



PRO BONO REPORTER

Fall 2008

Welcome to the next installment of the M&G Pro Bono Reporter, which provides quarterly updates of pro bono events, opportunities and personalities around M&G. We welcome all comments on format and content. Below are upcoming events and training sessions and a spotlight on our VLN Housing Court Team.

Pro Bono Events/Seminars

- November 12 Housing Court – Hennepin County Government Center
November 12 Webinar entitled Assisting Clients with Criminal Records (VLN sponsored)
November 14 All-day volunteer training workshop for Children's Law Center
Boardroom, Minneapolis Office
November 20 VLN New Member Meeting (City Center, Minneapolis)
December 5 Neighborhood Justice Center Presentation (Noon, Minneapolis Boardroom)

Pro Bono In Action

This quarter, we are profiling our new Hennepin County Housing Court team:



Josh Graham



Beth Zidones



Aaron Johnson

Our new team volunteers their time in four-hour shifts (a few times a year) at housing court in Minneapolis. The Hennepin County Housing Court Project (HCP) is a joint effort of the Hennepin County Housing Court, the Legal Aid Society of Minneapolis (Legal Aid), and the Volunteer Lawyers Network (VLN). The HCP offers free walk-in legal advice for low-income tenants. In some cases, tenants may also receive full legal representation services. Topics on which advice and possible representation can be given include:

Evictions
Notices to Quit
Lease Violations
Repair Problems
Emergency Repairs
Lock Outs
Expungement
Service Issues (related to housing)

The Housing Court Project operates Tuesday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to noon on the 17th floor of the Hennepin County Government Center in the administration tower.

Reminder

Don't forget your 20 hour/year pro bono requirement. Find pro bono activity of interest and get plugged in. For information on pro bono opportunities, please contact Carol Firner, Pro Bono Coordinator, or any of the committee members (Ernest Grumbles, Chair, Rob Kalinsky, Betsy Reagan, Gina Culbert, KM Das and Alan Gorman).