

VOL. 2 ISSUE 3 • MAY 2024

PRO BONO INSIGHTS

A Monthly Georgia Legal Services Program Newsletter

Message from the Director

Monday was Memorial Day. For many of us, Memorial Day itself and the holiday weekend holds dual significance. It is an important opportunity to reflect upon the sacrifices that so many have made while serving our country, as well as the ongoing impact that their loss has on their loved ones and communities. But the weekend leading up to Monday's day of remembrance is also the unofficial start to summer, when our thoughts often turn to warmer days, vacations, a break from the routine, and a time to celebrate positive change, like graduations.

Embracing change has been a recent theme within Georgia Legal Services Program's Pro Bono Unit, too. Statewide Project Manager Heidi Behnke and I were published in the Winter 2023/2024 issue of MIE Journal. Our article, entitled "When Change Comes Knocking, Answer the Door!", appeared in a special issue recognizing the impact of Legal Services Corporation and its grantees. The article provided an overview of the many changes that the Pro Bono Unit has undergone in recent years as part of our transformation efforts, as well as a closer look at some of the innovative processes that have been key to our success.

The Pro Bono Unit has welcomed several new staff in 2024, and we highlight two of our new managers later in the newsletter.

This expanded staff means that we can offer you more of the meaningful volunteer opportunities you look for and support you through every step. We invite you to engage with our staff and find new opportunities at bit.ly/GLSP_Paladin.



Mike Monahan
Director of the Pro Bono Unit

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CLE and Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are encouraged to access and explore our substantive training materials through our Pro Bono Learning Management System (Learning.GLSP.org). Additionally, GLSP and our partners host a variety of free or at-cost CLE sessions throughout the year.

To learn more about our training program, volunteer to host/present a training, or recommend new topics, please contact Mike Monahan (mmonahan@glsp.org).

CLE Training Events

Stay tuned for more CLE opportunities in the next edition of Pro Bono Insights.

DIRECT REPRESENTATION

GLSP's Pro Bono Unit offers a wide array of in-person and remote direct service opportunities throughout the state of Georgia. These opportunities are a great way for attorneys licensed in Georgia to assist clients one-on-one with legal matters ranging from appearing in court, drafting documents, or obtaining access to new resources. Opportunities exist statewide in the following substantive areas:

- Wills and Powers of Attorney
- Restriction of Criminal Records
- Bankruptcy
- Protective Orders for Victims of Violence
- Name Changes
- Probate of Estates
- and more...

Paladin, our new volunteer platform, lists some of our current opportunities. You can access it by going to bit.ly/GLSP_Paladin.

To learn more about region-specific opportunities, contact one of our Pro Bono Coordinators or Staff Attorneys (see page 6 of this newsletter) or contact Mike Monahan (mmonahan@glsp.org).

UPCOMING PRO BONO CLINICS

Clinics may be advice-only or brief services. Some clinics will cover a variety of civil legal issues and provide clients time to meet with a private attorney for advice on their issue. Other clinics will focus on a specific legal issue, such as wills or record restriction, and will require the attorney to draft documents prior to meeting the client at the clinic.

Check out our upcoming legal clinics around the state and find one that meets your volunteer interests. Remember, for many clinics you can join us in-person or participate remotely.



Gainesville Probate Clinic

Looking for 1 volunteer to provide up to 4 clients with counsel and advice on probate/estate matters. Contact Deidra Schad (dschad@glsp.org) to sign up or for more information.



Dougherty County Wills Clinic

Looking for volunteers to draft wills and power of attorney documents. Contact Lorilynn Daniel (lmdaniel@glsp.org) to sign up or for more information.



Gainesville Probate Clinic

Looking for 1 volunteer to provide up to 4 clients with counsel and advice on probate/estate matters. Contact Deidra Schad (dschad@glsp.org) to sign up or for more information.

COMING SOON...

August 23
Douglas County
Wills Clinic

Not able to volunteer right now, or want to increase your impact? A gift to GLSP helps support our staff and provide access to justice and opportunities out of poverty throughout the state!

bit.ly/Justice_2024

MAY'S PRO BONO STARS

Join with us to applaud this month's Pro Bono Stars

PRO BONO ADVISORY BOARD



This month, we want to give a special thanks to our new Pro Bono Advisory Board. The Board met for the first time in April, and we are already receiving valuable feedback that will improve GLSP's pro bono program.

What is the Pro Bono Advisory Board?

A group of individuals with a particular interest in improving our pro bono program, with members who bring a variety of large firm, law school, corporate, and other perspectives. The Board advises the Pro Bono Committee of the GLSP Board of Directors but has members that are not on the Board of Directors.

Why was it formed?

To provide unique, specific feedback and perspectives on current and future pro bono innovations. This Board will provide varied perspectives on the existing program and how we should expand it in the future.

Who is on it?

Ron Daniels

Daniels Law

Radha Manthe

King & Spalding

Elizabeth Grant

University of Georgia School of Law

Darcy Meals

Alston & Bird

Alex Eichenbaum

Georgia State University School of Law

Sam Nicholson

Nicholson & Revell

Elisa Kodish

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough

Suzanne Werner

The Coca-Cola Company

thank you

WELCOMING NEW LEADERSHIP

GLSP is happy to introduce our new Pro Bono Unit Deputy Directors!

SARAH J. ANDERSON



DEPUTY DIRECTOR, CLINICS & COMPLIANCE

Sarah has been a valuable member of GLSP's Pro Bono team since 2019, working with clients and volunteers in the Savannah office. She served as a Pro Bono Unit Supervising Attorney for most of the past year.

In her new role, Sarah is responsible for developing clinic models and ensuring consistent implementation of pro bono clinics across GLSP's regional offices. She will also ensure our pro bono efforts remain in compliance with Legal Services Corporation requirements and other relevant laws and regulations. Sarah is particularly excited about ensuring the Pro Bono Unit works as a unified force to provide high-quality service to our clients.

A 2014 graduate of Cooley Law School, Sarah worked for four years at Maryland Legal Aid's southern Maryland office before coming to GLSP.

CARI KING



DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS

Cari comes to GLSP after almost a decade at Atlanta Legal Aid Society, serving clients with low incomes and those in marginalized communities throughout the greater Atlanta area. She managed Atlanta Legal Aid's pro bono program for the last four years, and is excited to now bring her experience and connections to GLSP.

In her new role, Cari will focus on maintaining and expanding GLSP's relationships and pro bono partnerships with the private bar, law schools, and other volunteer groups. She is particularly excited about mobilizing GLSP's pro bono team to better connect volunteers in more populous areas of the state with clients in rural areas.


Cari is a 2010 graduate of Mercer University and a 2013 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law. You can reach her at cking@glsp.org.

MEET THE TEAM- REGIONAL OFFICES

WE'RE HIRING!

GLSP's Pro Bono Unit has an open position in the Savannah Office.

To learn more, contact Mike Monahan (mmonahan@glsp.org) or view our job postings at bit.ly/GLSP_Jobs



Angelina Vaquera-Linke
Pro Bono Coordinator
Dalton Regional Office



Deidra Schad
Pro Bono Staff Attorney
Gainesville Regional Office



Eric von Hacke
Pro Bono Staff Attorney
Piedmont Regional Office



Aubree Smith
Pro Bono Staff Attorney
Augusta Regional Office



Rachael Schell
Pro Bono Staff Attorney
Macon Regional Office



Monica Whatley
Pro Bono Coordinator
Columbus Regional Office



Lorilynn Daniel
Pro Bono Coordinator
Albany Regional Office



Marika LaRoy
Pro Bono Coordinator
Brunswick Regional Office

MEET THE TEAM- CENTRAL SUPPORT



Mike Monahan
Director of the Pro Bono Unit



Sarah J. Anderson
PBU Deputy Director
Clinics and Compliance



Ashley Clark
Pro Bono Supervising Attorney



Nobie Mitchell
Pro Bono Coordinator



Cari King
PBU Deputy Director
Partnerships and Collaborations



Deborah Chapman
Pro Bono Support Manager



Tommy Richards
IT Analyst

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