

# 2016 PRO BONO INSTITUTE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

March 23-25, 2016  
CAPITAL HILTON  
Washington, DC

Helping you fulfill the promise of pro bono

## Public Interest Schedule-at-a-Glance

### Thursday

7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.  
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.  
9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.  
9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.  
10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.  
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.  
2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.  
3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.  
6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

### March 24, 2016

Registration  
Networking Breakfast  
Opening Plenary  
Break  
Concurrent Sessions  
Break  
Concurrent Sessions  
Networking Lunch  
Concurrent Sessions  
Break  
Concurrent Sessions  
Break  
Pro Bono Expo  
Reception

### Friday

7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.  
9:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.  
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

### March 25, 2016

Registration  
Networking Breakfast  
Why Do Lawyers Volunteer?  
Closing Lunch

Please check back here often for newly-added sessions, updated descriptions, and revised schedules.

## **March 24, 2016**

**7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.                      Networking Breakfast**

**8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.                      Opening Plenary**

**9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.**

### **Addressing a Global Mass Migration Crisis (Pro Bono in Practice)**

Nearly 60 million people are currently displaced from their homes by war and persecution — more than at any time since World War II. Half are children. Where are the lawyers? This “Pro Bono in Practice” session will provide an update on what’s being done to save lives and protect refugees, development, and legal migration and mobility and how pro bono lawyers can help.

### **Best Practices: Successful Partnering**

Although interest in sustained pro bono partnerships is growing, many law firms, legal departments, and public interest organizations struggle to create and maintain successful partnerships. This session will highlight the key elements needed to build and support strong pro bono partnerships.

### **Ethics: Introductory Overview of Ethical Issues in Pro Bono Representation**

This session, which will explore common ethics issues in pro bono representations, is designed for first-time attendees, those new to their positions, and attendees looking for a brief refresher. Through the use of hypotheticals and real world examples, we will examine current ethical rules and select issues, such as competency, engagement letters, supervision, positional conflicts, and risks associated with incoming and departing lawyers. Electronic materials will be made available.

### **Reflections from the Bench**

What is it like to have been the chief judge of the New York State Court system, while championing a broad range of innovative pro bono efforts and identifying permanent funding streams for civil legal services? How has the justice system changed? Join us for a lively discussion and help orient a legal pioneer as he transitions to the law firm world, where he will continue to focus on pro bono and access to justice issues.

### **Your Pro Bono Story**

While numbers are important when sharing the impact of our pro bono efforts, narratives can do what data alone cannot – provide context, meaning, and purpose. Stories are universal and compelling. This session will explore the benefits, challenges, and best practices of using stories to frame access to justice issues; recruit, engage, and motivate pro bono volunteers; sway funders; create a sense of urgency; and inspire action.

**11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Integrating Pro Bono, CSR, and Charitable Giving**

Increasingly, law firms and companies are taking a fresh look at how their pro bono activities can be integrated with or complement their charitable contribution practices and corporate social responsibility (CSR) efforts. This session will examine successful practices for approaching, integrating, and managing these efforts.

**Reducing Recidivism: A Collaborative Justice Project™ Update**

While legal institutions have the potential to effectively assist underserved individuals and communities, society's increasingly complex problems and vast unmet needs often require large-scale, multi-institutional pro bono efforts. This session will provide an update on an exciting initiative that aims to more effectively deploy stakeholders from different sectors to collectively develop and implement a measurable plan to reduce and, eventually, ameliorate a persistent and critical societal problem – successful reentry of released offenders from federal and state prisons.

**The Challenges of Citizenship: Elections-Related Pro Bono Opportunities (Pro Bono in Practice)**

This “Pro Bono in Practice” session will explore how pro bono efforts play an important role at all levels of the election protection, voting rights, and reform processes on Election Day and all year round. The discussion will include emerging issues, how to get started, opportunities for collaboration, and a range of pro bono delivery systems, ranging from research projects to impact litigation to policy advocacy work.

**The State of Pro Bono Around the World**

As interest continues to grow and obstacles to participation are addressed, global pro bono is being transformed. Panelists will discuss timely perspectives on global pro bono practices and responses to differences in politics, funding, delivery structures, practice rules, national and local legal cultures, and the need for and availability of pro bono matters.

**When Helping Hurts: Sustaining Pro Bono Volunteers**

This groundbreaking new session will explore the mental health effects of high stress representation, such as domestic violence, child abuse, immigration, and death penalty advocacy. We'll introduce the concepts of “vicarious” and “secondary” trauma in pro bono volunteers and offer tips for those in need of our care and identify strategies and resources for healing and treatment.

**12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.            Networking Lunch**

**1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

### **After *Obergefell*, What's Next? (Pro Bono in Practice)**

Now that the pro bono community helped achieve the freedom to marry nationwide, what's next for the LGBTQ movement? This "Pro Bono in Practice" session will discuss post-marriage equality pro bono opportunities and priorities, such as securing basic protection from anti-LGBTQ discrimination in employment, housing, healthcare, business, education, banking, parenting, public accommodation, and other aspects of life to securing rights for transgender and gender non-conforming people to stopping police and prison abuses of LGBTQ adults and juveniles.

### **Ethics: Best Practices for Representing Immigrant Children**

This timely session will explore ethical issues that arise when representing children in the immigration context, including the duties owed to a minor client, how to manage representation of a client with diminished capacity, how reporting requirements for child abuse intersect with duties of confidentiality, how to anticipate and avoid conflicts of interest, and how and when to undertake joint representation. Electronic materials will be made available.

### **Justice Deserts**

Are you concerned that potential clients in rural areas have access to fewer legal resources than those in major urban areas and intrigued by the potential of ending this imbalance? Sometimes it can be difficult to define "rural." Drawing from the work in the anti-hunger movement to combat "food deserts" (i.e., communities that face unique barriers to accessing healthy foods), this wide-ranging brainstorming session will explore how the concept could apply to legal services to identify "justice deserts." What factors (language barriers? cultural barriers? physical ability and age barriers?) might we include in the formula to try to identify "isolated" communities and how does that analysis inform the solutions we devise?

### **Marketplace of Ideas**

This popular, fast-paced session will be an opportunity to share information about a range of cutting-edge pro bono projects and learn about new opportunities, offerings, infrastructure, and other pro bono developments.

### **One-Day Transactional Pro Bono Programs that Work**

This practical discussion will provide insight into a variety of time-limited pro bono models that utilize volunteers' transactional skills to help nonprofits and small businesses. Pro bono leaders will share their experience selecting a model, assembling the team of co-hosts, defining the scope of the topic, locating appropriate clients, managing volunteer to client proportions, and building upon the one-day model to increase pro bono participation.

**2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.**

### **Developments in In-House Pro Bono**

Interest and engagement in in-house pro bono continues to thrive and evolve. This session will offer an overview of the state of in-house pro bono and will address the growth of pro bono within legal departments and what these developments mean for pro bono supporters at law firms, legal departments, and public interest organizations.

### **Innovations in Legal Services**

Leveraging scarce legal aid resources through pro bono partnerships, using technology to connect low-income clients to legal assistance, and involving transactional lawyers in pro bono work are common features of the projects the Legal Services Corporation has funded through its Pro Bono Innovation Fund grants. This session will consider several of these innovative and replicable projects and will highlight opportunities to engage volunteers from law firms and legal departments.

### **Preventing and Breaking the Cycle of Family Homelessness**

More individuals and families experience homelessness in the United States than in any other industrialized country. The problem is complex and our response requires a creative, multi-faceted approach. This cutting-edge session will provide snapshots on how groups around the country are successfully addressing the issue, including a comprehensive response to ending family homelessness and preventing homelessness in our cities. The panelists will encourage a dialogue about the role that pro bono lawyers can play in working with other professionals to support these efforts.

### **Pro Bono “Rainmaking”**

Law firms and legal departments are increasingly ready to commit their institution’s talents and resources, if they could just locate the “right” pro bono matters and projects. How can they develop, source, and secure their desired pro bono engagements, be they impact litigation or time-limited clinics? What are the implications for public interest organizations when firms and legal departments apply their entrepreneurial spirit and business development best practices to securing pro bono matters? This session will offer a candid discussion about obstacles and frustrations and identify the most effective means to efficiently and creatively identify and land appropriate pro bono matters and projects.

### **Representing Children and Adolescents (Pro Bono in Practice)**

This “Pro Bono in Practice” session will explore pro bono opportunities and developments related to representing children and adolescents. The discussion will include the status of available pro bono opportunities, emerging issues, how to get started, and opportunities for collaboration.

**4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.**

### **Pro Bono Expo**

More time for networking! Don’t miss this expanded program – the annual catalyst for new partnerships, relationships, and pro bono initiatives. Meet leading advocates from a range of public interest organizations and learn about cutting-edge issues ripe for pro bono representation.

## **March 25, 2016**

**8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.                      Networking Breakfast**

**9:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.                      Why Do Lawyers Volunteer?**

A growing body of psychological research has identified powerful principles that give us insight into why people volunteer and how to encourage them to more readily do so. Renowned lawyer-psychologist Dr. Larry Richard will review the most important principles, and will provide attendees with concrete suggestions for how to motivate and engage potential volunteers.

**11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.                      Closing Lunch**