

PAI REGISTRATION FORM

1. Please let us know how many pro bono civil legal matters you will accept for the Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York (LASNNY) per year (Check one)

1 case/year 2-5 cases/year 6/10 cases/year Over 10 cases/year

2. In which area of law will you agree to accept referrals? (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> ANY AREA	<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence	<input type="checkbox"/> Foreclosure	<input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate
<input type="checkbox"/> Advance Directives (Healthcare Proxy, Wills, Power of Attorney)	<input type="checkbox"/> Employment (other than UIB)	<input type="checkbox"/> Health Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Education (IEP's, Discipline)
<input type="checkbox"/> Bankruptcy	<input type="checkbox"/> Estate Probate	<input type="checkbox"/> Incorporation	<input type="checkbox"/> SSI
<input type="checkbox"/> Consumer	<input type="checkbox"/> Evictions	<input type="checkbox"/> Medicare	<input type="checkbox"/> Unemployment Benefits (UIB)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Law (Divorce, Custody, Separation Agreements, Support, Visitation)	<input type="checkbox"/> Name Changes	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

3. Level of Representation you are willing to provide to LASNNY Clients. (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Advice Only	<input type="checkbox"/> Extended Representation
<input type="checkbox"/> Brief Service (i.e. petitions, document preparation)	<input type="checkbox"/> Limited Scope - in court representation
<input type="checkbox"/> Clinic Setting (i.e. teaching self represented litigants)	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote (i.e. via phone, video, Skype)

4. Please check the counties where you would be willing to represent LASNNY clients. (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Albany	<input type="checkbox"/> Franklin	<input type="checkbox"/> Montgomery	<input type="checkbox"/> Schoharie
<input type="checkbox"/> Clinton	<input type="checkbox"/> Fulton	<input type="checkbox"/> Rensselaer	<input type="checkbox"/> St. Lawrence
<input type="checkbox"/> Columbia	<input type="checkbox"/> Greene	<input type="checkbox"/> Saratoga	<input type="checkbox"/> Warren
<input type="checkbox"/> Essex	<input type="checkbox"/> Hamilton	<input type="checkbox"/> Schenectady	<input type="checkbox"/> Washington

5. Do you speak any other languages? Yes No If YES: _____

6. I am a:

<input type="checkbox"/> Attorney:	<input type="checkbox"/> Law School Graduate (not yet admitted to Bar)
Admission to bar:	<input type="checkbox"/> Law Student: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 L <input type="checkbox"/> 2 L <input type="checkbox"/> 3 L
Date(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Professional:
State(s) _____	Title: _____
Atty. Reg. # _____	Area of Expertise: _____

7. Number of years of professional legal experience: _____

8. Employment Setting:

<input type="checkbox"/> Solo Practitioner	<input type="checkbox"/> Large Law Firm	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporation/Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Law Firm	<input type="checkbox"/> Government (NYS or Federal)	<input type="checkbox"/> Retired	
<input type="checkbox"/> Medium Law Firm		<input type="checkbox"/> Student	

9. LASNNY would welcome your help in other ways besides accepting referral of cases. In which other ways can you help?

<input type="checkbox"/> Recruit/mentor other pro bono attorneys	<input type="checkbox"/> Advise LASNNY staff regarding the handling of cases (Specify areas) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educate poor people on their rights and responsibilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Assist in the creation of CLE materials
<input type="checkbox"/> Teach a Pro Se Clinic	<input type="checkbox"/> Supervise non-attorney volunteers
<input type="checkbox"/> Train LASNNY staff of other private attorneys (Specify area of law or skill) _____	

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST

Name _____ Company/Law Firm _____
Address _____ City/State/Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____

About the Legal Aid Society

OUR MISSION

The Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York fights for fairness, dignity, and justice for those living in poverty and for a society which is inclusive and equitable for all. We transform lives, build community and empower people by using the law to address individual and systemic wrongs and inequities.

TO DONATE:

Contact Deanne Grimaldi at (518) 689-6336.

Thank you
for your Commitment.

PAI Program funded in part by:

probono.net **LSC** | America's Partner
for Equal Justice
LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

**Legal Aid Society
of Northeastern New York**
95 Central Avenue, Albany NY 12206

For more information,
or to make a donation, visit us at
www.lasnnny.org

An Opportunity to
Make a Difference

Private Attorney Involvement (PAI)

 **Legal Aid
Society**
NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK

A Rewarding and
Fulfilling Journey





Attorney for the Day volunteers - (l to r) **Jon Crain, Eric Weinhold, Gabriella Levine, Tara MacNeill, James Wisniewski, and Taylor Cuomo**, Associates at Whiteman Osterman & Hanna LLP

"Volunteering with PAI reminds me of why I became an attorney. I am truly grateful for the volunteering opportunity, and the ability to help clients in need."

— PAI Volunteer Attorney, Breanna Staffon

"PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES"...

You hear that phrase all the time. There is a reason why we refer to volunteering as an "opportunity" – volunteering allows the chance for access to justice for all. Lawyers are the only people who can ensure that justice is done for all that deserve it.

The need for legal services far outweighs attorney resources, especially for those who come to The Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York (LASNNY). Usually, we – YOU – are their only chance at ensuring their legal interests are protected and they receive a fair and just outcome – something everyone deserves. The Private Attorney Involvement (PAI) program facilitates this.

HOW DOES THE REFERRAL PROCESS WORK?

Our staff initially reviews the client's legal issue and decides if it warrants a referral. If it does, that is when we contact you. First, to make sure you are available, and second, to make sure you are interested in the legal issue. If you agree to take a case, we will send you a referral letter and any pertinent documents in our file. We then ask that the client make the initial move, and call your office.

WHAT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES EXIST?

- **Do you enjoy negotiating or litigating?**
 - You could help a client keep his apartment or obtain social security or unemployment benefits.
- **Interested in gaining or refreshing your courtroom experience?**
 - Our Attorney for the Day program will provide you with a limited scope opportunity to represent tenants who are making their first appearances for an eviction proceeding.
- **Rather not spend your time in Court?**
 - Our Closing the Gap program is a remote, limited scope opportunity to assist consumer debtors who are being pursued or impacted by judgments.
 - We also have many clients who require assistance with drafting a will, filing for bankruptcy, or transferring a deed.
- If you have an idea for a pro bono program that does not currently exist, we are always open to discussing and creating signature projects that better fit you or your firm.



Recipient of the Pro Bono Distinguished Service Award: **Michael O'Connor**

BENEFITS

The Legal Aid Society offers numerous benefits to PAI volunteer lawyers, which include:

- CLE credit (one credit for every two hours spent on a pro bono matter)
- Training Programs at no cost and for CLE
- Malpractice Insurance (secondary)
- Reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses (up to \$200 no approval required)
- Provide Certification of Indigency to cover cost of filing fees for qualifying clients
- Access to Westlaw via our PAI Paralegal
- Access to our PAI "Beehive" where we have private offices, computers, phones and other office equipment

TAKE THE FIRST STEP

We hope you decided to join us for a rewarding and fulfilling journey.

To offer you time and services to those in need, please fill in below and complete the PAI registration form on the other side and return it to:

PAI Program, LASNNY
95 Central Ave, Albany, NY 12206
Phone: 518-462-6765 x359
Fax: 518-427-8352
Email: mmisenhimer@lasnny.org

We welcome you to check out our website (www.lasnny.org) for upcoming trainings and events. Of particular interest is our newsletter, Legal Aid Matters, with a section dedicated to recognizing our PAI volunteers.

"I'm extremely impressed with your staff, as well as with my attorney. I am always treated with respect and I feel very at ease with everyone I have dealt with. Thank you very much for assisting me."