A. Monroe County Pro Bono Program

Monroe County has a small pro bono program. North Penn Legal Services works with the County Bar Association and its pro bono committee. There are currently over twenty lawyers who have volunteered to assist low income clients in multiple legal practice areas, including child custody, landlord/tenant, mortgage foreclosure, debt collections, consumer rights, elder law and housing preservation. Each year the MCBA holds a lunch and learn which is free to member attendees who agree to take on at least two pro bono cases in the year. The topics of the lunch and learn vary keeping in mind the needs of the clients served by North Penn Legal Services. Referrals for the Monroe County Pro Bono Program are made through North Penn Legal Services. NPLS screens the client and then if the client meets the income guidelines, NPLS sets up a consultation with an attorney that has agreed to accept referrals.

Please visit the website of North Penn Legal Services for legal information that may help you better understand your case: www.northpennlegal.org

To apply for services, including whether you will qualify for a pro bono lawyer, call: 1-877-953-4250
Intake hours are Mon-Thurs: 9:00-11:30am, 1:30-4:00pm and Fri: 9:00-11:30am.

B. Other Local Pro Bono Options

1. Middle District Bankruptcy Bar Association (Northern Tier)

The Middle District Bankruptcy Bar Association has established a Pro Bono Program to assist indigent debtors with Chapter 7 bankruptcy cases. To qualify for the program a prospective debtor must have income which does not exceed 150% of the applicable federal poverty guideline. Persons seeking assistance through the program must submit an application through North Penn Legal Services, which conducts intake on behalf of the MDBBA. If the applicant is eligible, North Penn Legal Services will either provide representation directly to the debtor or submit him or her to the MDBBA for a referral to a volunteer bankruptcy attorney.

For more information, please contact:

Vincent Rubino, Esq., Chairman
Northern Tier Pro Bono Committee, Middle District Bankruptcy Bar Association
Newman, Williams, Mishkin, Corveleyn, Wolfe and Fareri, PC
712 Monroe Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
2. Middle District Federal Bar Association

The Middle District Chapter of the Federal Bar Association has established a pro bono program that provides attorneys to represent indigent parties in civil litigation after the Court has preliminarily evaluated the case and made a determination to seek counsel for the unrepresented indigent party. The Chapter's pro bono chair is responsible for acting upon the Court's requests for volunteer attorneys.

Assignments generally are not made to a given attorney more frequently than once every five years, assuming that the volume of cases and the number of panel attorneys permit this approach. Another important feature of the program is the availability of a panel of mentors to assist volunteer attorneys in the mentors' specialized areas of practice.

For more information, please contact:

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