

# 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit Pro Bono Newsletter

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Do you have a story to share or know of a pro bono event? Let us know: <http://www.spcollege.edu/survey/16056>

View this Newsletter online:  
<https://sites.google.com/site/6thcircuitprobononewsletter/>  
Future emails from: FL6thcircuitprobononewsletter@gmail.com

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### National Celebration of Pro Bono – October 19-25, 2014

Future editions of this newsletter will be sent out quarterly as the 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit Pro Bono Committee continues to try and raise awareness of the needs for Pro Bono services in our community and the events and resources to help with those needs. Special thanks to Professor Rachel Bennett, Esq. of SPC and her team of students for putting this together!  
**Kimberly Todd, Circuit Judge, Chairperson 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit Pro Bono Committee**

## RECOGNITION



CLP congratulates St. Petersburg Bar Member, Elizabeth Greenberg, for being named Volunteer of the Month at its October membership luncheon. Ms. Greenberg has been a loyal volunteer with Community Law Program for over three years, participating in CLP's bankruptcy and housing clinics and representing individuals in consumer cases. To date, Ms. Greenberg has volunteered in excess of 260 hours of pro bono through her work with CLP.

## November Events

### Pro Bono Attorney Training presented by Sixth Judicial Circuit Guardian ad Litem Program:

#### BE A VOICE FOR A CHILD

November 21, 2014; 9AM-4PM

Icot Business Center

14102 58th Street North, Clearwater, FL 33760

Free light lunch provided!

RSVP required; CLE hours pending

Call 727-464-6528 or email [ann.ciero@gal.fl.gov](mailto:ann.ciero@gal.fl.gov)



### Community Law Program, Inc. Presents:

#### One Lawyer, One Life

November 20, 2014; 9:00 a.m. – noon

(Registration & continental breakfast at 8:30a.m.)

Adams and Reese LLP

150 – 2nd Avenue North, Suite 1700

St. Petersburg, FL 33701

This FREE training will prepare pro bono attorneys to represent teens aging out of foster care and will cover: nuts & bolts of a dependency case; what to expect during "17 year old" judicial reviews; the right to "normalcy"; permanency plans and placement options for teens; and eligibility for Independent Living services. CLE hours pending. Register via email at [clp@lawprogram.org](mailto:clp@lawprogram.org). For questions contact Kimberly Rodgers at (727) 582-7295



### St. Petersburg College Legal Studies Society

#### Toy Drive for Guardian ad Litem Kids

2465 Drew Street, Clearwater, FL 33765

Unwrapped, new toys will be collected during the month of November. Toys can be dropped off at the Clearwater Campus in the SS building.

Contact Rachel Bennett: [bennett.rachel@spcollege.edu](mailto:bennett.rachel@spcollege.edu)



## Ongoing Events

### Attorney Volunteers Needed for Community Law Program Clinics

See the list of clinics here:

[http://www.lawprogram.org/our\\_services.aspx](http://www.lawprogram.org/our_services.aspx)

See more about volunteering here:

<http://www.lawprogram.org/attorneys.aspx>

Contact CLP: (727) 582-7480



### Gulf Coast Legal Services

See the list of clinics & events here:

<http://www.gulfcoastlegal.org/events>

Contact St. Petersburg: (727) 821-0726

Contact Clearwater: (727) 443-0657



### Bay Area Legal Services

Attorney volunteers are needed for Client Intake Clinics, Referral Panels, Community Counsel, and Mentoring Opportunities. Interested individuals can contact the Pro Bono Coordinator, Jane Helms: [jhelms@bals.org](mailto:jhelms@bals.org)



### Stetson University College of Law: Veterans Pro Bono Initiative Team

Seeking attorneys to volunteer civil legal services to military members, veterans and their families. Volunteer attorneys will receive a weekly email message containing current case digests outlining pro bono opportunities in their geographical and legal practice areas. After selecting a case, attorneys will be provided with client and student volunteer contact information. Volunteers will also gain access to future Stetson CLE workshops focused on veterans law. Attorneys interested in volunteering may apply with no obligation at [stetson.edu/veteransprobono](http://stetson.edu/veteransprobono). For more information about volunteering with Stetson's Veterans Pro Bono Initiative Team, contact [vetprobono@law.stetson.edu](mailto:vetprobono@law.stetson.edu) or call 727-562-7333.



## October Events

### Domestic Violence Educational Forum

October 27, 2014; 6:00PM-8:00PM

Pinellas County Justice Center Jury Assembly Room  
14250 49th St. N, Clearwater, FL

(All visitors will be screened at the security checkpoint.)

Refreshments will be provided!

Join us for an informative panel of speakers discussing domestic violence. Lawyers will be available to offer FREE legal advice.

RSVP not required, but appreciated.

Call (727) 464-3341 or email [clerkinf@pinellascounty.org](mailto:clerkinf@pinellascounty.org)

### Guardian Advocacy

#### A-Z CLE Training for Attorneys

October 24, 2014; 8:30am-3pm

St. Petersburg College EpiCenter Room 1-451  
58th Street N. Clearwater, FL

Free training for Pro Bono attorneys; CLE hours pending

Register here:

[https://netforum.avectra.com/eWeb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=CB&WebCode=EventDetail&evt\\_key=0c15be10-4acd-4821-940d-ff9e773862ef](https://netforum.avectra.com/eWeb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=CB&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=0c15be10-4acd-4821-940d-ff9e773862ef)

### 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Lawfest and Community Fair

October 25, 2014; 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Midtown campus of the St. Petersburg College  
1048 22nd Street South, St. Petersburg, FL

Once a year, Successes Unlimited, a community based service organization located in St. Petersburg, presents the "Lawfest." During this event, lawyers from various areas of legal expertise are asked to volunteer their time and their talents by offering free legal advice to St. Petersburg citizens who otherwise might be unable to speak to a lawyer. On occasion, the participants become clients; however, more often satisfaction comes from knowing that you were able to help someone understand and maybe resolve their legal matters. Lunch will be served. Please let Judge Michael Andrews ([mandrews@jud6.org](mailto:mandrews@jud6.org)) know if you are able and willing to participate. If you can participate please also inform him of the area(s) of law you practice.

### St. Petersburg College

#### Legal Studies Society Food Drive

2465 Drew Street, Clearwater, FL 33765

Food items will be collected during the month of October. Items can be dropped off at the Clearwater Campus in the SS building.

Contact Rachel Bennett: [bennett.rachel@spcollege.edu](mailto:bennett.rachel@spcollege.edu)



## F.L.O.R.I.D.A. for Children and Families (www.F4CF.org) Florida's Legal Online Resource

When I was a new lawyer working in a law firm, I could sit down at my desk and pull up copies of motions, orders, pleadings, and memos to use as a starting point for my own work. I had access to research and experienced colleagues who could help me out. Those resources helped me get up to speed quickly and do good work for my clients. Barbara Elias-Percifal had that same experience – until she was asked to take her first pro bono case representing a child in abuse and neglect proceedings. Her law firm colleagues had not represented children. There was no database of documents, and no way to get connected to mentors. So Barbara created her own virtual firm to provide those resources to lawyers and judges working with children. She created Texas Lawyers for Children, the online center on which FLORIDA for Children and Families (F4CF) is based.

In Florida, F4CF is managed by Florida's Children First.

F4CF offers several tools and resources to users:

**A. Topical Resources:** Articles & Papers, Cases, and Practice Tips: items are searchable by key word and topic.

**B. Conferences & CLEs:** a comprehensive listing of online CLEs and upcoming conferences of interest.

**C. Mentors & Pro Bono Volunteers:** Experienced lawyers can volunteer to mentor or answer questions, and any lawyer can volunteer to take a pro bono case. The pro bono/mentor list is searchable by any judge or lawyer registered as a user.

**D. Experts:** the ability to share information on experts used in cases.

**E. Document Vault:** a place for users to upload documents that are of interest to others. For example, dozens of unpublished administrative hearing final orders on Independent Living appeals have been uploaded and are searchable.

F4CF also offers a platform to communicate with colleagues. There are Discussion Boards where you can post a question and view the responses as well as Email Networks where you can seek information and advice directly from colleagues.

F4CF is a secure site – only licensed attorneys and judges can register as users. The Judges Discussion Board, Document Vault and Email Network are accessible only to judges. The attorney counterparts are likewise limited. Having a secure safe place for colleagues to ask questions and share answers is intended to facilitate information sharing and discussion to help all of us do a better job for children being served by the state.

Registration is free and only takes a few minutes. Please sign up and check it out at [www.f4cf.org](http://www.f4cf.org).

By: Robin Rosenberg, Esq.