

unc law pro bono program

everything you need to know – fall 2009

events (room 4085 unless otherwise noted):

New Orleans Winter Break Trip Interest Meeting

Tuesday, September 15, 12:00p

Winter Break Pro Bono Projects: General Interest Meeting

Tuesday, September 22, 12:00p

Eastern North Carolina Spring Break Trip Interest Meeting

Thursday, October 1, 12:00p

Project Homeless Connect

Thursday, October 8, 9:00a – 3:30p, Hargraves Community Center

1L Coordinator Interviews

Wednesday, October 14, Location and Time TBA

Winter Break Pro Bono Projects: Logistics Meeting

Tuesday, October 20, 12:00p

National Pro Bono Celebration Week

October 26 – 30 – MORE DETAILS SOON!

Lawyering Through Differences: Serving Clients Across Race, Culture, and Class

Wednesday, October 28 – MORE DETAILS SOON!

Pro Bono Program Keynote Speaker: Martin Eakes, CEO of the Center for Community Self-Help and the Center for Responsible Lending

Tuesday, November 3, 12:00p

Winter Break Sign-ups & New Orleans Breakfast

Thursday, November 5, 7:00a – 10:00a, Rotunda

New Orleans Trip Bar Review

Thursday, November 5, 9:00p – Until, Location TBA

projects through the Office of Public Service Programs:

Wills Pro Bono Project, Pittsboro, NC – Fall Break: General Interest Meeting

Week of September 19 – MORE DETAILS SOON!

Fall Break Wills Training

Tuesday, October 13, 5:30 – 7:00p, Location TBA

National Guard Yellow Ribbon Project Training

Wednesday, October 14, 5:00 – 8:00p, Location and Times TBA

Fall Break Wills Training

Tuesday, October 20, 5:30 – 7:00p, Location TBA

Fall Break Pro Bono Trip, Pittsboro, NC

October 22 – 23 – MORE DETAILS SOON!

National Guard Yellow Ribbon Project

November 6 – 8 – MORE DETAILS SOON!

deadlines:

New Orleans Trip Application Deadline: Friday, September 25, 5:00p

Email to Louis Massard or place in his mailbox by the lockers.

1L Coordinator Application Deadline, Wednesday, October 7, 5:00p

Email to Seema Kakad or place in her mailbox by the lockers.

Eastern North Carolina Application Deadline: Friday, October 16, 5:00p

Email to Louis Massard or place in his mailbox by the lockers.

pro bono board 2009-2010:

Name	Position	Email	Office Hours
Seema Kakad	Director	seema.kakad@gmail.com	Monday, 10a-12p
Lauren Felter	Attorney Projects Coordinator	lauren.felter@gmail.com	Monday, 2p-4p
Vivian D. Intermont	3L Class Coordinator	vdintermont@gmail.com	Thursday, 1p-3p
Shelly Anand	2L Class Coordinator	sanand@email.unc.edu	Monday, 12p-2p
This could be you . . .	1L Class Coordinator	TBD	TBD
Alexis Chappell	Alumni Outreach Coordinator	alexis.chappell@gmail.com	Tuesday, 1p-3p
Meredith Flowe	Public Relations Coordinator	flowe@unc.edu	Thursday, 10a-12p
Julie Zibulsky	Group Projects Coordinator	jzibulsky@gmail.com	Monday, 2p-4p
Joe Vossen	Winter Break/Spring Break Coordinator	joe.vossen@gmail.com	Tuesday, 11a-1p
Emily Wallwork	Winter Break/Spring Break Coordinator	emilywallwork@gmail.com	Tuesday, 11a-1p
Louis Massard	Special Trips Coordinator	louismassard@gmail.com	Wednesday, 2p-4p

Have a question about pro bono? Email us or stop by the office!

UNC Law Pro Bono Program
Students and Lawyers Making a Difference
www.law.unc.edu/studentlife/probono

Fall 2009 Pro Bono Program Initiatives:

Wills Project: Fall and Spring Break pro bono project where Students, Center for Civil Rights staff, and Legal Aid of NC partner assist in preparing wills and advanced directives for low wealth clients in rural NC counties (Fall Break: Moore County; Spring Break: eastern NC) to prospectively assist with land retention and help reduce ownership vulnerability caused by intestate succession and heirs' property.

Partners: UNC Center for Civil Rights, Legal Aid of North Carolina

When: Fall Break: October 22 and October 23, 2009

Interest Meeting: September 23 at noon

Training Dates: October 13 and October 20 from 5:30-7, Room 4085

Eligible Students: 1L, 2L, 3L, Alumni

Skills to be developed: client interviewing skills, drafting and executing legal documents, trust and estates area

Project Homeless Connect: is a one-day, one-stop event to provide a broad range of services to people experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness. Students will be assisting LANC attorneys with intake and providing legal information.

Partner: Legal Aid of NC-Pittsboro Office

When: October 8, 2009 (Hargraves Center, Chapel Hill), 9-11, 11-1, 1-3

Training: Tuesday, September 22, 12-1

Eligible Students: 1L, 2L, 3L

Skills to be developed: client interviewing skills, poverty law

NC National Guard Yellow Ribbon Legal Services Program: helps soldiers and families with legal issues, helping them to merge back into civilian life.

Partner: NC National Guard Staff Advocate

When: November 6, 7, 8—Raleigh, NC

Information Session: September 21 at noon

Training: October 27, 5:30-8

Eligible Students: 1L, 2L, 3L, Alumni

Skills to be developed: client interviewing skills, substantive legal knowledge

Driver's License Restoration Project: provides legal information regarding the license revocation/restoration process to indigent clients.

Partner: NC Office of Indigent Services

Information Session: September 16 at noon

Training Dates: TBD

Eligible Students: 1L, 2L, 3L

Skills to be developed: learn traffic law, client interviewing skills

PRO BONO KICK-OFF!

American Constitution Society

The American Constitution Society is a group of students who recognize the direct relationship between legal theory and the broader political debate about the kind of society in which we live. ACS's first pro bono project will be Constitution in the Classroom, which will take place on Constitution Day, September 17th. Student Contacts: Nora Warren (nfwarren@gmail.com) and Alicia Kerr (amkerr@email.unc.edu).

- Initial Interest Meeting already took place – email student contacts to participate!

Carolina Street Law

The Carolina Street Law program involves a semester-long commitment by Carolina Law students to help middle and high school students learn about our legal system and their role in that system. Student Contact: Atiya Boddie (boddie@email.unc.edu).

- Initial interest Meeting: Wednesday, Sept. 16 at 12 in Room 4082
- Training session: Wednesday, Sept. 23 at 12 in Room 4082

Carolina Teen Court Assistance Program

Teen Court volunteers teach basic concepts of law to teenage prosecutors, defense attorneys, and jury members in order to facilitate an official, state-sanctioned juvenile sentencing program. Defendants are first time offenders, ages 11-17, who have admitted guilt to misdemeanor offenses and are referred to Teen Court to avoid prosecution in traditional juvenile court. The goal of the Carolina Teen Court Assistance Program is to assist in the equitable production of a constructive sentence while educating a younger generation interested in our justice system. Student Contact: Kennedy Gates (gates@email.unc.edu).

- Initial Interest Meeting: Thursday, Sept. 10 at 12 in Room 3049

Community Legal Project

The Community Legal Project (CLP) is a student-run project that offers free legal assistance to low income clients at the Women's Center in Chapel Hill. Law students gain practical skills and experience by meeting with clients and conducting legal research for them on a variety of issues, primarily landlord-tenant, employment, and family law. CLP orients new volunteers through its annual training on client interviewing skills. Students can then sign up to take weekly appointments with clients, contributing 3-5 hours of pro bono work over the week. Student Contact: Sally Howard (sallycarsonhoward@gmail.com).

- Training: 1Ls can get trained January 2, 2010 and begin participating in the second semester

Death Penalty Project

The UNC Law Death Penalty Project was established for the purpose of increasing societal awareness of the effects of the Death Penalty on the community at large. The Project's goals include calling attention to the discrepancies presented by capital punishment on certain socio-economic and racial classes and examining the problems created by the process our legal system currently uses. The DP Project seeks to challenge the current system's capital punishment until a more legitimate and fairly scrutinized legal process is established that is more suitable for carrying out a punishment with such a large effect on society. We utilize the law school community to help moratorium efforts and pro bono work, in addition to presenting educational and inspirational speakers. Student Contact: Lynne Bahrami (lbahrami@email.unc.edu).

- **Juror interviews:** The CDPL (Center for Death Penalty Litigation) conducts interviews with jurors who were involved with a conviction in hopes of uncovering information that might affect the conviction. We have opportunities now for travel around North Carolina for individuals who have already completed the training. It would entail leaving on Friday afternoon/evening, staying overnight and contacting the juror on Saturday. If interested e-mail Lynne Bahrami at lbahrami@email.unc.edu.

Environmental Law Project (ELP)

The Environmental Law Project is an organization of law students who share an interest in the legal and political aspects of national, state, and local environmental issues. The primary goal of ELP is to expand the opportunities available to law students in the area of environmental law. Each year, ELP provides pro bono legal research and writing assistance for specific projects to local environmental organizations, including the Southern Environmental Law Center, The Nature Conservancy and The National Health Law Program. Their main project right now is the weatherization project, a group pro bono project with the Town of Chapel Hill to weatherize its public housing via energy performance contracting. Student Contact: Erin Deignan (deignan@email.unc.edu) and Maggie Davis (magdavis@email.unc.edu).

- Initial Interest Meeting: Monday, Sept. 14 at 12 in Room 5046.
- Will discuss Weatherization pro bono project on Sept. 21 at 12 in Room 5052: Come learn how to get involved. The project's advisor, Prof. Savasta-Kennedy, and last year's students will explain the birth of the project - a desire to do something local to reduce carbon emissions while achieving social benefits - last year's progress, and what needs to get done next. The group is also open to ideas for additional local carbon reduction projects!

Hispanic/Latino Law Students Association (HLLSA)

HLLSA furthers the general educational aims of current and prospective Hispanic and Latino law students. HLLSA's pro bono and community service project, Latino Legal Initiative (LLI), works to raise the Hispanic community's awareness of legal issues and to increase access to legal resources. While LLI works primarily with Legal Aid in Durham to provide intake for Spanish speaking clients, we also work with other law school affiliated organizations in need of bilingual students. It is not necessary to be a member of HLLSA in order to participate in LLI projects. Student Contacts (HLLSA): Louis Massard (massard@unc.edu). (LLI): Maria Lapetina (lapetina@email.unc.edu).

- Initial Interest Meeting: Monday, Sept. 14 at 12 in Room 3049

Immigration Law Association

The Immigration Law Association (ILA) is a student organization devoted to cultivating student interest in the dynamic and fast-changing field of immigration law through guest speakers, networking opportunities, and pro bono work. In response to federal immigration raids around the country in workplaces and homes, ILA members give presentations all over the Triangle to immigrant groups. The purposes of the presentations are to: let people know that they have legal rights in the U.S. even if they do not have legal immigration status; explain how they can assert their rights in the event of a raid; explain how to protect their ability to apply for a visa or citizenship; and help them prepare if they are vulnerable to deportation. There will also be a Power of Attorney clinic later in the year. Student Contact: Catherine Lafferty (claffert@gmail.com).

PRO BONO KICK-OFF!

- Initial Interest Meeting: Thursday, Sept. 17 at 12 in Room 4082 (Know Your Rights training date should be set at that time)

UNC Innocence Project

The UNC Law School Innocence Project is affiliated with the Duke University Law School Innocence Project and the North Carolina Center on Actual Innocence. The Project is a student-operated volunteer organization with oversight provided by a UNC School of Law professor and a criminal law attorney. The Project is dedicated to reviewing and investigating innocence claims made by North Carolina inmates. The fundamental goal of the project is to assist prisoners in challenging wrongful convictions. Additionally, the Project seeks to introduce students to elements of criminal law and investigation. Student Contact: Heather Williams (htwill@email.unc.edu).

- Initial Interest Meeting took place – email student contact to get involved!

Lambda Law Students Association

Lambda Law Students Association strives to make the School of Law a more comfortable and supportive environment for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender students and other members of the School of Law community. In North Carolina, a statute precludes legal recognition of same-sex couples and their families. What this lack of recognition means is that same-sex couples are denied 1,138 rights and protections that opposite-sex couples may secure with a \$50 marriage certificate. Most tragically, it means that when one partner ends up in the hospital, the other is barred from decision-making and visitation -- even when the person he loves most in the world is dying. Lambda is organizing two medical power-of-attorney clinics -- one here on campus, and one in Greenville, the hub city of Eastern N.C. We invite you to join us as we work with same-sex couples to fill out paperwork that will lend some security and validation to their relationships. Volunteer attorneys will train and supervise, so this is an opportunity open to 1Ls, 2Ls and 3Ls that will require a minimal time commitment. Student Contact: Angie Spong (spong@email.unc.edu).

- Initial Interest Meetings: Wednesday, Sept. 16 at 12 or Thursday, Sept. 17 at 12 in Room 4085 (only need to attend one)

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

VITA provides low- and middle-income taxpayers in the Chapel Hill and Carrboro communities with free income tax assistance in completing and filing both state and federal tax returns. Student Contact: John Fitzpatrick (johnfitz@email.unc.edu).

- Training in second semester when IRS materials arrive

Women in Law

Among other public service activities, WIL has put together a pro bono opportunity for local girl scouts – teaching them what it is like to be a lawyer through a mock trial process. Student Contact: Noor Kapoor (nkapoor@email.unc.edu).

- Initial Interest Meeting: Tuesday, September 15th at 12 in Room 5042

Other Groups Who Hope to Start Projects or Have Them in the Works

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) - Carolina Law Chapter, Student Contact: Daniel Peterson (d.e.peterson85@gmail.com).

- Initial Interest Meeting: Monday, Sept. 21 at 12 in Room 4082.

Black Law Students Association (BLSA), Student Contacts: Eddie Thomas (ethomas2@email.unc.edu) and Shayla Guest (shayla.guest@gmail.com).

- Initial Interest Meeting: Wednesday, Sept. 16 at 12 in Room 5046.

Carolina Intellectual Property Law Association, Student Contact: Steven Lareau (slareau@gmail.com)

- Date uncertain; setting after activities fair

Disability Law Organization, Student Contact: Heather Williams (htwill@email.unc.edu)

- First meeting took place; email student contact

Federalist Society, Student Contact: Kevin Hales

- Initial Interest Meeting: Thursday, Sept. 24 in Room 5046

International Law Organization, Student Contact: Matar Diouf (matdiouf@yahoo.com)

- Date uncertain

Jewish Law Students Association, Student Contact: Daniel Havivi (danielziv@gmail.com)

- Initial Interest Meeting: Wednesday, Sept. 16 at 12 in the Rumpus Room.

Law Students for Reproductive Justice, Student Contact: Jina Dillon: (jdhillon@email.unc.edu)

- Initial Interest Meeting: Thursday, Sept. 17 at 12 in Room 3049.

National Lawyers Guild, Student Contact: Brandi Jones: (bdhunt@email.unc.edu)

- Initial Interest Meeting: Wednesday, Sept. 16 at 12 in Room 5048.