

PBA Pro Bono Coordinator's Report

November 17, 2010

November 2010 marks the beginning of the tenth year of operation for the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Pro Bono Office. During that period, some impressive numbers have been posted through the PBA's in house pro bono efforts, including an outreach that has touched almost 50,000 people with legal aid issues, over 300 individuals and organizations being honored with pro bono awards, nearly 200 CLE programs having been conducted locally, regionally and across the state, and the securing of \$114,050 in IOLTA grant funding and more than \$200,000 in direct and in-kind donations. Add in more than half a million miles of travel and there has been a lot of activity out of an office that is staffed by a single full-time attorney and a half-time administrative assistant.

Although there was pro bono activity sponsored by the PBA prior to the October 2001¹ hiring of attorney David Keller Trevaskis as the PBA's first full-time Pro Bono Coordinator, pro bono received an increased emphasis at the PBA with the formal creation, staffing and budgeting of a Pro Bono Office. The office was created to meet the crisis of unmet civil legal needs among the poor in Pennsylvania and throughout the nation. The defining principle of our legal system is the promise of equal justice under law for all, yet, despite all of the efforts of the PBA and the thousands of lawyers and judges statewide who take pro bono cases and support legal aid, far too many of the poor and near poor never have the opportunity to even talk to an attorney while handling legal concerns.²

The PBA has consistently worked to change this reality. Current PBA President Gretchen Mundorff has asked all members of the PBA's House of Delegates to take at least one case this year and report to the PBA on their pro bono service as the Board has done for the past three years. Young Lawyers Chair Lisa Woodburn has extended Mundorff's "pink" challenge to YLD leadership. Even though the deadline for reporting such efforts is not until next May, there has already been a return of nearly 10% showing the wide pro bono work of the PBA. PBA members do far more than just provide representation and advice each year to the thousands who would otherwise have their access to justice blocked — they also screen and refer clients; recruit, train, mentor and honor volunteers; prepare educational and pro se materials; and lead fundraising efforts. Although there is some type of pro bono activity in every county in the state, each county's approach to pro bono is unique. Please check out the [County Pro Bono Activities and Other Pro Bono Resources](#) area to find out what is happening in a particular county. The Pro

¹ Pro Bono Awards were started in 1988, the PBA's Task Force on the Delivery of Legal Services to the Needy under Joseph H. Jones issued its seminal report in 1989 after extensive study, conferences and continuing legal education classes were conducted during the 1990s, and the PBA's Delivery of Legal Services to the Needy Task Force II started its work in 1998. PBA Committees did outreach and created educational materials including pamphlets on various legal matters and videos promoting Access to Justice and PBA staffers had pro bono duty assignments.

² The Pennsylvania Legal Assistance Network estimates that only one in five poverty level persons with legal issues ever see an attorney and PLAN surveys show that half of the eligible clients who make it to a legal aid office in Pennsylvania are turned away because the local offices, even with pro bono support, do not have the resources to help them.

Bono Office conducts annual surveys of pro bono services and a summary of pro bono options for every county is available at <http://www.pabar.org/public/probono/countyprobono.asp>. The pro bono service section of the PBA website provides continuing updates of activities from awards to the annual Pro Bono Week celebrations across the state, from committee news to plans for the statewide Pro Bono Conference on March 7, 2011.³

Past PBA Presidents and Boards have consistently shown their support for legal aid for the poor by promoting and passing resolutions calling for pro bono service, increased funding for civil legal aid, loan forgiveness for legal aid attorneys, and exploration of civil Gideon. Although an effort to ask every committee and section of the PBA to enunciate their pro bono work failed to pass muster in 2009, the inaugural Loan Assistance Repayment Program of the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation that will shortly distribute its first grants is a testament to the continued commitment of the PBA in the area of legal aid to the poor. Challenges such as the possible sunset of Access to Justice funding in 2012 underscore the need for continued PBA leadership on behalf of the poor. Numerous committees and sections help this effort. The Legal Services to the Public, Access to Justice and sunseting Child Advocate Pro Bono Committees are all directly staffed by the PBA Pro Bono Office because of their clear legal aid mission along with the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee and its Legal Assistance for Military Personnel Program. In addition, many committees and sections, such as the Family Law Section, actively support PBA pro bono efforts by providing resources and expertise.

The partnership between the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network (PLAN) and the PBA has been strengthened despite dealing with significant issues over the years between some county bar associations and certain legal services programs around the state. PLAN has responded to bar concerns in an open and positive manner thereby avoiding potentially damaging breakdowns in the partnership between legal services and the bar in a number of key areas across Pennsylvania. Recent PLAN/PBA joint social and educational outreach events at the Conference of County Bar Leaders highlight this partnership which is underscored by the joint effort of PLAN and the PBA Pro Bono Office to promote and maintain the PALawHelp.Org and PProBono.Net online resources. PALawHelp.org is the Pennsylvania site for general information about the law and the resources available to needy clients; PProBono.net is the Pennsylvania version of an online resource for legal advocates, including pro bono and legal services attorneys, law professors and law students, and other social services advocates across the country. The coming year will see a huge push to enroll all PBA members on PProBono.Net.

The relationship between the PBA and IOLTA also has been enhanced with the PBA Pro Bono Office working with IOLTA to provide technical assistance to programs awarded pro bono grants under the IOLTA initiative started by Chief Justice Emeritus John P. Flaherty, Jr., of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court that has distributed nearly half a million dollars donated by attorneys to this fund since 2003. The fund was going to be discontinued after grants were given out in 2010, but support among the Bar has been so strong that the fund has been extended and there will be IOLTA Pro Bono Grants again in 2011-12. Although the funds raised by that initiative have been relatively small compared to the larger funds that go directly to legal aid programs, the grants have been impactful by primarily targeting those counties with little or no

³ See <http://www.pabar.org/public/probono/pbwhatsnew.asp> for information including past editions of the periodic Pro Bono E-News.

formal pro bono activity to support development efforts. During the current year, IOLTA pro bono grants will fund initiatives in Beaver, Chester, Crawford, Cumberland and Washington Counties and the PBA Pro Bono Office will work with the Child Advocates Program of Montgomery County to present ten workshops across the state promoting pro bono child advocacy efforts.

There has been a tremendous growth in pro bono activity for the PBA Pro Bono Office beyond the traditional areas of poverty law. The Pennsylvania Bar Association, through its Legal Assistance for Military Personnel Program (LAMP), has been answering the call of our service members and veterans since 2002 and has helped more than 2000 individuals and families during that time at no cost to those requesting aid. That program was featured as part of a Veterans Day celebration at the National Constitution Center on November 11, 2010. Modest means programs for those who are above the poverty limits but unable to fully pay for legal services have been established in a few counties and “low” bono efforts with reduced fees or negotiated payment plans have been promoted. The Wills for Heroes Program, an outreach of the PBA Young Lawyers Division supported by the Pro Bono Office, has produced Wills, Living Wills and Powers of Attorneys for thousands of first responders across the nation. In Pennsylvania, which is acknowledged as the leading state in the country for this effort, there was a WFH program somewhere in the state every weekend this fall. Wills for Heroes calls upon the expertise of lawyers throughout the state who are stepping forward to provide the free legal services. Expert trust and estate attorneys are on hand to handle any problem that arises.⁴

The one day clinic model of Wills for Heroes is the perfect model for other such events, with a beginning CLE providing training for the non-expert attorneys and paralegals attending, then scheduled appointments using Hotdocs software that keep the delivery of services consistent and accurate. There was be a significant effort to create legal aid clinics across the state to handle exploding family law and financial issues that have accompanied the economic downturn. The Pro Bono Office has worked with colleges and other entities such as libraries across Pennsylvania to create settings where families might come to have their legal needs analyzed and receive advice and support. The annual January King Holiday with its message of service has proven to be a fertile time for such efforts but the Pro Bono Office is supporting such efforts year-round.

The Pro Bono office receives multiple request for help every day through calls, emails and direct contacts, as the dynamic at many points of entry into the justice system such as lawyer referral programs, legal aid offices and court houses is changed from people being told they have nowhere else to turn and no one can give them legal information and advice to “Contact the PBA Pro Bono Office” The working protocol for handling such requests is noted as follows: Individuals making requests for pro bono services are asked basic questions by PBA interns and staff (name, address, contact information) and are asked to provide a brief description of their issue and detail what steps they have taken seeking help. They are self-screened for eligibility, meaning that interns and PBA staff ask requesters if they qualify financially for legal aid. Each person, even those who say they do not qualify for legal aid, is given, at the minimum, the PALawHelp.org site to look at the resources there (and if the individual is unable to access the internet, PBA staff and volunteers will print out and mail resources to those individuals where

⁴ For more information on the program, please see <http://www.pabar.org/public/yld/Projects/willsforheroesyld.aspx>

possible and direct the person to their local library since librarians across the state have been trained in this resource). Those who affirm to PBA staff that they have cases that qualify for pro bono support are asked if the PBA may share their information and, if the answer is yes, the client is told that the PBA office will post their case for consideration by pro bono lawyers. That posting is usually in the form of a directed email to known volunteers or to County Bar leaders and pro bono coordinators making use of the county pro bono resources on the PBA website⁵, as well as a posting on PProBono.Net.

However, each person is informed clearly that there is no guarantee that their case will be picked up by a pro bono lawyer so they must keep working to resolve their problems and watch their deadlines. PBA staff then checks with the local legal service provider to make sure that the individual has gone through the steps of trying to have his or her case handled by Legal Aid and to double check during such inquiries that the person qualifies for such assistance. If a pro bono lawyer agrees to take the case, the PBA staffer sends the individual's contact information to the lawyer and asks the lawyer to send notice of the disposition. As regards the PBA and other lawyer referral programs, we have informed those programs to suggest www.palawhelp.org when clients are clearly seeking pro bono help and not a paid attorney and to direct the clients to our office.

Many of the legal matters are resolved through legal information provided to clients using the PALawHelp.org site with either staff help or support from PBA interns or volunteer attorneys in navigating the site. Direct attorney involvement is almost always secured by electronic means, through listservs (serving standing Committees of the PBA, County Bar leaders and/or Legal Aid Professionals) and direct email solicitation of volunteers in specific geographic locations. Phone calls to request attorneys were utilized in about 5% of the referrals when all other means failed or when identified pro bono attorneys asked for that form of contact, a number that has remained consistent over the past couple of years. The PProBono.Net website remains a tool primarily for the future, although the vast majority of the referrals listed on the website come from the PBA Pro Bono Office. The PBA Pro Bono Office is also listed on other national pro bono resource sites such as those maintained by the American Bar Association.

Monthly page hits on the www.PALawHelp.org website continue to rise, averaging more than 20,000 distinct page hits a month and the information center receives consistently positive feedback from clients referred to the site.⁶ The Pro Bono Office continues to work with law students at Widener, Temple, Drexel, Penn and Dickinson/PSU, as well as paralegal students at the Community College of Philadelphia, to provide support for clients navigating the website. Law students and paralegal students have also been able to continue to help those who have no internet access at home by printing out and mailing information on the matters facing persons

⁵ See <http://www.pabar.org/public/probono/countyprobono.asp> Appendix B provides a sampling of matters to highlight how this process works out.

⁶ See Appendix A for a list of the top 10 items looked at in a month. Two of the 10 items are hot docs showing the value of having clients able to access materials to help with self-representation.

requesting pro bono support.

Appendix A

Here are the top 10 viewed resources on PALawHelp:

Title	Organization	Top
1. Pennsylvania Complaint for Custody	North Penn Legal Services	Chi
2. Your Right to Unemployment Compensation	Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network Inc.	Em
3. Custody and Visitation of Children	Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network Inc.	Chi
4. Pennsylvania Petition for Modification or Contempt of a Custody Order	North Penn Legal Services	Chi
5. Divorce	Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network Inc.	Chi Sep
6. Collection Procedures Under Pennsylvania Law	Neighborhood Legal Services Association	Cor
7. General Pennsylvania Law About Custody	Neighborhood Legal Services Association	Chi
8. Repossessions	Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network Inc.	Cor
9. Your Right to Cancel Certain Contracts	Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network Inc.	Cor
10. Repossessions	Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network Inc.	Cor

Number 1 and 4 are HotDocs templates; the others are all fact sheets/brochures from PLAN programs.

Appendix B

Sample Intake/Outreach

Here is a small sampling of the kinds of matters that come before the Pro Bono Office which reflects the diversity of issues, as well as the range of approaches to handling those issues, that the office has developed.

If the Pro Bono Office can refer the case to an outside pro bono attorney, the following information is provided. Here is a sample of what was given to attorney Harry J. Cooper, Jr., on an expungement case that was referred from a clinic held by the Pro Bono office. The expungement was needed so that the person could get work. The Pro Bono Coordinator gave this information to Cooper at the clinic and the matter was handled pro bono.

John Barber

Phone #267-825-0141

Email address: johnbarberg@aol.com

4959 W. Girard Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19131

FBI #371705MAZ

Arrested on recorded: 1990/11/01

Agency case: 637009010

Charge 1: 5299 Weapon offenses

Charge 2: Use/carry firearm while engaged in drug traffic

His PA state record is clear and PA child clearance has come back cleared.

Because the Pro Bono Office is the place Lawyer Referral sends applicants who seem to have unique issues, this matter came to our attention. Although it clearly seemed out of the pro bono area and was not a PA case, follow-up calls were made as they are to all who contact the office. This person fell into that category of persons who, it seems, are unable to be satisfied. That category is much smaller than many would expect given the limited resources available to the poor and the number of frustrated people, from ordinary people in very bad circumstances all the way across the spectrum to the mentally ill, who are trying to access the system. Nonetheless, each person is professionally handled. Except for the direct outreach clinics, most of the work of the office is handled by phone and email as the below samples show.

Subject: 101909 phone message Rangle

Medical Malpractice

Sherry 1st stated that it was her that this happened to, then said her daughter, then said her again. Anyways she or her daughter went to the University of Maryland Dental School to have some work done. She has a heart murmur and the dentist knew about it and pulled her tooth away. It became infected and she had to go to the hospital. (This all happened in Maryland) She called the Maryland Bar Association and she said she was told the following “only certain races can file malpractice and get help doing so”. I explained to her that most attorneys will take malpractice cases on contingency bases. She then stated she called at least 20 in MD and no one would take her case. Now she is looking for attorneys in PA that are licensed in MD to take her case. She kept asking me if I thought she had a case, and I kept explaining to her that I’m not an attorney therefore I can not say.

Name: Sherry Rangle

Phone: 267-750-9093

Maryland

Respectfully,

Gabriele E. Miller-Wagner

Administrative Assistant

County Bar Services/Pro Bono Legal Services

PA Bar Association

100 South Street

PO Box 186

Harrisburg, PA 17108

Phone: (717)238-6715 Ext. 2297

Fax: (717)238-7182

Email: gabriele.millerwagner@pabar.org

This call came in and the Pro Bono coordinator followed up with the applicant and gave his advocate a step by step procedure for securing the name change. The directed limited representation allowed for the applicant to handle the matter successfully *pro se*.

Subject: 102109 phone message Shelly (Donna B called)

Name change for a child

Donna Burkholder called for Friday Shelly (she is his literacy coach). Mid Penn helped him w/ custody of the child, but doesn't do name change issues.

Gave her palawhelp.org and gave her number for Cumberland Bar.

Explained you would call tomorrow or Friday.

Name: Friday Shelly

Contact person: Donna Burkholder

Phone: 717-697-3312

County: Cumberland

Respectfully,

Gabriele E. Miller-Wagner

Administrative Assistant

County Bar Services/Pro Bono Legal Services

PA Bar Association

100 South Street

PO Box 186

Harrisburg, PA 17108

Phone: (717)238-6715 Ext. 2297

Fax: (717)238-7182

Email: gabriele.millerwagner@pabar.org

It is still rare but a growing number of applicants for aid reach out to the Pro Bono Office directly by email. The vast majority of our contacts still come from phone, mostly referred by lawyer referral, with very few coming by mail (mostly prisoner letters). Most of the people who contact the office in this manner do not qualify for legal aid but are in that modest means sector where they still cannot pay for attorney representation. We provide direction to resources regardless of income level.

Subject: Byzek--Legal help

Please check out www.palawhelp.org to see what resources are available to you and to see what information is there that will help you with your matter. Support for children is obligated by parents until the child reaches age 18.

You can file pro se, on your own, and ask for fees to be waived because of your impoverished situation (in forma pauperus is the term, IFP for short). What county are you located in? There may be other resources we can direct you to.

Best wishes!

Subject: Legal help

Dear Mr. Travaskis,

My name is Jennifer Byzek. I am a 36-year-old woman who has been separated from my emotionally and verbally abusive husband for almost four years. We have an 11-year-old daughter for whom he does not pay any child support. And quite frankly, I don't want anything from him, I just want the divorce. We have a home in which he has lived the entire time since the separation - I moved out into an apartment and have since moved into a house which I rent. Both of our names are on the mortgage for the house that he lives in. My situation is that I work two jobs trying to support myself and my daughter. By the time I pay my rent, all utilities, car payment and insurance, daycare and buy groceries, I don't have anything left. I have talked to a couple of attorneys who want \$1500-2000 down, but I don't have it. I feel stuck in this marriage and I want to be done with it so that I can move on with my life. I'm not sure whether or not he

will allow for a smooth divorce, as he is very unpredictable. I don't want anything from him, I just want to be free.

Is there anyone who might be able to help me? Any information that you may have would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Jennifer Byzek

This email trail shows how the Pro Bono Office started handling family law cases with the help of the Family Law Section of the PBA. Family Law lawyers agree to follow up with low income applicants on matters that Legal Aid is unable to handle. Sometimes the PBA checks with the Legal Aid Office to make sure that the person has been turned away for the reason stated but generally the reason comes out when the Pro Bono Coordinator follows up on the initial contact. Sometimes the person has been turned down because it is a conflict situation and in those cases the person often does not understand the concept of how their opponent can get a legal aid—"free"—lawyer and they cannot. Most times the reason people are turned away is that the Legal Aid Office does not have the family law issue that person is presenting as a priority.

In these kind of informational referrals, the lawyer will usually share information directly with the Pro Bono Office which filters the information back to the person seeking help. Sometimes the lawyer volunteers to work directly with the person and our office facilitates that. These cases are also posted on PApronobono.net to see if any help can be secured.

Subject: FW: 110309 phone message Wissinger

Hello Attorney Barbor

I wanted to forward the information below to you to see if you had any information or suggestions.

Thank you for your time.

Thanks,

Gabriele

Subject: 110309 phone message Wissinger

Divorce/Custody

Angie tried legal aid for the divorce and they told her they don't do divorces anymore, but I told her to go back to them to see if they will do the custody portion. She basically owes everything so the divorce might be simple if he doesn't dispute anything.

I explained lawyer referral, palawhelp.org, to call attorneys and ask if they are accepting pro bono, low income and payments, and to call her county bar association to see if they might have other resources for her. I explained that palawhelp.org might be able to help her do some of the filing herself.

Name: Angie Wissinger

Phone: 724-762-4601

County: Indiana

I will post.

This reflects the range of cases that come before the pro Bono Office. In cases which occur in places where there is a strong local pro bono program, such as below in Dauphin County, one of the first questions is always whether the person has reached out to the local legal aid and pro bono program. To help attorneys in the field, the Pro Bono Office maintains updated webpages on pro bono efforts in each of the counties. See <http://pabar.org/public/probono/dauphinprobonohome.asp> for Dauphin County.

Subject: 111109 phone message King

DOT action

Dorothy called for her husband. He has 2 driver's licenses one in his real name and one in an alias. The hearing is Nov 16.

I gave her palawhelp.org, she spoke to LRS and they couldn't help her and I gave her Sandy's number.

She asked me what would happen if they surrendered the one license. I explained I was not an attorney, but gave her your number to call you for advice.

Name: Robert King (speak to Dorothy)

Phone: 717-238-0616

County: Dauphin

The email trail below shows a grandparents rights case from Franklin County where two local legal aid offices still leave gaps. In the case of a sophisticated applicant for service, as in the case below, the Pro Bono Office will ask during our phone consultation if the person is able to email the office a summary of the matter and will provide permission to share. That allows the office to feed the client's own words to possible legal aid or pro bono attorneys. In a case like this one where the applicant has access to an attorney through other means, the Pro Bono Office will often encourage that attorney to take the matter on a pro bono basis with the office providing support.

Subject: FW: Pro Bono or reduced fee attorney for custody of grandchild (Kesselring)

Hello Carolyn (Franklin) and Sue (Senior Law Help)

David wanted me to share this w/ you for any thoughts and resources you may have.

Thank you.

Thanks,

Gabriele

Subject: Pro Bono or reduced fee attorney for custody of grandchild

Dear David,

I am looking for a Pro Bono or reduced fee Attorney in Franklin County which would be willing to take a custody case of my grandson. I have had my grandson full time for the past 6 months. He is 3 years old, Mathan Riley. He was born and lived with me except for about 6 months, which his mother had him. I had to have Social Services there many times for abuse from the mother's boyfriend and also neglect. He is presently on SSI for a breathing disability. I had to have his SSI check sent to me as payee due to the fact the mother was not using it for the care of him. I am presently the payee. I am a single grandparent and cannot afford the \$6,000.00 to \$10,000.00 which I have been quoted for custody. The father is presently incarcerated at Coal Township for 23-46 years for rape. My grandson's mother has no place to live, no job, no phone and I have no way to reach her. I have custody papers from the father but I need permanent custody of him due to his medical condition and also his mother's instability. His father is Marcus Riley, and his Mother is Molly Hollinshead. Molly is also currently facing retail theft charges among other violations. I have the support of the father's family for custody. I am now working 2 jobs to support myself and Mathan. If you should need references I have work closely with Mrs. Sulclove of the District Attorney's office concerning the father incarceration and also Solicitor David Cleaver of Chambersburg whom I have work with at my present job for the St. Thomas Township Municipal Authority for 20 years. Any help in obtaining custody of my grandson would be greatly appreciated. I am concerned at this point his mother may try and take him. Any questions, please feel free to call me.

Amy Kesselring

75 Carlton Circle

St. Thomas, PA 17252

717-369-5890 Work

717-658-7258 Cell

Sometimes matters come in at times where there is too little time to do much more than provide triage support. This came in the week of Thanksgiving and none of the attorneys we contacted ever got back to the woman. Perry County shows no organized pro bono effort and the outreach to the local Bar leadership was futile. At times, we have been able to engage students and staff from the clinics at the Miller Center at Dickinson to help Perry County people, but that usually takes a long lead time.

Subject: 112009 phone message Weston

Custody

Juliana currently has emergency custody of her child and has filed for custody. Legal aid told her they don't do custody cases in Perry County (MidPenn). Must report Dec 1.

Gave her palawhelp.org explained w/ such short notice it's best to check out the website and to get as much info and knowledge from it as possible because she will probably have to go in herself.

Name: Juliana Weston

Phone: 717-386-3351

County: Perry

Some matters come to the Pro Bono Office with a range of issues that arise from an event, such as a person's death. This sample matter highlights the variety of issues that can be in play. When the intake call is handled by our office administrator or by an intern, the instructions are to get as much information as possible, share the PALawHelp.org website and schedule, if possible, a time for the Pro Bono Coordinator to call the person back. In difficult cases, if a time cannot be scheduled, the person is asked to call the office back at their convenience.

Subject: 112309 phone message Henry

This person will be calling you tomorrow morning.

Estate Law

John's mother was in a home, got ill, taken to the hospital and died at the hospital May 27. He was in charge of handling her estate. He sold her trailer to the landlord of the park where the trailer was located. He used the money in her checking account to pay for the funeral. He gave her car to his daughter. He gave what money was left to his daughter and a few other relatives. He is stating there is nothing left. He just received, by sheriff on the 16th, a notice of suit from the nursing home for \$13,000. He thought she had insurance through Geisinger Gold Medical up until the time she died, but apparently didn't. He was called to go and sign papers to get her medical asst, but states that the times that were good for him weren't good for the people who were calling him to do so. They also called him after her death so sign the papers to get her medical asst for the time the insurance lapse to her death and he didn't do so. He states he asked them, "is that legal?", so he didn't go and sign them.

I told him several times during the entire conversation that I wasn't an attorney, but he needed to get some information.

I asked him what the dates of services were that the nursing home was being charged for, he didn't know. I told him to find out.

I asked him what the expiration date on the Geisinger Gold Medical policy, he didn't know. I told him to find out.

I asked him if he posted a death notice for creditors in any daily circulars and he did not.

I asked him if he could recover any of the money or the car he gave away, he stated no and there is no way for him to get any of it back. I explained that he might have needed to make sure the estate was settled prior to giving out inheritance and it is very important for him to contact an attorney.

I asked him if his daughter still has the car and she does, but no matter what happens he won't ask her to give it back.

I asked him when he found out about the bill from the home, he stated when he received the suit notice on the 16th. (has 20 days to respond)

Told him to contact his local legal aid office since he hasn't done that yet

Explained LRS and to call them, if no one in Mifflin, try the next county closest to him

Gave him the number for senior law help (senior, disabled and veteran)

Explained to gather the dates I asked him about earlier

Gave him your cell number and explained you are only in the office Tuesday (about other resources for him)

Wants to know if a judgment is placed against him, can they take from his disability?

Name: John Henry

Phone: 717-242-3261

County: Mifflin