

VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROGRAM

For Love of Justice

PRO BONO AWARDS 2013



The Volunteer Lawyers Program is a civil law project of Community Legal Services and the Maricopa County Bar Association



"Equal Justice For All"
COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES, INC.

COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES INC.

Because Justice Is for All

Community Legal Services (CLS) was established in 1952 and is the "legal aid" organization for Maricopa, Mohave, LaPaz, Yavapai, and Yuma Counties. CLS co-sponsors and administers the Volunteer Lawyers Program (VLP). Community Legal Services is committed to eliminating poverty-based inequities in the civil justice system by providing high-quality legal advice, advocacy and assistance to low-income Arizonans.

CLS provides screening to identify those who are eligible due to financial need. CLS advocates evaluate cases for legal merit and consult with colleagues who serve as VLP staff, and with volunteer lawyers who provide advice or representation. CLS attorneys co-counsel with volunteer attorneys on consumer and other cases. CLS provides the majority of the funding for VLP and employs and supports VLP staff. Primary malpractice coverage is provided by CLS to all participating volunteer lawyers.

1981 - HOW VLP BEGAN

The Volunteer Lawyers Program (VLP) was established in 1981 by the Maricopa County Bar Association and Community Legal Services. The purpose of the joint effort was to provide a means to coordinate and expand legal services to Maricopa County's low income residents through utilization of the private bar on a non-fee or pro bono basis.

Founding members of the VLP Advisory Board were Colin Campbell, Ed Hendricks, Robert Myers, James Teilborg, Charles Wirken, William Young, Marcie Escobedo, and Scott Gray. Other bar leaders who participated early in the development of VLP included Ralph Mahowald, Michael Mullane, Rebecca Albrecht, and Ted Warner.

The first staff member and director was attorney Tom Hoidal. Ed Hendricks, former President of MCBA, recalls, "The MCBA Board of Directors wanted to partner with Community Legal Services and encouraged law firms and their lawyer members to support the new VLP, known then as 'Vol Law.' I was very proud that our firm and other firms stepped up to provide volunteers and support." Many volunteer lawyers began participating in 1981 and are still volunteering with VLP.

2014 - PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES

While direct representation of low income clients remains a primary goal of engaging lawyers in pro bono service, legal advice clinics, education and self-help guidance have become equally important means of serving Arizona's population in need of legal assistance. In addition to active members of the Arizona Bar, law students, retired lawyers and former members of the judiciary, as well as lawyers authorized under Arizona Supreme Court Rule 38(e), are participating and supporting VLP.

SOME OF THE WAYS TO BECOME INVOLVED

CASE EVALUATION

Applicants seeking pro bono assistance are interviewed by volunteers who prepare case summaries used by VLP for assessment of legal merit and remedies.

Volunteer litigators in civil law and family law matters now have an opportunity to evaluate requests for appeals to the Arizona Court of Appeals Division One. If appeal is appropriate and pro bono representation is accepted, oral argument is guaranteed.

ADVICE CLINICS

Advice and education regarding individual legal rights is a service sought by thousands of Arizona residents who are financially eligible for CLS/VLP services. Pro bono advice clinics have been developed to help meet requests for assistance regarding family law, tenant rights, and consumer issues. Some clinics are held at Community Legal Services offices. Some law firms adopt a community site, such as St. Vincent de Paul, to hold pro bono advice clinics, and VLP collaborates with bar associations and courts in counties served by Community Legal Services to provide advice clinics. Some clinics are held periodically, and others are offered regularly.

The Family Lawyers Assistance Project (FLAP) is an example of a long-standing advice clinic at Maricopa County Superior Court locations. Begun in 1993, FLAP is a resource for counsel and brief help to pro se litigants, made possible by experienced family law attorneys who donate their time and provide more than 5,000 consultations a year.

BRIEF ADVOCACY

In cases accepted by VLP, if resolution does not require litigation, limited client advocacy is often helpful. Volunteer lawyers make calls, prepare demand letters and other correspondence, negotiate and confirm agreements with opposing parties, or provide ongoing advice in situations where the evaluation or resolution of a problem takes time beyond the initial interview. When opposing parties are willing, volunteer attorneys trained in mediation are available to accept case referrals.

VLP's HIV/AIDS Law Project was created to provide basic estate planning and consultations on other legal issues to persons living with HIV or AIDS. The Special Olympics Advocacy Resource (SOAR) enables volunteer lawyers to provide advice and advocacy to assist Special Olympics athletes.

DIRECT REPRESENTATION

Mentorship cases referred by VLP for representation include a variety of civil matters and diverse clients. Issues such as consumer fraud, contracts, domestic violence, custody, debt collection, bankruptcy, guardianship of minor children or incapacitated adults, adoption, home ownership, tenants' rights and tort defense affect the lives of children, young or middle-aged adults, and the elderly. Most clients are living on fixed incomes, earning minimum wage at one or more jobs, temporarily unemployed, or disabled and not able to work.

Concerns about the special needs of children led VLP to establish the Children's Law Center in 1998, to provide rewarding ways for volunteer lawyers to assist children. Recently an effort to increase the number of pro bono attorneys available to protect victims of domestic violence and their children produced a collaboration between VLP, CLS, the Avon Program for Women & Justice at the O'Connor House, and other community partners. Experienced attorneys are recruited to serve as mentors for volunteer attorneys with less experience, and work together to represent victims of domestic violence in family law matters.

TEACHING COLLEAGUES

Some volunteer attorneys serve as presenters in CLE programs designed for their colleagues who want to become involved in VLP. Other volunteer attorneys help prepare newer volunteer attorneys by providing opportunities for observation as they conduct client interviews and provide advice in legal clinics. Experienced litigators also consult and mentor others who are providing pro bono representation in cases referred to them by VLP.

MCBA

MARICOPA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Where the Legal Community Connects

MARICOPA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Where the Legal Community Connects

The Maricopa County Bar Association (MCBA) was founded in 1914 and is the state's oldest bar association and the largest volunteer bar group. MCBA is co-sponsor of the Volunteer Lawyers Program. MCBA provides CLE discounts for volunteer lawyers who accept pro bono cases. MCBA provides resources for VLP from fees received by the Lawyer Referral

Service. MCBA and its sections and committees help recruit lawyers to participate in all VLP services and activities. The MCBA Bankruptcy Section provides volunteer lawyers for monthly Financial Distress Clinics held at MCBA. The MCBA Family Law Section helps recruit family law attorneys to provide advice and brief help through VLP's Family Lawyers Assistance Project (FLAP) and attorneys who represent victims of domestic violence through VLP's DV Mentor Project.

The Maricopa County Bar Foundation co-sponsors the annual Pro Bono Golf Classic with VLP, and all of the proceeds support VLP.

The "For Love of Justice" pro bono awards provide opportunities for VLP to express appreciation and recognition for the myriad contributions of volunteer attorneys who give unselfishly of their time and talents to increase civil justice for people with low incomes.

Although a "For Love of Justice" event will not be held this year, presentation of the 2013 awards will be conducted in selected venues throughout coming months.

For Love of Justice Pro Bono Awards

2012-2013 VLP HONOR ROLL

Attorneys Who Accepted New Pro Bono Work

Abdo, Amy	Cohen, Larry	Goodwin, Nicole	Lang, Todd	Pardee, Candyce	Stein, Maria
Abney, David	Cohen, Jon	Gordon, Mike	Langenhuizan, Sarah	Parga Jr, Rodolfo	Steiner, Ronee
Adams, Janell	Cole, Steve	Graff, Ben	Lauer, Michelle	Parker, Kevin	Stevens, Garth
Adams, Lynne	Collins, Daniel	Graves, Kyle	Layton, Stefanie	Parzych, John	Stewart, Heather
Adams, Joseph	Coltin, Robert	Greene, Cindy	Lazenby, Chris	Pasqualone, Laura	Stoddard, Alice
Ager, John	Colyer, Chris	Gross, Jeffrey	Leach, Sid	Pate, Melanie	Stoker, Dana
Agne, Sara	Combs, Lincoln	Guinane, Julia	Leach, Stephanie	Patel, Chhayal	Stoller, Paul
Ahart, Krystal	Cool, James	Guinn, Kirk	Leas, Catherine J.	Paul, George	Stone, Andy
Ahl, David	Copeland, Kirsten	Gummere, Kathie	Leather, Jim	Payne, Christopher	Stone, Harry
Aiken, Ellen	Cornish, Jami	Haggerty, Heidi	LeMaire, Kerstin	Pelletier, Janis	Stone, Lisa
Aiken, Shawn	Cotter, Jessica	Hague, Gregory	Lennox, Megan	Perez, Angela	Stone, Shawn
Akbar, Joshua	Cox, Annette	Hahn, Robert	Leonhardt, Kristina	Perez, Cristina	Story, Janet
Alameddin, Ann-Marie	Cox, Ingeborg	Hallman, Brynn	Liburdi, Andrea	Peters, Rich	Sturt, Geoffrey
Alarcón, Camila	Crane, Daniel	Hallam, Michael	Liburdi, Mike	Petersen, Brian	Sutman, Erica
Allen, Thomas	Cranston, Jennifer	Hamilton, Christina	Ligas, Jacqueline	Peterson, Alexia	Suffecool, Chris
Anderson, Mel	Cravata, Carrie	Hammer, Michael	Linn, Matthew	Phillips, Jennifer	Sugich, Carlos
Anderson, Nancy	Creta, Sandra	Hammill, Christopher	Lockin, Matthew	Pinnamaneni, Robby	Suits, Douglas
Aranda, Alice	Cupo, Jason	Hancock, Scott	Longfellow, Victoria	Pohlman, Robert	Swift, Jr., Marvin
Arboleda, Alexandra	Dahlquist, Anna	Harding, Kina	Lunsky, Joseph	Porter, Jeffrey	Zsanto, Ruth
Arboleda, Carlos	Dattilo, Blake	Hardwick, Blake	Lyman, Keith	Porter, Jeffrey	Tanurcot, Irina
Ashcraft, Damon	Davis, Kimberly	Harrington, Neil	Macias, Carrie	Powell, Donald	Tate, Adam
Athen, Sara	Davis, Thomas	Hart, Courtney	Mahoney, Maxwell	Powers, Mallory	Taubman, Lon
Arwood, Denise	Dawson, Barbara	Hatch, Josh	Mallek, Conrad	Proctor, Jane	Teague, Robert
Auther, David	De La Ossa, Joshua	Hawkes, Macie	March, Robert	Pullen, Deshon	TenBrook, Brad
Avraham, Hadar	De Soto, Rita	Heisler, Jordan	Marshall, Gregory	Pynn, Parrish	Thomson, Timothy
Axel, Jennifer	Deering, John	Hennessey, Shannon	Marshall, James	Rathwell, Pete	Thomson, William
Baird, John	Del Fosse, Franc	Hernandez, Evelyn	Marton, Craig	Ray, Wesley	Thorson, Veronica
Baskind, Diana	Denton, Wesley	Hernandez, Justin	Matheson Jr., Clarence	Reber, Robert	Toncheff, Laura
Baum, Falynn	DeWulf, John	Hicks III, William	Mathews, Carolyn	Reeves, Ben	Torrance, John
Bayley, Chris	Diaz, Hector	Hill, Cliff	Mayer, Wendy	Reich, Kristine	Tracy, Megan
Beale, Michael	Diaz, Otilia	Hill, Jennifer	McCarthy, Jr., Philip	Reid, William	Tribbensee, Nancy
Beck, Jeff	Dodge, Franklin	Hindo, Jillian	McCowan, Tom	Restaino, Gary	Trowbridge, Kathryn
Bell, Rebeleah	Dohrer, Suzanne	Hing, Gregory	McCulloch, Diana	Reuben, Molly	Tuffin, James
Bendau II, Clifford	Donahy, Mike	Hirsch, Kyle	McDonald, Mary	Reyes, Amy	Vakula, Alex
Bennett, Lee	Donovan, Ashley	Hislop, Terence	McFadden, Christopher	Riccio, Jr., Dennis	Vale, Kevin
Benyi, Stephan	Drain, Diane	Hogan, Kevin	McGinnis, Susan	Riccio, Jr., David	Valenzuela, Magdalena
Ber, Hershel	Duerksen, Russell	Hoskins, Kami	McGlothlin, David	Riggers, Shawanna	Van Curen, Will
Berk, Kent	Dunn, Brad	Hourigan, Joseph	McLeod, Katherine	Rike, Chris	Van Eetten, Katherine
Berman, Barbara	Durkin, Chelsea	Howard Jr., Robert	MacLeod, Scott	Rivera-Marty, Pedro	Van Loon, Andrew
Bernstein, Ron	Dutton, Patrick	Hudson, Mark	McTheny, Charles	Robbins, Merrill	Van Mullem, Christopher
Beucler, Robert	Dyer, Robert	Huff, Renee	Mead, Terrance	Roberts, Troy	Vandeverter, David
Bhatheja, Anupam	Edgar, Richard	Huffaker, Cody	Meeks, Julie	Robertson, Rachel	Varela, Nick
Bhincourt, Erin	Edmunds, Douglas	Hunter, Candess	Meerchaum, Jack	Romero, Jason	Vatterott-Gale, Jeanne
Bingham, Marthew	Edwards, Nathaniel	Hurley, Michael	Mercer, Marina	Ryden, Monica	Villanueva, Cindy
Bird, Lori	Ehrlich, Amanda	Hyder, Scott	Merrill, Anthony	Saban, Justin	Vinci, Heather
Bivens, Don	Emerson, Joelle	Iacob, Anca	Merz, Eva	Sallee, Melissa	Viola, Joe
Blackman, Martha	Engelman, David	Ivan, Florin	Messinger, Eric	Sanders, Lora	Visnansky, Phillip
Blackwell, Kristy	Ennis, Donald	Iyer, Melissa	Michael, Sarah	Sarhangian, Byron	Voit, William
Blum, Brian	Ernst, Joshua	Jackson, Jackie	Miller, Daniel	Schiman, Colleen	Vondras, Matt
Boren, Logan	Estrada, Giancarlo	Jacob, Nathan	Miller, Joseph	Schmalz, Jane	Vryhof, John
Borges, Ryan	Essig, Tracy	Jaffe, Donna	Mitsuda, Ben	Schmillen, Jim	Waesche, Joe
Bouma, John	Fahrenbach, Emily	Jess, Cody	Modzelewski, Ernie	Schneider, Gary	Walker, Carrie
Bourke, Michael	Fast, Maryanne	Johnson, Ed	Moeser, Chris	Schneider, Gustavo (Gus)	Walker, Chuck
Boyd, Damon	Faussette, Jacob	Johnson, Eric	Molinar, Jeffrey	Schneider, John	Walston, Robert
Boyle, Joseph	Feeley, Janet	Johnson, Jaclyn	Morgan, Michelle	Schock, Charles	Ward, Jennifer
Boyle, Peter	Feehey, Matt	Johnson, Rachel	Mong, Thomas	Schoenau, Karen	Warnick, Emerson
Bradley, Kellen	Feldman, Elizabeth	Jones, Jacob	Morrison, Kristina	Schwarz, Aryeh	Weber, Daniel
Bradley, Shannon	Fincel, Kevin	Jones, Rick	Morton, Thomas	Schwimmer, Robert	Webster, James
Brady, Anne	Fischer, Matthew	Kaczmarek, Derek	Moser, Andrea	Scudder, Jeffrey	Weiner, Gil
Braselton, James	Fisher, Kaine	Kahn, James	Moses, Blair	Seifert, Theresa	Wielzin, Jana
Brelsford, Nathan	Fisk, Ronda	Kalish, Marc	Mosier, Jennifer	Sheedy-Converse, Valerie	Werner, Dean
Brice, Alissa	Flaherty, Brian	Kaptein, Jeremy	Moskowitz, Frank	Sheridan, Amanda	White, Matthew
Brinson, Jonathan	Fleminger, Pauline	Kasarjian, Ashley	Mostafavi, Kaveh	Shew, Mike	White, Tawnia
Brooks, Robert Ian	Flori, Meredith	Kastan, Bill	Moyer, Kenneth	Shick, Jennifer	Wiggs, Suzette
Brown, Bruce	Fobke, Shirley	Katz, Jeffrey	Mulholland, II, William	Shivers, Nonnie	Wilenchuk, John
Brown, Lawrence	Foley, Corey	Keller, Cid	Mumme, Ross	Siegel, Dan	Wilfinger, Emily
Bullock, Lyzzette	Foster, Brian	Keller, Chuck	Murphy, Marilyn	Sienicki, Jim	Wilhoit, Adrienne
Burford, Kenneth	Foster, Teresa	Keller, Craig	Murray, Stanley	Siever, Richard	Williams, Craig
Burow, Matt	Fralay, Lee	Kelly III, Thomas	Neal, Abigail	Simmons, Carlene	Williams, Mark
Burgess, James	Freeburg, Karl	Kelly, Christina	Nelson, Brent	Simmons, Jeffrey	Wilson, David
Burke, Brian	Friedeman, John	Kennedy, Laura	Nelson, Matt	Simple, Mark	Wilson, Jeffrey
Burns, Annette	Friedman, Jennifer	Khotim, Geoffrey	Nickele, Nathaniel	Smith, Cory	Wingard, William
Burt, Sandra	Friedman, Stanley	Kille, Mark	Nordling, Shelley	Sobampo, Javier	Winterscheidt, Rebecca
Busching, Marcia	Fruklin, Jonathan	King, Michael	Nussbaum, Randy	Sobelman, Howard	Wolfson, Alicia Meier
Buzzelle, Stanley	Furlong, Dan	Klundt, Scott	O'Berry, Dennis	Solomon, Patrick	Wood, Nick
Callahan, Jesse	Gadow, Jennifer	Knysh, Crystal	O'Connor, Lisa	Sominsky, Leonard	Woodard, Josh
Campbell, Nancy	Galvani, Kami	Koch-Martinez, Cheryl	O'Neill, Judy	Sparks, Jacob	Woodnick, Gregg
Carmody, Sheila	Garcia, Fidelis	Kondorski, Ryan	Ong, Nicole	Sparrow, Amy	Work, Claudia
Carr, Michelle	Garde, Kimbedy	Kossack, Ronald	Onisile, Bisi	Sprentall, Dave	Yates, Scott
Carroll, David	Garfias, Isaiah	Kral, Kelly	Onofry, Charles	Squire, Bruce	York, John
Castle, Jason	Geake, Robert	Gerrich, Stuart	Opaska, Walter	Srednicki, Aubry	Young, Konnie
Cates, Jeffrey	Gilbert, Jr., Harold	Gildar, Emily	Ortecho, Christina	Sreecharana, Devlin	Zavala, Dori
Ceroni, Natalie	Gillespie, Margaret	Gitre, Patricia	Ortega III, Daniel	Stack, Thomas	Zawrocki, Marie
Chait, Cisty	Goldberg, Jeffery	Goldfine, Dan	Oswalt, Sandra	Staley, Kimberly	Zepeda, Anthony
Chandler, Cynthia	Goodman, Jeremy	Goodman, Marsha	Pacheco, Travis	Stanford, Lindy	Zimmerman, Joshua
Chester, Eric	Goodman, Marsha	Lagerman, Susan	Pack, Bradley	Stapleton, Warren	Zlotnik, Olga
Clark, David	Goodman, Marsha	Lane, Scott	Palumbo, Michael	Starrs, Teresa	Zweig, Jay
Clark, Amie	Goodman, Marsha	Lang, Adam	Pappalardo, Paul	Staudenmaier, Heidi	Zwillinger, Gary
Coccaro, Mike	Goodman, Marsha			Staudenmaier, William	Zwillinger, Scott
Cohen, Ahron	Goodman, Marsha			Stegge, Adam	

Please excuse any errors or omissions that may be present in the Honor Roll listings.

Thanks For Your Support!

The VLP Advisory Committee and VLP Staff are grateful to the organizations—too numerous to mention—for providing financial support for VLP's work to recruit, engage, coordinate, support and recognize volunteer lawyers, including:

AZ Dept. of Economic Security
– Domestic Violence Legal Assistance Project

Arizona Equal Justice Foundation

Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education

Aunt Rita's Foundation

Community Legal Services

Legal Services Corporation

Maricopa County Bar Association

Maricopa County Bar Foundation

Pro Bono Golf Classic

United Way

Youth Partners Foundation

Volunteer Lawyers Program Staff

VLP staff can help any lawyer find a rewarding way to provide pro bono service. To talk with or meet VLP staff, please call 602-258-3434 ext. 2630 (Pat) or ext. 2480 (Mary Hope).

Danae Brownell

Tania Burnside

Peggi Cornelius

Alicia Franco (Yuma)

Maria Fulgencio

Pat Gerrich

Karen Jackman

Mary Hope Lee

Xochilt Nelson (Mohave & LaPaz)

Tina Roach (Yavapai)

Manbel Schaffer

Karen Stuart

Roni Tropper