

June 2025 Newsletter







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The Keystone Lex

Last month, the Pennsylvania Disciplinary Board updated the name of its monthly newsletter from *Attorney News* to *The Keystone Lex*. This new title brings focus to *you*, PA's legal community, and the Commonwealth's leadership within the nation's legal profession and judiciaries at large.



From the Chair

Since its inception in May 2018, Pennsylvania's <u>emeritus status</u> <u>program</u> has created a pool of highly-talented and uniquely-experienced attorneys on retired status who volunteer their time to the provision of pro bono legal services. The attorneys who take on

this special status as more fully defined in <u>Rule 403</u>, <u>Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement</u> (Pa.R.D.E.), are an invaluable resource in our Commonwealth, helping to provide a more equitable access to justice by abating the discrepancy between the need for and the availability of free legal services.



In support of their pro bono work, all emeritus attorneys have <u>reduced Continuing Legal Education</u> (<u>CLE</u>) <u>requirements</u> and are covered by the <u>professional liability insurance</u> of their approved eligible legal aid organization.

Retired status attorneys are welcome to apply for the program at any time throughout the year; however, attorneys moving to retired status through <u>Annual Attorney Registration</u> have the opportunity to simultaneously apply for the emeritus status program. The Disciplinary Board takes great pride in annually welcoming additional lawyers into the program and offers its most sincere gratitude to all electing to generously bolster legal aid in their communities.

Under <u>Pa.R.D.E. 219</u>, all Pennsylvania attorneys on active or inactive status obligated to complete Annual Registration through the <u>Unified Judicial System Web Portal</u>. Both the Supreme Court and the Board recognize the singular experiences and challenges facing some attorneys. Three years ago, the Supreme Court <u>amended</u> Pa.R.D.E. 219 to allow attorneys to apply for a <u>waiver</u> of the annual fee under the condition of extreme financial hardship. Eligibility requires that an attorney be on active status and that his or her income be equal to or below the <u>federal poverty guideline</u>. All waiver applications for the 2025-2026 registration period are due by July 1, 2025.

Prior to the assessment of last year's second late fee, over 98% of PA attorneys had satisfied their registration responsibility. On behalf of the Board, I strongly encourage all PA attorneys to complete this year's annual registration by the July 1st deadline. Doing so will prevent the imposition of any late payment penalties and administrative suspension of the privilege to practice law in the Commonwealth.

I wish you all a safe and restorative summer.

With gratitude,

David S. Senoff Board Chair

Annual Attorney Registration

2025-2026 Registration Due July 1st

The <u>2025-2026 online registration</u> is open in the Unified Judicial System Web Portal. Attorneys must register by **July 1, 2025**. <u>Exemptions</u> from the requirement of *online* filing are available for good cause but must be requested in writing.

Registration fees are \$275 for active status and \$100 for inactive status; there is no fee for

attorneys assuming retired status. Attorneys may choose to pay online with a credit card or eCheck or to mail a check and printed voucher.

The first \$200 late fee is assessed after July 16th, and the second \$200 late fee is assessed after August 1st. These late payment penalties are imposed automatically and are not waivable by the staff or Board. An additional fee of \$25 will be assessed in the event of any returned payment. Failure to complete registration by August 1st may be deemed a request for transfer to administrative suspension under Pa. R.D.E. 219(f).

Payment Note: If you choose to "Pay Online" with a credit/debit card or eCheck, it is recommended to manually enter your information on the payment screens and do not allow your browser to auto-populate your information.

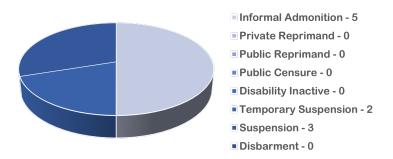
As always, please ensure that your contact information is up-to-date with the Board.

In cases of extreme financial hardship, a <u>waiver</u> of the annual fee may be granted. Eligible attorneys must be registering for active status and have an adjusted gross income less than or equal to the federal poverty guidelines for the applicable household size. Any waiver request form must be submitted by July 1, 2025.



Discipline Imposed

May 2025



Temporary Suspension

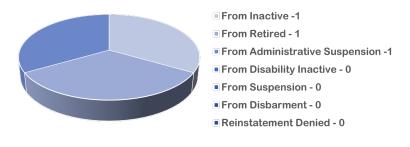
Joseph Dominick Caraciolo
Robert C. Klingensmith

Suspension

Brian Dooley Kent
Richard Joseph Silverberg
Marc D. Vitale

Reinstatements

May 2025



From Inactive

Rachel Maher Mall

From Retired

Kristin Kay Oxley

From Administrative Suspension

Eugene F. Chay

Note: The above-listed granted reinstatement matters reflect only those granted by Supreme Court Order. An attorney listed as reinstatement granted, but whose current license status does not reflect reinstatement, has yet to submit the fees necessary to finalize reinstatement.

Rules

Disciplinary Board Proposes Amendments to Rule Regarding Registration for Judicial Officers

In a <u>proposed rulemaking</u>, the Disciplinary Board issued proposed amendments to the Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement (Pa.R.D.E.) to modify the requirements for lawyers commencing and concluding judicial service to report on their status.

The Board's Explanatory Report states that the purpose of the amendments is to "require all judicial officers to provide written notification to the Board of the commencement and conclusion of judicial service." The proposed amendment would rescind Pa.R.D.E.219(j), and substitute a new Pa.R.D.E. 222 governing changes of status for lawyers who begin or end tenure as judicial officers.

New Pa.R.D.E. 222(a)(1) would require "judicial officers" (defined as "attorneys admitted to the bar of the Commonwealth who are justices, judges, or magisterial district judges in the Commonwealth, or the equivalent position in another jurisdiction, who is an attorney admitted to the bar of this Commonwealth. This term includes a judicial officer who is on senior status.") to notify the Attorney Registration Office ("ARO") in writing of the commencement of "judicial service" (defined as "Service as a judicial officer.") within thirty days.

The new rule retains the previous definition of "judge status" to apply to jurists serving on Pennsylvania courts of record including Supreme, Superior, Commonwealth, Common Pleas, and Philadelphia Municipal, as well as to jurists serving on the federal bench in Supreme, Court of Appeals, Bankruptcy, and District Courts, including full-time and part-time federal magistrate judges not otherwise engaged in the practice of law.

Subsection (b) addresses requirements for when an attorney leaves judicial office. As with commencement, the lawyer is required to notify the ARO of the conclusion of the judicial office within thirty days. Within sixty days, the lawyer must also elect a new licensure status – active, inactive, or retired – and perform certain actions consistent with that election. In the absence of an election, the ARO will place the attorney on retired status. A former judicial officer on retired status for more than three years must petition for reinstatement to resume the practice of law.

Subsection (c) makes provisions for a lawyer who concluded judicial service while the subject of an adverse circumstance. "Adverse circumstance" is defined to include judicial suspension, removal by order, impeachment, or a pending investigation, prosecution, or removal proceedings for misconduct or disability. If the ARO is notified from any source that a former judicial officer concluded judicial service while the subject of an adverse circumstance, the matter will be referred to the Office of Disciplinary Counsel for investigation and, if appropriate, prosecution under the Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement.

Written comments, suggestions or objections may be submitted by interested persons are invited to submit written comments on or before **July 14**, **2025**.

The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania 601 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 5600 PO Box 62625 Harrisburg, PA 17106-2625

Fax: (717) 231-3381

Email: DBoard.Comments@pacourts.us

Upcoming Public Proceedings

We encourage you to observe our public disciplinary and reinstatement hearings, oral arguments,

and public reprimands on the <u>Board's YouTube channel</u>. You can also view "Upcoming Public Proceedings" at the bottom of the Board's <u>home page</u>.

Scheduled proceedings begin at 9:30 am unless otherwise noted.

June		
June 24	Carl J. Greco	Reinstatement Hearing
June 26	Daniel Michael Dixon	Reinstatement Hearing
June 30	Fred William Freitag, IV	Disciplinary Hearing
July		
July 31	Todd Andrew Goodman	Reinstatement Hearing
August		
August 1	Todd Andrew Goodman (cont.)	Reinstatement Hearing
August 4-8, 11-14	Ryan A. Mergl	Disciplinary Hearing
August 18	Brian Scott Quinn	Disciplinary Hearing
August 19-21	John W. Pauciulo	Disciplinary Hearing
September		
September 8-9	Arkady Rayz	Disciplinary Hearing
September 15-16	Paul S. Peters, III	Disciplinary Hearing
September 22	Mikel Peter Eggert	Reinstatement Hearing
September 24	Daryl Alan Yount (cont.)	Disciplinary Hearing
September 29	Bradley Adam Winnick	Reinstatement Hearing
October		
October 30	Arkady Rayz (cont.)	Disciplinary Hearing

Vacancies

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania is aided by select boards, committees, commissions, and councils consisting of more than 180 appointed volunteers – most, but not all, are lawyers and judges. The panels have a wide range of responsibilities and functions. Some make recommendations to the Court for amendments, revisions, or simplification of court procedural rules. Others regulate the practice of law, oversee continuing legal education for lawyers, and administer funds to assist individuals unable to pay for legal services. Still others advise on keeping the courts free of bias and discrimination and on long-range planning.

There are currently vacancies on the following court entity:

<u>IOLTA (Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts) Board</u> – Applicants should be familiar with and supportive of civil legal aid and pro bono service to the low-income community. Members are

appointed to a three-year term, and no member may serve more than two consecutive three-year terms. Once appointed, members are prohibited from serving as a director, trustee, officer, or any other fiduciary role of a grantee or grant applicant.

Application Instructions

If you would like to be considered to serve on a board, committee, advisory group, or related independent entity, email the <u>application</u>, cover letter, resume, and other pertinent information expressing your reasons of interest to <u>SCApplications@pacourts.us</u>.

More information may be found on the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania website.

Applications are due by Monday, June 30, 2025.

Articles of Interest

Attorney Agrees to Suspension for Sexual Interaction with Client

A Philadelphia attorney agreed to a three-year period of suspension, with one year served followed by two years' probation, based upon his emotional and sexual involvement with a client.

Brian Dooley Kent entered into a Joint Petition in Support of Discipline on Consent in which he admitted that he became involved with a client who had retained him and his firm to pursue a lawsuit against the Church of Scientology. Kent had a reputation as an advocate for victims of sexual abuse, which the client had experienced. The client lived in Australia. The Joint Petition details that Kent and the client exchanged thousands of messages via text, telephone calls, emails, and WhatsApp. These communications soon veered into personal matters including expressions of interest in a sexual relationship and sexually oriented messages. During these communications, he expressed his concerns about maintaining a "professional distance," and she spoke of being "stressed and confused" over the possibility he would drop her as a client.

On two occasions, he traveled to Los Angeles to meet with the client which led to encounters in his hotel room in which she gave him a massage and they engaged in sexual activity.

Subsequently, he attempted to reshape the relationship to a more professional than personal one, after which the attorney-client relationship deteriorated, and the client became upset and frustrated, complaining at one point that he "made [her] fall in love with [him]."

In January 2021, nearly two years after he was first retained by the client, he informed her by telephone that his firm would not file an action on her behalf, upon which she retained other counsel.

Kent acknowledged that his conduct violated RPC 1.7(a)(2) (representing a client when there is a concurrent conflict of interest], RPC 1.8(j) [sexual relations with a client when there was not a preexisting relationship], and RPC 1.16(a)(1) [failure to withdraw when continuing representation will result in a violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct].

Aggravating factors included abuse of the trust of a vulnerable client and the fact that adverse

publicity caused harm to the legal profession. Mitigating factors included lack of prior discipline, remorse, and admission of wrongdoing, character testimony, and a long list of civic involvements. He was also prepared to offer evidence of a diagnosis of Complex Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder arising from sexual abuse as a child, and his treatment for that disorder, which Disciplinary Counsel conceded could satisfy the requirements of <u>Office of Disciplinary Counsel v. Braun</u> for mitigation on mental health grounds if proven.

After a review of the case law, the parties agreed that a suspension was warranted, given Kent's reputation as an advocate for abuse victims and the special trust placed in him, but that due to the mitigating factors, a suspension of one year was appropriate, which would not require him to petition for reinstatement, was warranted. Accordingly, they agreed to a suspension for three years, with one year served and two years stayed with two years' probation. A three-member panel of the Disciplinary Board made this recommendation to the Supreme Court which entered an order implementing this recommendation on May 23, 2025.

Lawyer Suspended for False Accusations Against Judge

A Philadelphia lawyer was suspended for five years by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania based on a report from the Disciplinary Board finding that he impugned the integrity and qualifications of a judge by making statements he knew to be false or in reckless disregard as to their truth and falsity and by failing to comply with court orders or appear for depositions and hearings.

The Disciplinary Board found that Robert Joseph Silverberg engaged in a pattern of misconduct in two civil cases in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas and a civil case in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania ("USDCEDPA"). The cases arose out of a Complaint the City of Philadelphia filed in 2008 against Silverberg and his law firm, seeking payment of unpaid business privilege and wage taxes for the period 1992 through 2004. The City obtained a default judgment but did not proceed to execution. In 2017, Silverberg filed a Motion for Judgment of Non Pros. The motion was denied by the court, and the Commonwealth Court affirmed. The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania denied Silverberg's Petition for Allowance of Appeal.

The City took action to collect on the judgment, and Silverberg filed a Motion for Protective Order and to Stay Proceedings.

The day after filing this motion, Silverberg filed a suit against the City and various officials employed by the City in the USDCEDPA, alleging that the City's resumption of collection activity in the 2008 tax case violated various provisions of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act ("RICO"), the First and Fourteenth Amendments, and state law. This action was dismissed by the District Court for lack of subject matter jurisdiction, and that ruling was upheld on appeal by the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

In the meantime, the City learned that Silverberg had transferred assets to a company which then purchased the property in which Silverberg resided. The City filed a Complaint against Silverberg and the company alleging that Silverberg had violated the PA Uniform Fraudulent Transfers Act ("PUFTA"). The City served discovery documents, and Silverberg filed a motion for a protective order. Judge Joshua H. Roberts was assigned to hear the motions on discovery. Silverberg filed three more motions for protective orders, which were denied, and failed to comply with the Judge's discovery orders.

After considerably more litigation, Silverberg filed a second lawsuit in the USDCEDPA against the City, various City employees, the William Penn Foundation (the "Foundation"), and the

Foundation's Chairperson, asserting claims under RICO, constitutional, and state tort claims against the named defendants, alleging that they had conspired to engage in unlawful tax collection activities in connection with the 2008 tax case and the PUFTA case for the sole purpose of harassing and intimidating Silverberg into dropping his alleged plans to write a book about the corporate misdeeds.

Judge Roberts was then assigned to the 2008 tax case. In response, Silverberg sent a letter to several judges accusing Judge Roberts of bias and improper conduct. He then filed a motion to recuse Judge Roberts, making further allegations of dishonesty and misconduct against the judge. The next day, he filed an amended complaint in his Federal suit naming Judge Roberts as an additional defendant and repeating allegations of misconduct, dishonesty, and conspiracy against him. He continued to make these allegations in other pleadings until the City filed a Motion for Sanctions under Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, after which Silverberg voluntarily dismissed the complaint.

Over the following months, Judge Roberts found Silverberg in contempt, and Silverberg continued to make escalating accusations against him. Silverberg failed to appear for multiple contempt hearings, leading to a bench warrant being issued against him. In addition, counsel for the City testified as to numerous false statements and evasive actions committed by Silverberg in the discovery process.

Silverberg did not attend either the pre-hearing conference nor the disciplinary hearing in his case but filed a post-hearing brief contending that there was a conspiracy against him and no legitimate basis for the institution of disciplinary proceedings against him. The Hearing Committee rejected these contentions and found violations of the charged Rules of Professional Conduct. Silverberg filed a Brief on Exceptions asserting numerous violations of due process and other constitutional rights and claiming that his answer to the Petition for Discipline should be treated as "equivalent to testimony." The Disciplinary Board rejected all these arguments.

The Disciplinary Board found that Silverberg's conduct violated numerous Rules of Professional Conduct, including RPC 3.1 (bring or defend a proceeding, or assert or controvert an issue therein without a good faith basis), RPC 3.3(a)(1) (false statement of material fact or law to a tribunal), RPC 3.4(a) (unlawfully obstruct another party's access to evidence), RPC 8.2(a) (statement that the lawyer knows to be false or with reckless disregard as to its truth or falsity concerning the qualifications or integrity of a judge), and RPC 8.4(c) (conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation).

The Disciplinary Board found that Silverberg's failure to appear for the disciplinary hearing and his lack of remorse were significant aggravating factors. The only mitigating factor found was Silverberg's lack of prior discipline.

After weighing several prior cases of lawyers making false accusations against judges and other judicial officials, the Board concluded that a suspension for five years was the appropriate discipline and made this recommendation to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court accepted this recommendation and suspended Silverberg for five years by <u>Order</u> dated May 16, 2025.

Lawyer Publishes Book of Law-Related Haiku

A New York lawyer has turned her fascination with haiku, a seventeen-syllable form of poetry that originated into Japan, into a relief from the tedium of her job in insurance law. Stevi Siber-Sanderowitz https://haikus.published/ Briefly: Haikus for the Jaded Lawyer, a collection of the short poems aimed not at depicting nature, as Japanese haiku do, but at poking fun at life in the legal

profession.

An example of her work:

Daydreamed at my desk. Imagined office on fire. Felt oddly relaxed.

The book is a follow-up to her previous opus, a compilation of insurance jokes entitled *Premium Punchlines: A Collection of Hilarious Insurance Humor.*

Expressing one's thoughts in seventeen syllables is hard for lawyers.

Haiku's brevity does not come naturally to those schooled in law.

Attorney Well-Being

Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers Hosts Annual Law School Deans Conference

On Wednesday, May 28th, <u>Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers of Pennsylvania</u> (LCL) hosted its annual deans conference at Widener University Commonwealth Law School in Harrisburg. Also in attendance were representatives from the PA Board of Law Examiners as well as the Disciplinary Board. The conference facilitates open dialogue between law school administrators in and around the state and organizations supporting the legal profession.

In legal practice, unchecked challenges to mental health may cause an attorney to neglect client needs, to lose focus on casework, or to act in an otherwise uncharacteristic manner, even developing a pattern of behavior that may lead to disciplinary action. Thankfully, despite the rise in reported mental health and substance use challenges, in general, law students have become more likely to seek assistance as social stigma surrounding these issues seem to decline. Published in a 2022 issue of *The Bar Examiner*, a <u>summary</u> of the most recent Survey of Law Student Well-Being was penned by Jerome M. Organ; Katherine M. Bender, PhD; and retreat attendee David B. Jaffe, Associate Dean for Student Affairs at the American University Washington College of Law.

Attendees discussed well-being needs of students and gaps in current resources, disability accommodations, networking and mentorship, and other issues most relevant to the current generation of students. School representatives also presented examples of well-being practices in place that currently are best assisting their students.

LCL offers a wide variety of excellent <u>resources</u> tailored to the unique experiences of <u>law students</u>, including referral to a qualified healthcare provider for a free and confidential consultation and diagnosis, development of a personalized treatment plan, peer support from a recovering law student or lawyer who has faced and overcome similar mental health or substance use challenges, and a wide variety of pertinent literature.

The Disciplinary Board is deeply grateful for the brilliant work of LCL and values this yearly opportunity to meet in-person with its law school partners, furthering our shared goal in better supporting and preparing the next generation of lawyers.



Institute for Well-Being in Law to Host Free Webinar on Well-Being in a Hybrid Workplace

Following the COVID-19 pandemic, the hybrid workplace seems here to stay for many fields and industries. On Thursday, June 26th, the <u>Institute for Well-Being in Law</u> will host "The Future of Work: Designing Hybrid Workplaces for Well-Being & Success," a free webinar with Manar Morales, a leading expert on workplace flexibility and the future of hybrid work. Learn more and register <u>here</u>.

JOIN IWIL'S JUNE SPEAKER SERIES featuring Manar Morales

THE FUTURE OF WORK:

Designing Hybrid Workplaces for Well-Being & Success

JUNE 26, 2025 1:00-2:00 PM ET

FREE WEBINAR | FIRESIDE CHAT + LIVE Q&A



THE PATH TO **WELLBEING:**



Speaker Series

Explore the Disciplinary Board's Lawyer Well-Being Webpage

The Disciplinary Board's "Lawyer Well-Being" webpage connects Pennsylvania attorneys with pertinent resources, articles, events, and CLE opportunities to better understand and support their mental health and well-being. To access the Board's "Lawyer Well-Being" page, visit padisciplinaryboard.org/for-attorneys/well-being.

LAWYER WELL-BEING

Connect to available resources to better understand and support mental health and well-being, particularly as they relate to the legal profession.



DISCIPLINARY BOARD

Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers is a confidential and safe resource for Pennsylvania attorneys and their family members who may be struggling with their mental health or substance use. Since 1988, LCL has confidentially assisted and supported thousands of individuals who have faced a myriad of challenges (including grief, stress, anxiety, depression, eating disorders, gambling problems, problematic alcohol or prescription drug use, etc.), helping them navigate through dark and difficult times. If you or someone you know is struggling, please call us. You may save a life.



There is help, and there is hope.



lclpa.org | 1-888-999-1941

Evaluation by a
healthcare professional
Information and literature
Peer and staff support
Assistance with interventions
Recovery meetings
Online resources and CLE

<u>Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers</u> is a confidential assistance program for the Pennsylvania legal community and their family members. LCL may not report information about a subject attorney back to the Disciplinary Board.

Confidential 24/7 Helpline: 1-888-999-1941

Last year, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania adopted amendments to the Pennsylvania Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement (Pa.R.D.E.) relating to confidentiality of proceedings, providing for three exceptions to the requirement of confidentiality under Pa.R.D.E.402(d). Included in these exceptions is the allowance for Disciplinary Counsel to make a referral of an attorney to Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers of Pennsylvania (LCL) and share information as part of the referral. However, it is crucial to note that LCL may *not* report information about a subject attorney back to the Disciplinary Board. LCL is a **confidential** assistance program for the Pennsylvania legal community and their family members.

Around the Court



Pennsylvania's Unified Judicial System Highlights Its Mental Health Courts

The Unified Judicial System (UJS) recently published a new infographic bringing attention to its twenty-eight successful mental health courts throughout the state. These treatment courts, focused on diversion, "offer defendants the opportunity to avoid incarceration through the completion of a rigorous program that requires compliance with community supervision and mandated treatment." The graphic notes that seventy-two percent of those admitted successfully complete the program in two years or less and that there was a ninety-two percent increase in

employment amongst all graduates.

Read the full press release and access the infographic <u>here</u> on the UJS website. Learn more about PA's mental health courts <u>here</u>.

Pennsylvania's Mental Health Courts



What are Mental Health Courts (MHC)?

MHCs are treatment courts that work with key justice system officials and leaders in the mental health system to divert offenders with severe mental illness into a judicially-supervised program, including community-based treatment.

Among successful d graduates, there was a

92% increase

in employment.

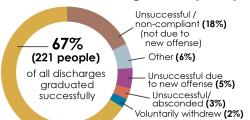
Statewide discharge data (2023):

Statewide admission data (2023):

people were admitted.

58% of participants
were male.

Average age of participants is 37







72% successfully completed the program in 2 years or less.

Months in program (graduated successfully): 13-18 (25%)25-30 7-12 months over 19-24 36 months months (10%) (12%)(15%) (29%) 31-36 (5%) 0-6 months (3%)

12% of participants

improved their level of education at discharge.

Note: Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Additional data, including county-level data, available at

http://www.pacourts.us/ news-and-statistics/ research-and-statistics/

AOPC



Support Civil Legal Aid in Pennsylvania

Contribute to civil legal aid when you complete your Annual Attorney Registration or <u>anytime</u> online.

One hundred percent of your personal investment goes directly to fund civil legal aid to low-income Pennsylvanians across the Commonwealth. Your support makes it possible for IOLTA-funded civil legal aid organizations to serve more people in need.

To learn more about civil legal aid in Pennsylvania, check out the PA IOLTA Board's <u>2024 Annual</u> Report.

From the Pennsylvania Bar Association



Pro bono service is important; it helps the community and the operation of the judicial system.

Chief Justice of Pennsylvania Debra Todd joined with Pennsylvania Bar Association President Kristen B. Hamilton and Past President Nancy Conrad to encourage all lawyers to make a commitment to provide pro bono service and to thank those already heading the call. Reflecting on these sentiments, Chief Justice Todd penned a <u>letter</u>, commemorating Law Day 2025.

The PBA offers numerous opportunities to provide pro bono legal service, no matter your practice area or setting. And you don't have to be a PBA member to participate!

Free Legal Answers

Lawyer volunteers are needed now for <u>Pennsylvania Free Legal Answers</u>, an automated tool developed by the American Bar Association.

Using a website form, a public user can request brief advice about a specific civil legal issue. A volunteer lawyer then provides basic legal advice without the expectation of long-term representation.

To participate, a legal volunteer completes three steps:

- Signs the Attorney Use Agreement,
- Creates a password to set up a volunteer account, and
- Provides contact information and Pennsylvania Attorney ID number.

For more information, visit PBA's website here.

Get Involved Today

For additional ways to perform pro bono work through the PBA, visit PBA's website here.

Your dedication to pro bono service helps ensure justice for all. Whether you've already volunteered or are considering getting involved, your efforts are deeply appreciated.

Let's continue to make a difference—together.

Please note that the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA) are separate organizations. For more information about PBA, visit <u>pabar.org</u> or follow on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

We Want To Hear From You...

We are always on the lookout for stories of interest relating to legal ethics, new issues in the practice of law, lawyer wellness, and funny or just plain weird stories about the legal profession. If you come across something you think might be enlightening, educational, or entertaining to our readers or social media followers, pass it along. If you are our original source, there may be a hat tip in it for you.

Resources

Pending Cases Recent Cases

<u>Case Research Collection</u> <u>Attorney Gateway</u>

Rules Search Opinions

<u>FAQs – For the Public</u> <u>FAQs – For Attorneys</u>

<u>Lawyer Well-Being</u> <u>Pro Bono</u>

<u>Annual Report</u> <u>Discipline Statistics</u>

PA CLE Board

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