

NIXON PEABODY LLP

2016 - List of Pro Bono Projects By Office

FOR ALBANY ATTORNEYS:

Veterans Project: Help veterans who have claims for health care and disability rights and benefits against the armed services and VA. You can also help veterans to apply for “Combat Related Special Compensation” (CRSC), which entails completing an application form and submitting evidence proving that the veteran’s disabilities satisfy the statutory definition of “combat related.” We have a training session on video, which you can watch from your desk.

Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund: Help transgender individuals to secure name changes. For many transgender people, a legal name change is the first step toward conforming their legal identities to the way they identify and live their lives. Each project is relatively discrete and predictable, and involves no litigation.

Microfinance: Play a role in the securing of microloans for poor individuals—mostly women—in the developing world who have little or no access to credit. Our clients require sophisticated securities and investment-related work, which offers excellent pro bono opportunities for attorneys with securities and public finance experience.

Green Pro Bono: Provide pro bono legal assistance to organizations that are involved in environmental or sustainability matters.

Reducing Gun Violence: We have a firm-wide initiative based in Rochester and SF aimed at reducing gun violence. We work with the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence and the NYSBA Task Force on Gun Violence to conduct research and/or draft amicus briefs in connection with constitutional issues involving challenges to gun laws. Lawyers in any office can support this work.

FOR BOSTON ATTORNEYS:

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The Massachusetts Legal Clinic for the Homeless (MLCH): This is a collaborative of eight of the state’s largest law firms, including Nixon Peabody, that provide on-site legal services to the residents of several homeless shelters. You will help homeless individuals to deal with the administrative consequences of their prior cases. Most of these individuals are in a program at the shelter that assists them with their transition back into the workforce.

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Asylum Project: In a program run by PAIR and BC Law School, we are helping refugees who have been persecuted in their home countries to win asylum in the U.S. You do not need to be a litigator.

Kids in Need of Defense (KIND): Help unaccompanied children navigate the immigration process. This initiative provides both litigation and transactional pro bono opportunities. Among other things, you will have the option to represent children in immigration court or handle appeals, participate in transactional proceedings before the USCIS, help children seeking “special immigrant juvenile” status because of abuse, abandonment, or neglect, or victims of trafficking and serious crimes who are seeking T or U visas, and assist in advocacy for systemic changes in policies and practices affecting these children.

Harvard Business School of Boston Community Action Partners (CAP): CAP is a volunteer organization of Harvard Business School and Harvard Kennedy School alumni that has been helping Boston-area nonprofits apply management skills to their business challenges. We are starting to work with CAP volunteers to provide pro bono transactional legal assistance to those nonprofits that are of interest to us and meet our guidelines.

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Volunteer Lawyers Project: You can assist pro se landlords and tenants at Boston Housing Court on a Wednesday (public housing cases) or Thursday (private housing cases) morning, primarily in matters involving eviction. You can provide brief advice, assist in preparing pleadings or motions, represent clients in mediation or negotiation, and represent clients on a Limited Assistance Representation (LAR) basis in court hearings.

American Cancer Society: Draft wills, powers of attorney, and other estate documents for low-income cancer patients.

BBA Trusts and Estates Section Pro Bono Project: This is an advice and intake line for trusts and estates-related legal problems. This is a very good program for private client attorneys.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program: Offer free income tax preparation to low-income families. Training is provided.

Green Pro Bono: Provide pro bono legal assistance to organizations that are involved in environmental or sustainability matters.

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The Post-Deportation Human Rights Project (PDHRP): Undertakes the representation of individuals who have been deported from the United States. The project provides direct representation to individuals who have been deported and promotes the rights of deportees and their family members through research, legal and policy analysis, media advocacy, training programs, and participatory action research. PDHRP attorneys would be happy to discuss

opportunities for direct pro bono representation with these or other types of post-deportation cases.

Election Protection: As we get closer to Election Day, we will have the opportunity in several of our offices to help protect the right to vote by answering questions and serving as poll watchers, while working with a non-partisan organization such as the national Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights. This will involve a discrete, time-limited commitment, and no litigation.

FOR BUFFALO ATTORNEYS:

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Roswell Park Cancer Institute: We are providing pro bono legal services for low-income patients with serious or terminal cancer diagnoses. We assist patients with a wide variety of pressing issues, such as wills, advance guardianships, powers of attorney, and assistance with public benefits.

Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund: Help transgender individuals to secure name changes. For many transgender people, a legal name change is the first step toward conforming their legal identities to the way they identify and live their lives. Each project is relatively discrete and predictable, and involves no litigation.

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FOR CHICAGO ATTORNEYS:

Domestic Violence Legal Clinic: One day each month, we staff the Domestic Violence Legal Clinic. Volunteers generally are asked to interview victims seeking a restraining order and assist with their initial court filings, and then present the victim as a witness at an initial hearing with the court to obtain the restraining order. Volunteers also may be called upon to assist with any follow-up hearings for the victim to extend the time period of the restraining order.

National Immigrant Justice Center (NIJC) provides direct legal services to, and advocates on behalf of, immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. Among other things, they provide opportunities to help unaccompanied immigrant children apply for SIJS or asylum, or help immigrant survivors of domestic abuse to apply for U Visas.

Second Chance Clinics : We offer direct service representation for criminal records mitigation. At the clinics, attorneys are trained in “alternative forms” of criminal records relief, and then begin working with clients the same day. The two forms of relief we assist clients with through the project are Certificates of Good Conduct/ Relief from Disabilities and Health Care Worker Waivers. The clinics typically run from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Each team of two attorneys is assigned to work with one client at the clinic.

USPTO Project: Chicago-Kent Patent Hub at the IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law refers patent pro bono clients to us. We can take on limited scope representation of clients to help them prepare and file a regular or provisional patent application or respond to Office Actions.

Equip for Equality helps children and adults with physical and mental disabilities. They provide opportunities to staff a special education clinic, represent a student at an Individualized Education Program meeting, represent a student at an expulsion hearing or a due process hearing, help with client interviews on their helpline, draft an amicus brief, and co-counsel on a class action lawsuit, among other things.

Loyola Law School’s Life After Innocence (LAI) Project is the first ever program devoted to assisting exonerees—innocent people wrongfully convicted and eventually exonerated. LAI provides legal and social services to help exonerees begin their lives anew. We can work with Loyola students to litigate certificates of innocence, achieve expungements, and search for housing, employment, and medical assistance, among other things.

Lawyers for the Creative Arts: Provide pro bono art and entertainment legal services to struggling artists and cultural organizations. Issues often involve intellectual property protection, corporate structuring, contract review and negotiation, litigation and dispute resolution, and nonprofit counseling.

The Law Project: Provide low-income individuals in underserved and economically distressed communities in the Chicago area with vital business legal services as they start or grow their own business.

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proving that the veteran's disabilities satisfy the statutory definition of "combat related." We have a training session on video, which you can watch from your desk.

The Center for Disability and Elder Law ("CDEL"): Provide pro bono services to low-income seniors and/or persons with disabilities in Cook County. Typical CDEL cases focus on issues related to financial stability, guardianship, housing, estate and end of life planning, and financial exploitation and abuse.

Chicago Volunteer Legal Services: Offers many litigation opportunities helping the poor, including matters involving bankruptcy, eviction proceedings, tort defense, consumer cases, adoptions, minor and disabled adult guardianship, immigration, and divorce, among others. Training is provided.

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FOR LONG ISLAND ATTORNEYS:

Kids in Need of Defense (KIND): Help unaccompanied children navigate the immigration process. This initiative provides both litigation and transactional pro bono opportunities. Among other things, you will have the option to represent children in immigration court or handle appeals, participate in transactional proceedings before the USCIS, help children seeking "special immigrant juvenile" status because of abuse, abandonment, or neglect, or victims of trafficking and serious crimes who are seeking T or U visas, and assist in advocacy for systemic changes in policies and practices affecting these children.

Asylum Project: We receive referrals from Human Rights First and Immigration Equality of individuals fleeing persecution in their home countries. You can take on a case before the Asylum Office (which is an interview only) or have a hearing before an Immigration Judge. You don't need to be a litigator.

U Visa Project: Help low-income women immigrants obtain U Visas, offered to victims of certain crimes, like domestic violence, who cooperate in the investigation or prosecution of their attacker.

A U Visa allows an immigrant (and family) to work and live lawfully in the United States, and creates a pathway to lawful permanent resident status. No litigation involved; you help the client complete an application with supporting affidavits. Typically takes 20 hours to complete.

Sanctuary for Families Anti-Trafficking Initiative: Help undocumented immigrant victims of human trafficking to obtain T Visas. Some of these matters could involve litigation, but many would not involve litigation at all.

Special Education: Help low-income families deal with a variety of educational issues, including negotiating Individual Education Plans for their children.

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Bankruptcy Court Program: Through the New York City Bankruptcy Assistance Project, you can advise indigent pro se debtors on bankruptcy issues, assess for filing, and prepare Chapter 7 bankruptcy petitions in the bankruptcy courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York. You must attend a training and a client screening session to participate.

Micro-Entrepreneurship Program: Through Start Small Think Big, help low-income micro-entrepreneurs and small businesses in a wide variety of non-litigation matters, including advising on corporate, tax, finance, intellectual property, real estate, employment, and other legal matters. This is a great project for business, employment, real estate, and IP lawyers.

Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund: Help transgender individuals to secure name changes. For many transgender people, a legal name change is the first step toward conforming their legal identities to the way they identify and live their lives. Each project is relatively discrete and predictable, and involves no litigation.

Cancer Advocacy Project: Through this project, run by the NYC Bar Association Justice Center, you can help cancer patients and their families with life planning. You will help to draft simple wills, powers of attorney, health care proxies, and stand-by guardianships. No prior experience is necessary—we have a DVD training session.

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FOR LOS ANGELES ATTORNEYS:

Small Litigation Matters: These involve court appearances, trials, or trial-like work, and other contentious matters. Some examples include obtaining restraining orders for victims of domestic violence, appeals of denials of government benefits (e.g., SSI, SSDI), and other disputes (e.g., consumer fraud matters, eviction defense, etc.). *Bet Tzedek, Public Counsel*

Transactional Matters: These involve corporate, intellectual property, tax, and other transactional matters. Examples include, with respect to micro-entities and nonprofits, entity formation, preparation of governing documents, employment counseling (e.g., handbooks, policies), patent/trademark matters, M&A projects, filing for tax-exempt status and basic contracts. *Public Counsel, Legal Aid Foundation of LA, California Lawyers for the Arts*

Small Matters Not Directly Tied to an Internal Practice Group: These are projects where training and support are provided by referring organizations for matters with generally limited time commitments. Examples include foster care adoptions, and guardianships/conservatorships. *Alliance for Children's Rights, Bet Tzedek*

Complex Matters; Impact Litigation: These opportunities tend to be larger in scale and involve teams of lawyers. Examples include amicus briefs, significant/impact litigation, large commercial transactions, and representation of nonprofits with general counsel or other broad services. *ACLU, OneJustice*

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FOR MANCHESTER ATTORNEYS:

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Domestic Violence Emergency Project (DOVE): A program sponsored by the New Hampshire Bar Association that provides victims of domestic violence with emergency legal services. The program operates in partnership with domestic violence service agencies throughout New Hampshire.

New Hampshire Disabilities Rights Center: Work with a statewide private Protection and Advocacy Agency to pursue legal, administrative, and other appropriate remedies on behalf of individuals with physical or mental disabilities. The center refers cases to private attorneys to assist with civil cases on the administrative, trial court, and/or appeal level to protect the rights of the disabled to guarantee their equal rights to enjoy the benefits of our society in education, access to facilities, and to protect against discrimination in a variety of settings.

Low-Income Tax Payer Project: Program to help low-income tax payers with federal tax controversies under \$50,000. These cases usually involve negotiation with IRS to reach a satisfactory resolution.

New Hampshire Community Loan Fund: The private nonprofit agency helps low-income people participate more fully in the NH economy by providing human, financial, and other civic resources. Programs include loan assistance for residents of manufactured housing, micro-entrepreneurs, non-profit low-income housing developers, and individuals with disabilities who want to buy homes. There are opportunities to help the organization and those who qualify for loans in a variety of real estate, commercial lending, and financing areas of law.

Guantanamo Bay Defense Project: A project for the defense of detainees at Guantanamo Bay. The project coordinates the assignment of individual cases to private qualified law firms.

Criminal Justice Act Panel: Qualified private attorneys of the NH bar serve on a panel to defend indigent criminal defendants charged with federal criminal offenses. This program helps the federal public defender program with its case overflow and with conflicts in representation.

Legal Advice and Referral Center (LARC): Offers free legal advice and information to NH’s low-income population on non-criminal legal matters involving family, housing, consumer, or local welfare issues. They need volunteer lawyers to receive and answer telephone inquiries and provide general advice to clients.

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of NH: Support legal services for abused and neglected children and provide legal education and training for volunteer non-lawyer guardians ad litem. The organization has a need for private attorneys to assist with both education and representation in select cases especially those cases that are appealed to the NH Supreme Court.

Franklin Pierce Law Center Projects: Opportunities include working with law students in the representation of clients in the Social Justice Institute, Administrative Agency Clinic, Appellate Defender program, IP and Transaction Clinic, Consumer and Commercial Law Clinic, and the Mediation Clinic. There are also a variety of public interest law projects at the Law Center that would welcome the involvement of private attorneys on a pro bono basis.

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NH Bar Association—Pro Bono Referral Service: Links low-income persons with volunteer attorneys who provide legal services in a variety of civil matters only, including landlord/tenant, bankruptcy, divorce and custody, debt collection, and consumer fraud cases.

New Hampshire Legal Assistance: Collaborative projects are available through NHLA to represent indigent clients in a variety of situations including landlord/tenant, consumer fraud, bankruptcy, and other civil cases.

Lawyer Referral Reduced Legal Fee Program: This program assists people whose income is above the poverty line but well below being able to afford lawyers at standard rates. This program is a service of the New Hampshire Bar Association that pre-screens clients and refers them to a private attorney for representation in a variety of civil only matters including consumer, elder law, employment, mental health, real estate, and tax law matters.

FOR NEW YORK CITY ATTORNEYS:

Micro-Entrepreneurship Program: Through Start Small Think Big, help low-income micro-entrepreneurs and small businesses in a wide variety of non-litigation matters, including advising on corporate, tax, finance, intellectual property, real estate, employment, and other legal matters. This is a great project for business, employment, real estate, and IP lawyers.

Youth Courts: Youth courts train teenagers to serve as jurors, judges and advocates, handling real-life cases involving their peers. Our role will be to observe youth court hearings on a monthly basis and give the teenagers feedback. We will also have the opportunity to give seminars to the teenagers on a variety of legal issues. The goal of youth court is to use positive peer pressure to ensure that young people who have committed minor offenses learn accountability and repair the harm caused by their actions. Youth courts direct lower level cases from the formal justice system.

A variety of justice agencies refer cases to youth courts with the goal of preventing further involvement in the juvenile or criminal justice systems.

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FOR PROVIDENCE ATTORNEYS:

Kids in Need of Defense (KIND): Help children seeking “special immigrant juvenile” (SIJS) status because of abuse, abandonment, or neglect, by representing their proposed guardian in a Family Court hearing (and in some instances Probate Court). Help the children to obtain the special findings of fact needed so they can then apply to the USCIS for SIJS.

Roger Williams Law School Pro Bono Collaborative Expungement Clinic: Participate in clinics and represent persons in need of expungements, referred through various community organizations.

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American Cancer Society: Draft wills, powers of attorney, and other estate documents for low-income cancer patients.

Real Estate Bar Association Pro Bono Program: This is a subprime loan assistance initiative. Our lawyers will provide pro bono legal assistance to low- and moderate-income borrowers facing foreclosure or other legal action as a result of the subprime loan crisis. This is a very good program for litigators and real estate attorneys.

BBA Trusts and Estates Section Pro Bono Project: This is an advice and intake line for trusts and estates-related legal problems. This is a very good program for private client attorneys.

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FOR ROCHESTER ATTORNEYS:

Veterans Project: In partnership with LawNY, we will assist veterans with their legal needs by hosting “Military Mondays.” Twice a month, 2 lawyers spend 2 hours meeting with 2 veterans on a pro bono basis. The “clinics” would happen at a Canandaigua Starbucks (this initiative is to help Vets in the Finger Lakes area). Our liaison from LawNY would be in attendance at the clinics to provide support and answer our questions.

Transgender Name Changes: Help transgender individuals to secure name changes. For many transgender people, a legal name change is the first step toward conforming their legal identities to the way they identify and live their lives. Each project is relatively discrete and predictable, and involves no litigation.

Special Education: Help low-income families obtain needed special education services including helping parents advocate for Individual Education Plans for their children. No litigation involved.

U Visa Applications: Help low-income women immigrants obtain U Visas, offered to victims of certain crimes, like domestic violence, who cooperate in the investigation or prosecution of their attacker. A U Visa allows an immigrant (and family) to work and live lawfully in the United States, and creates a pathway to lawful permanent resident status. No litigation is involved; you help the client complete an application with supporting affidavits. A typical case takes about 20 hours to complete.

Monroe County Arts & Cultural Council: Help individual artists and arts-related organizations with non-profit formation and intellectual property issues, among other things.

Micro-Entrepreneurship Program: NYS has developed a legal referral system, called Business Mentor NY, which is a web-based initiative that connects low-income small businesses and entrepreneurs around New York State, particularly in rural areas, with attorneys and other professionals. We help small businesses and entrepreneurs in a wide variety of non-litigation matters, including advising on corporate, tax, finance, intellectual property, real estate, employment, and other legal matters. This is a great project for business, employment, real estate, and IP lawyers.

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Rochester Office Pro Bono Housing Initiative: Attorney for the Morning program—go to housing court on behalf of low-income tenants one morning a month. You do not need to be a litigator. Less experienced lawyers learn by observing experienced lawyers and from a simple one page “cheat sheet” covering the issues. You participate when you're ready.

Rochester Office Pro Bono Housing Initiative: Advise Habitat for Humanity on lot acquisitions.

American Cancer Society: Draft wills, powers of attorney, and other estate documents for low-income cancer patients.

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Divorce and Custody: You will work with the Volunteer Legal Services Project with numerous legal issues for its clients. VLSP handles divorce cases for people who have been victims of recent serious physical abuse or, on a more limited basis, who have children and physical residence in dispute. VLSP handles cases involving arrears in child support or maintenance. You will provide

advice to individuals on custody and related issues and helps people complete Family Court petitions for custody, visitation, or guardianship. VLSP also runs a “do-it-yourself” pro se divorce class for people seeking a divorce who have no issues in dispute.

Child support: VLSP represents individuals seeking to establish child support or seeking to obtain, enforce, modify, or defend a child support order.

Unemployment Insurance and SSI: VLSP represents claimants whose claims for unemployment insurance benefits have been turned down by the Department of Labor or challenged by the employer. VLSP handles these cases at the hearing level only. VLSP also accepts SSI referrals from Empire Justice Center.

VLSP’s Debt Collection Advice Clinic: Volunteer attorneys meet privately with clients dealing with problems such as garnishment, collection efforts, repossession, etc. Clients receive case analysis and self-help advice, and sometimes receive further help (for example, bankruptcy or repossession defense).

Employment: VLSP assists when legal problems prevent a person from getting or keeping employment. Examples include problems with LPN licenses, foster care licenses, criminal records, child abuse records, and loss of drivers’ licenses because of unpaid judgment or child support.

Consumer Problems: VLSP assists with problems like “lemon” cars, liens on bank accounts, unfair contracts, insurance coverage, student loans, rent-to-own contracts, etc.

Standby Guardianships: For parents with HIV/AIDS or other serious illnesses, VLSP helps with planning for the future care of children. VLSP also helps family members and others who are taking care of children to obtain guardianship.

Tax: VLSP handles almost any type of dispute with the IRS including, but not limited to, issues with earned income tax credit, dependency exemptions, head of household filing status, pension income, independent contractors, and other tax issues. VLSP also helps with examinations or audits, collections, appeals, and injured spouse tax relief.

Immigration: VLSP handles basic family-based adjustment status cases, permanent residency applications and some naturalization cases for low-income individuals.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO ATTORNEYS:

Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights (LCCR):

Asylum Project – we help refugees who have been persecuted in their home countries to win asylum in the U.S. We represent clients at all levels of the process, from the SF Asylum Office (offensive applications) to SF Immigration Court (defensive applications) to appeals before the Board of Immigration Appeals or the Ninth Circuit.

Special Education – we help low-income families deal with a variety of educational issues, including negotiating an Individualized Education Program for their children.

Center for Gender and Refugee Studies (CGRS):

CGRS works to protect human rights for refugees, women, and LGBT. You can get involved with their asylum projects. There may also be opportunities to work on immigration policy reform.

Justice & Diversity Center of the Bar Association of San Francisco (BASF):

BASF's Justice & Diversity Center's Community Organization Representation Project (CORP) - the CORP program helps local community groups that are in need of transactional services. The primary areas of law that are involved are labor and employment, tax, corporate formation and real estate.

Housing Negotiation Project (HNP) - we represent tenants in settlement conferences at the Court House. This involves a limited time commitment, typically four hours or less.

Litigation Opportunities - training and opportunities to take on litigation matters involving family law, landlord/tenant, consumer law, torts and wills, and other disputes.

Swords to Ploughshares Veterans' Project:

We will be helping service members and veterans seeking military or VA health care and disability benefits to which they're entitled. Separately, we also help veterans apply for Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) through a NVLSP program.

Bay Area IMPACT project's Rural Justice Collaborative (RJC) clinics:

One Justice and other Bay Area legal services providers launched the RJC clinics to engage law firm attorneys in expanding access to legal assistance in Gilroy, Half Moon Bay, and Napa County, all regions with very limited if any legal aid resources in place. RJC organizes monthly free legal clinics in each location, focusing initially on immigration and housing issues.

Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence (LCPGV):

LCPGV was formed in the wake of the 1993 mass shootings at the law firm of Pettit & Martin in San Francisco. Several NP attorneys knew some of the individuals killed. Our lawyers in different offices do significant pro bono work for this client with the goal of reducing gun violence, primarily by authoring amicus briefs in litigation across the country.

AIDS Legal Referral Panel (ALRP):

ALRP's mission is to help people with HIV/AIDS maintain or improve their health by resolving their legal issues. ALRP screens and refers all types of civil matters, the most common being bankruptcy/credit, confidentiality, employment, family law, housing, immigration, or insurance/benefits cases.

Legal Services for Children (LSC):

LSC was founded in 1975 as one of the first non-profit law firms in the country to provide free legal representation and social work services to children and youth. LSC's mission is to ensure that all children and youth in SF Bay Area can be raised in a safe environment with equal access to a meaningful education and the services and supports they need to become healthy and productive young adults. LSC pioneered a unique interdisciplinary approach to legal services, employing teams of attorneys and social workers to comprehensively meet the needs of our clients. LSC offers cases that include legal guardianship, dependency, school discipline, immigration, emancipation, and restraining order proceedings.

Advokids:

Advokids' staff attorneys and pro bono attorneys provide assistance in preparing appellate briefs and amicus briefs in selected cases where there is a question of law that is critical to protecting the health, safety or well-being of foster children in California.

East Bay/ Silicon Valley Habitat for Humanity:

We work on legal issues in employment, real estate, bankruptcy, and finance.

East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC):

Since its founding in 1988 by law students at UC Berkeley's Boalt Hall School of Law, EBCLC has become the largest provider of free legal services in the East Bay and a nationally-recognized poverty law clinic. EBCLC provides desperately-needed legal services to the low-income community in the areas of housing, welfare, HIV & health, homelessness and economic development.

**Legal Aid Society of San Mateo (LASSM) and
Legal Advocates for Children & Youth (LACY):**

Guardianships - we represent minors or caretakers in petitioning the Probate Court for legal guardianship. Our lawyers partner with in house counsel at Intel Corp.

Domestic Violence projects - we provide limited scope representation at permanent restraining order hearings to low-income victims of domestic violence so that they can remain out of abusive relationships and establish safe and stable lives. Issues may include child custody, visitation and support.

California Lawyers for the Arts:

California Inventors Assistance Program, which is a USPTO initiative that matches attorneys with *pro se* low income applicants needing patent prosecution legal services.

Assist artists or art-based organizations relating to copyright law, contract drafting, review and negotiation, nonprofit organization issues, landlord/tenant, organizational tax (not individual tax), employee/independent contractor and mediation and arbitration.

Federal Pro Bono Project:

Cases in the Northern District are referred for appointment of counsel by the Court. Opportunities to represent both pro per plaintiffs and pro se defendants. Cases range greatly; often they involve federal civil rights violations, such as police battery and wrongful arrest under § 1983.

Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Pro Bono Project:

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals established its pro bono program in 1993 to provide pro bono counsel to pro se parties with meritorious or complex appeals, to provide a valuable learning experience to young attorneys and law students, and to assist the court in processing pro se civil appeals more equitably and efficiently.

Accountability Counsel:

Accountability Counsel defends the environmental and human rights of marginalized communities around the world. As lawyers for people harmed by internationally-financed projects, they focus on innovative ways to provide access to justice.

Election Protection:

As we get closer to Election Day, we will have the opportunity in several of our offices to help protect the right to vote by answering questions and serving as poll watchers, while working with a non-partisan organization such as the national Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights. This will involve a discrete, time-limited commitment, and no litigation.

Patents for Humanity:

Develop materials to publicize the Patents for Humanity program and Nixon's Foundation in support of the program, find speaking opportunities at professional meeting, and look for ways to educate companies and clients about the Program.

Law Foundation of Silicon Valley:

LACY guardianship cases. LACY's Guardianship Project provides representation to children and families in guardianship matters. When children in our community are not able to live with a parent because of death, incarceration, abuse or neglect, pro bono attorneys can help a child achieve safety and stability by representing the youth or prospective guardian in a guardianship proceeding.

Nonprofit Legal Assistance project. Assistant nonprofit organizations that serve low-income individuals in Santa Clara County to enable them to provide fundamental services to underserved populations with their legal needs.

Volunteer Eviction Assistance/Rural Justice Collaboratives. Many residents in Santa Clara County face serious housing problems. The Law Foundation, in collaboration with several other legal services organizations, hosts a weekly Friday morning clinic in San Jose as well as a one-time-per-

month clinic in South County. At both clinics, pro bono volunteers analyze individual housing cases and provide clients with advice, counsel and brief legal services in housing matters.

Impact Litigation cases. Co-counsel cases representing victims of housing discrimination and illegal mortgage lending practices or civil rights; fair, habitable, and affordable housing; consumer protection; disability access; education and other youth rights; and rights of individuals in institutions.

FOR SILICON VALLEY ATTORNEYS:

Veterans Project: Help veterans who have claims for health care and disability rights and benefits against the armed services and VA. You can also help veterans to apply for “Combat Related Special Compensation” (CRSC), which entails completing an application form and submitting evidence proving that the veteran’s disabilities satisfy the statutory definition of “combat related.” We have a training session on video, which you can watch from your desk.

Patents: California Lawyers for the Arts refers patent pro bono clients to us. We can take on limited scope representation of clients to help them prepare and file a regular or provisional patent application or respond to Office Actions. Opportunities to partner with HP, Intel, and others are sometimes available.

Patents for Humanity: Develop materials to publicize the Patents for Humanity program and Nixon Peabody’s Foundation in support of the program, find speaking opportunities at professional meetings, and look for ways to educate companies and clients about the Patents for Humanity program.

Guardianships: Represent minors or caretakers in petitioning the Probate Court for legal guardianship in a matter referred by Legal Services for Children, LACY, or San Mateo Legal Aid, as part of our pro bono partnership with Intel Corp. You do not need to be a litigator to handle this administrative proceeding.

We also receive a variety of pro bono referrals from the following organizations. Please check below if you are interested in receiving referrals from these organizations:

Micro-Entrepreneurship Program: As part of our pro bono partnership with Intel Corp., provide low-income individuals in underserved and economically distressed communities in the SF area with vital business legal services as they start or grow their own business. This is a great project for business, TIP, employment, and real estate lawyers.

Asylum Project: In a program run by the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, we are helping refugees who have been persecuted in their home countries to win asylum in the U.S. You do not need to be a litigator.

Bay Area Legal Aid U Visa Project: Help low-income women immigrants obtain U Visas, offered to victims of certain crimes, like domestic violence, who cooperate in the investigation or prosecution of their attacker. A U Visa allows an immigrant (and family) to work and live lawfully in the United States, and creates a pathway to lawful permanent resident status. No litigation

involved; you help the client complete an application with supporting affidavits. Typically takes 20 hours to complete.

Women's Initiative: Advise on employment, corporate, and franchise issues for organization devoted to assisting disadvantaged women develop and grow their own businesses.

Volunteer Legal Services Program of the Bar Association of San Francisco: Refers litigation matters involving family law, landlord/tenant, consumer law, torts, and wills, and other disputes or provide service at legal advice clinics. This program sometimes refers appeals. And, it also provides the opportunity to assist with leasing disputes, contract advice, and other transactional law problems facing nonprofits and other qualifying organizations.

East Bay Community Law Center: Refers matters involving Tenants' Rights, Workers' Rights, Health and Disability Law, Criminal Citation Defense, and other programs.

The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights: Refers many pro bono clients to the firm, including indigent refugees seeking asylum in the U.S. Training is provided. They are also involved in impact litigation and policy development involving issues of race, poverty, and immigration. And, they have a Tuesday night clinic, where you can advise clients in the areas of eviction defense, uninsured motorists, school expulsion, tort defense, collections, and public benefits.

Microfinance: Play a role in the securing of microloans for poor individuals—mostly women—in the developing world who have little or no access to credit. Our clients require sophisticated securities and investment-related work, which offers excellent pro bono opportunities for attorneys with securities and public finance experience.

Green Pro Bono: Provide pro bono legal assistance to organizations that are involved in environmental or sustainability matters.

Ninth Circuit Appeals: The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals established its pro bono program in 1993 to provide pro bono counsel to pro se parties with meritorious or complex appeals, to provide a valuable learning experience to young attorneys and law students, and to assist the court in processing pro se civil appeals more equitably and efficiently.

Federal Pro Bono Project: Cases in the Northern District are referred for appointment of counsel by the court. Opportunities to represent both pro per plaintiffs and pro se defendants. Cases range greatly; often they involve federal civil rights violations, such as police battery and wrongful arrest under § 1983.

Rural Justice Clinics (RJC): One Justice and other Bay Area legal services providers launched the RJC clinics to engage law firm attorneys in expanding access to legal assistance in Gilroy, Half Moon Bay, and Napa County, all regions with very limited if any legal aid resources in place. RJC organizes monthly free legal clinics in each location, focusing initially on immigration and housing issues.

Election Protection: As we get closer to Election Day, we will have the opportunity in several of our offices to help protect the right to vote by answering questions and serving as poll watchers, while working with a non-partisan organization such as the national Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights. This will involve a discrete, time-limited commitment, and no litigation.

FOR WASHINGTON DC ATTORNEYS:

Legal Counsel for the Elderly (AARP): Provides referrals of landlord/tenant, wills, social security, pension rights, tax, and fraud claims matters.

Kids in Need of Defense (KIND): Help unaccompanied children navigate the immigration process. This initiative provides both litigation and transactional pro bono opportunities. Among other things, you will have the option to represent children in immigration court or handle appeals, participate in transactional proceedings before the USCIS, help children seeking “special immigrant juvenile” status because of abuse, abandonment, or neglect, or victims of trafficking and serious crimes who are seeking T or U visas, and assist in advocacy for systemic changes in policies and practices affecting these children.

Tahirih Justice Center: Help low-income women immigrants obtain U Visas, offered to victims of certain crimes, like domestic violence, who cooperate in the investigation or prosecution of their attacker. A U Visa allows an immigrant (and family) to work and live lawfully in the United States, and creates a pathway to lawful permanent resident status. No litigation involved; you help the client complete an application with supporting affidavits. Typically takes 20 hours to complete.

Veterans Project: We have a number of partnerships in place to address veterans’ claims, veterans in housing, and to support veterans-owned businesses. These include handling appeals with the Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Project, handling CRSC or PDBR applications with NVLSP Lawyers Serving Warriors, joining the National Housing Conference’s vets in housing working group, partnering with the Puller Clinic for referrals involving first level intake for local vets and establishing clinic programs at DC law school(s). Finally, we are pursuing a veteran’s housing initiative with two current clients and the National Coalition for Homeless Vets.

School Justice Project: Offers no-cost direct representation in special education matters to court-involved youth ages 17–22. They aim to ensure that their clients have access to appropriate educational services throughout periods of incarceration and reentry. Opportunities may include filing an Office of Civil Rights Complaint, filing due process complaints, and preparing and presenting education-based arguments at criminal sentencing hearings.

Children’s Law Center: Through the Children’s Law Center (CLC), attorneys help abused or neglected children by assisting with adoption, guardianship, and/or custody matters or by serving as guardian ad litem. CLC provides extensive training, follow-up classes, and support for all cases.

Whitman-Walker Health Legal Services Program: Whitman-Walker offers opportunities to represent LGBT asylum seekers and foreign nationals living with HIV/AIDS who face persecution in their countries of origin, name and gender change clinics, and opportunities to represent individuals seeking public assistance (e.g., Social Security Disability applications and appeals, Medicare Part D clinics), among others. Whitman-Walker provides basic and advanced training courses, and Whitman-Walker staff attorneys provide support.

CAIR Coalition: We are involved in a program advising immigration detainees in prison through the CAIR Coalition.

Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights: Provides referrals of matters involving civil rights, voting rights, affordable housing, and community development.

DC Bar Affordable Housing Program: Provides referrals on community development matters.

Microfinance: Play a role in the securing of microloans for poor individuals—mostly women—in the developing world who have little or no access to credit. Our clients require sophisticated securities and investment-related work, which offers excellent pro bono opportunities for attorneys with securities and public finance experience.

Green Pro Bono: Provide pro bono legal assistance to organizations that are involved in environmental or sustainability matters.

Reducing Gun Violence: We have a firm-wide initiative based in Rochester and SF aimed at reducing gun violence. We work with the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence and the NYSBA Task Force on Gun Violence to conduct research and/or draft amicus briefs in connection with constitutional issues involving challenges to gun laws. Lawyers in any office can support this work.

Election Protection: As we get closer to Election Day, we will have the opportunity in several of our offices to help protect the right to vote by answering questions and serving as poll watchers, while working with a non-partisan organization such as the national Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights. This will involve a discrete, time-limited commitment, and no litigation.