

PRO BONO CENTER



Pro Bono Coordinator
Barbara Griffin

“We continue to work to identify areas of need in the community and secure volunteer attorneys to meet those needs.”

— Barbara Griffin, Pro Bono Coordinator

The Pro Bono Center is a vital resource for low-income Allegheny County residents in need of free legal assistance involving such basic human needs as housing, employment, family structure, and economic self-sufficiency. National and local studies have reported that legal aid programs are able to assist only a fraction of those in need, leaving a huge gap in legal services. The Pro Bono Center's one-of-a-kind program has the ability to increase the number of well-trained volunteer attorneys and pro bono projects to make a significant impact on reducing this critical gap in services. The Center has the unique ability to leverage the over 6,400 members of the Allegheny County Bar Association and frequently engages member attorneys, judges, paralegals, and others in developing and supporting the delivery of legal services, resulting in collaborative projects that benefit clients, improve the function of the courts, and provide attorneys with volunteer opportunities. The Center provides its volunteer attorneys with essential support services including recruitment, training, free legal research, and malpractice insurance.

The Center also provides direct legal services to the indigent. In 2010, the Coordinator personally assisted 567 individuals with representation, advice, or referrals in a wide variety of legal matters. The Center's Divorce Law Project averages 154 phone calls per month and in 2010 filed 164 divorce petitions and obtained 131 divorces for low-income individuals. In 2009, over 9,200 low-income clients were served by nearly 900 volunteer attorneys through the Center's programs.



PRO BONO CENTER

Allegheny County Bar Foundation

Represented clients have a greater chance of obtaining fair outcomes of their cases. Thus, the Center's work in increasing the number of well-trained volunteer attorneys is critical to meeting the needs of individuals and families facing legal issues for which they are unable to afford representation. The Pro Bono Center has made significant progress in providing direct services and expanding programs to serve the legal needs of the poor:



Justice Castille addresses the Pittsburgh Pro Bono Partnership at annual breakfast.



A volunteer enjoys complimentary coffee and pastries.



A volunteer at work on behalf of low-income client.

VOLUNTEER WITH THE PRO BONO CENTER

The Pro Bono Center encourages attorneys, paralegals and law students to volunteer their services to the Center's organizations and projects that provide direct legal services to the poor.

VOLUNTEER BENEFITS INCLUDE:

Malpractice insurance coverage provided by Bar Foundation for referred cases • Eligibility for reduced-fee and free CLE programs
Opportunities to gain courtroom experience • Exposure to different areas of the law • Access to training, mentoring, and practice manuals
Opportunities to network with attorneys and other professionals • Access to free on-line research through LexisNexis

ACBA & ACBF PROJECTS:

DISASTER RELIEF PROJECT - Primarily provides representation and advice to victims of disasters.

DIVORCE LAW PROJECT - Represents plaintiffs in simple, no-fault divorce actions and conducts outreach clinics at community service agencies.

FEDERAL COURT SECTION PRISONERS CIVIL RIGHTS PRO BONO PROJECT - Represents prisoners who have filed non-frivolous civil claims in federal court. The most common appointment is as trial counsel, although representation of prisoner throughout the case is possible.

FEDERAL PROBATIONERS "ECSEL" PROGRAM - Represents federal probationers enrolled in the Workforce Development Program who are facing legal issues that impede their return to the workforce, including criminal records expungement, child support, Social Security, drivers license suspension.

FLOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - Provides legal advice, referrals, and/or representation to individuals who are impacted by flooding in Allegheny County.

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS:



Education Law Center



Neighborhood Legal Services Association



CHRISTIAN LEGAL AID OF PITTSBURGH - Provides free legal consultations on non-criminal matters including but not limited to family law, protection from abuse orders, bankruptcy, landlord-tenant issues, and elder law.

EDUCATION LAW CENTER - Provides legal advocacy to families who have public education-related problems. Services include individual counseling and technical support, legal representation in select individual cases and cases involving key issues affecting large numbers of students, and advocating for administrative and legislative reforms at the local, state and national levels.

EQUITY PROTECTION LEGAL CLINIC - Provides transactional legal services to residential real property owners with the goal of securing and preserving ownership interests for owner-occupants.

GREATER PITTSBURGH ARTS COUNCIL VOLUNTEER LAWYERS FOR THE ARTS - Provides advice and representation to emerging and small arts organizations and low-income individual artists in the following areas: incorporation, by-laws and 501(c)(3) status filings, entertainment contracts, immigration law, trademark, copyright, and other IP issues.

JEWISH FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICE OF PITTSBURGH - Offers family and immigration law assistance to low-income refugees and immigrants in Pittsburgh.

KIDSVoice - Represents abused, neglected and at-risk children in Juvenile Court dependency proceedings.

LAWLINKS, A PROGRAM OF THE BERTRAM AYER CENTER FOR NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT AT ROBERT MORRIS UNIVERSITY - Provides legal services, education and advice to small, grassroots non-profit organizations.

INDIGENT BIRTHPARENT ATTORNEY PROJECT - Represents indigent birthparents in termination of parental rights proceedings in Orphans' Court.

MILITARY PERSONNEL PRO BONO PROJECT - Offers legal advice, referrals, and/or representation to military personnel and their immediate family members who are Allegheny County residents who have been called to active duty as a result of war and/or military action, and veterans and their families.

PITTSBURGH PRO BONO PARTNERSHIP - Group of law firms and corporate and governmental legal departments who develop signature pro bono projects.

"SAVE YOUR HOME" MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE CONCILIATION PROJECT - Provides limited representation at judicial conciliation conferences to low-income borrowers in residential mortgage foreclosure proceedings as part of the "Save Your Home" program of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas.

MENTAL HEALTH AMERICA—ALLEGHENY COUNTY - Provides legal consultations and limited representation on non-criminal matters to individuals receiving mental-health services.

NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION - Provides advice and representation in the following areas: employment and unemployment compensation law, family law, tenant's rights, debt collection and bankruptcy law, protection from abuse, SSI and social security disability, litigation defense, estates with limited assets, and adult guardianships. Special programs: Debt Advice Clinic; Family Law Clinic; PFA; Older & Wiser.

NORTH HILLS COMMUNITY OUTREACH, INC. - Provides counseling and referral services at clinics in the North Hills regarding family, consumer, and landlord/tenant issues.

PITTSBURGH AIDS TASK FORCE LEGAL COMMITTEE - Advises, refers and/or represents people living with AIDS and HIV infection, their family and friends with legal matters including: wills; living wills; powers of attorney; SSI/SSDI; guardianship; and issues involving civil rights, employment discrimination, medical treatment discrimination, confidentiality issues, and medical insurance.

PRO SE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY - Assists eligible unrepresented applicants in the preparation of motions to be presented to a Family Court judge.

UPTOWN LEGAL CLINIC - Offers pro bono legal services at Bethlehem Haven to indigent and low-income individuals in matters pertaining to family law, housing, debtor-creditor, and benefits issues.

PRO BONO ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The Public Service Committee created the Pro Bono Achievement Awards in 1990 as a means to recognize outstanding pro bono contributions.

The 2009 ACBA Pro Bono Achievement Awards were presented during the 2010 Fellows Grand Reception at the August Wilson Center for African American Culture on September 21, 2010.

LORRAINE M. BITTNER PUBLIC INTEREST ATTORNEY AWARD



Sabrina Korbelt, Esq.

Sabrina Korbelt is a staff attorney with the Civil Law Project of the Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh. Among other things, the Civil Law Project represents victims of domestic violence at Protection from Abuse final hearings at Family Court. Sabrina is regularly present in the attorney work room as PFA orders are being negotiated and cases prepared for final hearing. Although she is representing her own clients, Sabrina is always available to assist pro bono attorneys who are non-family law attorneys or otherwise have limited experience

in handling PFAs. She is supportive and patient and often has excellent suggestions on how to handle a case or a client. Sabrina also happily returns phone calls and emails when she is sought out by a volunteer attorney for guidance on a case. In addition to assisting pro bono attorneys at Family Court, Sabrina has for many years served as a presenter at the PFA training sessions conducted by Neighborhood Legal Services Association. Sabrina shows a true passion for her work as an advocate for victims of domestic violence and a supporter of pro bono attorneys.

JANE F. HEPTING INDIVIDUAL PRO BONO AWARDS



Christine A. Gale, Esq.

Christine Gale is a volunteer attorney for the Uptown Legal Clinic, a pro bono legal project that operates on the second Wednesday of each month at Bethlehem Haven. Chris was one of the first family law lawyers to volunteer for the clinic when it launched in 2004. Since that time, Chris has represented or counseled seventeen clinic clients. Chris's commitment to the clients has been outstanding, and her expertise is especially welcome as many of the clinic's clients have family law issues. Chris has always gone beyond the normal call of duty in

providing pro bono legal assistance to family law clients, taking on full representation of clients in matters including custody disputes. In addition to her own commitment to volunteering at Uptown Legal Clinic, Chris has taken it upon herself to generate the interest of others in her firm, Frank Bails Murcko Gubinsky & Gale, where she is a shareholder. Her commitment to the mission of the clinic and to the pro bono community in general makes her deserving of this honor.



Heidi Rai Stewart, Esq.

Heidi Stewart has been volunteering with the Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force Pro Bono Legal Network since August 1999, during which time she has assisted many of its clients with estate planning and administration issues. She has also given her expert advice and counsel on other legal issues to clients and staff. Heidi has contributed well over 200 hours of her time in the last 10 years. In addition to her generosity with our clients, Heidi has been very helpful in providing comfortable meeting space for the PATF Legal Network to meet at her offices at the law firm of

Houston Harbaugh. Heidi is the only attorney who has specifically volunteered to go to the hospital rooms and the homes of PATF's most seriously-ill clients, saying that she wants to make sure that all of its clients have access to a Power-of-Attorney, Living Will and Last Will and Testament documents if they want one. Heidi possesses a natural empathy and compassion, which she is able to uniquely share with each client she meets. She is never too busy to offer advice or to assist when a client has needed her help.

LAW FIRM PRO BONO AWARD

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC
Attorneys & Government Relations Professionals

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney, PC

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney is an active member of the Pittsburgh Pro Bono Partnership, with a representative on its Administrative Board. It is one of three member organizations staffing the McKees Rocks Community Clinic and has done so since Klett Rooney joined with Alcoa to begin the clinic in 2003. Buchanan attorney Lisa Pampena has organized a second Partnership project, the HELP clinic. In connection with UPMC Mercy's Operation Safety Net program, attorneys provide legal services at this clinic to assist the homeless. Buchanan attorneys also participate in the Partnership's Custody Conciliation Project, representing clients in conciliation hearings in Family Court. In addition to its work as a member of the Partnership, Buchanan has long participated in NLSA's large firm PFA Referral Program, and in 2009 was among the three top firms in the number of referrals its attorneys accepted. For both the Partnership and NLSA, Buchanan has without fail made its Moses Hampton Room available for numerous CLE trainings sponsored by NLSA. In addition, attorneys at the firm participate in individual pro bono work which benefits those in need. Buchanan is a firm whose management encourages such pro bono efforts on the part of its staff and whose firm culture represents the philosophical outlook and practical approach which is necessary to ensure that the legal needs of the poor and disabled in Allegheny County are met.

TO NOMINATE A COLLEAGUE

For more information about nominating an individual or group for their outstanding commitment to pro bono service, please contact Barbara Griffin at bgriffin@acba.org. Nominations for the 2010 Pro Bono Achievement Awards will be accepted through June 2011.

PRO BONO ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

LAW STUDENT PRO BONO AWARD

PITT LAW

University of Pittsburgh
School of Law Family Law Clinic

Under the leadership of Professor Harry Gruener, The University of Pittsburgh Family Law Clinic began operating in the spring of 2004 with three students. Today, eight students per year participate in this coveted clinic which offers direct client access and courtroom time. In the 2009-2010 school year, the Family Law Clinic interviewed 594 pro se litigants at the Allegheny Court of Common Pleas Family Division Pro Se Assistance Project. The vast majority of these interviews ended with the students drafting motions for the litigants, translating the litigants' wishes into the appropriate language to be presented to the judge. Of the 594 litigants interviewed, the clinic chose 85 litigants to represent at Motions Court. The clinic students won approximately 95% of the motions they presented. The students are eager, well prepared, and professional, and dedicate a minimum of 280 hours during the school year to the clinic. The vast majority of this time is spent in direct services, with very little in classroom time. The presence of law students lowers the need to find attorneys to volunteer and frees the attorneys to do other pro bono activities. This learning experience for the students provides an invaluable service to the courts and to low-income clients.

PARALEGAL PRO BONO AWARD



Pittsburgh Paralegal Association

The volunteers of the Pittsburgh Paralegal Association have always modeled their efforts to serve others after the ethical standards, dedication, and commitment of pro bono attorneys, lawyers servicing the community needing direction, guidance and assistance with their various legal issues. The members of the PPA Pro Bono

Committee, chaired by Fay Luther, have committed their time, talents and paralegal experiences in various programs including the ACBA's Disaster Relief Program, the YWCA's Legal Resources for Women, Neighborhood Legal Services Association's Family Law Clinic. Many of our PPA Pro Bono volunteers have handled the scheduling of appointments of the clients as well as instructed the new paralegals in the preparation of workload for the clinic session, and the paperwork involved in each client case that is handled by the pro bono lawyer. Whenever they can assist the lawyer during his initial visit with the client, they are there and ready to help out. PPA Pro Bono volunteers have also volunteered to assist the Allegheny County Bar Association and the Allegheny County Bar Foundation in various projects and fund raising event, including the Legal Service Directory, the ACBA Golf Tournament, and Pro Bono Rocks! In years past and years to come, PPA Pro Bono Volunteers endeavor to be a part of any and all ACBA/ACBF programs that come to the aid of those in need of legal services as we all work together in rendering whatever services they can to help promote and publicize the legal community to the general public.

CORPORATE LEGAL DEPARTMENT PRO BONO AWARD

EQT EQT

Where energy meets innovation.

EQT joined the Pittsburgh Pro Bono Partnership in 2009 and quickly got to work establishing a community legal clinic at the downtown office of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Pittsburgh. The clinic meets on the first Monday of every month from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Along with volunteer attorneys from Pepper Hamilton, EQT attorneys meet with clients regarding a variety of legal issues commonly affecting individuals and families with very low incomes. Even though the volunteer attorneys are

corporate lawyers, with training and the assistance of mentors they have taken on cases involving matters such as landlord/tenant disputes, employment law, and family law. The Catholic Charities clinic meets a vital need, providing general legal services in a central location to a community whose legal needs might otherwise go unmet. All ten of the attorneys in the legal department participate in the clinic. These attorneys have shown enthusiasm and commitment in their work on this project, and are very deserving of this award.

JUDICIAL SERVICE AWARD



Hon. Joy Flowers Conti

Judge Conti is nominated for her leadership in helping to establish the ECSEL program—"Enhancing Community Safety Through Education and Legal Services"—which provides direct legal services and informational sessions to former federal inmates who are participating in the Workforce Development Services program of the U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Office for the Western District of Pennsylvania. Led by Chief Probation Officer Ted Johnson, that program provides counseling, job development, and education to probationers under its

supervision. These services help to reduce recidivism, decrease the unemployment rate of offenders, and increase the probability that restitution will be paid in a timely manner. With the leadership of Judge Conti and the assistance of task force members including Assistant U.S. Attorney Tina Miller, the probation office began to partner with the Allegheny County Bar Association, Neighborhood Legal Services Association, and the Pro Bono Center on a program that provides civil legal services to federal probationers. The ECSEL program enlists Neighborhood Legal Services Association and volunteer attorneys to provide legal services with respect to issues that are impeding a probationer's return to life as a productive member of the community. Judge Conti's work on bringing the key players to the table, recruiting volunteer attorneys, and promoting the vision of the program makes her deserving of this award.

NEW INITIATIVE



H.E.L.P. Pittsburgh

Homeless Experience Legal Protection (H.E.L.P.) enlists local attorneys, law students, and law firm secretaries and paralegals to provide pro bono legal assistance to homeless individuals. Part of a nationwide program that was created in New Orleans, it launched in Pittsburgh with the support of Lisa Pampena of Buchanan, Ingersoll & Rooney; Judge David Hatfield of the Social Security Administration; and Linda Sheets of Operation Safety Net ("OSN"). To date, 34 clients have been provided service by the attorneys for issues such as housing eviction, family issues, and social security benefits. Assistance at the clinic often takes the form of a single consultation but occasionally extends further, depending on clients' needs. Since H.E.L.P.'s inception, 31 attorneys from eleven law firms as well as the Pittsburgh Paralegal Association have performed legal services at the OSN office. The project collaborates with Neighborhood Legal Services; the Allegheny County Bar Association; Pittsburgh Paralegal Association; Allegheny County Bar Foundation; Buchanan, Ingersoll & Rooney; Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP; Dickie McCamey & Chilcote, P.C.; Tucker Arensberg, P.C.; McGuire Woods, LLP; Reed Smith, LLP; Ogletree Deakins; CBS Corporation; Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP; and sole practitioners Anthony Seethaler and Patrick Murphy.

PITTSBURGH PRO BONO PARTNERSHIP

The Pittsburgh Pro Bono Partnership is a collaboration of legal departments, law firms, the Allegheny County Bar Foundation, and Neighborhood Legal Services Association. Its purpose is to increase attorney and paralegal pro bono legal services to the greater Pittsburgh community. It especially encourages new and more creative efforts to provide legal services to persons of limited means and to those organizations, including charities, which work on their behalf.

The Partnership experienced an exciting tenth year in 2010. It added a new member—Fed Ex Ground, Inc.—and offered volunteer training programs for projects including the Custody Conciliation Project, the Child Custody Guardian Project (now staffed by Dickie McCamey & Chilcote, PC), H.E.L.P. Pittsburgh, and the Wills Project. Its administrative board



continued to explore ways to provide legal services to low-income individuals in need, and made substantial progress in the development of new programs.

The Partnership received two prestigious awards in 2010: the American Bar Association Section of Litigation's John Minor Wisdom Public Service and Professionalism Award and the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network's 2010 Excellence Award. In October, the Partnership welcomed Pennsylvania Supreme Court Chief Justice Ronald Castille to its annual breakfast meeting and laid out "The Top Ten Reasons Attorneys Don't Do Pro Bono." One by one, attorneys and judges from the Partnership countered those reasons with information, strategies, and resources designed to help attorneys represent low-income individuals.

"The Partnership should be proud to be among the remarkable legal service providers from all over the state who were recognized for the work they are doing."— Pennsylvania Supreme Court Chief Justice Ronald Castille.

SIGNATURE PROJECTS:

ANTI-PREDATORY LENDING PROJECT – Provides representation to individuals who have been victimized by unfair or illegal lending practices. Staffed by attorneys from U.S. Steel Corporation and Pietragallo Bosick & Gordon, LLP.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES LEGAL CLINIC – General legal clinic held once a month at the offices of Catholic Charities in downtown Pittsburgh. Staffed by attorneys from Pepper Hamilton and EQT Corporation.

CHILD CUSTODY GUARDIAN PROJECT – Provides attorneys to serve as guardians representing the best interests of at-risk children in high-conflict custody cases. Staffed by attorneys from Dickie McCamey & Chilcote, PC.

CUSTODY CONCILIATION PRO BONO PROJECT – Limited representation of clients at family law custody conciliations. Staffed by Pro Bono Partnership member organizations. Managed by Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC.

FAMILY LAW MENTOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM – Provides experienced family-law attorneys to serve as mentors to attorneys at community legal clinics. Managed by McCarthy McDonald Schulberg & Joy.

H.E.L.P. PROJECT—HOMELESS EXPERIENCE LEGAL PROTECTION – In partnership with Operation Safety Net, provides legal advice and representation to individuals and families who are experiencing temporary or chronic homelessness. Staffed by Pro Bono Partnership members. Managed by Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney.

PITTSBURGH PRO BONO PARTNERSHIP MEMBERS (2010)

Academy of Trial Lawyers
Alcoa Inc.
Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney
Burns White LLC
CBS
Citizens Bank of Pennsylvania
Cohen & Grigsby, PC
Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote
Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC

EQT Corp.
Fed Ex Ground, Inc.
GlaxoSmithKline
H.J. Heinz Company
Houston Harbaugh, PC
Jones Day
K & L Gates, LLP
McCarthy McDonald Schulberg & Joy
McGuireWoods, LLP

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, LLP
Pennsylvania Department
of Environmental Protection
Pepper Hamilton, LLP
Pietragallo Gordon Alfano
Bosick & Raspanti, LLP
Pittsburgh Paralegal Association
PPG Industries, Inc.

Raphael Ramsden & Behers, PC
Reed Smith, LLP
Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis, LLP
Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP
Tucker Arensberg, PC
United States Steel Corporation
UPMC
White and Williams, LLP

JUVENILE COURT PROJECT

HELPING FAMILIES BE HEARD



Juvenile Court Project attorneys and staff



JCP Director Eleanor Grainy

The Juvenile Court Project (JCP) contracts with the Allegheny County Department of Human Services to provide free legal representation to parents with pending child welfare cases in Allegheny County Children's Court. The JCP's mission is to advocate for the interests and protect the legal rights of clients who face many challenges to maintaining their families, not the least of which is poverty.

The JCP represents approximately 1,200 parents per year in all facets of dependency cases from emergency shelter hearings to termination of parental rights hearings. JCP attorneys also represent clients in child abuse expungement proceedings before the Department of Public Welfare, Bureau of Hearings and Appeals.

JCP attorneys work collaboratively with three staff social workers who recently completed a rigorous nine month course of study in Family Development Training and Credential (FDC). The FDC program provides skills to front line workers, enabling them to become more effective in assisting individuals and families to achieve goals through a strength based empowerment model of practice. JCP staff

has put these new skills into practice to the benefit of clients and their families. In one case, a JCP social worker was able to use her new knowledge to work with a client by concentrating on the client's strengths and empowering her to participate constructively in planning for the return of her child. As a result, the client became engaged with her county workers, and she achieved her goal of reuniting with her child.

The JCP continues to participate in outreach within the community. Staff members give presentations to community groups, law school classes and other social service agencies in an effort to educate the public about the workings of juvenile court and the misconceptions the public may have about JCP clientele. Through cooperation with the Duquesne Law School clinic, two certified interns spent this school year helping JCP attorneys with their cases. The students gained valuable experience and the clients benefitted from the extra attention. JCP attorneys serve on Pennsylvania Supreme Court Committees that engage in court improvement projects. The JCP continues to conduct outreach in the jail and in the community by visiting sites on a weekly basis to bring services to clients otherwise unable to reach the JCP.

OUR WORK IN ACTION

DIANE'S STORY

Children Youth and Families removed Diane's two children from her care due to allegations of alcohol abuse. The children were placed into a foster home. Within a matter of a few weeks, Diane's JCP attorney was made aware of some concerns regarding inadequate care and adjustment of the children in the foster care home. After investigating the allegations, Diane's attorney successfully motioned to have the two children removed from the foster home. Within two months of removal, the children were returned to Diane and the case closed within six months of the original removal without an adjudication of dependency. The children are now home with Diane and are thriving in her care.

SHAYLA'S STORY

The JCP was contacted by KidsVoice, an advocacy group representing children, for help in representing one of its teenage clients. Sixteen year old Shayla R. was unhappy in her foster home and left the home with her infant. A dependency petition was filed alleging that Shayla's child was without proper care because Shayla left the home. With the help of her JCP attorney, Shayla was able to argue that she was meeting her child's needs even though she left her foster home. Shayla and her child were placed together in a foster home that Shayla felt comfortable with and the case closed successfully without a finding of dependency.

JUVENILE COURT PROJECT STAFF

DIRECTOR

Eleanor Grainy, Esq.

MANAGING ATTORNEYS

Catherine Volponi, Esq.

Benjamin Zuckerman, Esq.

STAFF ATTORNEYS

James Ball, Esq.

Frank Bogatay, Esq.

Jeffrey Eisenberg, Esq.

Kiersten Frankowski, Esq.

Nicole Gardiner, Esq.

David Gilliland, Esq.

John Hayes, Esq.

Gina Klein, Esq.

Barbara Atkin Ramsey, Esq.

Melinda Sala, Esq.

Ray Sanchas, Esq.

Robert Scott, Esq.

David Sheldon, Esq.

Erin Work, Esq.

PARENTAL SUPPORT ADVOCATES

DeLisa Coleman

Deborah Fisher

Betty Tallon

SENIOR LEGAL ASSISTANT

Dustin Manwill

LEGAL ASSISTANT

Carolyn Fisher

PARALEGAL

Sharon Ciechalski

IT TECHNICIAN

Philip T. Savino

RECEPTIONIST

Debra Santmyer

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Public Service Committee is a joint committee of the Allegheny County Bar Association and the Allegheny County Bar Foundation. Among its purposes are to “promote and encourage the members of the Association to provide pro bono public services” and “support public or private agencies or other organizations dedicated to providing legal services for those not otherwise able to afford them.” In addition to exploring areas of need for legal services and ways to further equal access to justice, the Committee undertook two popular projects that connected attorneys with children in the community. The Committee also recognized and celebrated the many attorneys, paralegals, and others who provide pro bono services each year.

THE BACKPACK PROJECT



Volunteers fill backpacks with supplies.

“Many families are being asked to buy these supplies, which can be difficult in this economy. So these backpacks will help in that effort. Our laws firms and donors really came through for us.”

—Jonathan McAnney

This year the committee organized and arranged for the distribution of a record number of backpacks filled with school supplies. Over 1,000 backpacks were assembled by volunteers from the committee and members of the Young Lawyers Division. Led by project chair Jonathan McAnney of Tucker Arensberg, committee members garnered donations of money and supplies, and partnered with Storehouse for Teachers for delivery of the backpacks to area schools in low-income neighborhoods.

LAW DAY 2010



Volunteers from the Public Service Committee present a Law Day program for more than 50 elementary school students

“[Law Day] gives us a chance to show children why the law is important and help them understand the role that attorneys play in the legal system.”

—Nicole Scialabba

The committee hosted a group of fourth and fifth graders at the City-County Building for a program that explored the Rule of Law. This program allows attorneys to connect with the community while giving the students a chance to meet attorneys, ask them about their careers, and learn the role that attorneys play in the legal system. Over 50 students attended the 2010 program.

VOLUNTEERS HONORED & RECOGNIZED



The Pitt Law School Unemployment Compensation Clinic receives a PBA Pro Bono Award.

“Time is a precious commodity, and we want to show our appreciation for our volunteers’ willingness to share their time to help others in our community.”

—Kelly Williams

Over 100 volunteer attorneys, paralegals, professors, and others gathered for a celebration of pro bono legal services on May 19 at the new Reed Smith Centre downtown. In addition to refreshments and hors d’oeuvres, guests were treated to door prizes and live jazz by the Lee Robinson trio. In addition, PBA President Gretchen Mundorff presented the 2010 PBA Pro Bono Awards to Pittsburgh-area winners.

PRO BONO CENTER VOLUNTEER ATTORNEYS

Names are listed as they have been provided by the Pro Bono Center agencies and programs. Please contact Barbara Griffin at the foundation at 412-402-6668 or bgriffin@acba.org if your name has been misspelled or mistakenly omitted. Thank you for your efforts to support the worthwhile programs of the Pro Bono Center.

Kevin Abbott	Jamie Dawn Aul	Cynthia C. Berger	Kelly Braun*	Sarah Carlins	Maureen Cohon*
Robert Abraham	Howard Auld	Roslyn Berger	Amanda Braunecker	James T. Carney*	Michael J. Colarusso
Angela Sheffler Abreu	Mary K. Austin	Todd Berkey	David V. Breen	Amy Carnicella	Renee Colbert
Kevin Acklin	Emily M. Ayoub	Robert A. Berkwitz	Lynn Brehm	Peter Caroff	Barbara Jene Cole
Jeffrey W. Acre	Christian Bagin	Virginia Berlando	Reginald J. Bridges	Patrick William Carothers	Michele T. Cole
Christen Adels	Jeffrey Bailey	Maria N. Bernier	Amy J. Brinkos	Alisa N. Carr	Kimberly A. Coleman
Joseph B. Aguglia	Mackenzie Baird	Gina Bernola*	Leslie Britton*	Kevin Carter	Mary Kate Coleman
S. Mahmood Ahmad	Ann Morris Baker	Cindy Trellis Bernstein	W. Theodore Brooks	Albert Phillip Caruso	James Coletta
Cynthia Akers-Goldstein	James Thomas Ball	Elizabeth A. Beroes	Kimberly A. Brown	Langley Cass	Steven S.S. Collier
Brian M. Albert	Christopher Ballintine	Amaninder Bhullar	Robert W. Brown	Margaret M. Cassidy	Jennifer Collins
Lorrie K. Albert	Brian D. Balonick	Christine Biancheria*	Allan Brown*	Melissa Catello	Ryan Colombo
Mark R. Alberts	Elizabeth H. Baran	Sharon M. Biasca	Samantha Brutout	Renee T. Cavalovitch	Elizabeth Colombo*
Jill Albrecht	Brooke Barber	Eric Lawrence Billings	William M. Buchanan	John Anthony Cavicchio, III	Kevin L. Colosimo
Allyson Aldous	Lindsay Moneck Bard	Sondra L. Binotto	Amy Buchanan *	Frank L. Cecchetti	Rebecca T. Colosimo
Jeffrey Alex	Shannon F. Barkley	Dean Birdy	Kristen A. Budris	Bruce Centi	Julie R. Colton
Effie G. Alexander	Mary C. Barkman	Jamie A. Bishop	Christopher Buell	Danny P. Cerrone, Jr.	Antonio Angelo Comas
Navshin Ali	Celia Barlow	William R. Bishop	Robb D. Bunde	Jason J. Cervone	Estelle F. Comay
Dorothy Alke	Lisa Barnett*	Anthony M. Bittner	Erica Burgess	Michael J. Cetra	Deborah Susan Conflenti
Michelle A. Allan	Kenita Barrow	Lorraine M. Bittner	M. Janet Burkardt	Steven Chadwick	William A. Congelio
Robin Cleland Alloway	Kiersten Barthelemy	Stephanie J. Black*	Christina L. Burke	Norma Chase	Rose Eva Constantino
John R. Allison	Lisa H. Barton	Diane A. Blackburn	Christina Burke*	Lorrie Cherillo	John Cook
Hazem Alsahlani*	Kilbreth E. Barton-Rhea	Steven Glenn Blackmer	Erica Burns	Jaclyn A. Cherry	Virginia I. Cook
Lindsey D. Alton	Wendy L. Bartsch-Cieslak	Patricia L. Blais	John Burns	M. Fran Chervenak	Kristin Cooklin
Cindy Alvear	Katherine M. Basile	Rachel L. Blake	Erica Burns*	Joseph J. Chester	Timothy S. Coon
Sandra L. Alven	Ben M. Basista	Brian Bleasdale	Ellen Burns*	Julie-Anne Chiccario	Rosa A. Copeland-Miller
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Elizabeth Santos*	M. Lawrence Shields	Chris A. Stachtiaris	Stephen J. Taylor	Robert P. Vincler	Angela R. Winslow
Amanda H. Sargent	Mark S. Shiffman	Regis W. Stafford	Kezia Taylor*	Jeff Vitek	Robert J. Winters
Elizabeth Sattler*	Susan Shin	Lisa M. Standish	David B. Teigman	John Vogel	Lorina W. Wise
Charles Saul	Lara Shipkovitz	William L. Stang	John S. Tember*	John D. Waclawski, Jr.	Chad Wissinger
Martin Saunders*	Marie Jurbala Shiring	Neva Lee Stanger	Vince Tennarelli	Nina Wadhwa	Edward Atwater Witt
Sheila Weis Scanlon	Joan O'Connor	Diane Stares	Brienne S. Terril	Bobbi Jo Wagner	Kenneth J. Witzel
Colin Schafer	Shoemaker	Bernadette Staroschuck	Gregory H. Teufel	Shannon Wagner	Bruce Wolf
Karissa L. Schepis	Steven T. Shreve	Kelli Staub	Andrew Thalman	William D. Wall	Christopher G. Wolfe
Ann Schiavone	Alan T. Shuckrow	Paul J. Staub	Samuel H. Theiner	Craig M. Waller	Lisa M. Wolfe
Jill Schiffman	David M. Shucosky	Michael A. Steger	Mary Thinium	Marybeth Walsh	Lisa Woods
Glenn P. Schillo	Jennifer F. Shugars	Julie Frazee Steidl	Arun J. Thomas	Homer Walsen*	Erin Work*
Yvonne S. Schlosberg	Selina J. Shultz-Bunde	Kenneth Steidl	Zakarij Thomas	Edward Walter	Michael Wright
Heather L. Schmidt	Ryan J. Siciliano	John Michael Steidle	John Thompson	Michel F. Ward	Shawn N. Wright
Rachel Schmitt	Richard S. Sigurdson, II	Joshua Stein	Alexander W. Thomson	Thomas Ward*	Jason Wrona*
Kathleen D. Schneider	Ilene Silverman	Arnold Y. Steinberg	Holly Thuman	Adam Warhola	Francis Wymard
Jennifer Aitken Schnore	Brian H. Simmons	Kenneth M. Steinberg	Beth M. Tibbott	Elizabeth Warner	Katie Wymard*
Kenneth Scholtz	Janette Simmons	William L. Steiner	Arisa Tinaves	Marcia A. Watson	Cher E. Wynkoop
Charles Scholz	Neelie Simmons	Marc Lee Sternberger	M.J. Tindall	Michael Watson*	Dianna Calaboyias Wyrick
Elizabeth W. Schooley	Michael D. Simon	Jacqueline K. Stevens	Richard T. Ting	Peter M. Watt-Morse	Wesley Yang
Susan Emily Schrag	Mark A. Sindler	Timothy R. Stevenson	Paul H. Titus	Jason Webb	Stephanie Yarbrough
Stephanie Schreiber*	Ritu Singh	Heidi R. Stewart	Ilene S. Tobias	Jordan Webster	Kenneth Yarsky, II*
Elliott Schuchardt	Tammy Singleton-English	Caroline A. Stirt*	Stephan K. Todd	Richard Weibley	Cynthia J. Yializis
James R. Schuchman	Cory Siri	Justin Stitt*	Amy Marie Tonti	Jesse I. Weidaw	Nathaniel Yungling*
Amber Schuknecht*	Paul E. Skirtich	Daniel Stofko	Gary Topolosky	Melissa S. Weidaw	Kimberly Young
Scott Schuster	David J. Slesnick	Ed Stokan*	Mary A. Traupman, CDP	Kenneth M. Weidaw	George F. Young, III
Debbie Cieply Schwab	Casey Slotter*	Sam Stoller	David K. Trautman	Michael A. Weiss	Emily Yuhaniak*
Mark Eric Schweers	Andrew M. Smalley	Kristen M. Storms	Thomas Trempus	Michael S. Weiss	Penny E. Zacharias
Robert R. Schweers*	Stella L. Smetanka	Jane Story	Gary R. Truitt	Rosanna D. Weissert	Thomas Zahn
Renee Schwerdt*	Bridget Langer Smith	Hayes C. Stover	Mary Martha Truschel*	Evalynn Welling*	Charlene A. Zeleznock
Jaclyn Schwizer	Eric Todd Smith	Eric Stroud	Robert Tucker	Robin S. Wertkin	Megan L. Zerega
Shane D. Schlichter	Lorraine A. Smith	Scott T. Stroupe	Jaime S. Tuite	Edward Wertman	Judith H. Zernich
Aimee Scott	Ryan R. Smith	Brendan Stuhan	Megan Turnbull	Allan J. Wertz	Samuel F. Zets
Robert Scott	Sharon K. Smith	Gregory T. Sturges	Denise R. Turner	Nicole Wethererton	JoAnn F. Zidanic
Virginia Spencer Scott	Tyler Smith	Jeffrey Suher*	Chaton Turner	Jeffrey J. Wetzel	David Ziegler
Vaughn Scultz	Joshua Smith*	Gail E. Suhr	David W. Turner*	Elizabeth Weyant	David Zimmaro
Robert D. Sebastian	Thomas Smith*	Mark R. Sullivan	James J. Turocy	Lisa Marie Wezorek	Jennifer Zofcin
Anthony A. Seethaler	Teisha Smith-Harrison*	Ashley Swanson	Megan L. Tymoczko-Korch	Scott J. Whitacre	Steve Zuchelli
Scott Seewald	Jennifer Ann Smokelin	June Swanson*	Timothy G. Uhrich	Robert B. White	Todd Thomas Zwickl
Johnnie Sellars	Peggy Smyrnes-Williams	Jan Swensen*	Gregory Moran Unatin	Mark White*	
Matthew Sepp	Henry M. Sneath	Deborah Swettenam	John Unice	Keith Edward Whitson	* New Volunteers in 2010
Janet Serafin	Hillary N. Snyder	James Swetz	James Urban	Jerry W. Wienand	
Terry L. Sexton	Natalie Snyder*	Susan Swick*	Thomas J. Vail	Bruce Lord Wilder	
Helen S. Shaffer	Eric Sobczak	Andrew G. Sykes	James Valecko	Joanne Ross Wilder	
Barbara J. Shah	Christopher John Soller	LeeAnn Syme	Joseph A. Valenti*	Deborah A. Williams	
Ernest H. Sharif	Eric G. Soller	Gregory L. Taddonio	Laura Ann Valles	Denise Williams	
Jessica Sharrow	Stephanie Solomon*	Kimberly S. Tague	Gary T. Vandasdale	M. Elizabeth Williams	