



# Pro Bono Opportunities

## FOR LAWYERS AND LEGAL PROFESSIONALS:



*Volunteer Lawyer Program:* Take a case for a Legal Aid client in the area of family law, housing law, preparing life planning documents, bankruptcy, tax, government benefits, domestic violence, sexual assault or non-profit assistance.

*Legal Clinics:* Volunteer at a legal clinic for *pro se* divorce litigants, low-income veterans, seniors who need help preparing life planning documents, community groups who want to obtain non-profit tax status or homeless clients of Project H.E.L.P. (Homeless Experience Legal Protection).

*Join the Apprentice Program or become a Peer Mentor:* New attorneys receive training in substantive practice areas. Experienced attorneys serve as mentors and conduct legal trainings.

[www.laslou.org](http://www.laslou.org)



LOUISVILLE BAR  
ASSOCIATION  
Pride in the profession. Service to the community.

*Legal Clinics:* Volunteer to assist *pro se* litigants at LBA's divorce clinic as they complete the self-help form documents needed to file a divorce in Jefferson County.

*Ask a Lawyer:* Volunteer to answer legal questions asked by individuals recovering from addiction at the Healing Place. Or, volunteer to answer legal questions from individuals with cancer and their family members at Gilda's Club or Baptist Health Charles and Mimi Osborn Cancer Center.

*Non-Profit Referral Service:* Volunteer to help a small business or community group obtain 501(c)(3) tax status.

[www.loubar.org](http://www.loubar.org)



*Take a pro bono case:* Volunteer to represent a client of Doctors & Lawyers for Kids (DLK). DLK is a non-profit partnership between LBA, Legal Aid and U of L Pediatrics that helps children and their family members resolve legal issues that impede the child's health care. DLK's clients are patients with limited income at various medical practices, hospitals and Family Health Centers throughout Louisville. DLK helps with many types of legal matters, including family law, immigration, education, SSI, housing, life planning and bankruptcy.

[www.doctorslawyerskids.org](http://www.doctorslawyerskids.org)

"Lawyers have a license to practice law, a monopoly on certain services. But for that privilege and status, lawyers have an obligation to provide legal services those without the wherewithal to pay, to respond to needs outside themselves, and help repair tears in their communities."

-Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, U.S. Supreme Court (March 2014)

## WHO TO CONTACT:

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# Volunteer Opportunities

**Ask a Lawyer:** LBA hosts regular Ask-a-Lawyer clinics at which volunteer attorneys provide general legal information to attendees and answer questions from the audience.

- **The Healing Place (Men's & Women's Centers):** One Thursday a month in April, June, September and November, 3 to 4 p.m., volunteer attorneys answer questions in the areas of criminal, expungement, family, and consumer law for residents recovering from addiction.
- **Gilda's Club and Baptist Health Cancer Center:** Four times a year in September, October, April and May, volunteer attorneys answer questions in the areas of social security benefits, life planning documents and work place rights for individuals and their families battling cancer.

**Call a Lawyer:** Third Tuesday of every month, 6 to 8 p.m., volunteer attorneys answer questions by telephone from individuals on a variety of legal topics. Dinner is provided.

**Volunteer Attorney Case Placement:** Volunteers represent a client pro bono for LAS or DLK in cases that are advice-only, limited assistance or extended service. The types of cases include: family law matters for victims of domestic violence; representing survivors of sexual assault in court or in administrative hearings; consumer issues such as tax or bankruptcy for clients whose stability and well-being is in jeopardy; expungement; eviction and other housing matters; drafting wills, living wills, powers of attorney or trust documents; helping community groups that serve people in poverty obtain non-profit tax status; and representing low-income veterans with civil legal needs.

**Project H.E.L.P.:** Volunteers help at legal clinics at shelters and agencies that assist homeless clients. The mission of Project H.E.L.P. is to help homeless individuals surmount various legal problems that are contributing to their homelessness. This program provides training for volunteers.

**Kentucky Justice Online (KJO):** The KJO enables users to access volunteer attorneys via a statewide legal aid website [www.kyjustice.org](http://www.kyjustice.org). Users are screened for income eligibility and conflicts. The user can post a legal question that volunteer attorneys can review at their convenience and answer only if it is within their area of expertise.

**Domestic Violence Advocacy Program (DVAP):** Volunteer attorneys represent victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in protective order hearings. Multiple trainings are offered to volunteers.

**Divorce Clinics:** The LBA and LAS each conduct *pro se* divorce clinics in Jefferson and surrounding counties. Volunteers help participants complete self-help pleadings needed to file a divorce *pro se*. LBA's clinics are two Fridays per month at the Judicial Center; LAS has a monthly clinic at their offices or in an outlying county. Legal professionals are also needed at divorce clinics to serve as Notary Publics.

**Life Planning Document Clinics:** LAS hosts life planning document clinics at senior living facilities and other agencies throughout the year. Volunteer attorneys prepare wills, powers of attorney, and living wills for clients. Legal professionals are also needed at these clinics to serve as Notary Publics.

**Expungement Clinics:** LAS hosts a monthly clinic at its office or local shelters. Volunteer attorneys help prepare motions for expungement and attend court hearings for qualified clients.