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## 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](http://www.philadelphialawworks.org).

The event will consist of two sessions, the first providing the in-house volunteers with training on small business issues, and the second allowing the in-house volunteers to consult with Philadelphia-area small businesses on issues that could be detrimental to their organizations if left unresolved. None of the businesses that will be served by the Clinic would otherwise have the means to obtain legal advice. Past participants have counseled a variety of microentrepreneurs, including a clothing company, a wireless phone store, a clothing designer, a caterer, a photographer, and a handbag designer. Most of the microentrepreneurs attending the event are local minority and women business owners and operators located along newly revitalized commercial corridors.

Expert attorneys from Ballard Spahr will conduct the training session, for which volunteer participants will receive CLE credit. Counsel at Ballard Spahr also developed comprehensive and invaluable training materials that the volunteer attorneys will be able to rely on in consulting with small business organizations outside of the clinic, should they decide to take on additional small business pro bono clients.

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