

PERRY COUNTY PRO BONO OPTIONS, January 2010

A. Perry County Bar Association

Old info indicates no program at all.

B. Other Local Pro Bono Options

1. Penn State University, Dickinson School of Law

a. Pro Bono Program

The Miller Center for Public Interest Advocacy serves to foster students' understanding of and commitment to their obligation to serve the underrepresented. The Miller Center pairs law students who have expressed a desire to provide pro bono research with lawyers providing pro bono representation, Legal Service attorneys, public defenders, private attorneys appointed by the court to represent indigent defendants, public interest organizations, and pro bono programs that have requested assistance on a case or a particular issue. *Law students cannot provide legal advice directly to clients, but do assist attorneys representing the poor.*

For more information, please contact:

Kate Cramer Lawrence

Director of Public Interest Programming and
Attorney, Children's Advocacy Clinic

The Penn State University Dickinson School of Law

Public Interest Office 717.240.5210

Clinic Office 717.243.2968

http://law.psu.edu/the_penn_state_law_experience/public_service

b. Family Law Clinic

The Family Law Clinic is a free service providing legal help for people in Cumberland County who are having problems related to family matters. Qualified law students, under the supervision of law professors and supervising attorneys who are members of the Pennsylvania Bar, provide legal services in areas such as:

- Divorce;
- Custody;
- Child support;
- Spousal support;
- Protection from abuse;
- Other domestic matters.

The Family Law Clinic is located in the Dale F. Shughart Community Law Center at 45 North Pitt Street. Please call the Clinic at (717) 243-2968 for more information or to find out if you qualify for assistance.

c. Disability Law Clinic

The Disability Law Clinic, established in 1985, offers free legal services to Cumberland and Perry County residents with disability-related problems. Qualified law students provide legal services in areas such as:

- Supplemental Security Income claims (SSI);
- Handicap discrimination;
- Americans with Disabilities Act claims;
- Special education problems;
- Social Security Disability claims;
- Other disability matters.

In most semesters, the Clinic is staffed by four second- and third-year students. Students appear before Social Security Disability Hearing Officers and Administrative Law Judges, as well as judges of the Court of Common Pleas. They also handle appeals to the federal courts. Students are supervised by Professor Robert Rains and supervising attorneys Anne MacDonald-Fox and Megan Riesmeyer, who are members of the Bar of Pennsylvania. Students are certified under the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's Student Practice Rule.

The Disability Law Clinic is located in the Dale F. Shughart Community Law Center at 45 North Pitt Street. Contact the Clinic at (717) 243-3696 for more information.

2. Middle District Bankruptcy Bar Association (Southern Tier)

The Middle District Bankruptcy Bar Association (MDBBA) 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 MDBBA'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 twice a year, assuming that the volume of cases and the number of panel attorneys permit this approach. Upon occasion, the Court may also refer requests for pro bono counsel to Mollie Oleyar, Administrator of the MDBBA, for referral to a member of the MDBBA panel for a low-cost private attorney.

For more information, please contact:

Lawrence V. Young, Esquire
Chair - Southern Tier MDBBA Pro Bono Program
135 North George Street
York, PA 17401
Phone: (717) 718-7110

Fax: (717) 843-9039
lyoung@cgalaw.com

3. 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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