



VLSP's J.D. Pro Bono Opportunities

Clinics

Pro Se Divorce Clinic

Time: Noon to 2:00 p.m.

Frequency: Monthly/twice-monthly

Location: MCBA's Rubin Center for Education, One West Main Street, 5th Floor, or Hall of Justice

Description: Help provide support for 30 to 40 clients as they prepare the paperwork necessary to obtain a default divorce. An experienced matrimonial attorney provides instructions.

Family Law Clinic

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Frequency: Twice monthly

Location: VLSP, One West Main Street, 5th Floor

Description: Assist attorneys meeting with clients to determine whether or not Family Court custody or visitation petitions should be filed.

Alternatives for Battered Women (ABW) Clinic

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Frequency: First Monday of the month

Location: ABW

Description: Assist clients completing in-take sheets for assignment to pro bono divorce attorneys through VLSP.

Debt Clinic

Time: 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Frequency: Monthly

Location: Federal Building, 100 State Street

Description: Review financial questionnaires completed by clients, help determine whether or not clients should participate in individual debt counseling sessions with attorneys.

Wills Clinic

Time: Noon to 2:00 p.m., generally

Frequency: Quarterly

Location: Varies



Description: Assist HIV positive clients completing questionnaires. Type and witness wills and other documents.

Case Referrals

Unemployment Insurance Benefits Denials

Training is available through VLSP to represent individuals appealing the denial of unemployment insurance benefits before an Administrative Law Judge. Additional information is available online at uiab.labor.ny.gov

Client Interviews, Document Preparation and Research

VLSP has on-going opportunities to interview clients, review drafts of pleadings and other documents, and provide research assistance to attorneys working on cases in numerous areas of civil law.

Translation and Interpretation

Volunteer to provide translation or interpretation services. The need is most urgent in the areas of Spanish and American Sign Language.

IT Support

Assistance is needed to post available cases on the probono.net Web site. IT experience is not necessary.

Unpaid Internship

VLSP is seeking a law school graduate to provide support to consumer law staff members. Responsibilities will include client intake and interviews, client calls, assisting with debt clinic, client outreach, assisting with research and the preparation of manuals for new programs, discussing cases with attorneys and VLSP's Executive Director, preparing written synopsis of cases to be included in the monthly case list provided to volunteers, preparing client mailings, and entering case information into VLSP's database.

Ten hours per week required. Hours are flexible but must coincide with consumer law staff's hours (Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.). A six month commitment is requested.

Contact Information

For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Linda Kostin, Pro Bono Coordinator, at 585-295-5703 or lkostin@wnylc.com