

# Pro Bono Opportunities

## for Hillsborough County Attorneys

### ASK A LAWYER

Volunteers handle calls from residents seeking legal help. Participants appear on Fox 13's morning television show on the first Thursday of the month from 7 to 9 a.m. Contact the Hillsborough County Bar Association, (813) 221-7777.

### CASE REFERRAL PANEL

Volunteers agree to accept case referrals in those areas of the law that they have designated. Clients are screened for eligibility and legal merit prior to referral. Contact Bay Area Volunteer Lawyers Program (BAVLP), (813) 226-8685, ext. 102.

### CLIENT INTAKE

Volunteers interview legal aid applicants at the George Edgecomb Courthouse two evenings a month from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Contact BAVLP, (813) 226-8685, ext. 110.

### COMMUNITY COUNSEL

Volunteers provide legal assistance to community groups and non-profit organizations that provide services to indigent residents. Contact Susan Sandler at Bay Area Legal Services, (813) 232-1222, ext. 116, or (813) 226-8685 x 103.

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ASSISTANCE PROJECT

Volunteers assist victims of domestic violence in completing petition forms for injunctions.

Participation does not require court appearances or representation. Training DVD provided. The Project is located at the George Edgecomb Courthouse. Contact BAVLP, (813) 226-8685, ext 110.

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONFLICT REPRESENTATION

Volunteers represent victims of domestic violence seeking injunctions who cannot receive assistance from Bay Area Legal Services due to a conflict of interest. Contact BAVLP, (813) 226-8685, ext 102.

### FAMILY FORMS CLINIC AND FAMILY FORMS CLINIC en ESPANOL

Volunteers assist self-represented family law litigants in completing family law forms. The Clinic is located at the George Edgecomb Courthouse. Training DVD and supervision provided. For Family Forms Clinic contact BAVLP, (813) 226-8685, ext. 110. For Family Forms Clinic en Espanol, contact Clara Rokusek, Esq., at [mcrokusek@allenlawpa.com](mailto:mcrokusek@allenlawpa.com).

### FEDERAL LITIGATION PROJECT

The Project is organized by the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. Volunteers provide limited one-time consultation to pro se litigants in federal courts. Contact Ann Marie Hensler, (813) 227-8500 or [mann.hensler@hkclaw.com](mailto:mann.hensler@hkclaw.com).

### FOSTERING INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM

Volunteers assist at-risk teens in foster care. Training DVD available. Contact Lashawn Strachan, Guardian Ad Litem Program (813) 307-3532 or [lashawn.strachan@gal.fl.gov](mailto:lashawn.strachan@gal.fl.gov).

### GUARDIAN AD LITEM PROGRAM

Volunteers are appointed as guardians for children. Training provided by the Guardian Ad Litem Program. Contact Lashawn Strachan, Guardian Ad Litem Program (813) 307-3532 or [lashawn.strachan@gal.fl.gov](mailto:lashawn.strachan@gal.fl.gov).

### GUARDIAN ADVOCATE PROJECT

Volunteer attorneys assist the relatives of developmentally disabled adults become appointed as guardian advocates. Form pleadings are provided. Contact BAVLP (813) 226-8685, ext. 102.

### JUVENILE DELINQUENCY ATTORNEY AD LITEM PROGRAM

Volunteers are appointed as attorneys ad litem for juveniles charged with criminal offenses. Volunteers act as the juvenile's representative in the absence of a parent or guardian. Contact Judge Ashley Moody, (813) 272-5775.

### KINSHIP CARE PROJECT

Volunteers provide legal assistance to non-parental caregivers in connection with their rights and responsibilities as caregivers, including adoption, parental consent, power of attorney and guardianship. Contact Coreen Collins at University of South Florida (813) 974-4946 or [ccollins@cas.usf.edu](mailto:ccollins@cas.usf.edu).

### MEDIATION PANEL

Volunteer certified mediators provide free mediation services in cases involving indigent clients. Contact BAVLP, (813) 226-8685, ext. 102.

### MENTOR PANEL

Volunteers with specialized expertise assist less experienced volunteer attorneys handling pro

bono cases and Bay Area staff attorneys. Contact BAVLP, (813) 226-8685, ext. 102.

### MILITARY LIAISON COMMITTEE

Volunteers provide legal assistance to military personnel. Contact Hillsborough County Bar Association, (813) 221-7777, for more information.

### PEOPLES LAW SCHOOL

Volunteers provide legal information to the public on a variety of legal topics. The public education seminars are located at the Chester Ferguson Law Center. Contact HCBA (813) 221-7777.

### TEEN COURT

Volunteers serve as judges and mentors in the teen court program, a diversionary program for juvenile first offenders. Contact Pam Stokes, 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Administrative Office of the Courts, (813) 272-6766 or apply online at [www.fljud13.org/jdp/teencourt](http://www.fljud13.org/jdp/teencourt).

### UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA LEGAL AID

Volunteers assist students and graduate students with legal problems, including landlord/tenant, consumer, family law, DUI, and traffic. Contact Janet Rojas, Student Government at USF, (813) 974-0101.

### VA HOMELESS WOMEN VETERANS ASSISTANCE PROJECT

Volunteers provide pro bono or reduced-fee assistance to women veterans with civil and criminal-related legal problems. The Project is organized by the Hillsborough Association for Women Lawyers. Contact Liz Lanier (813) 769-3577 or [elanier@helmsgreene.com](mailto:elanier@helmsgreene.com).

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