

Monroe County Bar Association Pro Bono Services Resolution

At the September 2007 meeting of the MCBA Executive Board, the following resolution was approved:

The Monroe County Bar Association hereby resolves that each Monroe County attorney should comply with the following pro bono aspirational goal, expectation and/or rule and the attorney should, on an annual basis:

1) Take at least one new pro bono matter or continue work on an ongoing pro bono matter; or

2) Provide significant direct legal service on behalf of those who cannot afford representation, as defined by the local legal services provider or such regional legal services providers as may make use of the attorney's services. In addition to direct representation, such service may also consist of:

a) Serving on a hotline or some other client or attorney resource panel for a legal services provider; or presenting poverty law informational programs for legal aid staff and/or their clients;

b) Handling matters at significantly reduced fees, or "low bono representation", for persons who do not qualify financially for legal aid but cannot afford full legal fees, so long as this service is provided as part of a county bar association or Pennsylvania Bar Association program to reach this target population or is by court appointment; and/or,

c) Such other service needed by the legal services provider; including serving as a mediator or providing other alternative dispute resolution services,

or

3) Make a significant time contribution to a nonprofit organization or a significant financial contribution to a legal services provider which could include participating in an arbitration fee donation program.