



MARYLAND
LEGAL AID

Advancing
Human Rights and
Justice for All

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Maryland Legal Aid Launches Pro Bono Program

BALTIMORE, Md., October 4, 2018) - Maryland Legal Aid (MLA) announces the official launch of its revamped Pro Bono Program. Through this program, attorneys licensed to practice law in Maryland can lend their talents and skills to benefit low-income individuals and families throughout the state by accepting cases for representation, providing assistance at legal clinics, and/or mentoring other volunteer attorneys.

In addition, MLA's Pro Bono Program provides attorneys with opportunities to learn new areas of law through trainings, legal clinics, participation in MLA's task forces on substantive areas of law, and mentorship. Pro bono attorneys can use MLA's offices for client meetings, trial preparation and other case-handling activities; access MLA's libraries and electronic research tools; and receive reimbursement for approved litigation expenses. Additionally, attorneys who participate in MLA's Pro Bono Program are covered under MLA's malpractice insurance when handling MLA cases.

"Maryland Legal Aid's Pro Bono Program provides attorneys with engaging and diverse opportunities to assist low-income Marylanders with their civil legal matters and to ensure equal access to justice," said Program Director Anais Taboas. "The goal of the program is to provide innovative and fulfilling ways for attorneys and professionals to get involved in the delivery of civil legal services to those most in need. It only takes one hour, one case or one client to get started."

MLA has a number of cases available for assignment to pro bono attorneys in a variety of areas including domestic (e.g., divorces, child support and child visitation), consumer (e.g., bankruptcy and debt collection), housing (e.g., evictions and foreclosure), veterans' and government benefits, and criminal record expungements to remove barriers to obtaining safe and affordable housing, employment, and child custody.

For more information and to add your name to MLA's growing list of pro bono attorneys interested in taking cases, visit www.ProBono.MDLAB.org, or contact Pro Bono Program Director Anais Taboas at 410-951-7624 or ataboas@mdl原因.org.

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About Maryland Legal Aid

Maryland Legal Aid is a private, non-profit law firm that provides free, civil legal services to people who are in Baltimore City and Maryland's 23 counties from 12 offices. The firm handles cases involving a wide range of issues, including family, housing, government benefits, healthcare, education, employment, and consumer law. Maryland Legal Aid also represents children in CINA (Child in Need of Assistance) proceedings in 14 jurisdictions. Other vulnerable populations, such as homeowners facing foreclosure, migrant and seasonal farm workers, people with developmental and mental health disabilities, nursing home and assisted living residents, and veterans seeking benefits and assistance with related legal issues also receive representation through special projects. Maryland Legal Aid's Community Lawyering Initiative, which includes its *Lawyer in the Library* program, assists with expunging criminal records to remove barriers to

obtaining housing, employment, and child custody through clinics held in community centers, non-profit organizations, libraries, places of worship, schools, and other gathering places.

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