

VLP MONTHLY

A MONTHLY BRIEFING FROM THE PRO BONO TEAM AT THE ECBA VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROJECT
APRIL 2023 EDITION



FEDERAL COURT TRAINING SERIES

In 2022, ECBA VLP teamed with JustCause of Rochester and the United States District Court of the Western District of New York to produce a six-part "boot camp" training series that covered the basics of handling a case in Federal Court. The series was a huge success.

VLP is pleased to announce that in 2023, we will once again be partnering with the US District Court of the Western District of New York and JustCause to take a deeper dive into Federal Court practice and procedure. Our first training of the year, *Overview of Section 1983 Civil Rights Litigation*, will be taking place on April 11th at 12pm via Zoom. To attend, you must sign up or already be a member of the Court's Pro Bono Volunteer Panel. To register for the training:

https://nywd-uscourts.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_vaFIKp_Qcujzf9s4IpJMg

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

NEW ON DEMAND CLE:

Adjustment of Status for Asylees

Credits: 1.0 Professional Practice

To Register: <http://bit.ly/3SWzMOX>

Passcode: FN1HaF\$.

FEATURED FREE ON DEMAND CLE OF THE MONTH:

Child Support: Show Me the Money- A deep dive into the establishment of income in child support cases

Credits: 1.0 Skills for experienced attorneys only

To Register: <https://bit.ly/3TZ2Q84>

Passcode: 9k^cJQ.S

For a complete list of On Demand trainings, please visit

<https://ecbavlp.com/volunteer/why-pro-bono/>



FULL REP PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES

Current full representation cases in need of volunteer attorneys include:

- A Chapter 7 Bankruptcy case for a survivor of domestic violence looking for a fresh start.
- An Adjustment of Status case to help an asylee gain Legal Permanent Residency
- Several new defensive asylum cases
- Pro bono divorce attorneys are always needed.



LIMITED SCOPE PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES

Every week VLP has limited scope opportunities to volunteer:

Eviction Defense Program- Attorney of the Morning

Tuesday and Thursday 9am-12pm

No experience necessary

To sign-up: <https://ecbavlp.com/volunteersignup/>

Password: HOUSING2021

Family Court Help Desk

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 12pm-2pm

For experienced Family Court Practitioners

To sign up: Email Kris Sigiety at KSigiety@ECBAVLP.com

Federal Court Pro Se Assistance Program

Wednesday and Friday 12pm-2pm

For experienced Federal Court Practitioners

To sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0A4AA8AE2FA4FD0-psap1>

VLP NOMINATED FIRMS WIN STATE AWARDS

Recently, ECBA VLP nominated two firms for New York State Bar Association (NYSBA) President's Pro Bono Service Awards.

NYSBA presents these awards annually to publicly recognize and thank exemplary attorneys for their extraordinary pro bono efforts in the preceding year.

Hodgson Russ LLP and Serotte Law were selected respectively as the Mid-Size Law Firm and Small Law Firm award recipients.

VLP nominated these firms due to their commitment to the Afghan Asylum Project and the hundreds of hours of pro bono services they provided.

Winning a NYSBA Pro Bono Service Award is an outstanding achievement and we congratulate both firms. Well done!



NEW RISING CHAMPIONS FOR JUSTICE



Rising Champions for Justice (RCJ) is a group of young professionals dedicated to furthering VLP's mission to provide free legal services to low income people while gaining valuable board experience and professional development. Members support VLP through organizing events, fundraisers, networking and professional development opportunities, and through volunteerism. This year RCJ is welcoming 7 new members from diverse backgrounds. VLP welcomes the following individuals to the board:

- Imani Shaw- M&T Bank
- Michael Mistretta- Counsel Financial
- Nandor Forgach- Amplifi
- Brianna Carroll- Kenney Shelton Liptak Nowak LLP
- Dan Coleman- Barclay Damon LLP
- Jessica Senske- Phillips Lytle LLP
- Mohammed Alam- Hodgson Russ LLP

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON ANYTHING COVERED IN THIS NEWSLETTER, PLEASE CONTACT

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