

Law Firms and Legal Departments Find Creative Means to Partner on Pro Bono Projects

Pro bono partnerships have garnered increasing support, participation, and attention recently - and will be the focus of this year's Pro Bono Institute Gala on November 6, 2007. Law Firms and legal departments, often with the assistance of Corporate Pro Bono (CPBO) and PBI's Law Firm Pro Bono Project, are finding innovative methods to team up to maximize their pro bono efforts. An article in the August 2007 issue of *Corporate Counsel* magazine examines this trend and details some of these exciting and innovative partnerships. **[FULL STORY]**

Philadelphia's Corporate Pro Bono Day Serving Small Businesses Seeks In-House Volunteers

On September 18, the Philadelphia LawWorks project of the Philadelphia Volunteers for the Indigent Program will hold the fourth annual Philadelphia Corporate Pro Bono Day. The event is co-sponsored by the Association of Corporate Counsel's Delaware Valley Chapter (DELVACCA) and Corporate Pro Bono (CPBO) and will be hosted by The Enterprise Center, a minority business development center located in the historic American Bandstand Building in West Philadelphia. Training for the volunteers will be provided by Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP. The volunteer participants represent several corporate law departments, including, in past years, PECO Energy; Comcast Cable Communications, LLC; Arkema Inc.; GlaxoSmithKline, Exelon Business Services, Johnson & Johnson, Pep Boys, S. Freedman and Company, Inc., American Financial Realty Trust, Triumph Group, Inc., Siemens Corporation and others. In-house lawyers interested in building their skills, networking, and assisting community-based small businesses should contact Martin Costello at (215) 523-9562 or visit www.philadelphialawworks.org. **[FULL STORY]**

Pro Bono Institute Staff Changes

With mixed feelings, the Pro Bono Institute said farewell to two essential and well-respected colleagues on July 27, 2007. The Corporate Pro Bono (CPBO) Project Assistant, Meredith Gallaspy, and the Law Firm Pro Bono Project Assistant, Tiffany Joly both left to return to school; Meredith, pursuing a Master's in Social Work, and Tiffany, pursuing a law degree. Their positions have been filled by Benjamin Bay and Jodi Sackel. Jodi, the new Law Firm Pro Bono Project Assistant, graduated from Duke University in May with a degree in Psychology. Benjamin Bay, the new CPBO Project Assistant, has an undergraduate degree from George Washington University, and a Master's from University College London. PBI has also benefited from the contributions of several summer interns, both law students and undergraduates. **[FULL STORY]**

Pro Bono Institute Law Firm Pro Bono Project Seeks Pro Bono Policies for Clearinghouse

The Pro Bono Institute's Law Firm Pro Bono Project maintains a primarily web-based clearinghouse of useful, timely, and practical pro bono materials that are made available at no cost to member law firms. In a systematic and ongoing attempt to keep that material fresh, the Project periodically seeks submissions from law firms. Currently, the Project would like to obtain law firm pro bono policies, preferably in an electronic format. This material can be forwarded to the Project Assistant, Jodi Sackel, at jsackel@probonoinst.org. If this material is only available in hard copy, it can be mailed or faxed to: Jodi Sackel, Law Firm Pro Bono Project, 600 New Jersey Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20001 - f. (202) 662-9683 **[FULL STORY]**

Reminder - Complete and Return Your Law Firm Pro Bono Project Membership Renewal/Enrollment Form Today

Law Firm Pro Bono Project 2007-2008 Membership renewals were recently mailed to all law firms with over 50 attorneys. If you have not yet received your renewal form, it is also available on the Pro Bono Institute website. Please complete the form and return it with your payment to:

Tammy Taylor
Law Firm Pro Bono Project
600 New Jersey Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 662-9236 f. (202) 662-9683

[FULL STORY]

Caterpillar Takes On Unusual Projects in New Pro Bono Program

Although in-house lawyers often wonder how to best use their skills to improve their community and the world at large, exciting and far-reaching projects can be found. The July 31, 2007 issue of *Corporate Counsel* magazine features an article about the legal assistance that a Michigan-based charity supporting the construction of schools in Malawi receives from Caterpillar Inc. As one of the client's of Caterpillar's pro bono program, The Malawi Connection has received help trademarking its name and logo and is exploring the possibility of developing a microfinancing program for Malawians. **[FULL STORY]**

Sponsors for Educational Opportunity Corporate Law Institute Event

On Tuesday, July 31, Esther F. Lardent, President and CEO of the Pro Bono Institute at Georgetown University Law Center, spoke to interns at a Sponsors for Educational Opportunity (SEO) Corporate Law Institute (CLI) event, held on the New York University campus. SEO is a remarkable internship program that occurs during the summer months for talented students of color, who will enter the nation's top law schools in the fall. Program participation leads to full-time job offers in major firms across the country, which host the interns for the summer. The presentation and lecture series allows corporate attorneys to introduce the students to several legal topics, including pro bono. Ms. Lardent led a very lively discussion about the role that pro bono can and should play in the legal community and in major law firms. She discussed topics ranging from the strong pro bono culture in the legal community to how pro bono work can effectively bridge the current social justice gap. Ms. Lardent was welcomed enthusiastically by the students, who were eager to listen and eager to ask very thoughtful and probing questions. **[FULL STORY]**

Pro Bono Victory

Introducing a new *Wire* feature: pro bono victories - a regular column featuring news and announcements of our readers' pro bono victories, accomplishments, and programs of note.

After a 2-year struggle and hundreds of hours of pro bono support, a local nonprofit achieves justice from the IRS
Thanks to the hundreds of hours of pro bono work by Dickstein Shapiro LLP attorneys, local non-profit Bread for the City (BFC) has \$50,000 in additional funds to spend on food & clothing, legal, medical, and social services for vulnerable DC residents. **[FULL STORY]**