



Legal Aid Society of San Diego, Inc.
Pro Bono Program
Summer 2006 Volume 6, Issue 1

2005-2006 year was very successful

Many of our over 1,000 volunteers provided valuable assistance to thousands of low-income San Diego residents during 2005-2006. Our volunteers worked on many activities, including:

- provided legal representation
- assisted self-represented litigants at courthouse clinics and other agencies
- made presentations on many legal topics to community members and other agencies.
- assisted Hurricane Katrina victims.

Together with the LASSD Pro Bono staff, volunteers provided over **18,000 hours** to the Pro Bono Program. This is an estimated value of **\$2.75 million!** *Thank you to everyone for your great service.*

The State Bar of California is awarding over 100 volunteers the prestigious **Wiley W. Manuel Award** for their invaluable service. Please see page six for the names of honorees.

Conservatorship Clinic helps those in need

We continue to provide needed services to disabled, sick and elderly low income people at the Conservatorship Clinic. Here are a few examples of the clinic's recent work.

Volunteer attorney **Stephanni Hemmi, Esq.**, helped an elderly woman draft powers of attorney to allow her daughter to help with her financial affairs and government benefits.

Volunteer attorney **Alyssa Joyce, Esq.**, drafted estate planning documents for a terminally ill woman who has a minor child. The mother wanted to nominate a guardian for her child and arrange for an easy estate administration.

A niece needed help with a petition for conservatorship over her elderly aunt who suffers from dementia. Volunteer attorney **Ann Lee, Esq.** assisted her and the petition was approved.

Volunteer **Veronica Hernandez-Arce** provided assistance in Spanish to a mother who consulted the clinic for help with a petition for limited conservatorship for her disabled adult son. The petition was approved.

We are also pleased to write that the Conservatorship Clinic showcased its program during the Knowledge Fair at the Statewide Conference on Language Access to the Courts in May 2006.

The Conservatorship Clinic is coordinated by staff attorney **Susanne Hilles, Esq.** Please contact Susanne at SusanneH@LASSD.org to volunteer.

2005-2006 Outstanding Services Awards

The Legal Aid Society of San Diego, Inc. Pro Bono Program honors the following organizations and individuals for their exceptional contributions this past year.

Organizations

Heller Ehrman, LLP
Cooley Godward, LLP
University of San Diego, School of Law
Thomas Jefferson School of Law
California Western School of Law
San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association
Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego
Filipino American Lawyers of San Diego
Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association

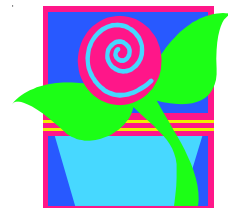
Christina Wickman, Esq., Steven Wickman, Esq., and Elizabeth Arleo, Esq.

Individuals

Amy Barrett
Curtis Bulgatz, Esq.
Elsa Carre, Esq.
Rajesh Chabra, Esq.
Bank Dawson
Joanne Doughty, Esq.
Kristen Essner
Barbara Frezza, Esq.
Hans Giesecker, Esq.
Carrie Harp
Brooke Hartmann, Esq.
Michael Hirman, Esq.
Cathy Hongola, Esq.
Palma Hooper, Esq.
Lorraine Jeanes

Karimah Lamar, Esq.
Anne Lee, Esq.
Judith Liebe
Jonathan Lightfoot
Sally Lorang, Esq.
Keeley Luhnnow, Esq.
Alan Marblestone, Esq.
John McEvoy, Esq.
David McGlothlin
Erin McQuillan
Lizbet Munoz, Esq.
Merlinda Nugent
Maria Orozco
William Padilla
Myrna Pascual, Esq.

Ikumi Pinato
Sara Raffer, Esq.
Damon Rahimi
Maria Rios
Carmen Ruda
Henry Siegel, Esq.
Jonathan Staley
Elisa Sue, Esq.
Philip Tencer, Esq.
Ben Tharaldson
Barry Tucker, Esq.
Matthew Walker, Esq.
Paula Warne, Esq.
Ben Warren, Esq.
Rosemary Willingham, Esq.



Civil TRO/Unlawful Detainer Clinic running smoothly

Our East County clinic assisted over 700 people last year. The clinic is running as smooth and as effortless as ever with the new addition of staff attorney Susan Turcich Esq., and the continuing support of volunteer **Judith Liebe**. Judith has volunteered over 150 hours of her time this year. **Ikumi Pinato**, **Alephia Baxamusa** and **Damon Rahimi** were also integral in providing assistance to our participants.

We had many success stories in our clinic this year. Third year law student volunteer **Ikumi Pinato**, under the supervision of **Susan Turcich Esq.**, assisted a couple who had withheld their rent due to lack of adequate heating. The participants were taken to the hospital after suffering carbon monoxide poisoning. They called SDG&E which had red tagged and disconnected the heater and sent notices to the landlord.

The landlord made no repairs and refused to return any of the participant's phone calls. The couple resorted to using their *oven* as a heater and buying a carbon monoxide monitor so they could turn off the oven if the levels got too high. The cost to repair the heater would exceed a month's rent and the couple had no faith in the landlord reimbursing them or giving rental credit for repairing the heater themselves. **Ikumi** assisted with the participants' Answer in the Unlawful Detainer action for non-payment of rent and asserted their defense of uninhabitability. She advised the participants to bring photos and the notices from the gas company.

After the trial a few weeks later, the couple stopped by the clinic. Their pro per landlord had lost, was ordered to make repairs and the fair rental value was adjudged at \$400 per month, \$600 less than was contracted.

Damon Rahimi, under the supervision of staff attorney **Sara Raffer Esq.**, assisted Sheila A. and her family with a request for a Temporary Civil Restraining Order. Sheila, a volunteer for a domestic violence group, had called Child Protective Services (CPS) after receiving information that a couple's children might be in danger. CPS removed the children upon inspection.

The mother and her boyfriend were enraged, found out Sheila's address, and came to her house. They broke down the front door and threatened her and her family with weapons. Sheila's sons managed to scare the attackers away and they were precipitously arrested, but Sheila was very scared and wanted protection. Damon assisted her with the paperwork and declaration and the Temporary Order was immediately granted.

"We would like to institute an Unlawful Detainer Clinic in every court [in San Diego County]."

Ray Sorensen
Assistant Executive Director
Hall of Justice

La Raza Lawyers Association trains child therapists

Thank you to San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association whose members, **Lilia Garcia, Esq.**, **Victor Nunez, Esq.**, **Carlos Varela, Esq.**, and others gave an excellent three-hour presentation to child therapists at Home Start. The presentation overviewed the criminal justice system, what the child may go through if called to testify, children's rights as witnesses in a criminal case and some do's and don'ts for therapists.

Hall of Justice Restraining Order Clinic is a success

With the help of **Stephanie Wentworth**, **Shane Barrett**, **Kelly Niemi** and the continuing support of long-time volunteer **Maria Rios**, our Restraining Order Clinic had a very successful year. We look forward to the new summer interns and other volunteers who are scheduled to start this summer.

In one situation, first year law student **Shane Barrett** assisted Vin H. with a Temporary Restraining Order against her uncle. Vin, a college student in her early 20s, told Shane that her uncle had molested her at age 10. Just the week before she had finally told her parents. Since the truth had become known in her family, her uncle was harassing her with numerous emails and more than 60 phone calls in one week. She was suffering emotional distress and her uncle would not stop after she had repeatedly told him not to contact her. She also worried that he would come to San Diego to confront her.

Shane helped Vin write a declaration and to complete the request for a temporary restraining order. Then, Vin became very worried about getting him served and the subsequent hearing. Sara had Vin come back to the clinic and helped her organize her phone records and emails and prepare an outline for the day of court. Vin won by default at her hearing and now has a restraining order for three years.

Email Sara Raffer, Esq., at SaraR@LASSD.org if you would like to volunteer at the UD/Civil TRO Clinic in East County or at the Hall of Justice.

from a client . . .

"If it were not for you, we ordinary folks would not stand a chance. Thanks muchly!"

New South County Unlawful Detainer Clinic and expanded hours for Hall of Justice Clinic

The Pro Bono Program is pleased to announce the opening of a new Unlawful Detainer Clinic in the South County Courthouse. In addition, the Unlawful Detainer clinic at the Hall of Justice is expanding and is now open an additional 2 days per week. The Pro Bono Program has a wonderful partnership with the San Diego County Superior Court and the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) agreed to fund these new clinics.

There are 6,000 Unlawful Detainer lawsuits filed annually in San Diego County. A vast majority of tenants do not have an attorney to represent them at court. Without legal assistance, many are unable to assert their defenses and end up homeless. However, with help from the Unlawful Detainer clinics, those tenants are able to effectively file their Answers to the Complaint and receive legal options on how to prepare their case for trial. It is a huge assistance to pro pers who have nowhere else to turn! To volunteer at the clinics, contact Rebecca Nieman at RebeccaS@LASSD.com or (619) 471-2731.

Disabled Homeless Outreach Project seeks continuation funding

Our Disabled Homeless Outreach Project (DHOP) continues to bring legal services directly to San Diego's homeless population. Project supervisor **Jack Dailey**, Equal Justice Works fellow, and his volunteers station themselves within medical clinics that serve the homeless. This unique medical-legal collaboration has proven successful at accessing homeless individuals who have severe mental health and/or physical health conditions. The DHOP was highlighted June 11, 2006 in an article in *The San Diego Union-Tribune*.

As Jack nears the end of his two-year fellowship project, he maintains a full case and clinic load, while pursuing additional funding to continue the project. A recent case example demonstrates the importance and continued need for these accessible legal services. Every Wednesday evening a variety of professionals and church volunteers come together to feed, provide medical care and otherwise serve the homeless at the Pacific Beach United Methodist Church. In addition to the medical clinic, homeless individuals have access to acupuncture services, dental care and, through the DHOP, legal services. One homeless woman, "Ms. Wright," was referred to the DHOP by a UCSD Free Medical Clinic physician. Ms. Wright had lived in her car since losing her job due to chronic medical conditions. Over six months, she visited local hospital emergency rooms over ten times. Despite having no regular income, she faced medical bills in excess of \$50,000 and the threat of lawsuits by aggressive collection agencies.

After an investigation, Jack learned that Ms. Wright had County Medical Services (CMS) coverage for seven of the visits and he communicated this information to the collection agencies on her behalf. Next, Jack appealed the denial of CMS coverage for the remaining three visits. While ultimately unsuccessful at the appeal hearing, Jack worked with the hospital billing department to request a charity care discharge of the remaining debts. The billing department agreed to grant the discharge. Ms. Wright and Jack would like to thank the billing department at Scripps. The DHOP clinics will continue at least until the end of August. The DHOP and Pro Bono Program are actively seeking additional funding to continue this important work. Email Jack at JackD@LASSD.org to volunteer with the program.



to our Spring Interns

The Spring 2006 semester ended too quickly for our spring interns *and* for the Pro Bono Program staff who truly appreciated their assistance! We offer our thanks to:

Dave McGlothlin	Kirstie Nooris
Ikumi Pinato	Odeha Warren
Kelly Vierra	Catherine Price
Mike Lee	Guadalupe Padilla
Damon Rahimi	Massoud Shamel
Rajesh Chabra	Jasamine Bains
Stephanie Wentworth	

Thank you also to spring intern **William Padilla** (see article on the Low Income Taxpayer Clinic).



We are pleased and excited to welcome our Summer 2006 interns:

Yvette Girard
University of San Diego Law School

Uri Itkin
Northwestern School of Law

Ashley Teague
University of San Diego Law School

Megan Johnson
Thomas Jefferson Law School

Joy Dixon
University of San Diego Law School

Caroline Robert
University of San Diego Law School

Mike Jabro
California Western School of Law

Edward Kramer
University of San Diego Law School



All of our interns help pro pers with civil legal issues at the various Pro Bono Program clinics, conduct legal research and perform other types of legal assistance. They hone their legal skills and hopefully many of them will become dedicated to a life in public interest law!

Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic continues its success

The Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic continues to deliver quality legal services to taxpayers who need help dealing or contending with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Now in its second year of operation, the clinic offers advice and representation to taxpayers who cannot afford to pay an attorney or CPA. The clinic is run by Jason E. Turner, LASSD senior attorney and is funded, in part, by a grant from the IRS. "Demand in the low-income community for effective tax law help is huge," Jason said, "because of the complexity of the Tax Code and because of the IRS's growing emphasis on enforcement."

Volunteers play a big role in the clinic. **Andrew Epstein** recently helped a self-employed taxpayer successfully resolve past taxes with an offer in compromise. **Daniel Jenkins** assisted a taxpayer in correcting past tax returns to reduce her tax liability. **Michael Jabro**, a CPA and a third year law student at California Western School of Law, assisted a taxpayer in analyzing

her taxes and represented her in an appeal of an IRS effort to levy her social security benefits. The clinic also had a significant success on behalf of a taxpayer who, as a single father, claimed a number of family-related exemptions and credits over several consecutive tax years. The IRS had rejected the taxpayer's refund claims for each of the years in question. After audit reconsiderations and appeals, the IRS agreed to pay the full amount of each year's refund, plus interest—for a total of more than \$12,000!

A big thank you to **William Padilla**, a third year Cal Western law student who interned with the clinic this spring. **William** did a great job, has a great sense of humor and was a pleasure to work with! We welcome summer interns **Michael Jabro** and **Edward Kramer** to the clinic.

Contact Jason at JasonT@LASSD.org to participate in the Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic.

Collaboration yields great client service



In a recent case, LASSD senior family law attorney **Eulalia Villavicencio, Esq.** and pro bono attorneys **Barry Tucker, Esq.** (also LASSD's Board President) and **Joanne Doughty, Esq.** of **Heller Ehrman, LLP**, teamed up to help a client assert her community property rights to a portion of the appreciated equity in the family home. Heller Ehrman's work in the litigation, including a broad range of discovery, helped the client defend her rights and reach a

settlement with her former spouse. Rounding out the services provided to this client, **Jason Turner, Esq.**, of our Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic, helped the client analyze the tax consequences of this settlement. Kudos go to all involved, whether in-house attorneys or volunteers! LASSD's practice across several areas of law increases its ability to effectively address a client's legal needs, and increases opportunities for pro bono attorneys who wish to volunteer their time and energy!

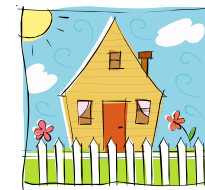


from a client . . .

"All done in one day, not have to come back for hearing. Very good."

Homeowner wins predatory lending case

Martha and Luis, were in default on the second mortgage on their home. They entered into an equity purchase contract which contained multiple violations of the Equity Purchase Act and ended up losing title to their home.



Henry **Siegel, Esq.**, represented Martha and Luis in mediation and negotiated the return of their property to them.

They will also receive reimbursement of back taxes, a monetary credit and other benefits. Well done, Henry. Thank you very much!

Henry Siegel, Esq., and **Michael Hirman, Esq.**, also received an excellent result for Ethel F. The landlord had let Ethel's home fall into terrible disrepair. There were no locks on the doors or windows, no heat, no fire alarm, holes in the walls, walls falling down, roaches, etc. On top of all this, the landlord forcibly evicted Ethel and threw her possessions out. Henry and Michael negotiated a settlement of \$75,000 for Ethel. Congratulations, Henry and Michael!

A special thank you!

Congratulations to volunteer attorney, **Mazda Antia, Esq.**, who received **Cooley Godward LLP's** pro bono award for 2005. Thank you to Cooley Godward who made a monetary donation to LASSD Pro Bono Program to recognize Mazda's excellent pro bono work!



Hall of Justice Unlawful Detainer Clinic starts 5th year

The Unlawful Detainer (UD) clinic is now starting its fifth year at the Hall of Justice in downtown San Diego. Each year, over 1,200 pro pers are assisted with their evictions! Many wonderful volunteers assist at the clinic, providing much needed support for the pro pers. As the clinic may assist over 15 people in a two-hour period, volunteers are the cornerstone of the clinic. This past year, there were many heart warming cases of pro pers representing themselves and fighting for their rights and ultimately winning.

Jane, a young pregnant woman, came to the clinic in tears. She had just received a Notice to Vacate that essentially gave her five days to move out of her house, without the right to fight her case at trial. The plaintiffs alleged that she was served with a Summons and Complaint but failed to respond in a timely manner. The plaintiffs were not aware that when the tenant was allegedly served, she was out of town attending to her sick mother. It wasn't until she returned that she saw

the Summons and Complaint, at which time it was too late to file an Answer. The UD clinic assisted the woman with obtaining an ex parte order and filling out the appropriate paperwork. It was with much joy that the woman returned and informed us that she had won the ex parte and was now getting her day in court!

LASSD staff member shares comments from a client assisted at UD Clinic:

"I just wanted to pass along some "pats on the back." I got a phone call from a client who was VERY pleased with the advice he had received at the clinic - he won his case - it went to trial last Thursday. He was very impressed with everyone who works at the clinic - especially the two gentlemen he said helped him with his case. He said that it seemed like everyone there really cared about the clients and wanted to make sure that everything was done right for them."

LASSD Pro Bono Program Receives Cy Pres Award

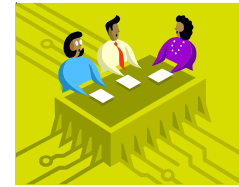
Christina Wickman, Esq., volunteered with LASSD Pro Bono Program when she was a law student. After being admitted to the bar, she formed a very successful consumer law firm with her husband, **Steven Wickman, Esq.** In *Nutter v. NCO Financial Systems, Inc.* Wickman & Wickman, together with co-counsel, **Elizabeth Arleo, Esq.**, nominated LASSD Pro Bono Program to receive a substantial cy pres award. With these funds, Senior Attorney, Jason Turner, Esq., will develop the Consumer Economic Development Project to help low-income persons move forward economically and become financially self-sufficient. Thank you, Christina, Steven and Elizabeth. We look forward to working with you on this much needed project.

Alan Marblestone helps on many family law cases

Over the last year, Emeritus Attorney **Alan Marblestone, Esq.**, has worked on over 10 family law cases. He has assisted clients, including a client with limited reading ability, in many different areas. Mr. Marblestone has resolved jurisdiction issues, negotiated stipulations regarding custody, restraining orders, family support, and child support. He has advised clients regarding pension issues and many other topics. Thank you, Alan, for this much needed assistance.

Mediation Program Update

The LASSD Pro Bono Program Mediation Program continues to provide quality mediation services to low-income San Diegans. We thank the East County Community Assessment Team for its continuous referrals of mediations. We have noticed a rise in the number of cases referred to us. The Pro Bono Me-



diation Program also continues to train and work with many qualified volunteer mediators in the community.

On April 12, 2006, the Pro Bono Mediation Program sponsored a Presentation and Social Hour to bring all of its mediators together in a close-knit setting to get to know each other better. **Gregg Relyea, Esq.**, a well-known local mediator, law professor and international mediator/trainer, gave a presentation on his numerous international mediation trainings for lawyers and judges that he has conducted around the world.

To volunteer as a mediator, please contact Rebecca Nieman at RebeccaS@lassd.org or (619) 471-2731.

Welcome new staff!

Please welcome our newest staff members, **Carolina Mueller** and **Susan Turcich, Esq.** Susan is doing a great job at the UD/CIV TRO Clinic in the East County Courthouse. Carolina, a bi-lingual attorney in Brazil, works at the DVTR and Conservatorship Clinics. Carolina also worked with **Gregory Klawitter, Esq.**, of **Morrison & Foerster**, to persuade a school district to accept a woman's disabled grandson into elementary school, after the school district initially refused to do so. Carolina also assisted the grandmother in becoming her grandson's guardian.

Domestic Violence & Civil Restraining Order Clinic, South Bay

The DV/CIV TRO Clinic in South County is still in its inaugural year at its new location (first floor, Room #155, between the law library and new jury lounge). For those of you who missed our formal Open House in March, feel free to stop by anytime for a mini-tour. We can now accommodate four volunteers with their own interview room and internet/research/Legal Solutions capable computer. When fully staffed, we can serve a greater number of participants than in the past.

In 2005, we expanded our services to include assistance with Civil Harassment restraining orders as well. That enabled us to help a 16-year-old young woman

who was sexually assaulted by a classmate while in school. Though he was temporarily suspended, the offending classmate was still permitted to go to the same school pending police investigation. We also helped a woman protect her 15-year-old daughter against their peeping Tom neighbor, who turned out to also be a police officer. In another case, we helped a rape victim get a restraining order against the perpetrator who was her coworker. Without the civil harassment restraining orders, these offenders could have continued their victimization just by coming near their victims.

We thank our recent volunteers who made these and other good works

possible: Attorneys **Elsa Carre, Esq., Ben Warren, Esq., Brooke Hartmann, Esq., Elisa Sue, Esq., Curtis Bulgatz, Esq.**, and law student/paralegals **Odeha Warren, Ikumi Pinato, Damon Rahimi, Catherine Price, Carolina Mueller, Rajesh Chabra, Massood Shamel, Alephia Baxamusa, and Guadalupe Padilla.**

A big welcome to law students **Megan Johnson** and **Uri Itkin** who both started internships here recently. Please email MarcelaG@lassd.org if you are interested in volunteering.



Wiley W. Manuel Awardees



Congratulations to the following recipients of the State Bar of California Wiley W. Manuel Award for Pro Bono Services:

Allene Adamson, Paralegal
Zelekha Amirzada, Law Student
Mazda Antia, Attorney
Jasamine Bains, Law Student
Carl Balediata, Attorney
Amy Barrett, Paralegal
Shane Barrett, Law Student
Geva Baumer, Attorney
Alephia Baxamusa, Paralegal
Curtis Bulgatz, Attorney
Steven Burke, Law Student
Adella Collabella, Paralegal
Elsa Carre, Attorney
Rajesh Chabra, Law Student
Linda Corrie, Attorney
Bank Dawson, Paralegal
Joanne Doughty, Attorney
Erin Drenning, Law Student
Alexander Dychter, Attorney
Kristin Essner, Paralegal
Carolina Felix, Paralegal
Brigham Fordham, Attorney
Barbara Frezza, Attorney
Lilia Garcia, Attorney
Hans Giesecker, Attorney
Athene Haro, Paralegal
Carrie Harp, Student

Brooke Hartmann, Attorney
Veronica Hernandez-Arce, Paralegal
Michael Hirman, Attorney
Cathy Hongola, Attorney
Palma Hooper, Attorney
Michael Jabro, Law Student
Ann Jarman, Paralegal
Lorraine Jeanes, Paralegal
William Kiernan, Attorney
Caroline Kim, Law Student
Maria Kraus, Paralegal
Janet Krigbaum, Paralegal
Stanley Kuan, Paralegal
Karimah Lamar, Attorney
Tim Laske, Attorney
Anne Lee, Attorney
Michael Lee, Law Student
Judith Liebe, Paralegal
Jonathan Lightfoot, Law Student
Virginia Lopez, Attorney
Stephanie Lopez, Paralegal
Sally Lorang, Attorney
Keeley Luhnnow, Attorney
Alan Marblestone, Emeritus Attorney
John McEvoy, Emeritus Attorney
David McGlothlin, Law Student

Erin McQuillan, Law Student
Jennifer Merryman, Paralegal
Antoinette Middleton, Attorney
Carina Miramontes, Paralegal
Lizbet Munoz, Attorney
Shawn Nevill, Law Student
Kelly Niemi, Law Student
Kirstie Nooris, Law Student
Merlinda Nugent, Paralegal
Victor Nunez, Attorney
Rachel Opatik, Paralegal
Maria Orozco, Paralegal
Jennifer Osborne, Attorney
Guadalupe Padilla, Paralegal
William Padilla, Law Student
Clarice Park, Attorney
Myrna Pascual, Attorney
Hansel Patel, Law Student
Michael Pazder, Attorney
Yolanda Pearson, Paralegal
Kristina Pedroso, Law Student
Ikumi Pinato, Law Student
Catherine Price, Law Student
Sara Raffer, Attorney
Damon Rahimi, Law Student
Cintya Ramirez, Paralegal
Lindsay Reese, Attorney

Maria Rios, Paralegal
Catherine Rodman, Attorney
Carmen Ruda, Paralegal
Alessandra Sgubini, Attorney
Massoud Shamel, Law Student
Henry Siegel, Attorney
Terry Siemens, Paralegal
Jonathan Staley, Law Student
Elisa Sue, Attorney
Philip Tencer, Attorney
Ben Tharaldson, Law Student
Vannessa Torices, Paralegal
Barry Tucker, Attorney
Susan Turcich, Attorney
Mark Turner, Attorney
Andrew Verriere, Paralegal
Matthew Walker, Attorney
Paula Warne, Attorney
Ben Warren, Attorney
Odeha Warren, Law Student
Stephanie Wentworth, Law Student
Susan Wertz, Law Student
Keith Williams, Law Student
Rosemary Willingham, Attorney
Rock Zaitzow, Attorney

Volunteer Opportunities

We welcome new volunteers to join us at any time. No prior experience is necessary to participate in many of these programs and many programs are open to both attorneys and non-attorneys. We offer training and support for volunteers:

- Program training available with MCLE credit
- Training materials provided
- Experienced attorneys to mentor our volunteer attorneys
- Cases are prescreened before being referred to volunteer attorneys
- Volunteers are covered by our malpractice insurance.

To participate in one of our programs, please complete and return the Volunteer Registration Form (see back page). *We look forward to hearing from you!*

Youth & Children At Risk

- ◆ **Mediation:** Victim/Youth Offender; Family Intervention; Peer Mediation Training and Group Conferencing.
- ◆ **Education:** Representation at School Disciplinary Proceedings and Advocacy on Individual Education Plans.
- ◆ **Youth Outreach Program (YOP):** provides direct legal services to emancipated youth and youth aging out of foster care through outreach clinics in drop-in centers, soup kitchens, etc.

Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic Program

Advocate for low-income taxpayers who have disputes with the Internal Revenue Service. Provide advice and representation to taxpayers trying to resolve tax controversies through the IRS internal appeals procedures or through litigation in federal court. Assist at monthly clinics and represent taxpayer-client before the IRS or in court. Training and mentoring are provided. Volunteer attorneys and certified public accountants are needed.

Conservatorship & Guardianship

Guardianship Clinics

Assist litigants, predominantly parents, in guardianship cases.

Mondays 9 a.m. - 12 noon

Room adjacent to Dept F-10

Probate Courthouse

1409 Fourth Ave., San Diego CA 92101

Conservatorship Clinic

Pro per clinic, giving facilitator-like assistance to low-income litigants. A volunteer attorney may also provide representation to a client in a conservatorship action.

Tuesdays 2 - 4:30 p.m.

Room adjacent to Dept F-10

Probate Courthouse

1409 Fourth Ave., San Diego CA 92101

Other Pro Bono Opportunities

Economic Impact Program

Provide pro bono legal assistance on:

Corporate matters for nonprofits

High impact litigation which may make law and cause a significant improvement in the lives of our county's indigent residents.

Immigration

Battered Spouse Immigrant Self-Petitions and Applications for Naturalization.

Consumer Issues

Assist clients with cleaning up credit reports, rebuilding credit, license denial applications, expungement of records, advice on budgets, managing money, etc.

Family Law

Domestic Violence Temporary Restraining Order Clinic

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. every day

Family Law Center, 3rd Floor

South County Courthouse

500 Third Avenue, Chula Vista CA 91910

Open to attorneys and non-attorneys. Volunteer attorneys may also provide representation in family law cases.

Unlawful Detainer (UD) and Civil Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) Clinics

Downtown Clinics

Hall of Justice, 330 W. Broadway, San Diego

Civil TRO and UD

Tuesday and Thursday 9 a.m. - Noon

UD

Monday and Friday 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

East County Clinics

East County Courthouse, Next to Dept. 1

250 East Main St., El Cajon

Civil TRO and UD

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30 a.m. - Noon

Tuesday and Thursday 9:30 a.m. - Noon

South County Clinics

South County Courthouse

Family Law Center, Room 155

500 Third Avenue, Chula Vista CA 91910

Civil TRO and UD

9:00 am - 12:30 p.m. every day

Disabled Homeless Outreach Project

Provide assistance to homeless individuals with disabilities with legal issues that might impede their path out of homelessness. Assist clients in obtaining disability-linked government benefits and advise on disability rights.

United Methodist Church

1561 Thomas Avenue, Pacific Beach

Wednesday 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul's

Villages Medical Clinic

1501 Imperial Avenue, San Diego

Monday 1 - 4 p.m.

Wednesday 9 a.m. - Noon

