



PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY

Many of the programs listed below provide training materials and mentors to assist new volunteers. A star () indicates the program is certified by the OSB. Volunteers for OSB-certified programs are covered by PLF insurance and do not need independent coverage on their pro bono cases.*

CASA for Children

Attorneys are needed to represent volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) in Multnomah or Washington County juvenile court proceedings at the trial and appellate levels. Volunteer attorneys are supported by a staff program attorney.

Contact: Scott Lee, scott.lee@multco.us.

Changing Lives Forever

The "CLiF Project" is a collaboration between Tonkon Torp LLP and Youth, Rights & Justice, a nonprofit law firm specializing in juvenile law. CLiF lawyers provide pro bono representation to help deserving young people get off the registry so that they can live independent and productive lives. Volunteers receive training and consultation, and a library of forms and information is available. CLiF lawyers meet once a month (first Thursdays) at lunchtime to hear from experts in the field, share information, and help each other.

Contact: Gwen Griffith, gwen.griffith@tonkon.com.

Children's Representation Project*

Attorneys are appointed by the court to represent children whose parents are involved in custody disputes in Multnomah County. Cases are assigned through the Multnomah County Family Law Court. The Hon. Susan Svetkey and her staff coordinate the project. Attorneys with family law and juvenile law experience are especially needed for this project.

Contact: Rachel Finn, 503.988.3060, rachel.a.finn@ojd.state.or.us.

Guardianship Appointments

Multnomah County Circuit Court

Court appointment to represent individuals contesting appointment of guardian or conservator. No training provided. Knowledge of area of law required. Please submit a letter regarding your legal background.

Contact: Probate Department, 503.988.3022, option 4.

Home Free

Volunteers of America

Advocates provide support, information and assistance with paperwork at the Multnomah County Court restraining order room (Room 211A) to individuals seeking domestic violence restraining orders, stalking orders, and elder and disabled abuse prevention orders. Volunteers do not give legal advice or "represent" clients. Volunteers must undergo a screening process and complete a 40-hour training on domestic violence advocacy.

Contact: 503.595.2009, volunteer@voaor.org.

Immigration Counseling Service*

ICS provides legal assistance in immigration-related matters to low and moderate income residents of Oregon and Southern Washington. In addition, ICS assists unaccompanied children who are undocumented and detained in detention facilities, shelters, transitional and long term foster care facilities in Oregon. They also assist undocumented children who have been released to a sponsor in Oregon and remain in need of legal assistance. There are pro bono opportunities to assist these juveniles. ICS will provide training and mentoring. For a few hours of your time you can make a huge difference in a child's life.

Contact: Executive Director Lisa LeSage, 503.221.1689, llesage@ics-law.org.

Immigration Legal Services (CCILS)*

Catholic Charities of Oregon

Pro bono attorneys represent adult and child survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and other serious crimes for immigration relief. CCILS holds in-person trainings for pro bono attorneys twice a year and has a training video to send to attorneys unable to attend an in-person training. Once a pro bono attorney receives training and has taken a client referral, CCILS provides ongoing mentoring and technical assistance. Pro Bono attorneys also provide legal assistance at workshops for families wishing to plan for the care of their children in the event the parent becomes unavailable. Training is provided.

Contact: Emily Gumper, Pro Bono Coordinator, 503.688.2716, egumper@ccoregon.org.

There are also pro bono volunteer opportunities in the CCILS office for attorneys to work on family based immigration cases. Work in office on a variety of types of immigration cases, including family-based petitions and applications for lawful status for victims of crime and domestic violence. Work may include preparing application packets and cover letters, direct client communications, and responding to agency requests. Volunteers work under the supervision of a Catholic Charities legal representative. Ability to speak Spanish is an asset but is not a requirement. Must be able to commit to a regular schedule of at least 12 hours per week during regular office hours.

Contact: Sheridan Rueter, Volunteer Coordinator, 503.688.2707, srueter@ccoregon.org.

Legal Aid Services of Oregon - Volunteer Lawyer Project

Bankruptcy Clinic*

The OSB Debtor-Creditor Section and the VLP sponsor this project that provides information and representation to clients who are considering bankruptcy or who are already in US Bankruptcy Court as pro se litigants. The project consists of two components, a class addressing bankruptcy issues and a clinic during which volunteer attorneys each meet with two clients for 30-minute appointments. Anyone may attend the 45-minute class, which is taught by a member of the bankruptcy bar or bench. Volunteer attorneys meet with clients, help them assess whether bankruptcy is appropriate, and if so, provide ongoing representation. The monthly clinic alternates between sites in Beaverton, east Portland and downtown Portland. 12-15 attorneys, one mentor and one speaker are typically scheduled for each clinic. Clinics are held on one Tuesday or Wednesday evening of each month from 6:15-9:00 p.m. An online CLE and written training materials are available at www.oregonadvocates.org.

Contact: Jill Mallery, 503.224.4086, jill.mallery@lasoregon.org.

Domestic Violence Project*

The Domestic Violence Project matches pro bono attorneys with victims of domestic violence for representation in contested Family Abuse Prevention Act (FAPA) restraining order hearings, Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities Abuse Prevention Act hearings (EPPDAPA), Sexual Abuse Protective Order hearings (SAPO), and stalking order hearings. These cases tend to have short timelines, limited issues and require a court appearance. Attorneys sign up in advance to be available to take a case on a specific day (restraining order hearings are generally held on Mondays and Thursdays). DVP volunteers represent clients in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington Counties (you can choose which counties you want to take cases in). This project is an excellent volunteer opportunity for young lawyers, lawyers seeking litigation experience, and attorneys who cannot commit to taking long-term cases. This project covers a discrete area of law and most of the volunteers are not family law practitioners. Volunteers are not expected to assist clients with family law matters that may exist after the protective order hearing. An online CLE and written training materials are available at www.oregonadvocates.org.

Contact: Erin White, 503.224.4086, erin.white@lasoregon.org.

Expungement Clinic*

A partnership between the Clackamas County Bar Association, Clackamas County Law Library, LASO, and the Clackamas Service Center. The clinic is designed to help low-income clients in Clackamas County complete court expungement paperwork. Volunteer attorneys meet with clients to determine whether they qualify for an expungement. If the client is eligible, the volunteer attorney will complete all the necessary court paperwork. The clinic provides one-time brief service to clients and is held every other month on Friday mornings at 9:30 am.

Contact: Erin White, 503.224.4086, erin.white@lasoregon.org.

Foreclosure Help Pro Bono Project*

A collaborative project of three of Oregon's legal services agencies. The project provides free legal help to low-income homeowners facing mortgage default and foreclosure and tenants whose homes face foreclosure. Attorneys provide a one-hour consultation to a referred client at no charge. Beyond the initial consultation, attorneys have the option of

providing additional representation, either on a pro bono basis or for a reduced fee. Mentorship and expert training on foreclosure avoidance is available.

Contact: Hope Del Carlo, 503.648.7163, hdelcarlo@lasoregon.org.

Night Clinic*

An evening clinic co-sponsored with Stoel Rives LLP and Dunn Carney LLP. Clinics are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Location rotates between the law offices of Stoel Rives and the LASO Portland Regional Office. Volunteer attorneys from the two participating law firms screen the cases and provide continuing legal representation to clients with meritorious cases. Two volunteer attorneys are scheduled for each clinic and each attorney meets with up to four clients per clinic. The following issues are referred: consumer law, small claims advice, landlord/tenant, estate planning, and uncontested guardianships.

Contact: Jill Mallery, 503.224.4086, jill.mallery@lasoregon.org.

Pro Se Assistance Project*

Volunteer attorneys provide limited assistance to clients requiring discrete legal advice or document review. Attorneys are scheduled to meet with three clients, each for a 45-minute appointment. Clinics are held from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Multnomah County courthouse. Attorneys respond to discrete family law questions and/or review documents prepared by unrepresented litigants. Attorneys are NOT expected to provide ongoing representation to clients and clients sign a retainer agreement detailing the limited scope of the attorney-client relationship. Volunteer attorneys must have family law experience to volunteer for this project.

PROSAP Facilitation Clinic. Attorneys with little (or no) family law experience can volunteer for this portion of the Clinic, by helping clients complete their pro se documents. Once the paperwork is completed, clients attend a “regular” PROSAP clinic to meet with an experienced family law attorney. Facilitation Clinics take place on Tuesdays & Wednesdays from 2-4 PM at Legal Aid.

Contact: Erin White, 503.224.4086, erin.white@lasoregon.org.

Statewide Tax Clinic*

The Statewide Low Income Taxpayer Clinic provides advice and representation to low income clients who have a tax controversy with the IRS or the Department of Revenue. Pro bono tax cases are referred through a listserv where basic case information is posted. An attorney interested in taking the case responds to the email and conflict checking information is provided. Cases cover a range of state and federal personal income tax issues including collections, examinations (audits), innocent spouse claims, and tax court cases. Volunteer opportunities are also available for recent graduates and new members of the Bar.

Contact: Sarah Lora, 503.224.4086, sarah.lora@lasoregon.org.

Senior Law Project*

The Senior Law Project (SLP) began in 1978 and is the VLP’s largest project, with over 25 legal clinics per month. Volunteer lawyers meet with clients who are 60 or over (or who are married to someone 60 or over) at nine senior center locations in Multnomah County. They provide 30-minute consultations, on any civil legal issues, for up to six clients per clinic. All clients 60 or over are eligible for free 30-minute consultations, regardless of their income. SLP volunteers provide continuing pro bono services for only those clients who meet VLP financial eligibility requirements. The VLP sponsors a monthly Elder Law Discussion Group to provide information and support.

Contact: Jill Mallery, 503.224.4086, jill.mallery@lasoregon.org.

Low Income Tax Clinic*

El Programa Hispano Catolico

Serves low income Latinos and other low income taxpayers who have a problem with the IRS and any related state tax issues. Volunteer attorneys provide advocacy and representation before the IRS or in court on tax collection disputes, audits and a variety of other federal tax issues. Lawyers can receive basic tax-law training, advocacy skills, exposure to case management, and mentorship by an Oregon-licensed attorney. Spanish speakers are in high demand, but translation services will be provided as needed.

Contact: Shannon Garcia, 503.489.6828, sgarcia@elprograma.org.

National Crime Victim Law Institute

NCVLI, a nonprofit legal organization affiliated with Lewis & Clark Law School, works to promote the thoughtful development

and advancement of victim law on a national level. NCVLI does not provide direct representation of crime victims, but does help train and support a national network of skilled attorneys to represent crime victims in the criminal justice system through the National Alliance of Victims' Rights Attorneys (NAVRA). Pro bono opportunities are not limited to direct representation of crime victims in the criminal justice system. Your help is also needed to serve as local counsel, conduct legal research, and represent crime victims in related civil proceedings. Most importantly, you don't need experience with victim law to help, NAVRA and NCVLI staff will train you to represent crime victims.

Contact: 503.768.6819, ncvli@lclark.edu.

Oregon Crime Victims Law Center

Pro bono attorneys needed to represent crime victims on particular issues in criminal cases, such as on motions to quash subpoenas seeking access to victims' records and claims of violation of victims' rights, as well as in civil contested restraining order proceedings. The center conducts training on victims' rights throughout the state. It also has a victims' rights handbook and staff attorneys available for consultation. Spanish (or other) language skills and/or location outside of the Portland metro area are pluses.

Contact: OCVLC Legal Director Rosemary Brewer, rosemary@ocvlc.org or 503.208.8160, www.ocvlc.org.

ProBonoOregon Listserv*

Oregon Law Center

Legal service offices around the state post cases to this listserv every Thursday. Each program posts only one email per week. Postings are sent to individual attorneys or pro bono coordinators for internal distribution within firms. An attorney who is interested in accepting a pro bono opportunity contacts the listing office for full case information. Listings include the type of case and a brief description of the issue and do not include highly identifying facts or party names. Conflict information is discussed with interested attorneys when they contact the listing office. This project allows pro bono attorneys to take a pro bono case when it fits best with their schedule. To sign up directly for the listserv, send an email to: probonooregon-subscribe@mail.lawhelp.org.

Re-Entry Court

District Court of Oregon

Volunteer attorneys help program participants resolve non-criminal legal issues such as back taxes, garnishment, past due child support and custody matters. Assist participants on federal probation with recovery from addiction, employment and issues related to successful re-entry into society.

Contact: Michelle Sweet, 503.326.2123, michelle_sweet@fd.org.

Refugee and Immigrant Family Strengthening Program

Immigration and Refugee Community Organization

Cases involving immigration law such as assisting domestic violence survivors self-petition under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), U-visas, and T-visas. Cases involving contested protective orders, divorce and child custody proceedings. Formal or informal domestic violence training as necessary that includes a segment on domestic violence within immigrant and refugee communities.

Contact: Gladys Ismail, RIFS Program Coordinator, 971.271.6429, gladysi@irco.org.

St. Andrew Legal Clinic (SALC)

Volunteer attorneys conduct 30-minute intake interviews at "night clinic" on family law issues. Night clinics are held every Wednesday and alternate Tuesdays from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Multnomah County office in NE Portland, and Wednesday from 6:30-9 p.m. at the Washington County office in Hillsboro. Dinner is provided to volunteers at 6 p.m. Volunteers are supervised by a SALC staff attorney and do not need family law experience. Training materials are available.

Contact: Multnomah County: Sam Cravens, Development Director, 503.281.1500 x324; Washington County: Diana Mendoza at 503.648.1600 x300, dmendoza@salcgroup.org.

Small Business Legal Clinic

Lewis & Clark Law School

Lawyers are able to specify time slots that work for them to come to the office and meet with pre-screened clients. The SBLC sets up appointments and send client intakes prior to the meeting so that attorneys have time to complete conflict checks and so that they have a basic understanding of the client's questions and legal issues. Opportunities include helping clients with

entity selection and entity creation, contract review and drafting, lease review, regulatory compliance, employment law and copyright and trademark registration.

Contact: Julieanna Elegant, 503.768.6947, jelegant@lclark.edu.

US District Court Pro Bono Program

Appoints attorneys to represent pro se parties in civil cases who, in the Court's opinion, require and are qualified to receive them. Such parties (who are often incarcerated) typically lack the financial means or legal experience to adequately deal with the issues and proceedings in US District Court. The representation may be for all purposes or for a specific purpose. A Guide for Representing Prisoners will be provided in all appointments made to represent prisoners. A mentorship program is available to assist appointed attorneys in areas of practice that may be unfamiliar, and PLF coverage is available to all panel members appointed through the program who are in good standing but do not carry a personal PLF policy. Tutorials for electronic filing and program procedures are available on the Court's website. For further details or to volunteer visit www.ord.uscourts.gov.

Contact: Nicole Munoz, 503.326.8014, nicole_munoz@ord.uscourts.gov or elizabeth_potter@ord.uscourts.gov.

Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program

Represent a Veteran pro bono case before the US Court of Appeals. The Washington, D.C. based Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program is seeking volunteer lawyers to assist veterans who claim entitlement to VA benefits. Each lawyer agreeing to accept one case will receive free training, a veterans' law manual, a pre-screened case, and ongoing access to a mentor lawyer.

Contact: Courtney L. Smith, Director of Volunteer Outreach & Education, 202.628.8164, courtney.smith@vetsprobono.org.

Victim Rights Law Center Pro Bono Project

The Victim Rights Law Center (VRLC) Pro Bono Project provides lawyers with an opportunity to represent victims of rape and sexual assault on privacy, safety, education, housing, employment, immigration, financial security, and other legal matters. The VRLC provides holistic legal services for sexual assault survivors in the tri-county area by using existing state and federal civil laws to address a survivor's most pressing needs. We also assist trans* survivors with name and gender marker changes in all counties in Oregon. VRLC attorneys screen eligible clients and then send requests for representation to prospective pro bono lawyers with basic information on the legal issues. A lawyer who expresses interest in taking a case will then be provided with conflict check information, as well as mentoring and other resources. Prospective pro bono lawyers must be in good standing with the bar, attend a VRLC pro bono training, and accept at least one case per year. PLF coverage is available and VRLC periodically provides CLE-eligible training in various areas of substantive law.

Contact: VRLCORprobono@victimrights.org or 503.274.5477, x3.

WaterWatch of Oregon

Advocate to protect and restore streamflows in Oregon's rivers. Projects range from research and writing to representation of WaterWatch before the courts and administrative agencies to legislation. Knowledge of water law and administrative law preferred. Volunteers will be mentored and supervised by experienced attorneys. Some cases may require PLF coverage.

Contact: Brian Posewitz, 503.295.4039, brian@waterwatch.org.