' eligibility for pro bono services and appropriate referrals. The court assisted in facilitating this new access point by offering space and a printer at the courthouse.

The major challenges of the committee are the continued recruitment of volunteer attorneys, and the ability to help attorneys overcome barriers to volunteering (e.g., use of accrued leave for government or staff attorneys to work on pro bono cases). The committee also is constrained by the lack of funding and staff resources for outreach and recruitment. The chair is the primary source for attorney outreach through personal contacts to inform them of the need, training, and volunteer opportunities. Attorneys are notified also through bar announcements and emails. The Committee works closely with the courts and Family Law Administrator to improve the delivery of legal services in Carroll County, where the greatest needs continue to be family/custody and foreclosure full representation. Various civil legal service providers, such as MVLS, LAB, and the Women's Law Center Protection Order Advocacy and Representation Project cover the county by providing client services and volunteer attorney training, but no providers have a permanent office in the county. Currently, Carroll County ranks 17th of the 24 counties for the percentage by county of attorneys reporting some pro bono hours in 2016. The Carroll County Pro Bono Committee receives significant support from the Judiciary; newly admitted attorneys in the county each receive a letter from the Circuit and District Court Judges promoting pro bono legal service.

8. Cecil County

Although there were some recent challenges to maintaining a local pro bono committee, Cecil County bar members manage to support pro bono service through community education programs, outreach, "Ask a Lawyer" sessions, volunteer BIA programs, and estate planning with the Register of Wills for local churches. This past year, the county made significant progress in achieving full committee composition. Standing Committee representatives met with the committee chair and members of the bench in January 2018 to identify barriers and solutions of committee composition and how to address the local legal needs. The committee then developed a plan which included Judiciary involvement to recruit missing committee members. Upon achieving membership composition, the committee determined that its primary goal was to improve connections between the bar and organized pro bono providers serving indigent and pro se clients.

9. Charles County

The Chair is the sole member of the Charles County Pro Bono Committee which is technically a subcommittee of the county bar. In the fall, members of the Standing Committee and the PBRC convened a joint meeting with the chairs of Calvert and Charles Counties' local committees as well as members of the Calvert County bench, bar, private sector, and the OPD to share pro bono best practices, particularly in rural areas, and to discuss the pro bono rules. The chair is actively working towards full committee member composition. Despite the limited assistance, the Chair conducts outreach to indigent and pro se clients, including to non-English speaking litigants, client outreach takes place at public libraries, self-help clinics in the courthouse, and from the Judiciary, who support posting of flyers in the courthouse and who voluntarily share information with pro se clients about available services.

For 2016, Charles County ranked 22nd in terms of the percentage by county of attorneys who reported pro bono hours. The main sources of attorney outreach have been courthouse postings, as well as bar meeting announcements and diligent efforts by the chair to call, email, and speak one-on-one with local attorneys. Even so, there remains a reliable stream of volunteer attorneys staffing the two walk-in clinics at the courthouse: the General Practice Self-Help Clinic and the Family Law Self-Help Clinic, which are open to the public once a week. These clinics have operated with volunteer lawyers for years. The Chair continues to coordinate the volunteer attorneys staffing the two walk-in clinics at the courthouse staffing the two walk-in clinics at the courthouse.

10. Dorchester County - Mid-Shore Pro Bono Regional Committee

Dorchester County is a part of the Mid-Shore Pro Bono Regional Committee, working together with Caroline, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot counties to coordinate pro bono services throughout the five-county region on the Eastern Shore. (*See description for Caroline County*.)

12. Frederick County

The Frederick County Local Pro Bono Committee is a model committee in terms of meeting the composition of MD Rule 19-502 and being actively engaged in pro bono connections. It meets regularly with participation and open lines of communication between the committee, bar, bench, consultants, and the Standing Committee. At each meeting, LAB member reports the status of their clients and services using an innovative graphic chart. The chart provides the committee with a better understanding of pro bono successes, critical needs, and trends. In a unique role, local committee members, in concert with LAB, screen and place cases either with LAB, private attorneys, or MVLS, depending on clients' income levels, the complexity of the case, and the available resources. The Local Committee also runs informational or pro se clinics in courts and libraries.

The Committee's other accomplishments include:

- a bi-annual four hour clinic through the LAB, with paralegals from a local college and approximately 40 volunteer attorneys providing legal advice on a variety of civil legal issues;
- an annual recognition service and free luncheon for volunteer attorneys where the committee negotiated with local businesses to donate food and space for about 40 volunteer attorneys;
- a "Family Law for the People," held for three hours each Tuesday at the courthouse;
- an annual Law Day at local senior centers co-sponsored by a local hospital, where approximately 25 attorneys provided nearly 100 advance medical directives for senior citizens; and
- a Pro Bono "Night" twice a year, attracting 100-160 clients.

Family law disputes continue to be the most urgent pro bono need. According to the committee, attorneys' apprehension about the "limited scope" representation rule for review of and legal advice on pro se clients' pleadings where the attorney is not aware of the entire set of facts or case history constrains the committee's ability to engage some to volunteer. To offset this barrier, the courthouse runs an in-house self-help clinic each Tuesday and Thursday, and the LAB connects unmet client needs using support from Carroll and Montgomery County lawyers for pro bono representation of eligible Frederick County family law cases.

The local bar association hosts fundraisers from time to time for its Justice for All Fund, which supports legal services in the county and pro bono attorney recruitment through emails and announcements. The county ranks in the top half of the state with the 9th highest ranking for the percent of attorneys who rendered pro bono hours in 2016.

14. Garrett County

The small bar in the county makes it challenging to create and sustain interest in forming and maintaining an active local pro bono committee.¹⁶ Turnover with the local bar presidents stymied scheduling a time for the Standing Committee and the Garrett County Bar Association (GCBA) members to meet on the matter. However, the bar president-elect coordinated through PBRC for select members of the Standing Committee and PBRC to attend the bar's next quarterly meeting in the spring of 2018 and discuss ways that the Judiciary may help more broadly engage attorneys, establish a committee, and inform members of available resources and ways that the Standing Committee may assist in such efforts. The GCBA again hosted a Law Day where volunteer attorneys provided residents with free civil legal advice on a variety of legal issues. Additionally the bar president-elect and other local attorneys continued to offer free or reduced fee services to clients on an as-needed basis. Garrett County lawyers hosted a Law Day, a Pro Bono Day, and an "Ask a Lawyer" program.

15. Harford County

The Harford County Administrative Judge (CAJ) worked closely with the Executive Director and other members of the Harford County Bar Foundation (HCBF) to establish a Harford County Pro Bono Committee. The HCBF, which also included the CAJ and other Judiciary and bar members, continued as the consistent force in the county to spearhead client referrals and outreach through senior centers, social services agencies, public libraries and the aid of a Spanish translator every first Tuesday of the month to share information about available pro bono services. The HCBF also continued to provide outreach and training for attorneys by sharing information on its website, emailing, recruiting newly admitted attorneys, and implementing a Lawyer Referral Service (LRS) that allowed LRS members to indicate their pro bono preferences (linking a lawyer referral case with a pro bono case). As in past years, bar association members and judges referred clients to HCBF and other resources, as well as assisting with outreach to attorneys. As a result, HCBF added 33 new volunteer lawyers to its panel.

LAB and the Sexual Assault/Spouse Abuse Resource Center (SARC) continued its past best practices to screen and place cases. HCBF's "Lawyer in the Library" and "Lawyer in the Lobby" programs served as continued outreach and pro bono opportunities for clients and attorneys. The major focus is finding ways to meet the increasing need for family law pro bono representation. The county ranked in the lower half for attorneys by county with pro bono hours in 2016. For the past few years, the Committee cosponsored Pro Bono Days and "Ask a Lawyer" programs in the county in

¹⁶ Garrett County has approximately 25 full-time lawyers according to *the Current Status of Pro Bono Service among Maryland Lawyers, Year 2016.*

addition to assisting the referral program. It consistently reaches out to the community to explore other partnerships and engages in community education. Its most recent outreach effort, entitled "Access to Justice: Opening the Courthouse Doors" included a panel of legal services providers explaining to other local non-profits the range and availability of their services. The committee believes that the successful seminar helped bridge service gaps within the community and enhance collaboration.

16. Howard County

The Howard County Pro Bono Committee worked closely with the Howard County Bar Association to recruit volunteers for the courthouse legal clinics administered by the court's law librarian. It attempts to meet indigent residents' civil legal needs through Civil and Family Law Pro Bono Brief Legal Advice Clinics held from 9 AM to 12 PM, each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday in the county Circuit Courthouse, and occasionally at public libraries. Family law assistance is the greatest demand. Typically one volunteer attorney provides brief legal advice for up to 15 clients per clinic. Pro se clients who need full representation are referred by the law librarian to MVLS for income eligibility screening and volunteer attorney case placement. The primary source of attorney outreach is direct contact from committee members and the law librarian, who coordinate with local attorneys to staff the clinics on a six month schedule. The Howard County Pro Bono Committee co-chairs are frequent clinic volunteers, particularly to fill in scheduling gaps. Public outreach is mostly accomplished by ensuring that Howard County Lawyers Care Brochures are up to date and available at public libraries to inform the public of a complete listing of available free civil legal services in the county.

Despite the successful operation of the clinics and diligent work of the committee and law librarian, Howard County ranked in the lower third of all the State's counties for the percent of attorneys who reported pro bono hours in 2016. The committee is pursuing a three-part solution to create more pro bono opportunities for poor litigants and attorneys. First, the co-chairs plan to renew the committee and bar relationship as in past years to regain bar support and promotion of pro bono attorney opportunities and recognition. Secondly, the co-chairs plan to pursue greater committee membership composition complement the current Judiciary, MVLS and public librarian members and to better integrate the county's pro bono vision, operation, and support amongst, bar, Judiciary, public, private and government organizations. Lastly, the committee plans to work with its Standing Committee liaisons and PBRC staff to identify pro bono proven best practices occurring in other counties that may be easily implemented in Howard County with minimal effort.

17. Kent County - Mid-Shore Pro Bono Regional Committee

Kent County is a part of the Mid-Shore Pro Bono Regional Committee, working together with Caroline, Dorchester, Queen Anne's, and Talbot counties to coordinate pro bono services throughout the five-county region on the Eastern Shore. *(See description for Caroline County.)*

18. Montgomery County

Historically, the Montgomery County Bar Foundation (MCBF) has been the lead agency for general pro bono activity in the county. The MCBF provides client intake, screening, and referrals for the large numbers of pro bono clients seeking assistance. Ongoing services included eight civil, non-family evening walk-in legal advice clinics each month, staffed by volunteer attorneys in four locations across the county and strategically located along public transportation routes. All clinic locations are handicapped accessible, include Spanish interpreters, include documents in both English and Spanish, and have access, if needed, to the Montgomery County Free Language Line for volunteer attorneys. MCBF and its partners conduct screenings for all the clinics and MCBF continues to collaborate with its partners and the court to recruit pro bono attorneys to staff the Family Law Self-Help Center at the Montgomery County Circuit Court and participate in the Homeless Resource Day.

Despite the operation of a robust local pro bono program, Montgomery County ranked next to last of the state's counties for the percent of attorneys with pro bono hours in 2016. To offset such challenges, the MCBF Executive Director proactively engaged key officials of the Judiciary, bar and legal community, including civil legal service providers such as the LAB and Catholic Charities, to discuss reformation of a local pro bono committee. A local committee has been established recently and plans to hold its first meeting in the Spring of 2018. In the interim, the Executive Director continues to meet on an asneeded basis with the various members of the legal community, including immigration coalition organizations, to determine the most pressing and solutions for any unmet pro bono needs of the county. The groups identified family law and immigration matters as the most pressing areas with limited expertise in the county.

Other challenges that MCBF faced are lack of funds for attorney recognition and recruitment, and a higher percentage of corporate and large firms compared to solo and small firm practitioners. The latter generally out-pace large firms in providing pro bono services through existing legal service providers and organized pro bono programs.

The Montgomery County Bar Association served as a strong advocate of MCBF and the county's pro bono services by continuing to include pro bono

information in packages sent to new admittees, post information for pro bono opportunities on its website, dedicate a pro bono column in the monthly bar newsletter, and include MCBF Pro Bono Program notices in weekly email blasts. The county program is attempting to incorporate pro bono clients into its collaborative law project as well.

19. Prince George's County

The Prince George's County Local Pro Bono Committee continued its partnerships with the bench, bar and community resources, primarily Community Legal Services (CLS), to connect clients with needed pro bono services. Likewise, CLS worked closely with its partners, such as Catholic Charities, House of Ruth and others for direct referrals based on residents' particular needs. For years, CLS sponsored regular community and courtbased pro se clinics relying on volunteers from the committee and beyond. It added "Ask a Lawyer" clinics each day during National Celebration of Pro Bono Week, and assisted with a Homeless Resource Day. More recently it held senior rights events in the county as a means of outreach and co-sponsored a criminal record expungement project using volunteer attorneys at four walkin clinics in local libraries. Strong judicial support in the county has helped sustain many of these efforts.

More recently, CLS worked in tandem with the Maryland Center for Legal Assistance, a LAB subsidiary, which operated the Self-Help Center and brief legal advice services at the District Court and select public libraries. These services complemented the free legal services offered at the court's Family Law Self-Help Center and brief legal advice clinics that are regularly held throughout the county and sponsored by CLS. CLS continued to conduct monthly training for attorneys at its Greenbelt office and to partner with PBRC for attorney training in various areas of civil law in exchange for attorneys' free legal services at clinics and other sponsored pro bono events.

The primary sources of client outreach included distribution of pro bono materials at social services agencies, senior centers, religious organizations, shelters, and e-news using county council and municipality list-servs and the use of social media, announcements and mailings from the county committee and the Prince George's County Bar Association (PGCBA) to inform attorneys of pro bono opportunities. For example, the bar continued to run pro bono news in space reserved exclusively for CLS in the bar's monthly journal that is available online and mailed to all PGCBA members. Currently, the PGCBA is considering how they can play a larger role in the administration and processing of pro bono services.

Despite these strong partnerships, funding limitations and engaging more attorneys remain challenges to meeting indigent residents' most pressing needs for family law, domestic violence, and landlord tenant representation. The county ranked 16th for the percentage of attorneys per county with pro bono hours in the 2016 report.

20. Queen Anne's County – Mid-Shore Pro Bono Regional Committee

Queen Anne's County is a part of the Mid-Shore Pro Bono Regional Consortium, working together with Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, and Talbot counties to coordinate pro bono services throughout the five-county region on the Eastern Shore. *(See description for Caroline County.)*

21. St. Mary's County

The St. Mary's County bar attempted to reconstitute and activate its local pro bono committee on several occasions but found it challenging. Under the guidance of the current chair, along with strong support from St. Mary's Judiciary, the county recently convened a full local pro bono committee in compliance with MD Rule 19-502.¹⁷ More recently, the county met with some success in working with MVLS to develop an effective referral system for pro bono cases rather than attempt to place cases itself or through another local entity.

Prior to the formation of the committee, the county still ranked in the top half of all counties for the percent of attorneys with pro bono hours in 2016. After formation of the committee, the first order of business was to meet with members of the Standing Committee to determine next steps to increase pro bono opportunities for attorneys, deliver attorney training, if needed, and improve linking poor and pro se litigants with pro bono services through existing civil legal service providers and programs.

As a result, the committee was connected with the Homeless Persons Representation Project for a two-part seminar on expungement and veteran's benefits training for county attorneys, which will be followed by a clinic where trained attorneys will provide free legal services to veterans, the homeless, and other low-income county residents. As is common, the committee identified the county's most pressing need as pro bono family law representation. Hence, the committee began coordination with PBRC's Unaccompanied Youth and Family Safety Planning Program Director to explore offering a training and Family Safety Planning Clinic to the county, and are exploring ways to incorporate more services for indigent, Spanishspeaking residents. At least one St. Mary's County Pro Bono Committee member pledged to accept representation for a Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) case in Prince George's County. His promise to gain SIJS

¹⁷ LAB and Southern Maryland Family Advocacy Center were both helpful before and after formation of the committee by screening and placing indigent litigants with attorneys for free representation and brief legal advice.

experience increases the capacity of the St. Mary's bar to serve the needs of unaccompanied children who may relocate to St. Mary's County.

Another accomplishment was immediate action to update of the county's Lawyer's Care Brochure to create a comprehensive and accurate directory of available free legal services throughout the county. Upon completion, the brochure will be available to the public at libraries, the courthouse, social services offices, and homeless shelters.

22. Somerset County

The Somerset County Bar consists of less than ten private practice attorneys who all generally provide pro bono legal service in the county on their own. It does not maintain a local pro bono committee, but can request MVLS to help with case placements in the county. The county nevertheless, consistently ranks among the top in the percentage of lawyers giving 50 or more hours of pro bono legal service. In an effort to reduce truancy in the county, Somerset County extended the weekly Self-Help Legal Program to include legal services for the Board of Education at two locations to address custody and guardianship issues prior to a child entering school. The lawyers also sponsor an elder law program where attorneys volunteer at three of their senior citizen centers and help clients complete powers of attorney forms, facilitate ADR in family court for a reduced rate, accept CINA and Adult Guardianship cases for reduced fees, and support a self-help clinic on Fridays where attorneys are paid at a reduced rate. Somerset County is one of the poorest counties in Maryland.

23. Talbot County - Mid-Shore Pro Bono Regional Committee

Talbot County is a part of the Mid-Shore Pro Bono Regional Committee, working together with Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, and Queen Anne's counties to coordinate pro bono services throughout the five-county region on the Eastern Shore. *(See description for Caroline County.)*

24. Washington County

The Washington County chair successfully collaborated with the Judiciary to re-constitute the local pro bono committee in 2017 to more fully comply with membership composition per MD Rule 19-502. Even prior to full membership, the committee consisting of the chair, LAB, and private practitioner members, orchestrated the county's 2017 Annual Law Day with ample pro bono attorney participants who provided brief free civil legal advice on a variety of legal matters to an unlimited number of walk-in county residents. The committee partnered with the Department of Social Services (DSS) to host the event at no cost to the courthouse Family Law Clinic/Self-Help Assistance Program

with brief advice services offered by an MVLS contract attorney each Thursday. The contract attorney directly coordinated with local attorneys, and when needed, recruited Carroll County attorneys to ensure that pro bono services were available each Thursday. The county ranked in the top quarter of all counties in 2016 for the percentage of pro bono attorney participation.

Despite MVLS and the committee's attorney outreach efforts, county attorneys still tend to provide pro bono legal services directly rather than through a formal referral process. The committee plans to work more closely with the bar for greater attorney pro bono outreach and recognition as a solution to the major challenge of lack of funding for pro bono events, attorney recognition and outreach. To buttress its work, the committee obtained ideas and best practices from the Standing Committee Chair and PBRC for funding "workarounds," such as partnering with PBRC, LAB, MVLS, and other legal service providers serving the county to offset event and training expenses, and to take advantage of legal service provider perks, such as a litigation fund reimbursement, malpractice insurance coverage and MSBA CLE scholarships for attorneys who accept pro bono cases through a legal service provider.

For needs other than family law, the committee chair requested that the Standing Committee and PBRC send sample client need assessments that may be easily transferred for Washington County's use. The committee plans to disseminate a client assessment to the public via libraries, DSS, and other locations frequented by the public and to disseminate client assessments via a web-based poll. The committee then expects to be in a good position to meet and establish future priorities to better match, if possible, the county's available pro bono services to poor litigants' needs.

25. Wicomico County

Wicomico County, like the other Lower Eastern Shore counties (Worcester and Somerset), has not maintained an active local pro bono committee for the past several years. However, the Wicomico County Bar Association is on course to have a committee in place by the summer of 2018. In the interim, the county continued to addresses the needs of poor litigants primarily through local attorneys and the Wicomico County Bar Association. Cases are also placed in conjunction with MVLS. The small size of the bar and limited practice areas continue to be challenges to forming and maintaining a local pro bono committee. Still, about 65% of the county's attorneys reported pro bono hours in 2016.

Other successes included implementation of a pilot self-help program in Salisbury in partnership with MSPB for regularly held clinics where poor pro se litigants received brief legal advice from volunteer attorneys at various public libraries and the District Court. Wicomico County does not retain a full pro bono committee but its chair (Vice President of the local bar association) helped facilitate public service events with the local bar association. For instance, lawyers coordinated a Law School for the Public program, Pro Bono Days, "Ask a Lawyer" sessions and a foreclosure solutions workshop with PBRC. The county also sponsors a weekly pro se courthouse clinic.

26. Worcester County

Worcester County, like the other Lower Eastern Shore counties (Somerset and Wicomico), has not maintained an active local pro bono committee for the past several years. Rather, the county primarily addresses the needs of poor litigants through local attorneys and the Worcester County Bar Association. Cases are also placed in conjunction with MVLS. The relatively small size of the bar and limited practice areas continue to pose challenges to forming and maintaining a local pro bono committee. Still, between 55-60% of the county's attorneys reported pro bono hours in 2016. The Worcester County Pro Bono Committee chair has attempted to engage volunteers in an organized fashion but the small size of the bar and limited practice areas make it challenging.

VIII. Assessment of Local Pro Bono Committee Activities

The level of organized pro bono activity clearly varies substantially between the various county committees and is uniquely determined by the local culture. While a number of jurisdictions had difficulty maintaining a full committee composition, those involved were eager to report that their willingness to serve and active pro bono efforts yielded results. In the Standing Committee's experience, this held true.

As a general rule, the larger, more urban communities which housed organized legal services programs and, therefore, appeared to be better equipped to conduct intake, follow-up with clients, handle case referrals and sustain volunteer support services given their staff resources. In fact, tremendous amounts of pro bono legal services occur through these programs. Yet, these same urban areas tend to face additional challenges in recruiting sufficient numbers of volunteers to offset the high client demand and report lower participation percentage rates overall. More targeted and intentional communication and collaboration will facilitate even greater participation and increase access to critical legal services.

As noted, a number of local pro bono committees in more rural communities have also successfully placed cases and operated courthouse and community clinics for years on their own. Short-term projects like Law Day, Lawyer in the Library, and Homeless Resource Day can also be sustained with a few dedicated members of the bar or community. It is assumed that the culture that exists in these smaller jurisdictions fosters a strong sense of community involvement and responsibility to improve the lives of those around them. Their impressive track records prove that with the appropriate leadership, dedication and culture, such activities thrive. Still, finding creative ways to share resources will be increasingly important to reach those isolated and hard to reach populations and maintain volunteer involvement.

Fortunately, there were ample examples of Local Pro Bono Committees actively partnering with the pro bono referral programs and legal services organizations in their communities to provide an effective system for client intake and referral, community outreach, public education, volunteer training and recognition. The Standing Committee is pleased to continue its work of connecting local committees, courts, bars and others and identifying ways to deliver the most meaningful and effective legal services possible to those in desperately in need of legal help. Dedicating time and attention to the local committees clearly benefits the legal profession, courts, and the public. The Standing Committee commends the Court for its leadership and support of pro bono legal services and opening the doors to justice for all.

IX. Appendices

- A. Pro Bono Rules 19-306.1, 19-409, 19-501, 19-502, 19-503, 19-605
- B. Best Practices Manual Table of Contents and Updated Appendices Web References
- C. Mandate recorded in Maryland Register, 1989
- D. Standing Committee Members and Terms, 2017-2018
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- F. Key Findings from 2016 reporting results
- G. Agenda for Joint Committee Meeting, June 2016
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- K. Pro Bono Made Easier
- L. Baltimore City Lawyer Care Brochure

MD Rules Attorneys, Rule 19-306.1

RULE 19-306.1. PRO BONO PUBLIC SERVICE (6.1)

(a) Professional Responsibility. An attorney has a professional responsibility to render pro bono publico legal service.

(b) Discharge of Professional Responsibility. An attorney in the full-time practice of law should aspire to render at least 50 hours per year of pro bono publico legal service, and an attorney in part-time practice should aspire to render at least a pro rata number of hours.

(1) Unless an attorney is prohibited by law from rendering the legal services described below, a substantial portion of the applicable hours should be devoted to rendering legal service, without fee or expectation of fee, or at a substantially reduced fee, to:

(A) people of limited means;

(B) charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters designed primarily to address the needs of people of limited means;

(C) individuals, groups, or organizations seeking to secure or protect civil rights, civil liberties, or public rights; or

(D) charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters in furtherance of their organizational purposes when the payment of the standard legal fees would significantly deplete the organization's economic resources or would otherwise be inappropriate.

(2) The remainder of the applicable hours may be devoted to activities for improving the law, the legal system, or the legal profession.

(3) An attorney also may discharge the professional responsibility set forth in this Rule by contributing financial support to organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means.

(c) Effect of Noncompliance. This Rule is aspirational, not mandatory. Noncompliance with this Rule shall not be grounds for disciplinary action or other sanctions.

Cross reference: For requirements regarding reporting pro bono legal service, see Md. Rule 19-503.

COMMENT

[1] The ABA House of Delegates has formally acknowledged "the basic responsibility of each attorney engaged in the practice of law to provide public interest legal services" without fee, or at a substantially reduced fee, in one or more of the following areas: poverty law, civil rights law, public rights law, charitable organization representation, and the administration of justice. This Rule expresses that policy but is not intended to be enforced through the disciplinary process.

[2] The rights and responsibilities of individuals and organizations in the United States are increasingly defined in legal terms. As a consequence, legal assistance in coping with the web of statutes, rules, and regulations is imperative for persons of modest and limited means, as well as for the relatively well-to-do.

[3] The basic responsibility for providing legal services for those unable to pay ultimately rests upon the individual attorney, and personal involvement in the problems of the disadvantaged can be one of the most rewarding experiences in the life of an attorney. Every attorney, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, should find time to participate in or otherwise support the provision of legal services to the disadvantaged. The provision of free legal services to those unable to pay reasonable fees continues to be an obligation of each attorney as well as the profession generally, but the efforts of individual attorneys are often not enough to meet the need. Thus, it has been necessary for the profession, the government, and the courts to institute additional programs to provide legal services. Accordingly, legal aid offices, attorney referral services, and other related programs have been developed, and more will be developed by the profession, the government, and the courts. Every attorney should support all proper efforts to meet this need for legal services.

[4] The goal of 50 hours per year for pro bono legal service established in section (b) of this Rule is aspirational; it is a goal, not a requirement. The number used is intended as an average yearly amount over the course of the attorney's career.

[5] An attorney in government service who is prohibited by constitutional, statutory, or regulatory restrictions from performing the pro bono legal services described in subsection (b)(1) of the Rule may discharge the attorney's responsibility by participating in activities described in subsection (b)(2) of this Rule.

Model Rules Comparison: This Rule substantially retains Maryland language as amended April 9, 2002, effective July 1, 2002, and does not adopt Ethics 2000 Amendments to the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct.

Credits

[Adopted June 6, 2016, eff. July 1, 2016.]

MD R Attorneys, Rule 19-306.1, MD R ATTORNEYS Rule 19-306.1

Current with amendments received through July 1, 2016.

MD Rules Attorneys, Rule 19-409 RULE 19-409. INTEREST ON FUNDS

(a) Generally. Any interest paid on funds deposited in an attorney trust account, after deducting service charges and fees of the financial institution, shall be credited and belong to the client or third person whose funds are on deposit during the period the interest is earned, except to the extent that interest is paid to the Maryland Legal Services Corporation Fund as authorized by law. The attorney or law firm shall have no right or claim to the interest.

Cross reference: See Rule 19-411 (b)(1)(D) providing that certain fees may not be deducted from interest that otherwise would be payable to the Maryland Legal Services Corporation Fund.

(b) Duty to Report IOLTA Participation.

(1) *Required as a Condition of Practice.* As a condition precedent to the practice of law, each attorney admitted to practice in Maryland shall report annually in accordance with this Rule information concerning all IOLTA accounts, including name, address, location, and account number, on a form approved by the Court of Appeals.

(2) *Oversight of the Reporting Process.* The Court of Appeals shall designate an employee of the Administrative Office of the Courts to oversee the reporting process set forth in this Rule.

(3) *Mailing by the Administrative Office of the Courts.* On or before January 10 of each year, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall mail an IOLTA Compliance Report form to each attorney on the list maintained by the Client Protection Fund of the Bar of Maryland. The addresses on that list shall be used for all notices and correspondence pertaining to the reports.

(4) *Due Date.* IOLTA Compliance Reports for each year shall be filed with the Administrative Office of the Courts on or before February 15 of that year.

(5) Enforcement.

(A) Notice of Default. As soon as practicable after May 1 of each year, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall notify each defaulting attorney of the attorney's failure to file a report. The notice shall (i) state that the attorney has not filed the IOLTA Compliance Report for that year, (ii) state that continued failure to file the Report may result in the entry of an order by the Court of Appeals prohibiting the attorney from practicing law in the State, and (iii) be sent by first-class mail. The mailing of the notice of default shall constitute service.

(B) Additional Discretionary Notice of Default. In addition to the mailed notice, the Administrative Office of the Courts may give additional notice to defaulting attorneys by any of the means enumerated in Rule 19-606 (c).

(C) List of Defaulting Attorneys. As soon as practicable after July 1 of each year but no later than August 1, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall prepare, certify, and file with the Court of Appeals a list that includes the name and address of each attorney engaged in the practice of law who has failed to file the IOLTA Compliance Report for that year.

(D) Certification of Default; Order of Decertification. The Administrative Office of the Courts shall submit with the list a proposed Decertification Order stating the names and addresses of those attorneys who have failed to file their IOLTA Compliance Report. At the request of the Court of Appeals, the Administrative Office of the Courts also shall furnish additional information from its records or give further notice to the defaulting attorneys. If satisfied that the Administrative Office of the Court of Appeals shall enter a Decertification Order prohibiting each of them from practicing law in the State.

(E) Mailing of Decertification Order. The Administrative Office of the Courts shall mail by firstclass mail a copy of the Decertification Order to each attorney named in the Order. The mailing of the copy of the Decertification Order shall constitute service.

(F) Recertification; Restoration to Good Standing. If an attorney thereafter files the outstanding IOLTA Compliance Report, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall request the Court of Appeals to enter an order that recertifies the attorney and restores the attorney to good standing. Upon entry of that order, the Administrative Office of the Courts promptly shall furnish confirmation to the attorney. After an attorney is recertified, the fact that the attorney had been decertified need not be disclosed by the attorney in response to a request for information as to whether the attorney has been the subject of a disciplinary or remedial proceeding.

(G) Duty of Clerk of Court of Appeals. Upon entry of each Decertification Order and each order that recertifies an attorney and restores the attorney to good standing entered pursuant to this Rule, the Clerk of the Court of Appeals shall comply with Rule 19-761.

(H) Certain Information Furnished to the Maryland Legal Services Corporation. The Administrative Office of the Courts promptly shall submit to the Maryland Legal Services Corporation the data from electronically submitted IOLTA Compliance Reports and, upon request, shall forward the paper Compliance Reports.

(I) Confidentiality. Except as provided in subsection (b)(5)(H) of this Rule, IOLTA Compliance Reports, whether in paper or electronic form, are confidential and are not subject to inspection or disclosure under Code, General Provisions Article, § 4-301. The Administrative Office of the Courts shall not release the Reports to any person or agency, except as provided in this Rule or upon order of the Court of Appeals. Nonidentifying information and data contained in an attorney's IOLTA Compliance Report are not confidential.

Cross reference: See Code, Business Occupations and Professions Article, § 10-303.

Source: This Rule is derived from former Rule 16-608 (2016).

Credits

[Adopted June 6, 2016, eff. July 1, 2016.] MD R Attorneys, Rule 19-409, MD R ATTORNEYS Rule 19-409 Current with amendments received through July 1, 2016.

MD Rules Attorneys, Rule 19-501

RULE 19-501. STATE PRO BONO COMMITTEE AND PLAN

(a) Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service.

(1) Creation. There is a Standing Committee of the Court of Appeals on Pro Bono Legal Service.

(2) *Members.* The Standing Committee consists of the following members appointed by the Court of Appeals:

(A) eight members of the Maryland Bar, including one from each appellate judicial circuit and one selected from the State at large;

(B) a maximum of three Circuit Court judges selected from nominees submitted by the Conference of Circuit Judges;

(C) a maximum of three District Court judges selected from nominees submitted by the Chief Judge of the District Court;

(D) the Public Defender or a designee of the Public Defender;

(E) a representative from the Legal Aid Bureau, Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service, Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland, and one other pro bono referral organization; and

(F) a member of the general public.

(3) *Terms; Chair.* The term of each member is three years. A member may be reappointed to serve one or more additional terms. The Court of Appeals shall designate one of the members as chair.

(4) *Consultants.* The Standing Committee may designate a reasonable number of consultants from among court personnel or representatives of other organizations or agencies concerned with the provision of legal services to persons of limited means.

(b) Functions of the Standing Committee.

(1) Required. The Standing Committee shall:

(A) develop standard forms for use by the Local Pro Bono Committees in developing and articulating the Local Pro Bono Action Plans and making their annual reports;

(B) recommend uniform standards for use by the Local Pro Bono Committees to assess the need for pro bono legal services in their communities;

(C) review and evaluate the Local Pro Bono Action Plans and the annual reports of the Local Pro Bono Committees;

(D) collect and make available to Local Pro Bono Committees information about pro bono projects;

(E) at the request of a Local Pro Bono Committee, provide guidance about the Rules in this Chapter and Rule 19-306.1 (6.1) of the Maryland Attorneys' Rules of Professional Conduct;

(F) file with the Court of Appeals an annual report and recommendations about the implementation and effectiveness of the Local Pro Bono Action Plans, the Rules in this Chapter, and Rule 19-306.1 (6.1) of the Maryland Attorneys' Rules of Professional Conduct; and

(G) prepare a State Pro Bono Action Plan as provided in section (c) of this Rule.

(2) *Permitted.* The Standing Committee may make recommendations to the Court of Appeals concerning the appointment and reappointment of its members.

(c) State Pro Bono Action Plan.

(1) *Generally.* Within three years after the effective date of this Rule, the Standing Committee shall submit to the Court of Appeals a State Pro Bono Action Plan to promote increased efforts on the part of attorneys to provide legal assistance to persons of limited means. In developing the Plan, the Standing Committee shall:

(A) review and assess the results of the Local Pro Bono Action Plans;

(B) assess the data generated by the reports required by Rule 19-503;

(C) gather and consider information pertinent to the existence, nature, and extent of the need for pro bono legal services in Maryland; and

(D) provide the opportunity for one or more public hearings.

(2) Contents. The State Pro Bono Action Plan may include a recommendation for increasing or decreasing the aspirational goals for pro bono publico legal service set forth in Rule 19-306.1
(6.1) of the Maryland Attorneys' Rules of Professional Conduct. The Plan should include suggestions for the kinds of pro bono activities that will be most helpful in meeting the need for pro bono legal service throughout the State and should address long-range pro bono service issues.

Committee note: Examples of long-range issues that may be addressed include opportunities for transactional attorneys, government attorneys, business attorneys, and in-house attorneys to render pro bono legal service; opportunities for pro bono legal service by attorneys who are unable to provide direct client representation; "collective responsibility" for pro bono legal service when a law firm designates certain attorneys to handle only pro bono matters; and encouraging pro bono legal service among law students and in the legal academic setting.

(d) Posting. The Clerk of the Court of Appeals shall cause the State Action Plan submitted by the Standing Committee to be posted on the Judiciary website and shall establish a reasonable period for public comment.

(e) Consideration by the Court of Appeals. After the comment period, the Court of Appeals shall hold a public hearing and take appropriate action on the Plan.

Source: This Rule is derived from former Rule 16-901 (2016).

Credits

[Adopted June 6, 2016, eff. July 1, 2016.] MD R Attorneys, Rule 19-501, MD R ATTORNEYS Rule 19-501 Current with amendments received through July 1, 2016.

MD Rules Attorneys, Rule 19-502

RULE 19-502. LOCAL PRO BONO COMMITTEES AND PLANS

(a) Local Pro Bono Committees.

(1) Creation. There is a Local Pro Bono Committee for each county.

(2) *Members.* The Local Pro Bono Committee consists of at least two representatives nominated by legal services organizations and pro bono referral organizations that provide services in the county and selected by the County Administrative Judge and the District Administrative Judge, and no more than nine additional members, as follows:

(A) the District Public Defender for the county or an assistant public defender selected by the District Public Defender;

(B) at least three but no more than five attorneys, appointed by the president of the county bar association, who practice in the county and at least one of whom is an officer of the county bar association;

(C) at least one but no more than two individuals from the general public, appointed jointly by the County Administrative Judge and the District Administrative Judge; and

(D) at least one but no more than two trial court judges, with the selection of any circuit court judge made by the County Administrative Judge and the selection of any District Court judge made by the County Administrative Judge with the concurrence of the Chief Judge of the District Court.

(3) *Term.* Each Committee shall establish a procedure for new membership, including articulating length of terms, to ensure member rotation and involvement.

(4) *Chair.* The County Administrative Judge shall appoint a member of the Committee to serve as temporary chair. The temporary chair shall convene a meeting at which the Committee shall elect a member to serve as chair. Each Committee shall establish a procedure by which its chair will be replaced.

(5) *Full Membership*. On at least an annual basis, the County Administrative Judge shall assess the composition of the Committee and take steps to ensure full membership of the Committee.

(6) *Consultants.* The Committee may designate a reasonable number of consultants from among court personnel or representatives of other organizations or agencies concerned with the provision of legal services to persons of limited means. Each consultant should be encouraged to attend meetings and participate as a member, providing input and assisting in the development and implementation of the plan, where appropriate, without being a voting member of the Committee.

(b) Duties of the Committee. The local pro bono committee shall:

(1) assess the needs in the county for pro bono legal service, including the needs of non-English speaking, minority, and isolated populations;

(2) determine the nature and extent of existing and proposed free or low-cost legal services, both staff and volunteer, for persons of limited means in the county;

(3) establish goals and priorities for pro bono legal service in the county;

(4) prepare a Local Pro Bono Action Plan as provided in section (c) of this Rule;

(5) in accordance with the policies and directives established by the Standing Committee or the Court of Appeals, implement or monitor the implementation of the Plan; and

(6) submit an annual report about the Plan to the Standing Committee by May 1.

(c) Local Pro Bono Action Plans.

(1) *Generally.* The Local Pro Bono Committee shall develop, in coordination with existing legal services organizations and pro bono referral organizations that provide services in the county, a detailed Local Pro Bono Action Plan to promote pro bono legal service to meet the needs of persons of limited means in the county. The Plan shall be submitted to the Standing Committee within one year after creation of the Local Committee. The Local Pro Bono Committees of two or more adjoining counties may collaborate and form a Regional Pro Bono Committee with approval of the Administrative Judges of the counties that wish to collaborate. With the approval of the Standing Committee, a single joint Pro Bono Action Plan may be developed for two or more adjoining counties, by collaboration of the Local Pro Bono Committees.

(2) Contents. The Local Pro Bono Action Plan shall address the following matters:

(A) screening applicants for pro bono representation and referring them to appropriate referral sources or panels of participating attorneys;

(B) establishing or expanding attorney referral panels;

(C) continuing and supporting current services provided by existing pro bono and legal services organizations;

(D) a procedure for matching cases with individual attorney expertise, including specialized panels;

(E) support for participating attorneys, including:

(i) providing litigation resources and out-of-pocket expenses for pro bono cases;

(ii) providing or supplementing legal malpractice insurance for participating attorneys;

(iii) providing legal education and training for participating attorneys in specialized areas of the law relevant to pro bono legal service, including consultation services with attorneys who have expertise in areas of law in which participating attorneys seek to provide pro bono service; and

(iv) recommending court scheduling and docketing preferences for pro bono cases;

(F) methods of informing attorneys about the ways in which they may provide pro bono legal service;

Committee note: Ways in which attorneys may provide pro bono legal service include assisting in the screening and intake process; interviewing prospective clients and providing basic consultation; participating in self-represented clinics or other programs in which attorneys provide advice and counsel, assist persons in drafting letters or documents, or assist persons in planning transactions or resolving disputes without the need for litigation; representing clients through case referral; acting as co-counsel with legal service providers or other participating attorneys; providing consultation to legal service providers for case reviews and evaluations; training or consulting with other participating attorneys or staff attorneys affiliated with a legal service provider; engaging in legal research and writing; and, if qualified through training and experience, serving as a mediator, arbitrator, or neutral evaluator.

(G) coordinating implementation of the Plan with the courts, county bar associations, and other agencies and organizations;

(H) the number of hours of pro bono legal services needed annually to meet the needs of persons of limited means in the county; and

(I) programs to recognize attorneys who provide pro bono legal services.

Source: This Rule is derived from former Rule 16-902 (2016).

Credits

[Adopted June 6, 2016, eff. July 1, 2016.] MD R Attorneys, Rule 19-502, MD R ATTORNEYS Rule 19-502 Current with amendments received through July 1, 2016.

MD Rules Attorneys, Rule 19-503

RULE 19-503. REPORTING PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICE

(a) Required as a Condition of Practice. As a condition precedent to the practice of law, each attorney admitted to practice in Maryland shall file annually with the Administrative Office of the Courts, in accordance with this Rule, a Pro Bono Legal Service Report on a form approved by the Court of Appeals. The form shall not require the identification of pro bono clients.

Committee note: The purpose of pro bono legal service reporting is to document the pro bono legal service performed by attorneys in Maryland and determine the effectiveness of the Local Pro Bono Action Plans, the State Pro Bono Action Plan, the Rules in this Chapter, and Rule 19-306.1 (6.1) of the Maryland Attorneys' Rules of Professional Conduct.

(b) Oversight of the Reporting Process. The Court of Appeals shall designate an employee of the Administrative Office of the Courts to oversee the reporting process set forth in this Rule.

(c) Mailing by the Administrative Office of the Courts. On or before January 10 of each year, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall mail a Pro Bono Legal Service Report form to each attorney on the list maintained by the Client Protection Fund of the Bar of Maryland. The addresses on that list shall be used for all notices and correspondence pertaining to the reports.

(d) Due Date. Pro Bono Legal Service Reports for a given calendar year shall be filed with the Administrative Office of the Courts on or before February 15 of the following calendar year.

(e) Enforcement.

(1) *Notice of Default.* As soon as practicable after May 1 of each year, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall notify each defaulting attorney of the attorney's failure to file a report. The notice shall (A) state that the attorney has not filed the Pro Bono Legal Service Report for the previous calendar year, (B) state that continued failure to file the Report may result in the entry of an order by the Court of Appeals prohibiting the attorney from practicing law in the State, and (C) be sent by first class mail. The mailing of the notice of default shall constitute service.

(2) Additional Discretionary Notice of Default. In addition to the mailed notice, the Administrative Office of the Courts may give additional notice to defaulting attorneys by any of the means enumerated in Rule 19-606 (c).

(3) *List of Defaulting Attorneys.* As soon as practicable after July 1 of each year but no later than August 1, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall prepare, certify, and file with the Court of Appeals a list that includes the name and address of each attorney engaged in the practice of law who has failed to file the Pro Bono Legal Service Report for the previous year.

(4) *Certification of Default; Order of Decertification.* The Administrative Office of the Courts shall submit with the list a proposed Decertification Order stating the names and addresses of those attorneys who have failed to file their Pro Bono Legal Service Reports for the specified calendar year. At the request of the Court of Appeals, the Administrative Office of the Courts also shall furnish additional information from its records or give further notice to the defaulting attorneys. If satisfied that the Administrative Office of the Courts has given the required notice to each

attorney named on the proposed Decertification Order, the Court of Appeals shall enter a Decertification Order prohibiting each of them from practicing law in the State.

(5) *Mailing of Decertification Order*. The Administrative Office of the Courts shall mail by first class mail a copy of the Decertification Order to each attorney named in the Order. The mailing of the copy of the Decertification Order shall constitute service.

(6) *Recertification; Restoration to Good Standing.* If a decertified attorney thereafter files the outstanding Pro Bono Legal Service Report, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall request the Court of Appeals to enter an order that recertifies the attorney and restores the attorney to good standing. Upon entry of that order, the Administrative Office of the Courts promptly shall furnish confirmation to the attorney. After an attorney is recertified, the fact that the attorney had been decertified need not be disclosed by the attorney in response to a request for information as to whether the attorney has been the subject of a disciplinary or remedial proceeding.

(7) *Duty of Clerk of Court of Appeals.* Upon the entry of each Decertification Order and each order that recertifies an attorney and restores the decertified attorney to good standing entered pursuant to this Rule, the Clerk of the Court of Appeals shall comply with Rule 19-761.

(f) Certain Information Furnished to the Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service. The Administrative Office of the Courts shall submit promptly to the Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service a compilation of non-identifying information and data from the Pro Bono Legal Service Reports.

(g) Confidentiality. Pro Bono Legal Service Reports are confidential and are not subject to inspection or disclosure under Code, General Provisions Article, § 4-301. The Administrative Office of the Courts shall not release the Reports to any person or agency, except upon order of the Court of Appeals. Nonidentifying information and data contained in an attorney's Pro Bono Legal Service Report are not confidential.

Source: This Rule is derived from former Rule 16-903 (2016).

Credits

[Adopted June 6, 2016, eff. July 1, 2016.] MD R Attorneys, Rule 19-503, MD R ATTORNEYS Rule 19-503 Current with amendments received through July 1, 2016.

MD Rules Attorneys, Rule 19-605 RULE 19-605. OBLIGATIONS OF ATTORNEYS

(a) Conditions Precedent to Practice.

(1) Generally. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (a)(2) of this Rule or 19-215 (h), each attorney admitted to practice before the Court of Appeals or issued a certificate of special authorization under Rule 19-215 or 19-216, as a condition precedent to the practice of law in this State, shall (A) provide to the treasurer of the Fund the attorney's Social Security number, (B) provide to the treasurer of the Fund the attorney's federal tax identification number or a statement that the attorney has no such number, and (C) pay annually to the treasurer of the Fund the sum, and all applicable late charges, set by the Court of Appeals.

(2) *Exception.* Unless the attorney is on permanent retired status pursuant to Rule 19-740, upon timely application by an attorney, the trustees of the Fund may approve the attorney for inactive/retired status. By regulation, the trustees may provide a uniform deadline date for seeking approval of inactive/retired status. An attorney on inactive/retired status may engage in the practice of law without payment to the Fund or to the Disciplinary Fund if (A) the attorney is on inactive/ retired status solely as a result of having been approved for that status by the trustees of the Fund and not as a result of any action against the attorney pursuant to the Rules in Chapter 700 of this Title, and (B) the attorney's practice is limited to representing clients without compensation, other than reimbursement of reasonable and necessary expenses, as part of the attorney's participation in a legal services or pro bono publico program sponsored or supported by a local bar association, the Maryland State Bar Association, Inc., an affiliated bar foundation, or the Maryland Legal Services Corporation.

Cross reference: See Rule 19-705 (Disciplinary Fund).

(3) *Bill; Request for Information; Compliance.* For each fiscal year, the trustees by regulation shall set dates by which (A) the Fund shall send to an attorney a bill, together with a request for the information required by subsection (a)(1) of this Rule, and (B) the attorney shall comply with subsection (a)(1) of this Rule by paying the sum due and providing the required information. The date set for compliance shall be not earlier than 60 days after the Fund sends the bill and requests the information.

(4) *Method of Payment.* Payments of amounts due the Fund shall be by check or money order, or by any additional method approved by the trustees.

(b) Change of Address. Each attorney shall give written notice to the trustees of every change in the attorney's resident address, business address, e-mail address, telephone number, or facsimile number within 30 days of the change. The trustees shall have the right to rely on the latest information received by them for all billing and other correspondence.

Source: This Rule is derived from former Rule 16-811.5 (2016).

Credits

[Adopted June 6, 2016, eff. July 1, 2016.] MD R Attorneys, Rule 19-605, MD R ATTORNEYS Rule 19-605 Current with amendments received through October 1, 2016.



BEST PRACTICES MANUAL FOR LOCAL PRO BONO COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEE of the COURT OF APPEALS OF MARYLAND on PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICE

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INTRODUCTION

In 2002, the Court of Appeals of Maryland mandated the creation of a Local Pro Bono Committee in each county of the State to help address the enormous gap between the need for civil legal services and the availability of those services for Maryland's low-income residents. The Local Pro Bono Committees were charged with establishing goals and priorities for pro bono legal services in their counties and devising a Local Pro Bono Action Plan, tailored to the needs of their jurisdiction, which would increase the provision of pro bono legal services to the indigent. The level of activity of the local committees varies and a few have combined to serve a particular region. Since 2002, however, lawyers in Maryland have increased their contribution of pro bono legal services to the poor annually. Each year since 2004 Maryland lawyers have donated over one million hours of free legal services to the state's needy.

Despite this progress, the gap between the need for pro bono legal services and the availability of those services continues to expand. The national recession, the epidemic of mortgage foreclosures and the decline in economic growth in Maryland during the past several years have dramatically increased the need for pro bono legal services in this State. The growing number of attorneys willing to provide pro bono services despite the economic downtown affirms the commitment of Maryland's lawyers to social justice and their strong sense of responsibility for fulfilling their obligation of "*pro bono publico*," even in a time of financial hardship. Nevertheless, it is imperative that the number of Maryland attorneys performing pro bono legal services keep rising in order to address the increasing need.

To assist the Local Pro Bono Committees in their work, the Court of Appeals' Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service has prepared this *Best Practices Manual for Local Pro Bono Committees*. The *Best Practices Manual* is organized in two parts. Part I, *A Handbook for New Local Pro Bono Committee Members*, maps the history of organized pro bono in Maryland, tracing important events in the development of pro bono from the formation of the Maryland Legal Services Corporation in the 1980's to the current work of the Local Pro Bono Committees. Part I also examines the response to the present economic downturn and crisis in legal services funding and includes a "Maryland Pro Bono Basics" section in Q & A format that outlines the fundamentals of the rules and systems in place for the performance of pro bono service in Maryland.

Part II, *Best Practices for Local Pro Bono Committees*, is a compendium of the most successful methods that Local Pro Bono Committees have implemented to recruit, train, and recognize pro bono attorneys. It sets forth techniques for Local Pro Bono Committees to use to provide support and resources to volunteer attorneys, as well as to collaborate with the judiciary and legal services organizations. Part II addresses the importance of community outreach and includes a section on the special needs of rural counties. It also contains innovative pro bono projects that can be implemented statewide and addresses issues of Local Pro Bono Committee governance and performance.

This *Best Practices Manual* is intended as a resource for tools and techniques that will enhance the ability of Local Pro Bono Committees to encourage greater involvement of members of the bar, the judiciary, legal services organizations and the community-at-large in pro bono activities. The goal of this *Best Practices Manual* is to help Local Pro Bono Committees harness the positive energy of service among Maryland lawyers and work with them to ensure equal access to justice for all citizens of Maryland.

June 2010

APPENDICES

TAB APPENDIX

- A. Statistics Gap in Legal Services
- B. Revised: *Maryland Pro Bono Rules* <u>View Document - Maryland Code and Court Rules</u>
- C. Standing Committee Survey of Legal Services Providers
- D. Standing Committee Survey of Human and Social Service Agencies
- E. Standing Committee Client Survey
- F. Revised: *MLSC Legal Services Eligibility Guidelines* <u>https://www.mlsc.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/08/2018-MLSC-Income-Guidelines-Final.pdf</u>
- G. Revised: Legal Aid Bureau Eligibility Guidelines https://www.mlsc.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/08/2018-MLSC-Income-Guidelines-Final.pdf
- H. Abbreviated Guide to Pro Bono Services in Maryland
- I. Short-Term Pro Bono Opportunities
- J. Revised: *PBRC Litigation Fund Request Form* <u>https://probonomd.org/for-lawyers/litigation-fund/</u>
- K. Sample Maryland Lawyers Care Brochure
- L. Revised: Pro Bono Attorney Registration Form Volunteer Lawyer Registration Form
- M. REVISED: Attorney Emeritus Rules Exceptions https://www.courts.state.md.us/cpf
- N. Model Pro Bono Policy for Government Attorneys
- O. Sample Pro Bono Policies for State's Attorney's and County Law Offices
- P. Howard County Local Pro Bono Committee Attorney Survey
- Q. Revised: Sample Intake and Eligibility Screening Form Apply for Services - MVLS
- R. Maryland Judicial Ethics Opinion #124
- S. Prince George's County Summit Documents
- T. Sample MIRC Flyer and Volunteer Registration
- U. Revised: Automatic Fee Waiver Memorandum http://mdcourts.gov/courtforms/joint/ccdc088.pdf
- V. Annual Report of Local Pro Bono Committee Form

plore other areas to encourage pro bono services before such a rule is implemented." In that regard, the subcommittee recommended that,

"Giving the local bar associations an opportunity to focus on the problem and using in-place programs such as the Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service and Judicare seem to be, at this time, the most desirable ways to proceed. If, as time passes, more needs to be done, a reconsideration of mandatory pro bono may be in order."

The subcommittee did, however, call attention to Rule 6.1 of the Rules of Professional Conduct, which deals with "Pro Bono Publico Service" and provides:

"A lawyer should render public interest legal service. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by providing professional services at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations, by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession, or by financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means."

The subcommittee recommended changing the word "should" in the first sentence of that Rule to "shall," and thereby to make the provision of <u>pro bono</u> service an ethical command, possibly enforceable through disciplinary proceedings. In addition, it suggested that the Clients' Security Trust Fund include with its annual statements a form listing the major legal services organizations. Attorneys would be requested to designate one or more of those organizations and return the form to the Fund, which would, in turn, forward it to the organization designated.

After considerable discussion, the full Committee accepted the Report and, with two caveats, concurred in the subcommittee's recommendations. The full Committee rejected the proposal suggesting that disciplinary proceedings be used to enforce Rule 6.1, and it directed the subcommittee to explore in in which they could provide service to low-income people in need of legal services, and (iii) asking them to designate which, if any, of those ways they would be willing to provide service. The responses would eventually be sent to the State Bar Association.

(3) The State Bar Association would superintend the further implementation of the program by (i) collating the responses and linking the lawyers with the various legal service organizations or facilities designated by them, (ii) in conjunction with MICPEL, local bar associations, and others, developing educational and training programs and seminars to render lawyers more able to provide legal services in specific areas, (iii) assisting and encouraging local bar associations in developing their own legal service programs, and (iv) keeping accurate records of all aspects of the program and making periodic reports to the Court of how it is working in terms of meeting the need documented by the Advisory Council.

Under this approach, the question of whether Rule 6.1 should be amended as proposed by the subcommittee of the Rules Committee could be deferred to see whether this effort would succeed.

Following this meeting, the subcommittee, the State Bar Association, and other interested groups gave further consideration to these proposals and to the drafting of the documents needed to implement them. In October, the Board of Governors of the State Bar Association formally approved this approach. That same month, the subcommittee, in a further report to the Rules Committee, also recommended the three-part approach. After considerable discussion, the Committee (1) agreed to recommend that approach to the Court, (2) reconsidered its earlier decision to recommend an amendment to Rule 6.1 and decided to defer any such recommendation until the results of the voluntary approach could be ascertained and considered, and (3) recommended that the Court direct lawyers to return the questionnaire form to the Court and that the information thereon not be regarded as confidential.

A drafting committee was appointed to work with representatives of the other interested groups in refining the questionnaire. At its November, 1988 meeting, the Committee re-



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Cristine LoVetro, Esq. (*Nov. 2017*) Law Office of Cristine LoVetro, LLC 100 W. Church Street, 2nd Floor Frederick, MD 21701 301-620-8585 <u>cristine@lovetrolawoffice.com</u>

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2017-2018 MD LOCAL PRO BONO COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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SOMERSET – Patrick Palmer Jennifer M. Turnbull Office of the Public Defender OPD – Somerset County 30509 Prince William St Princess Anne, MD 21853 410-651-3271 (o), 443-880-4639 410-651-5320 (f) JTurnbull@opd.state.md.us jenniferbushman@yahoo.com

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WASHINGTON – Shawn Boehringer Tracey B. Eberling, Esq. Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC P.O. Box 2629 Martinsburg, WV 25402 304-263-6991, 301-262-3541 (f) tracey.eberling@steptoejohnson.com WICOMICO – Patrick Palmer Melissa R. Kilmer, Esq. Legal Aid Bureau, Inc. Lower Eastern Shore Office 111 High Street Salisbury MD 21801 443-397-9547, 410-860-2148 (f) mkilmer@mdlab.org

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Key Findings From 2016 Maryland pro bono reporting results

Maryland Rule 19-503 requires all Maryland attorneys authorized to practice law in the state to annually report on their pro bono activities. The definition of pro bono service was redefined by the Court of Appeals in Rule 19-306.1 with an "aspirational" goal of 50 hours of service for full-time practitioners with a "substantial portion" of those hours dedicated to legal services to people of limited means. The Administrative Office of the Courts administers the process for compiling the reporting results. Some of the key findings from the *Current Status of Pro Bono Service Among Maryland Lawyers, Year 2016* report are summarized below.

Compliance Rate

• 39,800 Maryland lawyers out of 40,186 filed their pro bono service report by the final cutoff date and were included in the report, representing a 99.9 % compliance.

Demographics of Bar

- Only about 57% of all lawyers reported a business address in Maryland; similarly, 57% stated they practiced in the state (with 41% of lawyers reporting an out of state jurisdiction.)
- Approximately 71% practice full-time (i.e., not retired, part-time, a judicial clerk or judge). Of those full-time lawyers, only 55% reported a business address in Maryland.
- Top five jurisdictions in which identify as primary location (ranked in order of highest):
 - Montgomery County
 - Baltimore City
 - Baltimore County
 - Prince George's County
 - Anne Arundel County
- Primary areas of practice:
 - Litigation
 - Criminal
 - Corporate/Business
 - Family
 - Real Estate
 - Government (11% of all lawyers; 6.9% of MD lawyers)
- Median admission date of practitioners is 1998 (in practice 22 years)

Amount of Pro Bono Service

- Among full-time lawyers practicing in Maryland, 53% reported engaging in some type of pro bono activity (compared to 53.7% in 2015). Among <u>all</u> licensed lawyers, 41.7% reported engaging in some type of pro bono activity.
- The longer someone had been in practice, the more likely they were to render pro bono service. In fact, those admitted to the bar within five to ten years reported the lowest pro bono hours (followed by those with less than five years).
- Lawyers provided a total of 1,150,205 hours of representational pro bono legal service in 2016 (compared to 1,143,992 hours in 2015). This year, for the first time, that figure was broken down further, indicating that the vast majority of full-time lawyers practicing in Maryland and engaging in pro bono donated somewhere between 10 – 50+ hours (21.6% reporting 10-49 hours; and 19.9% reporting more than 50 hours).
- Of all **full-time lawyers, 19.2% reported 50 hours or more** of pro bono service. As years of practice increased, so did the percentage of lawyers reporting more than 50 hours of service with the highest being those in practice for more than 25 years (25.4%). The Eastern part of the state demonstrated the highest percentage of lawyers providing over 50 hours (34.1%).

Type of Pro Bono Service

- Tracking Rule 19-306.1, the breakdown of services provided by lawyers practicing in Maryland was as follows:
 - 52.6% rendered their services to people of limited means;
 - 16.7% assisted organizations serving people of limited means;
 - 22% gave organizational help to non-profits; and
 - 8.7% worked with entities on civil rights matters.

Combining those who provided service to individuals of limited means with those assisting organizations serving the low-income community, **approximately 69.3%** of the pro bono services provided **directly impact the poverty population**, a slight increase from last year.

• Of those hours donated to assist people of limited means, 43% (of those to individual clients and to those organizations serving the poor) were referred *through* a pro bono or legal services organization, a slight decrease from last year (44.3%).

Geographic Distribution

• Once again, lawyers in the Western and Eastern parts of the state reported the highest percentage of pro bono participation. Lawyers in Garrett County reported the highest percentage of lawyers rendering some pro bono service (68.6%), with Talbot County coming in second (68.1%), followed by Allegany County (63.8%).

- That was similar to the percentages among full-time lawyers in Maryland, where the Eastern Shore (70.7%) and Western Maryland (65.6%) continued to report higher proportions of lawyers rendering pro bono services overall than lawyers in other regions. Talbot County topped the ranking at 78.9%, with Somerset (75%) and Wicomico (74%) Counties next in line with the highest percentage of pro bono hours.
- Lowest levels of participation by percentage include: Anne Arundel, Montgomery, Charles, Howard Counties and Baltimore City in that order.

Practice Areas

• The **largest number of pro bono hours** was donated in the **family/domestic** practice area. Primary practice areas identified by lawyers do not necessarily correspond to the areas in which pro bono services are rendered. (See chart below).

Rank	Pro Bono Service Area	Primary Practice Area		
1	Family/Domestic	Litigation		
2	Corporate/Business	Criminal		
3	Other	Corporate/Business		
4	Criminal	Family		
5	Real Estate	Real Estate		

Comparison of Practice Areas from 2016 Reporting Results

• Even so, there is a high correlation between practice area and pro bono area of practice. Full-time lawyers generally provide a high percentage of their pro bono service in their primary practice area.

Motivational Factors (NEW)

This year for the first time, the Court of Appeals' Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service added two questions to determine why some lawyers chose to work outside of an organized legal services program and why others did not engage in pro bono service.

- Less than one quarter responded to the question as to why they did *not* participate in pro bono through a legal services program. Their primary reason was that clients come to them directly; that represented 58.2% of the full-time lawyers in Maryland who responded. The second most common reason was that they were never contacted by an organization. [It may be assumed that those working with a legal services program did not respond.]
- As to **why lawyers did** *not* **engage in pro bono service**, approximately 50.8% responded, with **53.8% of those responding stating lack of time** as their reason. Another 29.9% reported that they prefer "non-legal charitable work." (see p. 17 of report).

Size and Type of Firm/Office

- As borne out consistently over the years, a larger percentage of solo and small firm practitioners engage in pro bono work. Among full-time Maryland-based lawyers, 71.5% reported some pro bono; followed by extra-large firms at 67.1%. Small firms were close behind at 65.5% compared to 52.5% in medium sized firms and 48.1% in large firms. In general, as the firm size increases, the pro hours reported decreases. The exception is the extra-large firm.
- While they constitute about 20% of the lawyers licensed in the state, government lawyers overall provided fewer pro bono hours than those in other offices. The primary reasons given for not doing pro bono work are that they are "prohibited by their employer" and conflict of interest. Approximately 80% of the full-time Maryland bar members employed by a government agency did not provide any pro bono service.

Hours to Improve the Law and Financial Contributions

- **7,512** lawyers reported participating in activities related to improving the law, legal system or legal profession for a total of **394,301** hours (an increase over the 379,837 reported in 2015).
- The reported **financial contribution** to a legal services organization serving people of limited means **increased as well, from \$4,723,905 in 2015 to \$4,963,446** in 2016 (an increase of \$239,541). Top financial contributors percentage-wise were in banking, environmental, employment, bankruptcy, and health care practices. In actual numbers, litigation, corporate, family, and real estate lawyers donated the most.

Summarized by: Court of Appeals' Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service and Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland For further information, contact: Sharon E. Goldsmith at: <u>sgoldsmith@probonomd.org</u> Special thanks to the Access to Justice Department of the Maryland Administrative Office of the Courts, and ANASYS, Inc. for compiling and presenting this data.

🇞 AGENDA 🗞

JOINT MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICE, LOCAL PRO BONO COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND PRO BONO COORDINATING COUNCIL The Judiciary Education and Conference Center

June 1, 2016

- 1. Welcome and Introductions 3:30 -3:35
- 2. Overview of Structure and Goals of Court of Appeals' Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service-Hon. Karen Murphy Jensen – 3:35 -3:50
 - a. History and Purpose
 - b. Structure and Liaison Relationship with Local Committees
 - c. Judicial Involvement with Standing Committee and Local Committees
 - d. Special initiatives
 - i. Strategic Planning on Local and Regional Level (e.g. Mid-Shore Pro Bono)
 - ii. Local Legal Services Directories ("Lawyers Care Brochures")
 - iii. Model Government Pro Bono Policy
 - iv. Creation and Amendment of Rules and Pro Bono Policies
 - v. Statewide National Celebration of Pro Bono Week
- 3. Introduction of Pro Bono Coordinating Council David Pantzer/Annie Brinkmann 3:50 4:00
- 4. Changes in Rules Impacting Pro Bono Practice Annie Brinkmann 4:00 4:15
 - i. Advanced Fee Waiver
 - ii. Pro Bono Practice Rule
 - iii. Limited Scope Rules
- 5. New Interactive Pro Bono Website Free Legal Answers Sharon E. Goldsmith 4:15 4:25
- 6. Creative Utilization of Social Media and Technology to Advance Pro Bono David Pantzer 4:25 4:45
- 7. What's on the Horizon Feedback for Standing Committee and Local Committees 4:45 5:00

MEMBERS of the STANDING COMMITTEE on PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICE

Hon. Karen Murphy Jensen – Chair

Robert D. Anbinder, Esq. + Joan Bellistri + Shawn Boehringer, Esq. + Miriam Sincell Burton, Esq. + June White Dillard, Esq. Ann Baer Cogan, Esq. + Hon. Angela M. Eaves + Antonia Fasanelli, Esq. + Manuel Geraldo, Esq. + Makeba Gibbs, Esq. + Michael Goecke, Esq. Sharon E. Goldsmith, Esq. + Hon. Miriam Brown Hutchins + Johanna Leshner, Esq. + Patrick J. Palmer, Esq. Hon. Cathy Hollenberg Serrette + Bonnie Sullivan, Esq.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICE

c/o Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland, Inc. 520 W Fayette Street, Suite 300 Baltimore, MD 21201-1756



PHONE: 410-837-9379 FAX: 410-385-2616 EMAIL: standingcom@probonomd.org

r AGENDA 🗞

JOINT MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICE, LOCAL PRO BONO COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND PRO BONO COORDINATING COUNCIL The Judiciary Education and Conference Center, June 7, 2017

- 1. Refreshments & Networking 2:45 3:00 pm
- 2. Welcome, Introductions and Purpose Judge Karen Murphy Jensen 3:00 3:15 pm
- 3. AOC Access to Justice Department Updates Pamela Cardullo-Ortiz 3:15- 3:25 pm
- 4. Breakout Activity 3:25-3:50 pm Each Attendee will visit 3 stations
 - a. STATIONS (8 min each)
 - 1. Holistic Services Through Pro Bono
 - 2. Recruitment and Outreach
 - 3. Technology and Pro Bono
 - 4. Serving Non-English Speaking, Minority, and Isolated Populations
 - 5. Strategies for Working with the Bar and Bench
 - b. REPORTING OUT (3:50-4:20)
- 5. Structure and Goals of Court of Appeals' Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service 4:20-4:45 (Rule 19-501) Judge Karen Murphy Jensen
 - a. History and Purpose
 - b. Structure and Liaison Relationship with Local Committees (Rule 19-502; Local Chair list- A)
 - c. Judicial Involvement with Standing Committee and Local Committees (Judicial Memo)
 - d. Updates on Rules Impacting Pro Bono Practice (e.g., fee waiver and pro bono practice rules B)
 - e. Update on Recent Initiatives (limited scope; Marylandfreelegalanswers; pro bono survey, etc.)
- 6. Introduction of Pro Bono Coordinating Council Annie Speedie 4:45-4:50 pm (contact sheet)
- 7. Resources for Local Committees & Legal Services Providers- Sharon Goldsmith 4:50-5:00 (resource list-C)
 - a. Training Partnerships
 - b. Best Practices Manual
 - c. Recognition Assistance (BABC booklet)
 - d. Sample MD Lawyers Care Brochure
 - e. Litigation Fund



CELEBRATE
PRO BONO
www.celebrateprobono.orgNational Pro Bono CelebrationOctober 22 - 28, 2017



This image denotes a client service event. To find out how to volunteer at these events, please see the contact information posted with the event details.



This image denotes an educational event for pro bono attorneys.



<u>This image denotes a recognition event</u> for pro bono attorneys and other pro bono supporters.



Recurring Clinics | Additional October Service Events

RECCURING LEGAL CLINICS EVENTS:

Landlord Tenant



Tenant Volunteer Lawyer of the Day Program Clinic (8:30 AM – 1:00 PM) (Tuesday through Friday every month: October 3-6, 10-14, 17-20, 23-27)

Volunteer attorneys will counsel tenants summoned to court that day on topics including court procedures, available defenses, the eviction timeline, rent escrow, and rent abatement. After brief one-on-one consultations, volunteer attorneys will appear with tenants at their hearings.

Sponsored by: Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland

Where: Baltimore City District Court, 501 East Fayette Street, Baltimore, MD 21202-4013

Register to Volunteer: Volunteers can email Dean Fleyzor at <u>dfleyzor@probonomd.org</u> if you are interested in helping to provide brief advice at a clinic.

Basic training available online at probonomd.org/training

Family



Pro Bono Family Mediation Clinic (9:00 AM - 4:00 PM)

(Select Thursdays throughout August through April: October 5)

This is a regularly scheduled service event at which volunteer attorneys and mediators from the Pro Bono Family Mediation Project provide free mediation services for contested custody cases. Volunteer attorneys and mediators are needed!

Sponsored by: Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland, University of Baltimore School of Law Mediation Clinic for Families, Circuit Court of Baltimore City

Where: Circuit Court for Baltimore City, 111 N. Calvert St., Baltimore, MD 21202

More Information: Contact Annie Speedie at aspeedie@probonomd.org or 443-703-3051.



Family Law Self-Help Center (12:30 PM – 4:00 PM)

(Every Tuesday of every month: October 3, 10, 17, 24)

Circuit Court of Allegany County hosts a free walk-in clinic that provides legal information and forms to assist persons not represented by an attorney in matters of divorce, custody/visitations/child support and name changes.

Sponsored by: Allegany Law Foundation, Inc.

Where: Circuit Court for Allegany County, Courthouse Annex, 59 Prospect Sq., Cumberland MD 21502

To Volunteer: Contact Kelsey Merkel at 301-722-3390 or email info@alleganylaw.com



Latino Community Family Law Clinic (9:00 AM – 2:00 PM)

(Every Monday, Wednesday, Friday of each month: October 4,6,9, 11, 13, 16, 18, 20, 23, 25, 27, 30)

Attorneys provide brief advice to persons not represented by a lawyer. Services are in Spanish/English. Eligible clients can be referred to a lawyer.

Sponsored by: Community Legal Services of Prince George's County

Where: Prince George's County Multi-Service Center 1401 University BLVD., E Langley Park, MD 20783

To Volunteer: Contact Karin Dalichow at <u>dalichow@clspgc.org</u> or 240-391-6370.

Consumer Protection



Consumer Protection Clinic in Baltimore City (9:00 AM – 11:30 AM)

(Tuesdays every month: October 3, 10, 17, 24)

Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service's Consumer Protection clinic is on Tuesdays at Baltimore City District Court. The attorney will provide brief advice to the client and may help negotiate settlements with plaintiffs' attorneys.

Sponsored by: Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service

Where: Baltimore City District Court, 501 East Fayette Street Baltimore, MD 21202-4013

To Volunteer: Contact Ellyn Riedl at eriedl@mvlslaw.org.



Consumer Protection Clinic in Baltimore City (9:00 AM – 11:30 AM) (Wednesdays every month: October 4, 11, 18, 25)

Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland's Consumer Protection clinic is on Wednesdays at Baltimore City District Court. The attorney will provide brief advice to the client and may help negotiate settlements with plaintiffs' attorneys.

Sponsored by: Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland

Where: Baltimore City District Court, 501 East Fayette Street Baltimore, MD 21202-4013

Register to Volunteer: Contact Sydney Dunning at <u>sdunning@probonomd.org</u>. **Basic training available online at** <u>http://probonomd.org/training</u>



Consumer Protection Clinic in Prince George's County (8:00 AM – 11:00 AM) (1st, 2nd, 3rd Fridays each month: October 6, 13, 20)

Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland's Consumer Protection clinic is on Fridays at Prince George's County District Court. The attorney will provide brief advice to the client and may help negotiate settlements with plaintiffs' attorneys.

Sponsored by: Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland

Where: Prince George's County District Court, 14735 Main St. Upper Marlboro MD

Registration: Contact Sydney Dunning at <u>sdunning@probonomd.org</u>. **Basic training available online at** <u>http://probonomd.org/training</u>

Veterans Assistance

Veteran's Walk-in Clinic (1:00 PM - 3:00 PM)



(1st and 3rd Wednesdays each month: October 4, 18)

Volunteer attorneys can help veterans at a walk-in legal clinic.

Sponsored by: Homeless Persons Representation Project

Where: VA Medical Center Annex, 209 W. Fayette St. 2nd Floor, Baltimore, MD 21201

Register to Volunteer: Contact Swapna Yeluri at <u>hprpprobono@hprplaw.org</u> to volunteer. **Basic training available online at** <u>probonomd.org/training</u>



Veterans Legal Clinic (12:00 PM to 4:00 PM)

(2nd Thursdays each month: October 12)

Homeless Persons Representation Project presents a veterans legal clinic where volunteer attorneys help with legal issues.

Sponsored by: Homeless Persons Representation Project

Where: Perry Point VA Medical Center, Avenue D & 8th St, Perryville MD, 21902

Register to Volunteer: Contact Swapna Yeluri at <u>hprpprobono@hprplaw.org</u> Clients call 410-685-6589 ext. 21 **Basic training available online at** <u>probonomd.org/training</u>



Veterans Legal Clinic (12:00 PM to 4:00 PM)

(4th Thursdays every month: October 26)

Homeless Persons Representation Project presents a veterans legal clinic where volunteer attorneys help with legal issues.

Sponsored by: Homeless Persons Representation Project

Where: Three Oaks Veterans Resource Center, 46905 Leis Dr., Lexington Park, MD 21201

Register to Volunteer: Contact Swapna Yeluri at <u>hprpprobono@hprplaw.org</u>; Clients call 410-685-6589 ext. 21

Basic training available online at http://www.probonomd.org/training

General/Other Civil Legal Matters



Lawyer in the Lobby (12:00 PM - 1:00 PM)

(Tuesdays every month: October 3, 10, 17, 24)

Free legal advice at the Harford County Circuit Court.

Sponsored by: Harford County Bar Foundation

Where: Harford County Circuit Court, 20 W. Courtland St., Bel Air, MD 21014

Register to Volunteer: Contact HCBF at 410-836-0123.



Ask a Lawyer in the Library (12:00 PM - 1:00 PM)

(Wednesdays every month: October 4, 11, 18, 25)

Volunteer lawyers can talk to a client for up to 20 minutes about civil, non-family legal problem for free! No appointment is necessary for clients. (Clients sign up at 10:45 a.m. for lottery to determine time slots)

Sponsored by: Anne Arundel Bar Association and the Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service

Where: Anne Arundel County Public Law Library, Anne Arundel County Circuit Court, Suite 303, 8 Church Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401

Register to Volunteer: Contact Joan Bellistri at joan.bellistri@aacounty.org 410-222-1387.



Lawyer in the Library (11:00 AM - 12:00 PM) (Once a Month: October 13)

A free legal advice clinic at the Abingdon Public Library.

Sponsored by: Harford County Bar Foundation

Where: Abingdon Public Library, 2510 Tollgate Rd., Abingdon, MD 21009

Register to Volunteer: Please contact HCBF at 410-836-0123.



Ask a Lawyer Clinic (1:00 PM - 3:00 PM) (Fridays every month: October 6, 13, 20, 27)

Volunteer attorneys can help provide eligible Maryland residents with brief one-on-one advice on a wide variety of civil legal issues. No appointment necessary. In order to quality, low-income screen required.

Sponsored by: Allegany Law Foundation, Inc.

Where: Allegany County Department of Social Services, 1 Frederick St., Cumberland, MD 21502

Register to Volunteer: Contact Kelsey Merkel at 301-722-3390 or info@alleganylaw.com.

ADDITIONAL OCTOBER SERVICE EVENTS:



Lawyer in the Library Penn North Tuesday, October 3, 2017 1:30 PM –3:00 PM

Lawyer in the Library is a partnership between Maryland Legal Aid staff attorneys, law student volunteers, and pro bono attorneys. The team visits local libraries and provides brief civil legal advice. Additionally, full representation is provided in record expungement cases that can lead directly to increased access to employment and housing.

Sponsored by: Maryland Legal Aid, Enoch Pratt Free Library

Where: Enoch Pratt Free Library, 1531 W. North Ave, Baltimore, MD

Register to Volunteer: Contact Amy Petkovsek at <u>apetkovsek@mdlab.org</u> or 410-951-7813 or visit <u>http://www.mdlab.org</u>.



Charles County Foreclosure WEB Clinic

Wednesday, October 4, 2017 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Attorneys will assist at clinics where homeowners will be able to walk in and get brief advice about their foreclosure issues.

Sponsored by: Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service,

Where: ONLINE - use email below to get more information.

Registration: Email Amy Hennen at <u>ahennen@mvlslaw.org</u>to learn more and sign up.



Estate Planning Clinic Friday, October 6, 2017 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland presents an Estate Planning Clinic for seniors. Pro bono attorneys provide free wills, advance medical directives and powers of attorneys to Baltimore City seniors.

Sponsored by: Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland, and Senior Legal Services

Where: Waxter Senior Center, 1000 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

Register to Volunteer: Volunteers contact Kiki Rist at <u>krist@probonomd.org</u> or call 443-703-3050. Estate planning training is available in advance if needed.



Foreclosure Solutions Workshop Saturday, October 7, 2017 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Pro bono attorneys provide brief advice to distressed homeowners at risk of foreclosure.

Sponsored by: Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland and Council Member Obie Patterson, District 8 of Prince George's county.

Where: Oxon Hill Branch Library, 6200 Oxon Hill Rd. Oxon Hill, MD, 20745

Register to Volunteer: Contact Sydney Dunning at <u>sdunning@probonomd.org</u>.



Expungement Clinic

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

3:00 PM (Walk-in Clients only)

Homeless Persons Representation Project presents an expungement clinic for walk-in clients. The first 15 people to sign-in are guaranteed intake. Intake begins at 4 PM.

Sponsored by: Homeless Persons Representation Project

Where: Our Daily Bread, 725 Fallsway, Baltimore, MD 21202

Register to Volunteer: Contact Swapna Yeluri at hprpprobono@hprplaw.org.



Expungement Clinic at Project Homeless Connect Thursday, October 12, 2017 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Homeless Persons Representation Project presents an expungement clinic during the annual United Way "Project Homeless Connect" event.

Sponsored by: Homeless Persons Representation Project

Where: Baltimore Convention Center, Inner Harbor One, West Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21201 Registration: Volunteers contact Swapna Yeluri at <u>hprpprobono@hprplaw.org.</u>



BNI Presentation for Tenant/Landlord Rights Friday, October 13, 2017

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

FREE presentation on tenant and landlord rights and responsibilities in the State of Maryland. Hosted by Carroll County Citizens Services.

Sponsored by: Baltimore Neighborhoods, Inc.

Where: Carroll County Commissioners Office, 225 N. Center St, Rm 003, Westminster, MD 21157

Registration: Attorneys register by contacting liackson@bni-maryland.org.

Clients register -<u>https://tenantlandlord-carrollcounty.eventbrite.com</u>.

Screening Clinics with Catholic Charities of Baltimore



Saturday, October 14th, 2017 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

Learn how to help immigrants with legal consultations.

Sponsored by: Catholic Charities of Baltimore, Gallagher, Evelius, & Jones LLP Where: At Esperanza Center in Fell's Point, 430 S Broadway, Baltimore, MD 21231 Registration: Interested volunteers, email <u>oabbas@cc-md.org</u>.



DMV Immigration Alliance Consultation Clinics Saturday, October 14th, 2017 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Learn how to help immigrants with legal consultations.

Sponsored by: Ayuda

Where: McCarrick Center, 12247 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20902

Registration: Attorneys, use this link: <u>https://goo.gl/forms/Y3FxMQJXeFmcgmLw2</u>.



FREE Expungement and Legal Clinic Fair

Saturday, October 14th, 2017

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Legal Practitioners will be able to attend the Legal Fair to provide legal advice in different areas of the law. Legal Practitioners will also assist attendees with expunging their records.

Sponsored by: Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Anne Arundel Local Pro Bono Committee, and Anne Arundel NAACP

Where: Freetown Boys and Girls Club, 7820 Darrell Henry, Pasadena, Maryland 21122

Registration: Attorneys, Ginina A. Jackson-Stevenson, Esq., 410-315-8051



Estate Planning Clinic

Wednesday, October 18, 2017

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Volunteer attorneys prepare wills, advance medical directives, and powers of attorney.

Sponsored by: Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland, Senior Legal Services, and Civic Works

Where: Civic Works Clifton Mansion, 2701 St. Lo Dr., Baltimore, MD 21213

Register to Volunteer: Contact Kiki Rist at <u>krist@probonomd.org</u> or call 443-703-3050. Estate planning training is available in advance, if needed.



Ask a Lawyer in the Library

Wednesday, October 18, 2017 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Volunteer attorneys can talk to clients for up to 20 minutes about civil legal problems for free! (Client Sign-up at 4:15 p.m. for lottery to determine time slots.)

Sponsored by: Anne Arundel County Local Pro Bono Committee, and the Anne Arundel County Public Law Library, Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service

Where: Anne Arundel County Public Library, Glen Burnie Regional Library, 1010 Eastway, Glen Burnie, MD 21060

Registration: Attorneys register by using this link: <u>http://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA9A92FABFB6-homeless</u>, OR contact Joan Bellistri, joan.bellistri@aacounty.org, 410-222-1387.



Anne Arundel Foreclosure Brief Advice Clinic Wednesday, October 18, 2017

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

MVLS is seeking one to two volunteer attorneys on the third Wednesday of every month to provide brief legal advice to people seeking assistance with foreclosure. Consultations generally last for half an hour. Space for consultations is provided in the Law Library of the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County. Administrative support for volunteers is provided by the Law Librarians, and MVLS remotely.

Sponsored by: Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service, and the Anne Arundel County Public Law Library

Where: Circuit Court Law Library, 8 Church Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401

Registration: Sign up online and email eriedl@mvlslaw.org with any questions



BNI Presentation for Tenant/Landlord Rights

Tuesday, October 24, 2017 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

FREE presentation on tenant and landlord rights and responsibilities in MD

Sponsored by: Baltimore Neighborhoods, Inc.

Where: C. Burr Artz Public Library Community Room, 110 E Patrick St, Frederick, MD 21701

Registration: Clients Register -<u>https://fredericktl.eventbrite.com</u>. Attorneys register by contacting <u>ljackson@bni-maryland.org</u>



Baltimore City Foreclosure Brief Advice Clinic

Wednesday, October 25, 2017

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

MVLS is seeking one to two volunteer attorneys on the third Wednesday of every month to provide brief legal advice to people seeking assistance with foreclosure. Consultations generally last for half an hour. Space for consultations is provided in the Law Library of the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County. Administrative support for volunteers is provided by the Law Librarians, and MVLS remotely.

Sponsored by: Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service

Where: MVLS offices, 201 N. Charles St., Suite 1400, Baltimore, MD 21201

Registration: Sign up <u>online</u> and email <u>eriedl@mvlslaw.org</u> with any questions.



FREE Elder Law Seminar

Wednesday, October 25, 2017 11:00 AM- 12:00 PM

Attorneys will provide information and advice to seniors on wills, estates, and trusts, emphasizing the power of attorney and advance directives.

Sponsored by: Allegany Law Foundation

Where: Georges Creek Senior Center, 7 Hanekamp St., Lonaconing, MD 21539

Register to Volunteer: Contact Kelsey Merkel at info@alleganylaw.com or call 301-722-3390.



Anne Arundel County Homeless Resource Day

Saturday, October 28, 2017 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

A "one-day, one stop" opportunity for individuals and families experiencing homelessness to access benefits, medical care, substance use resources and mental health counseling as well as a variety of social services which can ultimately lead to housing and self-sufficiency. Volunteer attorneys will provide legal services.

Sponsored by: Anne Arundel County Local Pro Bono Committee

Where: Glen Burnie High School - 7550 Baltimore-Annapolis Blvd, Glen Burnie, MD

Registration: Clients register <u>http://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084AA9A92FABFB6-homeless</u>. **Attorneys** register by contacting Joan Bellistri, <u>joan.bellistri@aacounty.org</u>, 410-222-1387.



Ask a Lawyer in the Library

Tuesday, October 31, 2017 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Volunteer attorneys can talk to clients for up to 20 minutes about civil legal problems for free! (Client Sign-up at 4:15 p.m. for lottery to determine time slots.)

Sponsored by: Anne Arundel County Local Pro Bono Committee, and the Anne Arundel County Public Law Library

Where: Anne Arundel County Public Library, Eastport-Annapolis Neck Community Library, 269 Hillsmere Drive, Annapolis, MD 21403

Registration: Attorneys register by contacting Joan Bellistri, joan.bellistri@aacounty.org, 410-222-1387. Clients sign up using this link <u>https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1uStV5ZrYL-</u> <u>5j10Zykok_2KSIGPIT7xhBJSSSWhd2r8M/edit#gid=0</u>.

EDUCATION EVENTS



October Education Events



Representing Consumers in District Court: Identifying Defenses and Affirmative Claims

Monday, October 16, 2017 11:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Join expert consumer law practitioners as they prepare you to defend, negotiate, and settle common types of debt collection cases in Maryland district court, including actions involving

debt buyers, residential leases, and auto loans and auto repossession, as well as provide you with tips on the practical ways you can use affirmative claims to resolve your clients' cases.

Sponsored by: Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland and Community Legal Services of Prince George's County

Where: Prince George's County Circuit Ct., Room M042, 14735 Main St., Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Registration: Attorneys can register online at <u>probonomd.org/training</u>, for questions, please contact Caitlin Goldblatt at <u>cgoldblatt@probonomd.org</u>. Pro bono commitment required.

FOR MORE TRAININGS FOR ATTORNEYS VISIT: www.probonomd.org/training



WEBINAR: Avoiding Pro Bono Burnout Thursday, October 19, 2017 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

MVLS volunteer attorney Yollette Atkinson and staff attorney Ellyn Riedl will provide advice and tips for effective client management, setting boundaries, setting realistic expectations while being considerate of the numerous barriers a client has faced just to get to you, maintaining and managing contact, and managing disappointment. There is no cost for the webinar.

Sponsored by: Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service

Where: ONLINE

Registration: Sign up <u>https://mvlslaw.org/events/list/</u>



Best Practices in Family Law Friday, October 20, 2017 2:00 PM -- 4:00 PM

The judges and Magistrates of the Circuit Court for Carroll County in conjunction with the Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service will present a Best Practice in Family Law discussion. Attendance is free and open to all practitioners, but lawyers who attend must accept 1 family law case (divorce or custody) from MVLS. The bench will discuss a variety of issues of interest to family law practitioners, offering valuable insight into how Carroll County Judges and Magistrates approach many of the thornier issues faced by family law attorneys. The bench invites and encourages your attendance at this program.

Sponsored by: Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service

Where: Jury Assembly Room on the 2nd Floor of the Courthouse Annex of Carroll County 55 N Court St, Westminster, MD 21157

Registration: Sign up <u>https://mvlslaw.org/events/list/</u>



New Expungement Law: Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA) WEBINAR Tuesday, October 24, 2017 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

This webinar will cover Maryland expungement law with an emphasis on the Justice Reinvestment Act which will allow certain convictions to be expunged starting on October 1, 2017. The webinar will be taught by Matthew Stubenberg, the IT Director/Staff Attorney at MVLS and the creator of MDExpungement.com. There is not cost for this webinar.

Sponsored by: Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service

Where: ONLINE

Registration: Sign up <u>https://mvlslaw.org/events/list/</u>

RECOGNITION EVENTS



October Recognition Events



Celebrate Pro Bono Annual Awards Ceremony Wednesday, October 4, 2017 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service will host its annual awards ceremony to recognize the many pro bono attorneys who did exceptional work for MVLS in FY17. Event will include a networking our with formal presentation to follow.

Sponsored by: Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service

Where: American Visionary Art Museum, 800 Key Highway, Baltimore, MD 21230

Registration: Guests can register online at <u>www.mvlslaw.org/cbp2017</u>. Celebrate Pro Bono is a free event, but guests are invited to make a \$35 tax-deductible donation to MVLS.



Maryland Legal Aid's 25th Anniversary of being in Baltimore Thursday, October, 5, 2017 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Join Maryland Legal Aid for a celebratory re-dedication to their Baltimore City office building, honoring the culmination of several years of work by numerous people across the state. Many will be honored at the event and light refreshments will be served.

Sponsored by: Maryland Legal Aid

Where: 500 E. Lexington St., Baltimore, MD 21201

Registration: No registration required. Light refreshments will be served.



Joint James C. Cawood, Jr. Inns of Court and AABA Dinner Thursday, October, 5, 2017 5:45 PM - 8:30 PM

Presentation of the AABA President's Pro Bono Award.

Sponsored by: James C. Cawood, Jr. Inns of Court and Anne Arundel Bar Association

Where: Double Tree by Hilton, 210 Holiday Court, Annapolis, Maryland, 21401

Registration: Please RSVP by noon on Monday, October 2, 2017 by emailing <u>jessicakwisner@gmail.com</u>. Cost for non-members: \$35.00.



Community Legal Services Celebration of Neal T. Conway's 22 Years of Dedication to Access to Justice Tuesday, October 17, 2017 6:00 PM - 9:30 PM

A celebration including cash bar and guest speaker Timothy F. Maloney of Joseph, Greenwald & Laake, PA; business/cocktail attire, RSVP by September 29th.

Sponsored by: Community Legal Services of Prince George's County

Where: Greenbelt Marriott, 6400 Ivy Ln., Greenbelt, MD 20770

Registration: Call Jessica A. Quincosa, Esq. at 240-391-6532 EXT 4 or emailing <u>quincosa@clspgc.org.</u>



Pro Bono Volunteer Appreciation Reception & Awards Tuesday, October 24, 2017 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

A celebration of volunteer attorneys held by the Baltimore County Bar Association.

Sponsored by: Baltimore County Bar Association

Where: Pessin Katz Law, 901 Dulaney Valley Road, Ste. 400, Towson, MD 21204

Registration: Register to attend by contacting Doris Barnes, doris@bcba.org

NOTE RE: WEBCASTS/WEBINAR - indicate that a training is a webcast within the course title; enter county as Unknown/Webcast/Webinar; enter date as the first of the month

SUPPORT SERVICES - TRAINING STATISTICS

Project?	Course Title	County	Date	Attorneys (live	# Students, Paralegals, Legal Assistants (live OR web)	# Partners/ Legal Svcs Staff Attys (live OR web)	# Instructors (count for live only)	# PBRC Staff (count for live only)	TOTAL Participants
NONP	WEBCAST - Nonprofit Law	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	7/1/2015			,			
	WEBCAST - Appealing Medicaid Service Denials	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	7/1/2015	3	0			0 0	1
-	WEBCAST - Advanced Foreclosure (Bankruptcy)	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	7/1/2015	1	0			0	=
СРР	WEBCAST - Advanced Foreclosure (Bankruptcy) WEBCAST - Affidavit Judgment Defense in District Court	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	7/1/2015	1	1		-		=
СРР	WEBCAST - Andawit Judgment Defense in District Court WEBCAST - Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits in State Court	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	7/1/2015	0	1	-	-	0 0	1
СРР	WEBCAST - Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits in State Court	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	7/1/2015	1	1	(-	0 0	=
-	WEBCAST - Belefing Debt Buyer Lawsuits. Energing That factors	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	7/1/2015	2	0			•	-
HPP	WEBCAST - Property Law (Untangling Titles)	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	7/1/2015	4	0	-	-	-	
	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile		7/1/2015	4	2			1	0
	WEBCAST - Criminal Record Expungement Training	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	7/1/2015	2	0		-	0 0	-
VET	WEBCAST - Introduction to Military Discharge Upgrades	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	7/1/2015	1	0			0 0	=
	WEBCAST - Legally Serving Those Who Served Us: Help for Veterans Beyond Ben	, ,	7/1/2015	1	0	-	-	-	
CBT	WEBCAST - Nuts & Bolts of Consumer Bankruptcy: Fundamentals of Chapter 7	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	7/1/2015	1	0		-	-	
-	WEBCAST - Nots & Boils of Consumer Bankrupicy. Fundamentals of Chapter 7 WEBCAST - Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	7/1/2015	2	0			, 0	=
	WEBCAST - Simple Estate Flamming for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	7/1/2015	2	0		-	0 0	=
LGBTQ	WEBCAST - Special Education Law WEBCAST - Special Topics in LGBT Law	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	7/1/2015	1	0		-	0 0	=
	WEBCAST - Special ropics in Lobi Law WEBCAST - The Nuts & Bolts of a Family Law Case in Maryland	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	7/1/2015	3	0			•	-
VET	WEBCAST - The Nuts & Boits of a ranning Law Case in Maryland WEBCAST - Veterans Benefits 101	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	7/1/2015	3	0		-	0 0	-
	LGBTQ Legal Issues: Family Law & Discrimination	Howard	7/10/2015	5	0	2	-	2	-
	Hot Topics in Elder Law	Howard	7/14/2015	2	0	-	-		
CLE	Civil Pre-Trial Practice	Howard	7/23/2015	2	0	-	-	0 0	=
UACP	Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an Unaccompanied Child	Baltimore City	7/28/2015	12	4	-	-	2	-
NONP	WEBCAST - Nonprofit Law	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	8/1/2015	0	4		. 4	0 0	
CPP	WEBCAST - Affidavit Judgment Defense in District Court	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	8/1/2015	1	1				=
СРР	WEBCAST - Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits in State Court	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	8/1/2015	2	1		-	-	=
-	WEBCAST - Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits: Emerging Trial Tactics	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	8/1/2015	2	0	-			÷
НРР	WEBCAST - Detending Debt Buyer Lawsuits. Emerging Than factics	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	8/1/2015	2	0		-	0 0	=
HPP	WEBCAST - Foreclosure Mediation	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	8/1/2015	0	0	-		0 0	1
UACP	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an Unaccompanied	, ,	8/1/2015	2	1				=
HPP	WEBCAST - Deperty Law (Untangling Titles)	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	8/1/2015	2	0			0 0	-
	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile		8/1/2015	3	0				=
CREX	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children. Special minigrant Suverile WEBCAST - Criminal Record Expungement Training	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	8/1/2015	3	0		-		÷
VET	WEBCAST - Introduction to Military Discharge Upgrades	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	8/1/2015	1	0			0 0	=
	WEBCAST - Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	8/1/2015	2	0	-	-	-	=
	WEBCAST - Simple Estate Flamming for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	8/1/2015	1	0		-	0 0	
FAM	WEBCAST - Special Education Law WEBCAST - The Nuts & Bolts of a Family Law Case in Maryland	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	8/1/2015	1	0			•	-
VET	WEBCAST - The Nuts & Boits of a ranning Law Case in Maryland WEBCAST - Veterans Benefits 101	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	8/1/2015	2	0		-	•	-
	WEBCAST - Advanced Foreclosure (Bankruptcy)	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	9/1/2015	1	0		-	0	=
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СРР	WEBCAST - Andavit Judgment Defense in District Court WEBCAST - Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits in State Court	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	9/1/2015	1	0	-	-	0 0	-
-	WEBCAST - Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits: Emerging Trial Tactics	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	9/1/2015	1	0		-		=
UACP		Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	9/1/2015	2	0		-		-
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	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenie WEBCAST - Criminal Record Expungement Training	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	9/1/2015	2	0		-		-
VET	WEBCAST - Joining Forces: Serving on the Veterans Legal Hotline	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	9/1/2015	2	0		-		=
LGBTQ	WEBCAST - Joining Forces. Serving on the Veterans Legal Hothine WEBCAST - LGBTQ Legal Issues: Family Law and Discrimination	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	9/1/2015	1	0		-	-	-
ELDER	WEBCAST - LOBIC Legal Issues. Failing Law and Discrimination WEBCAST - Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	9/1/2015	2	0				=
FAM	WEBCAST - Simple estate Plaining for Low-Income Seniors WEBCAST - The Nuts & Bolts of a Family Law Case in Maryland	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	9/1/2015	3	0		-	•	5
VET	WebCAST - The Nuts & Boits of a Family Law Case in Maryland Webinar: Joining Forces Serving on the Veterans Legal Hotline	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	9/1/2015	16	0		-	/ U	22
COPYR	Copyright & Art	Baltimore City	9/14/2015	16	0			2	22
NONP	Nonprofit Law	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	10/1/2015	16	0			2 2	
HPP	WEBCAST - Helping Homeowners Avoid Tax Sale and Tax Foreclosure	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	10/1/2015	0	0				1
UACP	WEBCAST - Helping Homeowners Avoid Tax sale and Tax Foreclosure WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an Unaccompanied		10/1/2015	3	1			•	-
	WEBCAST - Identifying immigration Relief While Interviewing an Unaccompanied WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile		10/1/2015	3	1				4
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	WEBCAST - Introduction to Military Discharge Upgrades	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	., ,	1		-	-	÷	1
VET	WEBCAST - Legally Serving Those Who Served Us: Help for Veterans Beyond Ben		10/1/2015	1	-	-	-	-	1
LGBTQ	WEBCAST - LGBTQ Legal Issues: Family Law and Discrimination	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	10/1/2015	-	C	-	-	-	1
ELDER	WEBCAST - Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	10/1/2015	4	0	-	-	-	4
VET	WEBCAST - Veterans Benefits 101	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	10/1/2015	2	C	÷		-	2
VET	Veterans Benefits 101	Baltimore City	10/15/2015	14				3	19
HPP	WEBCAST - Foreclosure Basics	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	11/1/2015	0		0			1
UACP	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an Unaccompanied		11/1/2015	0			•	-	1
UACP	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile		11/1/2015	2	C	-	•	-	3
HPP	WEBCAST - Tax Sale	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	11/1/2015	0	-	-			1
COPYR	WEBCAST - Copyright & Art	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	11/1/2015	1	0	•	÷	0	1
SPED/MED		Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	11/1/2015	1	0	0	0	0	1
VET	WEBCAST - Joining Forces: Serving on the Veterans Legal Hotline	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	11/1/2015	1	0	0	0	0	1
CBT	WEBCAST - Nuts & Bolts of Consumer Bankruptcy: Fundamentals of Chapter 7	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	11/1/2015	1	0	0	0	0	1
ELDER	WEBCAST - Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	11/1/2015	2	0	0	0	0	2
SPED/MED	WEBCAST - Special Education Law	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	11/1/2015	2	C	0	0	0	2
LGBTQ	WEBCAST - Special Topics in LGBT Law	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	11/1/2015	1	0	0	0	0	1
FAM	WEBCAST - The Nuts & Bolts of a Family Law Case in Maryland	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	11/1/2015	2	C	0	0	0	2
CLE	Handling the Drinking and Driving Case in MD	Howard	11/13/2015	1	0	0	0	0	1
CLE	Maryland Labor and Employment Law	Howard	11/18/2015	1	0	0	0	0	1
CPP	WEBCAST - Affidavit Judgment Defense in District Court	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	12/1/2015	1	0	0	0	0	1
UACP	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an Unaccompanied	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	12/1/2015	1	2	0	0	0	3
HPP		Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	12/1/2015	0	0	1	0	0	1
UACP	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile		12/1/2015	3	1	0	0	0	4
COPYR	WEBCAST - Copyright & Art	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	12/1/2015	1	0	-	-	0	1
VET		Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	12/1/2015	1	0	0	0	0	1
ELDER	WEBCAST - Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	12/1/2015	1	0			0	1
SPED/MED		Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	12/1/2015	1	0	÷		0	1
FAM	WEBCAST - The Nuts & Bolts of a Family Law Case in Maryland	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	12/1/2015	3	0			-	3
CLE	Criminal Law Update	Howard	12/15/2015	1	0		-	0	1
SPED/MED	WEBCAST - Appealing Medicaid Service Denials	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	1/1/2016	1	0	-	-	0	1
NONP	WEBCAST - Bar Bad Bars: Protesting Liquor License Renewals	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	1/1/2016	1	0	-	-	0	1
CPP	WEBCAST - Affidavit Judgment Defense in District Court	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	1/1/2016	3	0	0		÷	3
CPP	WEBCAST - Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits in State Court	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	1/1/2016	3	0		-	0	2
СРР	WEBCAST - Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits: Emerging Trial Tactics	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	1/1/2016	1	0	-	-	0	2
HPP		Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	1/1/2016	1	0	0	0	1	2
UACP	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an Unaccompanied		1/1/2016	2	0	-	ů	1	3
UACP	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile		1/1/2016	3	1	2	0	0	11
COPYR	WEBCAST - Copyright & Art	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	1/1/2016	0	1	2	•	0	11
			1/1/2016	4		0	0	0	4
SPED/MED	WEBCAST - Due Process Hearings	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar		1		0	°	0	1
NONP	WEBCAST - Nonprofit Law	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	1/1/2016	1		č	•	0	1
ELDER	WEBCAST - Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	1/1/2016	3	,	0	°	Ű	3
FAM		Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	1/1/2016	5	0	-	•	-	5
VET	WEBCAST - Veterans Benefits 101	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	1/1/2016	2	C	0		Ű	2
СРР		Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	2/1/2016	2	0	-	-	-	2
HPP	WEBCAST - Helping Homeowners Avoid Tax Sale and Tax Foreclosure	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	2/1/2016	3	0	-			6
UACP	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an Unaccompanied		2/1/2016	1		-	ů	-	2
UACP	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile		2/1/2016	4	C	÷	-	-	4
COPYR	WEBCAST - Copyright & Art	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	2/1/2016	1	C	-	•	-	1
VET	WEBCAST - Joining Forces: Serving on the Veterans Legal Hotline	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	2/1/2016	1	C	0		0	1
LGBTQ	WEBCAST - LGBTQ Legal Issues: Family Law and Discrimination	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	2/1/2016	1	C	,		0	1
ELDER	WEBCAST - Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	2/1/2016	5	C	0	°	0	5
FAM	WEBCAST - The Nuts & Bolts of a Family Law Case in Maryland	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	2/1/2016	3	C	-	-	0	3
VET	WEBCAST - Veterans Benefits 101	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	2/1/2016	2	C	0	°	0	2
HPP	City Employee Tax Sale Training	Baltimore City	2/3/2016	0	C	10		0	15
HPP	Helping Homeowners Avoid Tax Sale and Tax Foreclosure in Baltimore City	Baltimore City	2/10/2016	9	0	14	. 9	2	34
HPP	Helping Homeowners Avoid Tax Sale and Tax Foreclosure in Maryland	Prince Georges	2/17/2016	7	C	11	. 4	2	24

			- / /						
	Webinar: Joining Forces: Common Legal Issues on the Veterans Hotline	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	2/29/2016	6	4	3	4	3	20
	WEBCAST - Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits: Emerging Trial Tactics	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	3/1/2016	1	0	0	0	0	1
	WEBCAST - Foreclosure Prevention Basics: What You Need to Know to Help Stru		3/1/2016	1	0	0	0	0	1
	WEBCAST - Helping Homeowners Avoid Tax Sale and Tax Foreclosure in Baltimor		3/1/2016	5	0	1	0	1	/
	WEBCAST - Helping Homeowners Avoid Tax Sale and Tax Foreclosure in Marylan		3/1/2016	5	0	0	÷	0	5
	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an Unaccompanied		3/1/2016	3	3	0	ů	0	6
	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile		3/1/2016	4	0	0	ů	0	4
	WEBCAST - Copyright & Art	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	3/1/2016	3	0	-	ů	0	3
	WEBCAST - Joining Forces: Common Legal Issues on the Veterans Hotline	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	3/1/2016	2	0	0	-	5	2
	WEBCAST - Joining Forces: Serving on the Veterans Legal Hotline	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	3/1/2016	2	0		÷	0	2
	WEBCAST - Nonprofit Law	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	3/1/2016	1	0	-		0	1
	WEBCAST - Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	3/1/2016	5	0		-	0	5
	WEBCAST - The Nuts & Bolts of a Family Law Case in Maryland	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	3/1/2016	1	0	0	-	0	1
	WEBCAST - Veterans Benefits 101	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	3/1/2016	1	0	0		0	25
	City Employee Tax Sale Training	Baltimore City	3/3/2016	0	0	25	-	0	25
	WEBCAST - Appealing Medicaid Service Denials	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	4/1/2016	2	0	0		0	2
	WEBCAST - Bar Bad Bars: Protesting Liquor License Renewals	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	4/1/2016	1	0	0	-	0	1
	WEBCAST - Foreclosure Prevention Basics: What You Need to Know to Help Stru,		4/1/2016	1	0	0	-	1	2
	WEBCAST - Helping Homeowners Avoid Tax Sale and Tax Foreclosure in Baltimor	, ,	4/1/2016	1	0	1	0	0	2
	WEBCAST - Helping Homeowners Avoid Tax Sale and Tax Foreclosure in Marylan		4/1/2016	8	0	0	-	0	8
	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an Unaccompanied		4/1/2016	1	1	0	•	0	2
	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile		4/1/2016	4	0	0	Ţ	0	4
	WEBCAST - Copyright & Art	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	4/1/2016	2	0	0	Ů	0	2
	WEBCAST - Due Process Hearings	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	4/1/2016	1	0	0	÷	0	1
	WEBCAST - LGBTQ Legal Issues: Family Law and Discrimination	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	4/1/2016	1	0	0	-	0	1
	WEBCAST - Nonprofit Law	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	4/1/2016	2	0	0	0	0	2
	WEBCAST - Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	4/1/2016	1	0	0	0	0	1
-	WEBCAST - Special Education Law	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	4/1/2016	1	0	0	0	0	1
	WEBCAST - Special Topics in LGBT Law	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	4/1/2016	1	0	0	0	0	1
	WEBCAST - The Nuts & Bolts of a Family Law Case in Maryland	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	4/1/2016	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Criminal Record Expungement in MD	Howard	4/11/2016	11	1	0	3	1	16
	Asylum Approved! How to Represent Asylum-Seekers	Montgomery County	4/29/2016	19	4	1	3	2	29
	WEBCAST - Affidavit Judgment Defense in District Court	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	5/1/2016	2	0	1	ů	-	2
	WEBCAST - Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits in State Court	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	5/1/2016 5/1/2016	2	0	0	-	0	2
-	WEBCAST - Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits: Emerging Trial Tactics	, ,		1	0	0	ů	-	1
	WEBCAST - Foreclosure Prevention Basics: What You Need to Know to Help Stru		5/1/2016 5/1/2016	1	0	-	0	0	1
	WEBCAST - Helping Homeowners Avoid Tax Sale and Tax Foreclosure in Marylan			1	÷	-	Ţ	0	2
	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an Unaccompanied		5/1/2016	5	1	0	-	0	6
		Unknown/Webcast/Webinar Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	5/1/2016 5/1/2016	2	0		÷	0	2
	WEBCAST - Copyright & Art		5/1/2016	2	0	-		0	2
	WEBCAST - Criminal Record Expungement Training WEBCAST - Nonprofit Law	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	5/1/2016	4	0	9	•	0	4
	WEBCAST - Nuts & Bolts of Consumer Bankruptcy: Fundamentals of Chapter 7	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	5/1/2016	1	0	0	-	0	1
	WEBCAST - Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	5/1/2016	1	0	0		0	1
	WEBCAST - Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors WEBCAST - Special Education Law	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	5/1/2016	2	0	0	-	0	2
			5/1/2016	1	0	0	-	0	1
	WEBCAST - Veterans Benefits 101	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar		1	0	-	-	0	1
	WEBCAST - Asylum Approved! How to Represent Asylum-Seekers	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	5/1/2016	2	1	0	-	0	3
-	Immigration Fundamental & Advanced Topics of Discussion	Howard	5/19/2016	1	ů	-	-	0	1
	Live Training: Achieving Optimal Consumer Resolutions	Prince Georges County	5/20/2016	13	0	0	1	1	15
- /	WEBCAST - Appealing Medicaid Service Denials	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	6/1/2016 6/1/2016	1	0	-	0	ő	1
	WEBCAST - Affidavit Judgment Defense in District Court	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar		3	0	2	0	0	5
	WEBCAST - Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits in State Court	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	6/1/2016	1	1	1	v		3
	WEBCAST - Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits: Emerging Trial Tactics	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	6/1/2016	1	1	1	0	0	3
	WEBCAST - Helping Homeowners Avoid Tax Sale and Tax Foreclosure in Marylan		6/1/2016	1	0	0	· ·	0	1
	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an Unaccompanied		6/1/2016	/	5	1	0	0	13
	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	6/1/2016	1	0	1	0	0	2
	WEBCAST - Untangling Titles: Navigating Title Transfers, Deed Issues and Estates		6/1/2016	4	0	0	0	0	4
	WEBCAST - Copyright & Art	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	6/1/2016	1	0	0	0	0	1
CREX	WEBCAST - Criminal Record Expungement Training	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	6/1/2016	2	0	1	0	0	3

VET	WERCAST Jaining Former Consists on the Veterson Local Untiling	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	C/1/201C	1	0			0	1
	WEBCAST - Joining Forces: Serving on the Veterans Legal Hotline		6/1/2016	1	0		L C	0	1
NONP	WEBCAST - Nonprofit Law	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	6/1/2016			9		•	1
CBT	WEBCAST - Nuts & Bolts of Consumer Bankruptcy: Fundamentals of Chapter 7	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	6/1/2016	1	0	0		0	1
ELDER	WEBCAST - Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	6/1/2016	4	0	-	-	-	4
SPED/MED	WEBCAST - Special Education Law	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	6/1/2016	2	0	0	0	0	2
FAM	WEBCAST - The Nuts & Bolts of a Family Law Case in Maryland	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	6/1/2016	0	0		C	0	1
VET	WEBCAST - Veterans Benefits 101	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	6/1/2016	1	0	9	9	0	-
UACP	WEBCAST - Asylum Approved! How to Represent Asylum-Seekers	Unknown/Webcast/Webinar	6/1/2016	2	0	0	0	0	2
VET	Advanced Veterans Benefits - Hazardous Exposures	Baltimore City	6/3/2016	7	2	. 3	3	0	15
VET	Mentor Training - Veterans Treatment Courts	Baltimore City	6/3/2016	3	4	0	1	0	8
VET	Veterans Benefits 101	Baltimore City	6/3/2016	41	3	3	2	3	52
PLL	Plain English Legal Writing: Improve your writing in 90 minutes (+pro bono)	Baltimore City	6/30/2016	8	0	C	1	1	10
COPYR	Web-Copyright & Art	Unknown/Web	7/1/2016	2					2
CPP	Web-Affidavit Judgement Defense in District Court	Unknown/Web	7/1/2016	1					1
CPP	Web-Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits: Emerging Trial Tactics	Unknown/Web	7/1/2016	2					2
HPP	Web - Foreclosure Basic	Unknown/Web	7/1/2016	4	0	C	C	0	4
НРР	Web - Untangling Titles	Unknown/Web	7/1/2016	0	0	0	C	1	1
UACP	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile	Unknown/Web	7/1/2016	0	0	0	C	0	0
UACP	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an	Unknown/Web	7/1/2016	4	4	0	C	0	8
UACP	WEBCAST - Asylum Approved! How to Represent Asylum-Seekers	Unknown/Web	7/1/2016	0	0	0	C	0	0
CREX	Web-Criminal Record Expungement Training	Unknown/Web	7/1/2016	3					3
ELDER	Web-Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Web	7/1/2016	5					5
FAM	Web-The Nuts & Bolts of a Family Law Case in Maryland	Unknown/Web	7/1/2016	2					2
NONP	Web-Nonprofit Law	Unknown/Web	7/1/2016	1					1
SPED/MED	Web-Appealing Medicaid Service Denials	Unknown/Web	7/1/2016	2					2
SPED/MED	Web-Special Education Law	Unknown/Web	7/1/2016	1			1		1
VET	Serving MD's Veterans: Common Civil Legal Issues	Howard	7/22/2016	6	1	3	6	2	18
VET	Web-Serving MD's Veterans: Common Civil Legal Issues	Unknown/Web	8/1/2016	2		-			2
VET	Web-Veterans Benefits 101	Unknown/Web	8/1/2016	1					1
CPP	Web-Affidavit Judgement Defense in District Court	Unknown/Web	8/1/2016	1					1
HPP	Web - Utilities Basics	Unknown/Web	8/1/2016	3	0	0	0	0	3
UACP	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile		8/1/2016	2	0	-	-	0	2
UACP	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an	Unknown/Web	8/1/2016	12	2	0	,	÷	_
UACP	WEBCAST - Asylum Approved! How to Represent Asylum-Seekers	Unknown/Web	8/1/2016	4	2		-	0	14
CREX	Web-Criminal Record Expungement Training	Unknown/Web	8/1/2016	2	0			0	4
ELDER	Web-Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Web	8/1/2016	5			1		5
NONP	Web-Nonprofit Law	Unknown/Web	8/1/2016	2			1		3
HPP	Utilities Basic Webinar Training	Unknown/Web	8/18/2016	11	0	2		2	18
COPYR	Web-Copyright & Art	Unknown/Web	9/1/2016	3			2	2	10
CPP	Web-Achieving Optimal Consumer Resolutions	Unknown/Web	9/1/2016	2			-		
СРР	Web-Affidavit Judgement Defense in District Court	Unknown/Web		2					2
СРР	Web-Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits in State Court	Unknown/Web	9/1/2016 9/1/2016	1					1
СРР		Unknown/Web	9/1/2016	2					1
-	Web-Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits: Emerging Trial Tactics			2				0	2
HPP HPP	Web - Foreclosure Basic	Unknown/Web	9/1/2016	1	U	2	(0	3
	Web - Utilities Basics	Unknown/Web	9/1/2016	1	0	-	-	0	1
UACP	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile	Unknown/Web	9/1/2016	1	0	-		0	1
UACP	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an	Unknown/Web	9/1/2016	5	1	-	-	0	6
UACP	WEBCAST - Asylum Approved! How to Represent Asylum-Seekers	Unknown/Web	9/1/2016	3	0	0	C	0	3
UACP	WEBCAST - Interpret for Pro Bono Legal Services	Unknown/Web	9/1/2016	0	5	C	C	0	5
CREX	Web-Criminal Record Expungement Training	Unknown/Web	9/1/2016	4					4
ELDER	Web-Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Web	9/1/2016	2					2
FAM	Web-The Nuts & Bolts of a Family Law Case in Maryland	Unknown/Web	9/1/2016	1					1
SPED/MED	Web-Appealing Medicaid Service Denials	Unknown/Web	9/1/2016	1					1
SPED/MED	Web-Special Education Law	Unknown/Web	9/1/2016	3					3
CREX	Criminal Record Expungement in MD	Montgomery	9/14/2016	21		2	2	2	27
UACP	Interpret for Pro Bono Legal Services	Baltimore City	9/20/2016	0	8	1	1	2	12
AMPBP	Mediations at the MD COSA	Anne Arundel	9/22/2016	12	0	0	10	2	24
	Web-Special Education Law	Unknown/Web	10/1/2016	1					1
CPP	Web-Achieving Optimal Consumer Resolutions	Unknown/Web	10/1/2016	1					1

CPP	Web-Affidavit Judgement Defense in District Court	Unknown/Web	10/1/2016	F	1				G
UACP		Unknown/Web	10/1/2016	5	1	0	0	0	6
UACP	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile		10/1/2016	1	0	0	0	0	1
	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an	Unknown/Web		-	*	9	0	0	8
UACP	WEBCAST - Asylum Approved! How to Represent Asylum-Seekers	Unknown/Web	10/1/2016	0	0	9	0	0	3
UACP	WEBCAST - Interpret for Pro Bono Legal Services	Unknown/Web	10/1/2016	0	2	0	0	0	2
AMPBP	Web-Mediations at the MD COSA	Unknown/Web	10/1/2016	2	0	0	0	0	2
CREX	Web-Criminal Record Expungement Training	Unknown/Web	10/1/2016	1					1
ELDER	Web-Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Web	10/1/2016	2					2
FAM	Web-The Nuts & Bolts of a Family Law Case in Maryland	Unknown/Web	10/1/2016	1					1
NONP	Web-Nonprofit Law	Unknown/Web	10/1/2016	1					1
NONP	Corporate Pro Bono for Small Nonprofits	Baltimore City	10/19/2016	14			1	. 1	16
TR	Volunteering at Criminal Record Expungement & Veterans Legal Clinics	Baltimore City	10/19/2016		23		2	1	26
СРР	Consumer Advocacy in District Court	Baltimore City	10/19/2016	11	5		4		20
VET	Serving MD's Veterans: Common Civil Legal Issues	Howard	10/24/2016	3		5	5	1	14
CREX	Web-Criminal Record Expungement Training	Unknown/Web	11/1/2016	1					1
ELDER	Web-Simple Estate Planning for Low-Income Seniors	Unknown/Web	11/1/2016	2					2
FAM	Web-The Nuts & Bolts of a Family Law Case in Maryland	Unknown/Web	11/1/2016	1					1
VET	Web-Veterans Benefits 101	Unknown/Web	11/1/2016	1					1
UACP	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile	Unknown/Web	11/1/2016	1	0	0	0	0	1
UACP	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an	Unknown/Web	11/1/2016	10	1	0	0	0	11
UACP	WEBCAST - Asylum Approved! How to Represent Asylum-Seekers	Unknown/Web	11/1/2016	2	0	0	0	0	2
UACP	WEBCAST - Interpret for Pro Bono Legal Services	Unknown/Web	11/1/2016	0	1	0	0	0	1
VET	Representing Servicemembers in Discharge Upgrades	Baltimore City	11/4/2016	13	16	3	5	2	39
SPED/MED	Medicaid Fair Hearings: An Intro to Medicaid Services and Hearing Procedures	Howard	11/18/2016	2	10	3	2	1	8
	Web-Medicaid Fair Hearings: An Intro to Medicaid Services and Hearing Proceedings	Unknown/Web	12/1/2016	1		5	-	1	1
SPED/MED	Web-Special Education Law	Unknown/Web	12/1/2016	3					2
COPYR	Web-Copyright & Art	Unknown/Web	12/1/2016	1					1
VET	Web-Veterans Benefits 101	Unknown/Web	12/1/2016	1				-	1
CPP		,	12/1/2016	1					1
СРР	Web-Affidavit Judgement Defense in District Court	Unknown/Web		1					1
-	Web-Consumer Advocacy in District Court	Unknown/Web	12/1/2016	1	0	0		0	1
HPP	Web - Tax Sale Baltimore	Unknown/Web	12/1/2016		0	8	0	9	1
HPP	Web - Untangling Titles	Unknown/Web	12/1/2016	1	0	0	0	0	1
UACP	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile	Unknown/Web	12/1/2016	0	0	-	0	0	0
UACP	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an	Unknown/Web	12/1/2016	9	0	0	0	0	9
UACP	WEBCAST - Asylum Approved! How to Represent Asylum-Seekers	Unknown/Web	12/1/2016	0	0	-	0	0	0
UACP	WEBCAST - Interpret for Pro Bono Legal Services	Unknown/Web	12/1/2016	0	5	0	0	0	5
HPP	Web - Untangling Titles	Unknown/Web	1/1/2017	1	0	0	0	0	1
HPP	Web - Foreclosure Basic	Unknown/Web	1/1/2017	1	0	0	0	0	1
HPP	Web- Estate Planning	Unknown/Web	1/1/2017	2	0	0	0	0	2
CPP	Web-Affidavit Judgement in District Court	Unknown/Web	1/1/2017	1	7	0	0	0	8
CPP	Web-Achieving Optimal Consumer Resolutions	Unknown/Web	1/1/2017	1	0	0	0	0	1
UACP	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile	Unknown/Web	1/1/2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
UACP	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an	Unknown/Web	1/1/2017	1	0	0	0	0	1
UACP	WESBCAST - Asylum Approved! How to Represent Asylum-Seekers	Unknown/Web	1/1/2017	1	0	0	0	0	1
UACP	WEBCAST - Interpret for Pro Bono Legal Services	Unknown/Web	1/1/2017	0	3	0	0	0	3
CBT	Web-Nuts & Bolts of Consumer Bankruptcy: Fundamentals of Chapter 7	Unknown/Web	1/1/2017	1					1
CREX	Web-Criminal Record Expungement Training	Unknown/Web	1/1/2017	2					2
FAM	Web-The Nuts & Bolts of a Family Law Case in Maryland	Unknown/Web	1/1/2017	1					1
SPED/MED	Web-Medicaid Fair Hearings: An Intro to Medicaid Services and Hearing	Unknown/Web	1/1/2017	1					1
HPP	Estate Planning Basics for Low-Income Clients	Baltimore City	1/19/2017	36	1	2	3	3	45
НРР	Web- Estate Planning	Unknown/Web	2/1/2017	7	0	0	0	0	7
НРР	Web - Untangling Titles	Unknown/Web	2/1/2017	2	0	0	0	0	2
СРР	Web-Consumer Advocacy in District Court	Unknown/Web	2/1/2017	1	0	0	0	0	1
UACP	WEBCAST - Respresenting Unaccompanied Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile	Unknown/Web	2/1/2017	8	0	0	0		
UACP	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an	Unknown/Web	2/1/2017	11	0	ő	0	0	-
UACP	WESBCAST - Asylum Approved! How to Represent Asylum-Seekers	Unknown/Web	2/1/2017	3	1	9	0	0	
UACP	WEBCAST - Asylum Approved: now to represent Asylum-seekers WEBCAST - Interpret for Pro Bono Legal Services	Unknown/Web	2/1/2017	0	6	0	0	0	4
CBT	Web-Nuts & Bolts of Consumer Bankruptcy: Fundamentals of Chapter 7	Unknown/Web	2/1/2017	2	0	0		0	
CREX	Web-Criminal Record Expungement Training	Unknown/Web	2/1/2017	1			1	1	1
CILA	web-criminal Netoru Expungement Hailling		2/1/201/	1		1		1	1

LGBTQ	Web Consider Territor in LCDT Law	Unknown/Web	2/1/2017	1			,	,	1
				1					1
SPED/MED	Web-Special Education Law	Unknown/Web	2/1/2017	2					2
VET	Web-Representing Servicemembers in Discharge Upgrades	Unknown/Web	2/1/2017	2			ļ/	l	2
CLE	Will Drafting in Maryland	Howard	2/23/2017	3			ļļ		3
HPP	Tax Sale Prevention In Baltimore City	Baltimore City	2/24/2017	9	2	6	8	3	28
LGBTQ	Name Change & Gender Identity Petitions	Baltimore City	2/24/2017	20					20
HPP	Web- Estate Planning	Unknown/Web	3/1/2017	2	0	0	0	0	2
HPP	Web - Untangling Titles	Unknown/Web	3/1/2017	1	0	°	0	0	1
HPP	Web - Tax Sale MD	Unknown/Web	3/1/2017	2	0	, i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	0	0	2
HPP	Web - Tax Sale Baltimore	Unknown/Web	3/1/2017	5	0	1	0	0	6
UACP		Unknown/Web	3/1/2017	7	0	1	0	0	8
UACP	WEBCAST - Identifying Immigration Relief While Interviewing an	Unknown/Web	3/1/2017	8	0	0	0	0	8
UACP	WESBCAST - Asylum Approved! How to Represent Asylum-Seekers	Unknown/Web	3/1/2017	1	0	0	0	0	1
UACP	WEBCAST - Interpret for Pro Bono Legal Services	Unknown/Web	3/1/2017	0	2	1	0	0	3
COPYR	Web-Copyright & Art	Unknown/Web	3/1/2017	2					2
FAM	Web-The Nuts & Bolts of a Family Law Case in Maryland	Unknown/Web	3/1/2017	1					1
LGBTQ	Web-Name Change & Gender Identity Petitions	Unknown/Web	3/1/2017	1					1
NONP		Unknown/Web	3/1/2017	1					1
SPED/MED	Web-Medicaid Fair Hearings: An Intro to Medicaid Services and Hearing	Unknown/Web	3/1/2017	1					1
VET	Web-Veterans Benefits 101	Unknown/Web	3/1/2017	2		1			2
HPP	Web - Tax Sale MD	Unknown/Web	4/1/2017	2	٥	0	0	0	2
НРР	Web - Tax Sale Baltimore	Unknown/Web	4/1/2017	1	0	1	0	0	3
HPP	Web - Foreclosure Basic	Unknown/Web	4/1/2017	1	0		0	0	1
НРР		Unknown/Web	4/1/2017	1	0	•	0	, in the second s	1
СРР	Web-Estate Planning	,		1	0	0	0	0	1
	Web-Consumer Advocacy in District Court	Unknown/Web	4/1/2017	1	0	-	-	-	1
СРР	Web-Defending Debt Buyer Lawsuits: Emerging	Unknown/Web	4/1/2017	1	0		0	5	1
СРР	Web-Affidavit Judgement in District Court	Unknown/Web	4/1/2017	1	0	-	0	-	1
UACP	WEBCAST - Interpret for Pro Bono Legal Services	Unknown/Web	4/1/2017	0	0		0	-	7
UACP		Unknown/Web	4/1/2017	1	0	-	0	-	1
UACP	WESBCAST - Asylum Approved! How to Represent Asylum-Seekers	Unknown/Web	4/1/2017	0	0	-	0	-	0
UACP	WEBCAST - How to Interview	Unknown/Web	4/1/2017	1	0	0	0	0	1
NONP	Web-Nonprofit Law	Unknown/Web	4/1/2017	3					3
SPED/MED	Web-Special Education Law	Unknown/Web	4/1/2017	1					1
UACP	How to Interview Undocumented Immigrants and Identify Immigration Relief	Baltimore City	4/7/2017	12	0	0	1	2	15
UACP	Custody, Guardianship, and Obtaining SIJS	Unknown/Web	4/27/2017	13	0	0	1	2	16
TVLD	Advocating for Tenants in Baltimore City Rent Court	Baltimore City	4/27/2017	14	0	12	4	1	31
HPP	Web - Foreclosure Basic	Unknown/Web	5/1/2017	1	0	1	0	0	2
HPP	Web- Estate Planning	Unknown/Web	5/1/2017	3	0	0	0	0	3
UACP	WEBCAST - How to Interview	Unknown/Web	5/1/2017	1	0	0	0	0	1
UACP	WESBCAST - Asylum Approved! How to Represent Asylum-Seekers	Unknown/Web	5/1/2017	1	0	0	0	0	1
UACP	WEBCAST - Custody, Guardianship, and Obtaining SIJS	Unknown/Web	5/1/2017	2	0	0	0	0	2
UACP	WEBCAST - Interpret for Pro Bono Legal Services	Unknown/Web	5/1/2017	0	1	0	0	0	1
COPYR	Web-Copyright & Art	Unknown/Web	5/1/2017	1					1
LGBTQ	Web-Name Change & Gender Identity Petitions	Unknown/Web	5/1/2017	1					1
NONP	Web-Nonprofit Law	Unknown/Web	5/1/2017	1					1
VET	Web-Veterans Benefits 101	Unknown/Web	5/1/2017	1					1
CLE	Veterans Affairs Benefits: The Old, The New, The Unknown	Howard	5/4/2017	1				├	1
HPP	Web- Estate Planning	Unknown/Web	6/1/2017		0	0	0	0	7
СРР	Web-Affidavit Judgement in District Court	Unknown/Web	6/1/2017	/	0	0	0	0	1
UACP	WEBCAST - Interpret for Pro Bono Legal Services	Unknown/Web	6/1/2017	1	0	°	0	0	1
	· · ·			0	4	ő	0	5	4
UACP	WEBCAST - Custody, Guardianship, and Obtaining SUS	Unknown/Web	6/1/2017	2	0	0	Ů	0	2
UACP	WEBCAST - How to Interview	Unknown/Web	6/1/2017	2	0		0	-	3
UACP	WESBCAST - Asylum Approved! How to Represent Asylum-Seekers	Unknown/Web	6/1/2017	0	2	0	0	0	2
AMPBP	Web-Mediations at the MD COSA	Unknown/Web	6/1/2017	1	0	° °	0	-	1
TVLD	Advocating for Tenants in Baltimore City Rent Court (Web)	Unknown/Web	6/1/2017	7	0	0	0	0	7
LGBTQ		Unknown/Web	6/1/2017	1			L	ļļ	1
NONP	Web-Nonprofit Law	Unknown/Web	6/1/2017	1					1
-									1
SPED/MED VET		Unknown/Web Unknown/Web	6/1/2017 6/1/2017	1					1

VET	Web-Veterans Benefits 101	Unknown/Web	6/1/2017	1					1
VET	Veterans Benefits 101	Baltimore City	6/2/2017	30	10		2	1	43
VET	Representing Servicemembers in Discharge Upgrades	Baltimore City	6/2/2017	14		1	5	1	21
VET	Veterans Mentoring Veterans in Baltimore City & Anne Arundel County	Baltimore City	6/2/2017		20		2		22
HPP	Utilities Bill Basics	Baltimore City	6/13/2017	7	1	1	1	2	12
TOTAL	EVENTS:	354		1042	185	166	109	66	1568

PRO BONO MADE EASIER

WHAT IS PRO BONO RESOURCE CENTER OF MARYLAND (PBRC):

The Pro Bono Resource Center (PBRC) is the "pro bono arm" of the Maryland State Bar Association, and is proudly sponsored by the MSBA, the Maryland Legal Services Corporation, and the Administrative Office of the Courts. PBRC recruits, trains, mentors, and supports pro bono lawyers, connecting hundreds of volunteers with meaningful legal services opportunities, in addition to serving as the resource and technical assistance program for public interest organizations. Over the years we have also focused resources on specific areas of acute legal need to positively impact at-risk individuals and economically distressed neighborhoods. Each project offers direct legal services to the community and balances the inequities of the justice system.

TRAINING PBRC offers free or discounted training in a broad range of topics including:

Family Law | Foreclosure Prevention | Tax Sale Prevention | Consumer Bankruptcy | Immigration | Copyright and Art | LGBTQ+ Law Special Education | Veterans' Assistance | Criminal Records Expungement | Consumer Protection | Nonprofit Law | Medicaid | Elder Law

In addition to live training sessions, PBRC also offers **Webcast trainings** that can be viewed on-line at a time and place convenient for attorneys. Thus, attorneys who are interested in a particular training course but are unable to attend in person can still receive the training and provide pro bono services to those in need. Additionally, Pro Bono Resource Center and the Maryland State Bar Association are offering free and discounted slots for a selection of **MSBA CLE** courses. Volunteer attorneys are eligible for one of 3 free slots in exchange for a pro bono commitment, and staff legal services attorneys may register for one of 3 discounted slots (50% off the regular course cost).

For more information about trainings, visit: www.probonomd.org/training.

MENTORING

PBRC recognizes the value of mentors, especially for newer lawyers or those entering a new practice area. Most programs connect volunteers with more experienced practitioners as needed, and all of PBRC's Pro Bono Projects engage mentors to assist new volunteers.

MALPRACTICE INSURANCE

The vast majority of legal services programs provide malpractice insurance to their volunteers. All volunteers in PBRC's Pro Bono Projects, including government and corporate counsel and retired attorneys, receive primary malpractice insurance coverage for their pro bono casework or clinic service.

THE LITIGATION FUND, an annual grant funded by the Maryland Legal Services Corporation (MLSC), reimburses volunteer lawyers for many types of litigation expenses incurred during pro bono work such as process server fees, mileage, and postage and copying costs. It is available to volunteer lawyers handling pro bono and Judicare cases through MLSC-funded organizations. Because the Fund is a limited resource, there is no guarantee that requests will be approved, and reimbursements are based on the availability of funds and subject to review by PBRC.

For more information about the Litigation Fund, visit: www.probonomd.org/litigation-fund.

MARYLAND FREE LEGAL ANSWERS [™]

As part of an American Bar Association initiative. Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland coordinates Maryland's Free legal Answers website which allows low-income Marylanders to submit civil legal questions online, and volunteer attorneys can select questions they wish to answer. Interested in getting involved? Visit Maryland.FreeLegalAnswers.org to sign up.

Questions? Contact Jaci Jones, Maryland State Administrator, at jjones@probonomd.org.

PBRC E-BULLETIN

To make pro bono service opportunities more accessible, PBRC compiles and circulates a free, online E-Bulletin twice a month that summarizes current pro bono training and individual case opportunities available throughout the state from a variety of legal services programs, related events, and job opportunities. Visit www.probonomd.org/ebulletin.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING HOW TO SERVE PRO BONO? Visit: www.probonomd.org/volunteer-opportunities | Email: aspeedie@probonomd.org





MARYLAND LAWYERS CARE

OTHER RESOURCES:

MD Judiciary: General judiciary website. www.mdcourts.gov Peoples Law Library: Self-help website targeted to low and moderate income individuals. www.peoples-law.org Maryland Community Services Locator: Self-help website to locate approximately 9,000 health, social service and legal resource programs in Maryland. www.mdcsl.org

The Bar Association of Baltimore City has an ongoing commitment to ensuring access to low or no-cost legal help to city residents.

This directory provides information to connect residents of Baltimore City with agencies and organizations offering free or reduced cost help in a wide variety of legal matters. Most organizations have income and case-type requirements that must be met in order to qualify for services.

Due to limitations in volunteers and resources, agencies cannot guarantee legal services will be available for all qualified applicants. If a legal services program is unable to provide you with help, they will often try to provide suggestions about other resources in your community.

If you have additional questions, or if your particular legal need was not addressed in this pamphlet, please contact the **Baltimore City** Lawyer Referral and Information Service at 410-539-3112 (M-F, 9:00-4:00 p.m.) www.baltimorebar.org/Iris <u>CIVIL RIGHTS:</u> American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) • Public Justice Center

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS / NON-PROFITS: Community Law Center Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service (MVLS)

<u>CONSUMER ISSUES / BANKRUPTCY</u>: Attorney General's Office of Consumer Protection ◆ Civil Justice, Inc. ◆ Legal Aid Bureau, Inc. ◆ MVLS

<u>CRIMINAL DEFENSE</u>: JustAdvice[®] ◆ Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS) ◆ Office of the Public Defender ◆ Civil Justice, Inc.

CRIMINAL RECORDS EXPUNGEMENT: Homeless Persons Representation Project MVLS

DISABLED PERSONS :Disability Rights Maryland

EDUCATION / SPECIAL EDUCATION: Legal Aid Bureau, Inc. ◆ Maryland Disability Law Center ◆ MVLS ◆ Public Justice Center

ELDERLY / SENIORS: Bar Association of Baltimore City Senior Legal Services LRIS's Sixty Plus Legal Program Legal Aid Bureau, Inc. Maryland Senior Legal Helpline MVLS

EMPLOYMENT; Employment Law Hotline ♦ Legal Aid Bureau, Inc. ♦ MVLS ♦ Public Justice Center

FAMILY LAW: AYUDA ◆ Alternative Directions, Inc. ♦ Child Support Enforcement Administration ◆ Family Law Hotline ◆ Family Law Self-Help Center ◆ House of Ruth Maryland Marjorie Cook Domestic Violence Legal Clinic ♦ Legal Aid Bureau, Inc. ◆ Legal Forms Helpline ◆ MVLS ♦ Protection Order Advocacy and Representation Project (POARP)

GENERAL CIVIL ISSUES: Civil Justice, Inc. ◆ Free State Legal Project ◆ Jewish Legal Services Clinic ◆ JustAdvice[®] ◆ LRIS's Access to Justice Program and Sixty Plus Legal Program ◆ Legal Aid Bureau, Inc. ◆ MVLS

<u>HOMELESS PERSONS</u> : Homeless Persons Representation Project ◆ Public Justice Center

HOUSING / FORECLOSURE / LANDLORD-TENANT:

Baltimore Neighborhoods, Inc. ◆ Foreclosure Legal Assistance Project ◆ Foreclosure Solutions Workshops ◆ Homeless Persons Representation Project ◆ Legal Aid Bureau, Inc. ◆ MVLS ◆ Public Justice Center ◆ St. Ambrose Foreclosure Prevention Division

IMMIGRATION : AYUDA ◆ Catholic Charities of Baltimore Immigration Legal Services ◆ Multi-Ethnic Domestic Violence Project (MEDOVI) ◆ Tahirih Justice Center

<u>MEDIATION / SETTLEMENT CONFERENCES:</u> District Court's Alternative Dispute Resolution Program

PUBLIC BENEFITS: Homeless Persons Representation Project ◆ Legal Aid Bureau, Inc. ◆ MVLS

VICTIMS OF CRIME (including DOMESTIC VIOLENCE): AYUDA ◆ House of Ruth Maryland Marjorie Cook Domestic Violence Legal Clinic ◆ Legal Aid Bureau, Inc. ◆ Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center ◆ MEDOVI ◆ POARP ◆ Sexual Assault Legal Institute ◆ Tahirih Justice Center

BALTIMORE CITY LEGAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

PRO BONO (FREE) AND REDUCED FEE LEGAL SERVICES



Produced by the **Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland**

in conjunction with the Bar Association of Baltimore City's Pro Bono and Access to Legal Services Committee and the Court of Appeals Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service

with generous contributions from the Administrative Office of the Courts

LOCAL AND STATEWIDE LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAMS SERVING BALTIMORE CITY

2-1-1 Maryland—Community/health & human service resources. Call 211, 410-685-0525, or 800-492-0618 Alternative Directions, Inc.—Legal assistance to incarcerated persons. 410-889-5072 ◆ www.alternativedirectionsinc.org American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)—Constitutional Rights 410-889-8555 ◆ www.aclu-md.org

Attorney General's Office of Consumer Protection—Services for consumers to resolve complaints against businesses. 410-528-8662 ◆ <u>www.oag.state.md.us/Consumer</u> AYUDA—Legal services to foreign-born clients, focusing on immigration & domestic violence/family law issues. 202-387-4848 ◆ www.avuda.com

Baltimore Neighborhoods, Inc.—

Rights/responsibilities in landlord/tenant disputes. 800-487-6007 ♦ www.bni-maryland.org

Bar Association of Baltimore City Senior Legal Services ¹—Pro bono civil legal services for Baltimore City seniors aged 60 & over. 410-396-1322

Battered Spouse Program—Domestic violence/abuse help services. 410-366-1980, 800-899-4601, 410-578-0244

Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Washington: Archdiocesan Legal Network—Legal services pertaining to consumer debt/bankruptcy, employment, family law, landlord/tenant/housing, public benefits (social security, disability), & wills. 202-350-4305 ♦ www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/ALN

Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Washington: Immigration Legal Services—Immigration legal services to foreign-born individuals & their families 202-772-4352 ♦ www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/ILS

Catholic Charities of Baltimore Immigration Legal Services (Esperanza Center)—Low-cost legal counseling/representation in immigration matters. 410-534-8015 Centro de la Comunidad, Inc.—Information/referral services on issues such as citizenship, crises/eviction, domestic violence, etc. 410-675-8906 • www.centrodlc.org

CHANA—Assists individuals in the Jewish community who are victims of domestic violence, elder abuse, & survivors of childhood trauma by providing support, counseling, & legal assistance. 410-234-0030 ♦ www.chanabaltimore.org

Child Support Enforcement Administration—Assists in securing child support from absent parents. 410-347-5943 ◆ http://www.dhr.state.md.us/blog/?page_id=946

Civil Justice, Inc.—Matches individuals with attorneys for a reduced rate. 410-706-0174 ♦ www.civiljusticenetwork.org Community Law Center, Inc.—Civil legal services to community & nonprofit organizations throughout MD.

410-366-0922 ♦ http://communitylaw.org

District Court's Alternative Dispute Resolution Program (ADR)—Offers mediation free of charge in many civil cases before or on the trial date. 410-260-1676 ◆ www.mdcourts.gov/district/adr/home.html Employment Law Hotline ²—Attorneys answer questions about employment law & legal rights in the workplace. 877-422-9500 Tu 9:30AM-1PM; first Th of the month 5PM-7PM Eviction Prevention Program—Case management services to Baltimore city residents who are experiencing a court ordered eviction. 410-878-8650

Family Law Hotline ²—Information/referrals on family law issues. 800-845-8550 M-F 9:30AM-4:30PM

Family Law Self-Help Center—Assists individuals represent themselves in family law matters. Walk-in only M-F 9AM-3PM Circuit Court for Baltimore City, 111 N. Calvert St, Room 114 Foreclosure Legal Assistance Project ³—Provides legal advice and counsel to homeowners at risk of foreclosure. 888-213-3320 Foreclosure Solutions Workshops ⁴—Free brief one-onone legal advice to homeowners at risk of foreclosure at walk-in clin-

ics provided through PBRC. 800-396-1274
www.probonomd.ora/foreclosure-workshops

Free State Legal Project—Legal services to low-income members of the LGBT community. 410-625-5428 ♦ <u>www.freestatelegal.org</u> Georgetown Law Center for Applied Legal Studies: Asylum Clinic—Georgetown law students represent asylum applicants in immigration court. 202-662-9565

Glen Burnie Self-Help Center—General Civil Legal Assistance. Walk-in M-F 8:30AM-4:30PM; Phone: M-F 8:30AM-12PM & 2PM-4:30PM; Online Chat: M-F 8:30AM-12PM & 2PM-4:30PM. 410-260-1392 ◆

<u>http://www.courts.state.md.us/legalhelp/districtctselfhelpctr.html</u> **Homeless Persons Representation Project**—Services for homeless/at risk of homelessness, including veterans' benefits. 410-685-6589 or 800-773-4340 ◆ <u>www.hprplaw.org</u>

House of Ruth Domestic Violence Legal Clinic— Services to victims of domestic violence. 410-554-8463 M-F 8:30AM-4:30PM ◆ <u>www.hruth.org/legal</u> 410-889-RUTH (7884) (24 Hours) Jewish Legal Services Clinic—Free legal information & advice on civil legal issues for individuals with limited income at walkin clinic 2nd Monday of each month. 410-466-9200

JustAdvice^{® 5}—For a \$10 fee, attorneys provide brief 30-minute legal consultations on a wide variety of civil matters. 410-929-4809 ♦ www.justadvice.wordpress.com

Kids In Need of Defense—Volunteer attorneys represent unaccompanied children in the U.S. immigration system. 202-824-8680 ♦ www.supportkind.org

Legal Aid Bureau, Inc.—Civil legal services to low-income individuals on a wide range of civil matters. 410-951-7777 or 800-999-8904 ♦ www.mdlab.org

Legal Forms Helpline ²—Assists individuals filing a family law case without an attorney complete the required domestic relations forms. 800-818-9888 T,W,F 9AM-12:30PM; TH 9AM-4PM 877-293-2507 (Spanish) (leave a message; attorney will call back) **MD Crime Victims' Resource Center**—Provides information, brief advice, general support & referrals to pro bono

attorneys for eligible crime victims.

410-234-9885 or 877-842-8461 ◆ <u>www.mdcrimevictims.org</u> **MD Disability Law Center**—Information, referral & advocacy services to individuals with disabilities & their families. 410-727-6352 ◆ www.mdlclaw.org

MD Senior Legal Helpline³—Free legal advice over the telephone regarding a variety of civil matters to individuals 60 years of age & older. 410-951-7750 or 800-896-4213 ♦ www.mdlab.org

MD Volunteer Lawyers Service (MVLS)—Free legal representation to Marylanders with limited income in civil legal matters. \$25 non-refundable application fee. Matches eligible clients with skilled volunteer lawyer. Apply online, all clients **except for those with family law cases**, can use online intake. Online intake can be found at www.mvlslaw.org/apply.

Or, call M-Th 9AM-12PM 410-547-6537 or 800-510-0050 • www.mylslaw.org

Multi-Ethnic Domestic Violence Project (MEDOVI)² —Represents foreign-born victims of domestic violence in immigration matters. 410-396-3294 M-F 8:30AM-4:30PM National Veteran's Legal Services Program—

National Veteran's Legal Services Program 202-265-8305 ♦ www.nvlsp.org

Office of Civil Rights and Wage Enforcement— Enforces Baltimore City anti-discrimination laws. 410-396-3141 Office of the Public Defender—Provides free representation in criminal cases to those who meet income eligibility guidelines. 410-333-4900 or 877-430-5187 ♦ www.opd.state.md.us Protection Order Advocacy and Representation Project (POARP)²—Represents victims of domestic violence

Project (POARP) ²—Represents victims of domestic violence in Protective Order hearings in Balto. City, Balto. Co., & Carroll Co. 410-783-0377 M-F 8:30-4:30PM

Public Justice Center—Provides legal representation to tenants at risk of eviction, low-wage workers, & students with problems enrolling in public school or obtaining necessary services due to homelessness. 410-625-9409 or 877-625-9409 ♦ www.publicjustice.org

Sexual Assault Legal Institute (SALI)— Provides legal services to survivors of sexual assault, including child sexual abuse. Legal assistance is provided in civil & criminal cases. 301-565-2277 or 877-496-SALI (7254) ♦ www.mcasa.org

Sixty Plus Legal Program—Limited legal services for individuals 60 years of age & older. 410-539-3112 M-F 9-4PM ◆ www.baltimorebar.org/lris

St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center—Provides legal advice/representation to help homeowners avoid foreclosure.

410-366-8550 ♦ <u>www.stambros.org</u>

 Tahirih Justice Center
 Provides legal

 grant victims of gender-based violence.
 571-282-6161 ♦ www.tahirih.org



 ¹ operated by the Bar Association of Baltimore City
 ² operated by the Women's Law Center
 ³ operated by the Legal Aid Bureau, Inc.
 ⁴ coordinated by the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland as part of the Foreclosure Prevention Project

⁵ operated by the Univ. of Maryland Carey School of Law and MVLS

Court of Appeals of Maryland 50 Maryland Avenue Rockville, Maryland 20850



MARY ELLEN BARBERA Chief Judge (240) 777-9320

MEMORANDUM

TO:	Maryland Circuit and District Court rudges Chief Judge Mary Ellen Barbera
FROM:	Chief Judge Mary Ellen Barbera
RE:	Judicial Involvement in Pro Bono Activities
DATE:	September 22, 2014

Access to the courts and to legal services for those of limited means remains a challenge for our judicial system. As such, many members of the Judiciary have undertaken to increase access by promoting pro bono participation by the Bar, postponing cases to enable self-represented litigants to secure counsel, assisting in training and recognition programs for volunteer lawyers, facilitating courthouse pro bono clinics, and supporting legal services programs. Some of these efforts have occurred through active participation on local pro bono committees. I applaud these efforts.

In the interest of judicial economy and fairness, every judge is encouraged to facilitate access for pro bono clients and their attorneys and to make it a priority. Indeed, it is through your leadership that the Bar and legal services community, working together, will be able to reduce the ranks of unrepresented litigants who cannot afford counsel and expand their ability to address legal problems in a timely and effective manner. This memorandum highlights the types of activities the Judiciary can engage in to facilitate pro bono efforts and help ensure consistent and equitable justice throughout Maryland.

EDUCATION ON LEGAL SERVICES RESOURCES

I encourage each judge to learn about local pro bono needs and the local legal service providers by:

- becoming familiar with the local pro bono committee plan and activities;
- becoming familiar with available legal service providers, both State and local (see www.probonomd.org or www.courts.state.md.us/probono); and
- discussing local pro bono needs and the role of the Bench in meeting such needs at court Bench meetings.

EDUCATION AND RECRUITMENT OF THE BAR

I encourage each judge to be proactive in educating the local Bar concerning pro bono needs and encouraging the local Bar to participate in pro bono cases by:

- speaking at local Bar Association meetings;
- sponsoring Bench/Bar discussions;
- participating in training and continuing legal education programs for lawyers interested in taking pro bono cases, as time permits, and consistent with the Administrative Order on Judicial Absences from Court;
- signing general volunteer recruitment letters; and
- speaking at local new admittees ceremonies about pro bono responsibilities.

PARTICIPATION IN RECOGNITION ACTIVITIES

I encourage each judge to be an active participant in events that recognize volunteer lawyers by:

- sponsoring and attending judicial receptions for volunteer lawyers;
- attending pro bono awards ceremonies at local and specialty Bar events, and when requested, presenting such awards; and
- using various communication media (in consultation with the Office of Communications and Public Affairs) to educate the Bar, as well as the general public, about Bar participation in meeting local pro bono needs, including writing articles for court or Bar publications or editorials for newspapers.

I am aware that some judges have expressed concern as to whether any of the abovesuggested activities would violate the Code of Judicial Conduct, Maryland Rule 16-813. Accordingly, attached is Judicial Ethics Opinion 2013-29, which addresses the solicitation of attorneys for pro bono work.

Attachment