



Legal Aid
Society

NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK

PRIVATE ATTORNEY INVOLVEMENT (PAI) VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Attorney-For-The-Day: Clients are provided with advice at their first appearance on a housing matter in Albany City Court. The Program is currently held the first Thursday, Second Wednesday and Third Friday of the month. It lasts approximately two hours, depending on the Court docket. Service Type: Limited Scope/Brief

Bankruptcy Referral: Clients are referred to volunteer lawyers for representation in a Chapter 7 bankruptcy proceeding. Service: Extended

Closing the Gap: Clients are referred to volunteer lawyers for remote, online assistance in drafting pro se pleadings for consumer or housing issues. Service: Limited Scope/Brief

Domestic Violence Divorce Referrals: Full representation is provided to victims of domestic violence to obtain a divorce. Service: Extended

General Referrals: A volunteer attorney offers legal assistance to a client regarding a civil legal issue. Service type: Varied

Low Income Tax Payer: Clients are referred to a volunteer lawyer for representation in one or two types of tax matters: "currently not collectible" or an "offer in compromise". Service: Extended

Mentorship: Pass on the reward of the practice of law to our growing crop of young volunteer attorneys, law graduates and law students. We need experienced attorneys who can be mentors for volunteer attorneys, law graduates and law students. Mentors are helpful in framing the issues, developing strategy or suggesting tips or techniques to help the advocate(s) through a case. Mentors will review paperwork to help the advocate(s) learn the substantive area.

Name Change Referrals: Full representation is provided for transgender name changes/gender marker changes, name changes for domestic violence victims, and First Name Unknown "FNU" name changes. Service type: Extended/Court

Pro Se Divorce: Private attorneys provide advice and instruct clients on how to complete their divorce papers. LASNNY assist the volunteers at the clinic. The clinics take between five and six hours in total, and are held in two parts (2.5 to 3 hours each), on separate days. Service type: Limited Scope/ Brief

Signature Project: Work with LASNNY to create a pro bono program for your firm, association or other legal group.

Veterans Legal Project: A volunteer meets with a Veteran and provides advice on a civil legal issue. Areas of service include debt collection, bankruptcy, housing, child support, visitation, identity and SSI/SSD. Service Type: Advice

Will/POA/HCP Referrals: Clients are referred to a volunteer to have their will, power of attorney or health care proxy created or modified. Service: Varied

To volunteer, please contact us:

Victoria Esposito, Interim PAI Director — 518-375-3468 • vesposito@lasnny.org

Melody Harkness, PAI Paralegal — 518-907-4054 • mharkness@lasnny.org

Francisco Cruz, PAI Coordinator - 518-375-3427 • fcruz@lasnny.org

Ryland Wiseman, PAI Coordinator — 518-689-6322 • rwiseman@lasnny.org

**We also welcome you to visit our website at www.lasnny.org
for more information about our program and opportunities**

There is also the opportunity to shadow experienced volunteers for any particular pro bono program.

Interested in proposing a pro bono project? We are happy to discuss your ideas and expertise to develop a sustainable project to serve low-income communities.