Robert G. Williamson of Williamson & Williams PLLC served as part of the PBA virtual law clinic for disaster relief after Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee brought severe flooding to areas of the state in late summer of 2011. Recently he provided virtual representation by email and phone of a Bloomsburg couple in a FEMA buyout of their flood-damaged house.

“The couple got ... enough to buy a new house and furniture with a very small mortgage,” noted Williamson, “and they escaped from the cycle of floods that had kept them trapped in their old house for many years.” He added, “They ... said it made a huge difference in their lives. You don’t get that every day.”

Why do you participate in pro bono? I take our professional ethical obligation to do pro bono work seriously. There really are people who have serious legal problems but cannot afford to pay a lawyer.

How did you first become involved? I have done pro bono work since being admitted in 1981. Before I went to law school, I was a Democratic committee-man and a construction worker and manager. I always knew somebody in the community who needed help.

Have your pro bono cases dealt with legal issues different from your regular practice? If so, how did you adapt? We have a general practice with emphasis on business, real estate, consumer debt defense and consumer bankruptcy. I do pro bono work mostly in these areas. In the case above, I applied the real estate and administrative law I knew, talked to the same real estate experts I would in a paying case, did some legal research and did the rest by analogy to what I did know.

What have been the personal rewards? It gives me a great deal of satisfaction to help people who cannot help themselves.

THE SHAREHOLDERS AND ASSOCIATE ATTORNEYS OF

Fitzpatrick Lentz & Bubba
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THREE NEW ATTORNEYS HAVE JOINED THE FIRM:

JACOB M. SITMAN
SHAREHOLDER – EMPLOYMENT & HUMAN RESOURCES GROUP
Formerly of Obermayer Rebmann, L.L.P., of Philadelphia, Mr. Sitman is a graduate of Muhlenberg College and Rutgers University School of Law.

COLIN J. KEEFE
ASSOCIATE – CORPORATE, BUSINESS & BANKING GROUP
A decorated Marine veteran who served in Iraq, Mr. Keefe is a graduate of Lehigh University and Georgetown University Law Center. He joins us from the New York firm of Shearman and Sterling.

GRETCHEN L. GEISSER
ASSOCIATE – LITIGATION GROUP
A graduate of Muhlenberg College and Villanova University School of Law, Ms. Geisser has just completed a clerkship in the Northampton County Court of Common Pleas with Judge Michael J. Koury, Jr.

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