New York State Celebrates National Pro Bono Week

All across New York State legal services providers, bar associations, law schools and law firms are ramping up their preparations for the third annual celebration of National Pro Bono Week on October 23-29th, with some events extending into November and beyond. Launched in 2009 by the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service the week-long celebration recognizes the significant contributions made by the scores of attorneys who already participate in pro bono, educates the public and the legal profession about the ever-growing unmet legal needs of low-income people and others who have been hard hit by the economic downturn, and encourages more attorneys to volunteer.

Whether you work in the Capital District, New York City, the Hudson Valley, the Southern Tier or Central New York there will be an array of free continuing legal education seminars, volunteer recruitment drives, legal clinics, etc. that you can participate in to show your support of pro bono. Below is a sampling of some of the events which will be held during the week across the region. For a more comprehensive listing of events commemorating National Pro Bono Week, please visit www.nysba.org/probono, www.ProBono.Net, or the website of the legal services provider/sponsor.

CAPITAL DISTRICT

Pro Bono Expo

Wednesday, October 19th
5:30 pm – 8:00 pm
New York State Bar Association
One Elk Street, Great Hall
Albany, NY 12207

The New York State Bar Association, in conjunction with the Third Judicial District Pro Bono Planning Committee, kicks off the National Pro Bono Week Celebration on Wednesday, evening October 19th with a Pro Bono Expo and wine and cheese reception. The Expo is designed to demystify what it takes to do pro bono, show that doing it is easier than you may think and that there are opportunities for all attorneys regardless of your experience, expertise, or commitment level. A panel of distinguished judges and area attorneys will answer questions and express their views on pro bono service. Attorneys will receive one CLE credit in Ethics. Pre-registration for the CLE seminar is required. To register for the Pro Bono Expo, please go to www.nysba.org/probono or contact the Department of Pro Bono Affairs at (518) 487-5641.

Mortgage Foreclosure Training

Monday, October 24th
New York State Bar Association
One Elk Street
Albany, NY 12207

Details TBA

Training on Assisting Homeless Veterans

Tuesday, October 25th
3:00 pm - 6: 00 pm
Albany Law School
Rochester Moot Court Room
80 New Scotland Avenue
Albany, NY 12206

On October 25, the New York State Bar Association and Albany Law School will host an exciting training event at Albany Law focusing on key legal issues facing homeless veterans. The training will feature nationally-known Veterans' Rights attorney Katrina J. Eagle from San Diego, as well as Greg T. Rinckey, Managing Partner of Tully Rinckey PLLC, and Glenn Read, Director of Veterans Services at the Albany Housing Coalition. Attorneys from around the area will be invited to attend this training and will be given the option of receiving Continuing Legal Education training for it.

The Legal Project 16th Annual Pro Bono Reception

Thursday, October 27th
5:30 pm – 8: 30 pm
Empire State Plaza
The Hart Theater
Albany, NY 12220

Join the Capital Region legal community as it proudly celebrates The Legal Project's 16th Annual Pro Bono Reception. Serving survivors of domestic violence, the working poor and other underserved community members in a broad array of civil legal needs, The Legal Project continues to face reduced funding at the same time that more and more people are reaching out for help. Pro bono assistance from the legal community has helped make the difference in the ability to reach those in need and The Legal Project is deeply grateful to its many attorney volunteers without whom they could not serve the approximately 3,000 people who reach out for help each year. The Pro Bono Reception honors individual pro bono attorneys and community partners who have made a special difference this past year. For more information about The Legal Project or the Pro Bono Reception, call 518-435-1770 or visit www.legalproject.org.

Crime after Crime: The Battle to Free Debbie Peagler

Wednesday, October 26th
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Spectrum 8 Theater
290 Delaware Avenue
Albany, New York, 12209

Prisoners' Legal Services is hosting a screening of the award winning film, *Crime after Crime: The Battle to Free Debbie Peagler.* The official selection of the 2011 Sundance Film Festival, this compelling documentary details a woman's struggle against the criminal justice system. Imprisoned for killing her abuser, Ms. Peagler's case was accepted pro bono by two land-use attorneys who spent years working for their client's freedom. Crime after Crime not only depicts Ms. Peagler's journey, but also that of her attorneys, who learn what justice really is. After the movie, join us at New World Bistro for dinner, drinks, and reflection. As seating is limited, please purchase your $10 ticket in advance by contacting Samantha Howell, Pro Bono Coordinator at (518) 445-6050 or showell@plsny.org.

Community Law Day

Saturday, October 29th
11:00 am – 3:00 pm
Crossgates Mall
One Crossgates Mall Road
Albany, NY 12203

Legal Clinic at Main Branch of Albany Public Library

Tuesday, November 1st
5:30 pm – 8:00 pm
161 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12210

Legal Clinic at Main Branch of the Troy Public Library

Thursday, November 3rd
5:30 pm – 8:00 pm
100 Second Street
Troy, NY 12180

Members of the Third Judicial District Pro Bono Committee are sponsoring a Community Law Day at Crossgates Mall in Guilderland, New York from 11 am to 3 pm on Saturday, October 29th. Informational materials describing the types of free legal services available within the Capital Region will be available to shoppers, as well as a variety of Know-Your-Rights Legal Pamphlets. Capital District residents needing legal assistance in the areas of divorce, housing, mortgage foreclosure, child custody, child support, domestic violence, wills, etc. will be able to sign up for a free consultation with an area

volunteer attorney. The no-cost legal consultations will be take place on Tuesday, November 1st at the Main Branch of the Albany Public Library from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm and on Thursday, November 3rd at the Main Branch of the Troy Public Library.

Wills for Heroes

Wednesday, October 26th
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Vet House
180 First Street
Albany, NY 12206

The Albany County Bar Association, the Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York, Hiscock & Barclay LLP and the New York State Bar Association, in conjunction with the Albany Housing Coalition, will present an educational seminar on wills and advance directives for residents of Vet House.

Attorney for the Day Training

Thursday, November 17th
4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Albany County Judicial Center
6 Lodge Street
Albany, New York 12207

The Albany County Bar Association, the Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York and the New York State Bar Association will provide a free CLE training seminar in the area of landlord tenant law. The training will provide pro bono attorney volunteers with the basic knowledge needed to represent low-income clients in the "Attorney for a Day" Program in Albany City Court. Attorneys who successfully complete the training will be asked to volunteer on either the 1st and/or 3rd Friday of each month to provide free advice to tenants at their first appearance in housing Court.

Attorneys interested in participating may contact Eileen Guinan at the ACBA at 445-7691 or Kristie Cinelli at Legal Aid at 689-6322. Registration information is also available on line at www.albanycountybar.com or www.lasnny.org.

BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

Attorney of the Hour Program

Tuesday, October 25th at 10:00 am
Thursday, October 27th at 10:00 am
Binghamton City Court
City Hall, Governmental Plaza
38 Hawley Street, 5th Floor
Binghamton, NY 13901

The Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York will provide free legal assistance to eligible tenants facing eviction in Binghamton City Court. For information contact Pro Bono paralegal Pam McLaren at (607) 231-5925.

Veteran "Talk to a Lawyer Service"

Wednesday, October 12th
10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Broome County Veteran Center
53 Chenango Street
Binghamton, NY 13901

Co-sponsored by the Broome County Bar Association and the Broome County Veteran Center, by appointment, veterans receive a free private legal consultation on the legal topic of the month.

The featured topic in October is Family Law. For information contact Pro Bono Managing Attorney Arlene Sanders at (607) 231-5949.

Pro Se Divorce Clinic

Wednesday, October 19th
1:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Broome County Library
185 Court Street
Binghamton, NY 13901

The Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York is sponsoring a pro se divorce clinic for residents of Broome, Chenango, Delaware, and Otsego Counties. Private matrimonial attorneys will provide participants with free instructions on filling out the uncontested divorce packet. For more information contact Pro Bono paralegal Pam McLaren at (607) 231-5925.

Annual Senior Legal Clinic

Saturday, October 15th
9:30 am – 12:30 pm
Johnson City Senior Center
30 Brocton Street
Johnson City, NY 13790

The Annual Senior Legal Clinic is co-sponsored by the Broome County Bar Association and the Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York and provides Broome County residents age 60 and older free private legal consultation on most civil legal questions. For more information contact Pro Bono Managing Attorney Arlene Sanders at (607) 231-5949.

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

Consumer Law Clinic

Wednesday, October 26th
4:00 pm by appointment
Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York
472 South Salina Street, Suite 400
Syracuse, NY 13202

Low-income persons will receive a free private consultation with an attorney and screening for bankruptcy eligibility. For information contact Pro Bono paralegal Jim Guilford at (315) 703-6617.

Child Support Clinic

Thursday, October 28th
10:00 a.m. by appointment
Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York
472 South Salina Street, Suite 400
Syracuse, NY 13202

Attendees will receive free instruction on filling out child support petitions. Appointments are required.

Pro Bono and Diversity Discussion Group on Social Justice and the Law

Tuesday, October 25th
11:45 am – 1:00 pm
Syracuse University College of Law
204 McNaughton Hall
Syracuse, NY 13244

The Syracuse University College of Law Pro Bono Advisory Board and the Volunteer Lawyer Project of the Onondaga County Bar Association will co-sponsor a lunchtime discussion on pro bono, diversity, social justice and the law. Panelist will represent a wide array of departments at Syracuse University. For more information about the event contact Deborah O'Shea, Pro Bono Coordinator, Volunteer Lawyer Project at (315) 579-2577.

Pro Bono Service Panel

Thursday, October 27th
Syracuse University College of Law
Heritage Alumni Lounge
E.I. White Hall
Syracuse, NY 13244

The Syracuse College of Law will host local attorneys and judges from a variety of legal areas who incorporate pro bono as part of their practices. Law students will receive a broad perspective on the benefits of including pro bono as an integral component of their future legal careers. For more information about the event contact Deborah O'Shea, Pro Bono Coordinator, Volunteer Lawyer Project at (315) 579-2577.

UTICA, NY

Pro Se Divorce Clinic

Monday, October 3rd
Tuesday, October 4th
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Legal Aid Society of Mid New York
255 Genesee Street, 2nd Floor
Utica, NY 13501

Residents of Herkimer, Lewis, Madison and Oneida Counties will receive free instructions on filling out the uncontested divorce packet from private matrimonial attorneys. For more information contact Pro Bono paralegal Jim Guilford at (315) 703-6617.

Unemployment Insurance CLE

Wednesday, October 26th
10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York
255 Genesee Street, 2nd Floor
Utica, NY 13501

Administrative Law Judge Carol S. Johnson will present a three credit CLE for attorneys and paralegals on representing claimants in Unemployment Insurance hearings. For more information contact Pro Bono paralegal Renee Kolwaite at (315) 793-7061.

NEW YORK CITY

Legal Services NYC Pro Bono Awards

Monday, October 24th
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
Cleary Gottlieb
One Liberty Plaza
New York, NY 10006

In honor of National Pro Bono Week, Legal Services NYC will host their annual NYC Bankruptcy Assistance Project Pro Bono Awards.

Sweet Treats

Monday, October 24th
9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Shearman & Sterling LLP
599 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10022

The Pro Bono Group at Shearman & Sterling LLP will kick off National Pro Bono Week in their New York, Washington, DC and Bay Area offices on Monday, October 24, 2011 with make-your-own ice cream sundaes and other sweet treats to show appreciation to their attorneys and staff who continuously and wholeheartedly serve their local communities and global pro bono clients with the utmost compassion, professionalism and dedication to outstanding pro bono work.

Shearman & Sterling Hosts Pro Bono Clinic at NYC Family Court

Tuesday, October 25th
10:00 am – 1:00 pm
2:30 pm – 5:30 pm
New York City Family Court
60 Lafayette Street
New York, NY 10013

Shearman & Sterling LLP attorneys will provide brief legal consultations to unrepresented litigants on a walk-in basis on matters involving child support, paternity and guardianship at the New York City Family Court.

Small Business Clinic

Tuesday, October 25th
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Brooklyn Business Library
280 Cadman Plaza W. at Tillary St.
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Shearman & Sterling attorneys and a client's corporate attorneys will partner at a Small Business Clinic at the Brooklyn Business Library. The clinic is being coordinated by the Neighborhood Entrepreneur Law Project (affiliated with the City Bar Justice Center) and the attorneys will guide micro-entrepreneurs clients through such matters as incorporation and tax issues, commercial lease negotiations, copyright, trademark and patents, and license and permit applications.

Legal Clinic for Artists

Wednesday, October 26th
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Shearman & Sterling LLP
599 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Staff from Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts will coordinate a legal clinic on-site at Shearman & Sterling's office. Firm attorneys will meet with artists and art organizations and answer inquiries about arts-related legal matters such as forming nonprofits, contracts and intellectual property issues.

MFY Family Adoption Training

Wednesday, October 26th
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Shearman & Sterling LLP
599 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Shearman & Sterling will host an MFY Legal Services Family Adoption training. Attorneys from other NYC law firms are welcome to register and attend. For more information and to register contact Amy Roehl at aroehl@mfy.org or (212) 417-3743.

Child and Spousal Support CLE

Wednesday, October 26th
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
(Sign-in and dinner at 5:30 pm)
Simpson Thatcher & Bartlett LLP
425 Lexington Avenue
(Between East 43rd and 44th Streets)
New York, NY 10017

inMotion will host an evening pro bono CLE training exclusively for attorneys at corporate law firms who are willing to represent inMotion clients in child and spousal support proceedings in Family Court. Procedural and substantive aspects will be discussed in detail. Training manuals and sample documents will be provided at the training. Attendees will earn 1.5 CLE credits in skills, 1.0 CLE credits in professional practice and 0.5 CLE credits in ethics.

SSI Overpayment and Waiver Clinic

Thursday, October 27th
9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Shearman & Sterling LLP
599 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10022

In partnership with The Legal Aid Society and Credit Suisse Shearman & Sterling will host an SSI overpayment and waiver clinic. Teams comprised of a Credit Suisse attorney and a Shearman & Sterling attorney will assist low-income people with their SSI overpayment and waiver issues.

Jeremy G. Epstein Award for Outstanding Pro Bono Service

Monday, October 24th
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
City Bar Justice Center
42 West 44th Street
New York, NY 10036

In honor of the 2011 National Pro Bono Week, the City Bar Justice Center will recognize a selection of exceptional volunteers with the Jeremy G. Epstein Award for outstanding pro bono service at an event in support of pro bono service on October 24 at the City Bar. The awardees include an outstanding volunteer from each of the City Bar Justice Center's projects who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to assist members of the community in need of pro bono legal assistance. For more information about this prestigious recognition event, contact Carol Bockner, Director Pro Bono Initiatives at (212) 382-4714.

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

Sixth Annual Liz Padilla Memorial 5K

Sunday, October 2nd at 10:00 am
Brooklyn Bar Association
Volunteer Lawyers Project
Rain or Shine
Registration fee $25.00 before October1st
Registration fee $30.00 Day of Race

The Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project, Inc. proudly announces the 6th Annual Liz Padilla Memorial 5K race which will be held at Prospect Park, Brooklyn. The Memorial race is a tribute to a gifted and giving colleague, Elizabeth Kasulis Padilla, who with extraordinary skill and energy devoted herself to the VLP, changing many lives for the better. The Memorial 5K will benefit the many programs of the VLP and fund the 2012 *Liz Padilla Cornell Law School Fellowship.* For more information contact Karen Rosenberg, EMPIRE EVENTS GROUP at (212) 625-1025.

LONG ISLAND

Bankruptcy Clinic

Tuesday, October 25th
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Nassau/Suffolk Law Services Committee, Inc.
1757 Veterans Highway Suite 50
Islandia, NY 11749

Nassau/Suffolk Law Services Committee, Inc. will hold one of their bi-monthly Bankruptcy Clinics **by appointment only** at their Islandia office. Suffolk County residents can call Nassau Suffolk Law Services Committee, Inc. at (631) 232-2400 to be screened for income eligibility and an appointment with a pro bono attorney.

Senior Citizen Clinic

Tuesday, October 25th
9:30 am – 1:00 pm
Nassau County Bar Association
15th and West Streets
Mineola, NY 11501

The Nassau County Bar Association will hold a Senior Citizens clinic for county residents. Call (516) 747-4070 to schedule an appointment.

Enhanced Foreclosure Clinic

Thursday, October 27th
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
Suffolk County Bar Association
560 Wheeler Road
Hauppauge, NY 11788

The Suffolk County Bar Association will hold a Special Enhanced Foreclosure Clinic for county homeowners at the Bar Center in Hauppauge. The clinic program will be webcast and both the in-house and webcast programs will have limited enrollment on a first come, first serve basis. Interested parties may contact the Suffolk County Bar Association at (631) 234-5511 for further information.

Pro Bono Fair

Thursday, October 27th
3:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Nassau County Bar Association
15th and West Streets
Mineola, NY 11501

The Nassau County Bar Association and Nassau Suffolk Law Services Committee, Inc. are sponsoring a Pro Bono FAIR (Free Assistance Information and Referral) at the Nassau County Bar Association. Nassau county residents can meet with an attorney one-on-one for legal guidance and information. **Pre-registration is required.** Call (516) 747-4070 to register for a consultation.