Storm Has Passed but the Devastation is as Real as Ever: Law Students Remain Determined to Make a Difference

The UNC School of Law Winter Pro Bono Project enjoyed another fantastic year in 2006-2007. Students were able to choose from over 100 placements within North Carolina, while 13 students were placed outside of the state. To date, over 80 students have reported doing in excess of 2300 hours of pro bono service during Winter Break, more than 1000 hours of which were performed in North Carolina. David Elliott, a first-year student who worked with the New York firm of Orrick, Harrington, and Sutcliffe, noted that “the associates I worked with, notably Pro Bono Counsel and UNC alum Rene Kathawala, served as mentors, candidly discussing issues and careers. Winter Break at Orrick provided not only an opportunity to contribute meaningful pro bono work on significant legal issues, but also to gain valuable experience at an internationally renowned law firm.”

Not only did the community benefit from the pro bono work of the students involved over the break, but law students gained valuable skills and experiences that will serve them well throughout their time at Carolina Law and beyond. First-year law student Matt Ruedy enjoyed gaining practical experience early on in law school by working with the Immigration Law Association (ILA). “The ILA Pro Bono project was an interesting project which allowed me to apply my research skills to a practical experience early in my law school career.” Stephanie Lewis, another first year law student, was able to apply the same skills she used during her pro bono experience to assist her with her coursework. Lewis said her project at Jordan & Jordan law offices has helped with her first year brief. Third-year law student Jocelyn Fina continued her work in the area of housing law through a placement with the UNC Center for Civil Rights. “After going down to New Orleans last spring break to work on housing law issues for people who had lost their homes due to Hurricane Katrina, I wanted to continue my housing law-related pro bono work by doing a Winter Break pro bono project. Getting to work with [alumus and former UNC Pro Bono Program Director] Diane Standaert and UNC’s Center for Civil Rights was the perfect avenue to continue pursuing my interest in serving those who may be facing housing discrimination or overcoming the barriers to obtaining their own home within North Carolina.”

Perhaps the highlight of the Winter and Spring Break Pro Bono Projects has been two more group trips to New Orleans organized by the newly-created Special Trips Coordinator. For a second year, with the support of firms Kilpatrick Stockton, Troutman Sanders, and Adams and Reese, the UNC Pro Bono Program continued its effort to help the New Orleans legal community respond to the vast need for legal services produced by Hurricane Katrina. Our innovative model of including out-of-state attorneys to supervise student pro bono service was expanded to include criminal as well as civil work.

During a week of Winter Break, 20 students served almost 900 hours of service, assisting the New Orleans Pro Bono Project in advancing property succession and divorce cases, and the Tulane Law Clinic in interviewing inmates to assess competency for trial. Said John Derrick, Class of 2009: “I think everybody got a lot out of it. The people we had the opportunity to serve got a helping hand, however small, in rebuilding their lives. We got to develop our legal skills, serve others, and spend time with wonderful people in the incredible city of New Orleans.”

Catherine Drake, an attorney with the Pro Bono Project, lauded the UNC students who helped get them on track again by “getting the process moving ahead on a reasonable schedule and reducing the frustration many of these clients have experienced as both the courts and the attorneys have been over-taxed locally.”

Rachel Piercey, Executive Director of the Pro Bono Project, said, “UNC Law students are part of our 'new normal' and we welcome and enjoy their energy and commitment to our mission.” In December, the New Orleans Pro Bono Project named us their Law School of the Year for 2006. Not only did UNC Law students provide hundreds of hours of pro bono service to our community partners in New Orleans, they also raised over $3000 to support the trip, which enabled us to make a monetary donation of almost $500 to each organization as well.

An additional 11 students dedicated their Spring Break week to travel to New Orleans to continue the property succession work at the New Orleans Pro Bono Project, demonstrating the tremendous amount of energy in the law school to help with Katrina relief. Read about the experiences of students on all four trips at http://forthegoodofthegulf.blogspot.com.
Graduating Student of the Year – Joyce Kung
Joyce Kung’s exceptional pro bono service throughout her law school career serves as an example for other students in how to make a difference in their community. Joyce has logged over 200 hours of pro bono work in a diverse collection of projects. She has worked with the NC Justice Center, served as a Guardian Ad Litem, and helped the Immigrant Outreach Project. Her commitment to pro bono service is unwavering, as she has continued to make pro bono a priority throughout her third year. From winter break to summer vacation and every point in between, Joyce has consistently donated her time to those in need.

3L Student of the Year - Lauren Vaughn
Lauren Vaughn has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to pro bono service during her law school career, logging over 150 hours of pro bono work. From countless hours volunteering as a Guardian Ad Litem to working with NC Prisoner Legal Services, Lauren has illustrated how a student can work on a diversity of issues during law school. While Lauren’s dedication to the children she represents in the Guardian Ad Litem program is extraordinary, her work with the Domestic Violence Advocacy Project, NC Prisoner Legal Services, Women in Law, and various other organizations shows her commitment to pro bono service.

2L Student of the Year – Marty Rosenbluth
Marty Rosenbluth is a phenomenal 2L who not only juggles law school demands and a family but has devoted over 400 pro bono hours to Amnesty International (AI). He serves on a volunteer basis as the Country Specialist for Israel, the Occupied Territories, and the Palestinian Authority. While his tasks vary widely, a few examples of his work include: participating in Amnesty’s fact-finding mission to northern Israel last summer during the war, wiring money to a Palestinian gay couple fleeing after threats from local militia, editing training modules, and working with various units within AIUSA to develop member actions. Next summer Marty will be a delegate to Amnesty’s International Council Meeting, the organization’s highest policy making body.

1L Student of the Year – Allison Standard
A 2006 graduate from UNC with a BA in political science, Allison has already made a significant impact at the law school. She has given 75 hours of her time thus far to pro bono projects. A small sample of those projects include serving as a Guardian ad Litem in Orange and Chatham counties, serving as a Teen Court mentor in both counties, and sacrificing one week of her winter break to work in the Orleans Parish Prison with inmates whose lives were devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Allison says, “Conducting inmate interviews in New Orleans opened my eyes to the horrors of the post-Katrina criminal justice system and helped me to put a face to clients who are all too often just names and numbers.” Allison hopes to continue her service work as a public defender upon law school graduation.

Faculty Member of the Year – Rich Rosen
Professor Rosen is a 1976 graduate of the UNC School of Law, and worked as a public defender with the Public Defender Service of Washington, DC. He then returned to the law school to work with the school’s clinical programs and teach criminal law and criminal procedure classes, among others. This year, Professor Rosen has been diligently working on Fayetteville inmate Lee Wayne Hunt’s claims of innocence. Prosecuted for murder twenty years ago, new evidence has surfaced proving that a co-defendant in Hunt’s trial was the sole perpetrator of the crime and that Hunt is innocent. When asked about the exact number of pro bono hours Professor Rosen has put into this case, he simply said, “There are times when it takes over your life,” and indicated that, with this case, there had been plenty of those times.

Student Group of the Year – Immigration Law Association
Immigration Law Association (previously “Immigrant Outreach Project”) is a student organization devoted to cultivating student interest in the field of immigration law. This past year, ILA’s President Elizabeth James and Vice-President Nicole Jones have been integral in ILA’s efforts to organize and recruit volunteers to complete a pro bono project which was initiated by 2006 graduates Kerry Burleigh and Katherine Lewis. This project is the creation of a chart analyzing the immigration consequences of criminal convictions based upon the North Carolina General Statutes. With oversight from local attorneys, most importantly Sejal Zoata, the chart will eventually be integrated as an appendix to the UNC School of Government’s forthcoming immigration manual for criminal defense attorneys. In addition to this project, ILA members have contributed countless pro bono hours to immigration attorneys at the North Carolina Justice Center and to Legal Aid’s Battered Immigrants Project, and have worked to increase awareness of pro bono opportunities in the field of immigration law.
The Pro Bono Board Explores the Excitement, Importance, and Practicality of Pro Bono Work in the Workforce

As part of the Pro Bono Program’s effort to foster dialogue about pro bono work as a professional responsibility and a lifelong commitment, the Program sponsored two events in February and March. The first was entitled “Paving the Road to the Supreme Court: How Pro Bono Cases Changed My Career and My Life,” co-sponsored with the Offices of Student Affairs and Career Services. The panelists included UNC Law Dean Jack Boger, UNC Professor and Director of UNC’s Center for Civil Rights Julius Chambers, and Duke Law Professor Erwin Chemerinsky. Judge Patricia Wald, former Chief Judge of the DC Circuit Court of Appeals and former judge for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, moderated. The panelists focused their discussion on how they got involved in their pro bono cases, how they prepared the cases for hearing before the nation’s highest court, and what kind of impact the cases had on their legal careers. Particularly moving were the panelists’ discussions of how it felt to lose a hard-fought pro bono case, especially when a client’s liberty is at stake. Professor Chemerinsky shared his experience of having to pull over to the side of the road and cry when he learned that he had lost his client’s case challenging the California three-strikes law. The loss meant that his client would spend most of the rest of his life in prison for shoplifting. Dean Boger told students about his experience of visiting Warren McCleskey in prison after the Supreme Court denied his claim that Georgia’s capital sentencing scheme was racially discriminatory. Professor Chambers spoke candidly about the politics behind the Supreme Court and recounted difficult memories of death threats and actual bombings of his car and office.

One week later, the program co-sponsored a second panel with the Offices of Student Affairs, Career Services and Alumni Affairs entitled “Crafting Your Dream Job: How Pro Bono Can Change Your Career and Your Life.” This discussion invited alumni and employer panelists for a focused conversation about how to integrate pro bono into a career in private practice. Panelists included Tripp Greason, Pro Bono Director for Womble Carlyle, Jami Jackson Farris, Class of 1999 and partner and member of the Pro Bono Committee at Parker Poe, Carlos Mahoney, Class of 1999 and partner at Glenn Mills and Fisher, Gina Reyman, Class of 1987, senior managing attorney at Legal Aid of Durham, and former associate at a small firm in Durham, and Katy Parker, staff attorney at the ACLU of North Carolina and former associate at Holland and Knight, where she won awards for her pro bono work. The panelists shared many important insights with students about how to investigate available pro bono opportunities during the recruitment process, how to get involved with pro bono once a student has joined a firm as an associate, and how to balance pro bono work with other responsibilities at the firm. All the panelists stressed how valuable pro bono work had been to them as young attorneys, both professionally in terms of skill development, and personally in terms of the fulfillment that comes from helping pro bono clients that many lawyers never experience when working with paying or corporate clients. The panelists also emphasized the importance of a supportive structure at the firm for pro bono, including counting pro bono hours in billable minimums and providing supervision and support for associates taking on pro bono cases.

A Few Words from the Pro Bono Program’s Law-Related Education Coordinator

The Law-Related Education (LRE) Coordinator is charged with educating and training law students and community members in topics related to pro bono legal services. This year, Elizabeth Hartnett, the 2006-2007 LRE Coordinator, organized three educational events at the law school.

Elizabeth assisted a student group, the Community Legal Project, in training law students in client counseling. Over 80 law students attended the program during two lunch hours. Professor Ruth McKinney, Professor Alice Ratliff, Jamie Stone of the Women’s Center, and third year law student and Community Legal Project coordinator Rebecca Redwine presented during the sessions. After learning about active listening, interviewing techniques, and dealing with clients in crisis, students were encouraged to sign up for student group projects involving client counseling.

Law students, local attorneys, court interpreters, members of North Carolina government, and judges attended a multi-disciplinary program called “Lost in Translation, Silenced by Discrimination: The Need for Foreign Language Interpreters in North Carolina.” Elizabeth worked with Professor Deborah Weissman to coordinate an insightful discussion on the need for interpreters in North Carolina courts and the complexities of interpreting in a court setting. Speakers included Professor Deborah Weissman, UNC Romance Languages Professor Julia Cardona Mack, Stephanie Scarce of the Administrative Office of NC Courts, UNC alum and NC Justice Center immigration attorney Kaci Bishop, and professional interpreter Javier Castillo. Students commented that they felt better equipped to work with non-English speaking clients and an urge to work for the cause of making interpreters more available for North Carolina’s growing Latino population.

Finally, Elizabeth coordinated with Joanne Caye, Professor at UNC School of Social Work to present the Social Work Collaborative. Over 80 social work students from all over the state attended this training in preparation to testify in Juvenile Court proceedings for abuse, neglect and dependency cases. Ten law students prepared direct and cross-examination questions in mock trials and social work students practiced testifying in a simulated courtroom setting. Durham District Court Judge Ann McKown advised students throughout the day. First year law students commented that the program boosted their confidence for upcoming oral argument assignments in the Reading, Reasoning, Writing and Advocacy class, for try-outs for moot court and trial teams, as well as for the summer job search.

Dean Jack Boger, Julius Chambers, and Erwin Chemerinsky discuss the rewards of taking hard-fought pro bono cases all the way to the United States Supreme Court.
ABA Model Rule of Professional Conduct 6.1 states: “Every lawyer has a professional responsibility to provide legal services to those unable to pay.” Many students enter UNC Law School with this professional responsibility in mind. Others enter knowing they are interested in pro bono work, but are not aware that the legal profession has actually made pro bono service an aspirational goal. Still others enter largely unacquainted with what pro bono service means or what it can offer them both professionally and personally.

One of our primary goals this year was to increase awareness among students that while pro bono is a great way to get practical experience, build a resume, and feel worthwhile, pro bono is also a professional responsibility for all lawyers, a responsibility that comes with having special knowledge and skills to which many people in our nation have no access. We have tried to foster discussion about both the similarities and differences between “public interest law careers” and “pro bono service.” While both concepts entail providing legal services for the good of the public, we wanted all future lawyers to understand that one need not be a public interest lawyer in order to provide pro bono services, and that all lawyers, regardless of their field, should aspire to use their unique knowledge for the good of people and causes that might otherwise go unrepresented.

This year we implemented a new “1L Pro Bono Pledge,” through which incoming students can express their commitment to this professional responsibility by pledging to complete at least one pro bono project, and up to more than 100 hours of service, before graduating from the law school. In response, 108 students in the Class of 2009 pledged to provide a total of 3800 hours of pro bono service during their years at UNC Law. We also developed a database of over three hundred UNC Law alumni who performed more than fifty hours of pro bono service as law students. This database will allow us to communicate with alumni for a very important purpose: to encourage interaction between current students and alumni who are doing pro bono work. As an outgrowth of our work in New Orleans last year, we expanded our Board to include a Special Trips Coordinator, who will be responsible for planning two group pro bono trips annually, providing yet another way for students to see how diverse and rewarding pro bono service can be.

Our hope is that we are continuing to shift the dialogue about pro bono work here in the law school from one centered on pro bono as an “extracurricular activity,” to one that embraces the concept of pro bono as professional responsibility, a responsibility that begins in law school and continues throughout one’s career. As the Program celebrates its tenth anniversary this fall, I believe that every person who has ever been a part of it should feel both proud and privileged for having done so. You are all a credit to our profession.

Reflections from the Assistant Dean for Public Service Programs, Sylvia Novinsky

On February 1, 2007, I had the great honor of beginning my tenure as Assistant Dean for Public Service Programs. My responsibilities include coordinating and promoting pro bono opportunities at the School of Law as well as programming for students and alumni interested in careers in public interest law. Dean Boger’s decision to create this position begins a new chapter in the School’s long-standing commitment to public service.

As we approach our ten year anniversary this August, the Pro Bono Program can be proud of its accomplishments. Our 11-person student board continues to amaze me with their unlimited energy, ideas, and hard work. They have spent the last year dreaming big—increasing the number of student volunteers during the school year and the breaks, increasing the number and diversifying the types of projects, and continuing to institutionalize a commitment to pro bono work. Their dreams were realized this year with an increased percentage of student participants and more of a diverse set of projects (both subject-matter wise and geographically) than ever before. New this year, we sponsored two programs, one that highlighted U.S. Supreme Court cases taken on a pro bono basis and another that brought alumni back to talk about how they incorporate pro bono work into their private practices. Our student organizations challenge their members to give back to the community through pro bono service, while strengthening members’ professional skills. Faculty serve as role models to our students by not only seeking pro bono projects, but also incorporating students into their work.

I am confident that the Pro Bono Program is helping to educate the future lawyers of North Carolina, the nation and the world, as well as serving the needs of our citizens. I look forward to continuing that work for generations to come. There is no greater honor.

I am so proud to be a part of it.
Attorneys and Organizations Participating in the 2006-2007 Pro Bono Program Participants

Class of 2007

200+ Hours
Mandy Hitchcock
Joyce Kung
Boz Zellinger

100+ Hours
Kate Bell
Ed Chaney
Brian Drozd
Jocelyn Fina
Mark Golden
Aaron Harmon
Pamela Harrigan-Youn
Elizabeth Jacobs
Ryan Lee
Andres O'Leary
Sonya Pfeiffer
Corey Santos
Neil Sicarelli
Drew Slone
Virginia Song
Leslie Stephens
Lauren Vaughn
Emily Wynes

75 - 99 Hours
Becky Ballard
David Carpenter
Jennifer Drorbaugh
Rachelle Hill
Penelope Lazarou
Natalie Lee
Tracy Nayer
Michael Petrusic
J.D. Shipman
Jen Wagner
Lindsay Wilkes

50 - 74 Hours
Laura Anderson
Sara Ayazi
Meredith Bishop
Carri Buell
Benjamin Dickens
John Duberstein
Robin Goulet
Sara Leitenberger
Sireesha Manne
William Miller
Tracy Morrison
Emily Peters
Amanda Ray
Patrick Weede
Quinn White
Vanessa Witt

25 - 49 Hours
Elias Adamassu
Stacy Bergendahl
Katherine Brooks
Ellinor Coder
Emily Day
Diane DePietropaolo
Elliot Dube
Luke Everett
Leslie Gentry
Shawna Glenn
Jesse Goodman
Officer Will Hanks
David Hatcher
Morgan Hendrix
Bradley Hopp
Sharon Harris
Cory Hooper
Kara Jackson
Carolyn Jewett
Sara Johnson
Jeffrey Johnson
Justin Johnson
Kaitlin Johnson
Katie Jones
Bryan Jordan
Carri Kay

Class of 2008

200+ Hours
Amy McCool
Rebecca Moriello
Marty Rosenbluth

100+ Hours
Stacey Ames
Suzanne Buckley
Stephanie Carowan
Heather Crews
Caroline Elliot
Elizabeth Hartnett
Jessica Luong

75 – 99 Hours
Cynthia Baldwin
William Browne
Sarah Byrd
Adam Foggia
Erica Franke
Rachel Gage
Rebekah Goncarovs
Lindsey Guice
Eric Iverson
Elizabeth James
Sarah Krishnaraj
Luis Lluberas-Oliver
Mindy Nunez
Lisa Stifter

50 – 74 Hours
Dauna Bartley
Lorrie Bradley
Alena Buitrago
Duke Chen
Courtney Harris
Rachel Hundley
Nicole Jones
Daniel Kluttz
Matt Liles
Christy MacPherson
Ann McMillin
Carolyn Pratt
Giovonni Seawood
Jennifer Smith
Reita Smolka
Justin Witt
Meredith Woods
Erin Wynia

25 – 49 Hours
Elias Adamassu
Stacy Bergendahl
Katherine Brooks
Ellinor Coder
Emily Day
Diane DePietropaolo
Elliot Dube
Luke Everett
Leslie Gentry
Shawna Glenn
Jesse Goodman
Officer Will Hanks
David Hatcher
Morgan Hendrix
Bradley Hopp
Sharon Harris
Cory Hooper
Kara Jackson
Carolyn Jewett
Sara Johnson
Jeffrey Johnson
Justin Johnson
Katie Jones
Bryan Jordan
Carri Kay

Class of 2009

75 - 99 Hours
Katie Carmon
John Derrick
Allison Standard

50 - 74 Hours
Adinna Augur
Dan Conrad
Ashley Erickson
Justin Flores
Lauren Joyner
Kate Lavoie
Larisa Martin
Katie Ploghoft
Laura Stephens
Liz Troutman
Joanna Yu

25 - 49 Hours
Hannah Albertson
Corrine Belt
Robert Brown
Saurabh Desai
Uttam Dubal
Jennifer Dunlevy
David Elliott
Sabrina Gardner
Kelley Giordano
Kelly
Stephanie Lewis
Amy Mackin
Meghan McClure
Caroline Meek
Matthew Modell
Kelly O'Connell
Brian Powell
Paige Worsham

Class of 2007

200+ Hours
Enrique Yap
Warren Wood
Barbara Young
Brian Zelazny

100+ Hours
Amy McCool
Rebecca Moriello
Marty Rosenbluth

75 – 99 Hours
Katie Carmon
John Derrick
Allison Standard

50 – 74 Hours
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Sabrina Gardner
Kelley Giordano
Kelly
Stephanie Lewis
Amy Mackin
Meghan McClure
Caroline Meek
Matthew Modell
Kelly O'Connell
Brian Powell
Paige Worsham

Participating Student Organizations

Carolina Street Law
Carolina Teen Court Assistance Program
Community Legal Project
Death Penalty Project
Disability Law
Law Enforcement
Law Enforcement Advocacy
Legal Advocacy
Legal Aid of North Carolina
Legal Aid Society
Legal Services of Camp Lejeune
Mayer, Brown, Rowe and May LLP
Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project
Moore & Van Allen PLLC
National Health Law Program
NC Bar Association
NC Center on Actual Innocence
NC Conservation Network
NC Department of Justice
NC Justice Center
NC Sentencing and Policy Commission
Public Defender
North Carolina Community Health Center
Northwest Immigrants Rights Project
Ohio Community Legal Aid
Orange County District Attorney's Office
Orange County Rape Crisis Center
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
Pisgah Legal Services
Public Defender Michael Edwards
Tulane University Law School Criminal Clinic
UNC Center for Civil Rights
Western Carolina University Law School
University of North Carolina School of Law
University of South Carolina
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
University of North Carolina at Pembroke
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
University of North Carolina at Wilmington
University of Virginia
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Law Review
Virginia Tech
Washington and Lee University
Washington and Lee University
Washington University in St. Louis
Washington University Law School
Weddington
West Virginia University
Winston-Salem State University
Woolfolk, Hart & Associates
Yale Law School
York School
Zoological Society of Chicago
Zubler, Zubler, Slavin & Farrell

Legal Aid of North Carolina: Ahoskie Office
Legal Aid of North Carolina: Battered Immigrant Project
Legal Aid of North Carolina: Durham Office
Legal Aid of North Carolina: Environmental Poverty Law Project
Legal Aid of North Carolina: Farmworkers Unit
Legal Aid of North Carolina: Fayetteville Office
Legal Aid of North Carolina: Pembroke Office
Legal Aid of North Carolina: Pittsboro Office
Legal Aid of North Carolina: Raleigh Office
Legal Aid of North Carolina: State RIPPLE Taskforce
Legal Aid Society of Northwest NC
Legal Services of Camp Lejeune
Mayer, Brown, Rowe and May LLP
Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project
Moore & Van Allen PLLC
National Health Law Program
NC Bar Association
NC Center on Actual Innocence
NC Conservation Network
NC Department of Justice
NC Justice Center
NC Sentencing and Policy Commission
Public Defender
North Carolina Community Health Center
Northwest Immigrants Rights Project
Ohio Community Legal Aid
Orange County District Attorney's Office
Orange County Rape Crisis Center
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
Pisgah Legal Services
Public Defender Michael Edwards
Tulane University Law School Criminal Clinic
UNC Center for Civil Rights
Western Carolina University Law School
University of North Carolina School of Law
University of South Carolina
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
University of North Carolina at Pembroke
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
University of North Carolina at Wilmington
University of Virginia
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Law Review
Virginia Tech
Washington and Lee University
Washington and Lee University
Washington University in St. Louis
Washington University Law School
Weddington
West Virginia University
Winston-Salem State University
Woolfolk, Hart & Associates
Yale Law School
York School
Zoological Society of Chicago
Zubler, Zubler, Slavin & Farrell

2007

2008

2009
The UNC Law Pro Bono Program

The mission of the UNC School of Law Pro Bono Program is to assist attorneys who provide high quality, low-cost legal services to individuals in need and to create a life long commitment to pro bono work among UNC Law Students. The Program began in the fall of 1997 and since then has filled hundreds of placements with attorneys in non-profit organizations, private practice, and North Carolina’s legal services organizations. The program is administered by ten law students who work to match students with placement needs.

The program is the central point for all pro bono activities at the law school and maintains a database to keep track of student pro bono work. When students complete 50 hours of pro bono service, they receive a Letter of Recognition from the Dean of the law school. Students performing over 75 hours of pro bono service receive a certificate from the North Carolina Bar Association and the law school acknowledging their service at the end of their third year. The law school makes a special recognition at graduation of students who have performed over 100 hours of pro bono service. Furthermore, all students with more than 50 hours of pro bono service earn a notation on their transcripts. The Pro Bono Program operates primarily from August to April, with special projects occurring during the Winter and Spring Breaks.

For more information about the Pro Bono Program at the UNC School of Law, please contact:
UNC School of Law Pro Bono Program, CB# 3380, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3380

To receive and share periodic updates via email about the progress of the UNC Pro Bono Program, faculty and alumni, please join our listserve by emailing us at probono@unc.edu.