



1



2

SOME OF THE FACTS

IN IDAHO THERE IS LESS
THAN 1 (.53) CIVIL
LEGAL AID ATTORNEY
FOR EVERY 10,000
PEOPLE LIVING IN
POVERTY

SOURCE: JUSTICE INDEX 2020,
JUSTICEINDEX.ORG

3

REALITY

81% of attorneys believe that pro bono services are either somewhat or very important, but when asked if they were likely to undertake pro bono in 2017, only 45% indicated that they were either likely or very likely to do so

Supporting Justice, A Report on the Pro Bono Work of America's Lawyers, ABA, April 2018

4

MOTIVATION

Attorneys were most **motivated** by:

1

helping people in need

2

ethical obligations

3

duty as a member of the legal profession

Supporting Justice, A Report on the Pro Bono Work of America's Lawyers, ABA, April 2018

5

BARRIERS

Attorneys were most **discouraged** by:

1

lack of time

2

commitments to family or other personal obligations

3

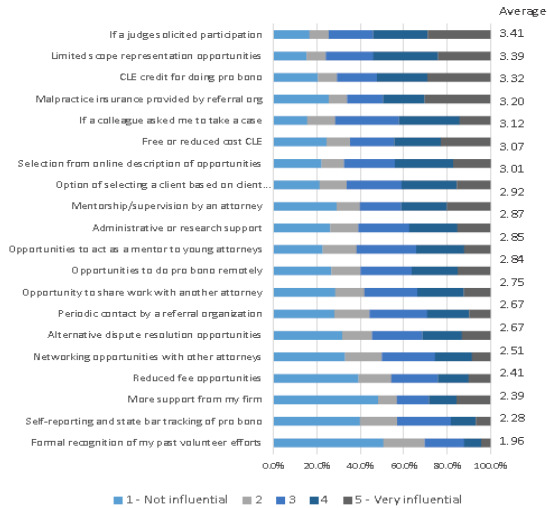
lack of skills or experience

Supporting Justice, A Report on the Pro Bono Work of America's Lawyers, ABA, April 2018

6

FACTORS THAT IMPACT PRO BONO

FIGURE 17. ACTIONS TO ENCOURAGE PRO BONO



7

JOINT COMMISSION ON PRO BONO

First Meeting
April 14,
2008

JOINT RESOLUTION ON PRO BONO

WHEREAS, equal justice for all is fundamental to our system of government; and

WHEREAS, the promise of equal justice under the law is not realized for individuals and families who have no meaningful access to the justice system because they are unable to pay for legal services; and

WHEREAS, this de facto denial of equal justice has an adverse impact on these individuals, families, and society as a whole, and works to erode public trust and confidence in our system of justice; and


WHEREAS, the judicial branch in our constitutional structure shoulders the primary governmental responsibility to preserve and protect equal justice; and

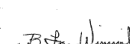
WHEREAS, the principles set forth herein have been embraced by the U.S. Conference of Chief Justices in a resolution adopted in January 2001 and by the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association in a series of resolutions adopted in August 2006;


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho Supreme Court, the U.S. District Court for the District of Idaho, and the Idaho State Bar urge law firms, corporate law departments, and governmental law offices to adopt pro bono policies and procedures to engage all lawyers in pro bono and public service activities that will increase access to equal justice; and

BE IT ALSO FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Courts and the Bar shall establish a Pro Bono Commission, comprised of no more than 20 members including: members of the two courts; a representative of the Office of the Idaho Attorney General; a representative of the University of Idaho College of Law; senior representatives of at least three Idaho law firms; a representative of the Idaho Legal Aid Services; a representative of the Idaho Law Foundation; and a representative of the Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program, which Commission shall be charged with the responsibility to:

- Encourage larger law firms, corporate law departments, and government law offices to maximize the involvement of attorneys in pro bono services without adverse effect on the compensation or advancement of pro bono volunteers;
- Explore the development of means and incentives to encourage and support attorneys in providing services to those who are unable to pay for legal services but are engaged in adversarial proceedings where basic human needs are at stake.


 Daniel T. Blamnik
 Chief Justice
 Idaho Supreme Court


 B. Lynn Finnelli
 Chief District Judge
 U. S. District Court


 Terrence R. White
 President
 Idaho State Bar

8

TASK OF THE COMMISSION

WHAT IS THE TASK OF THE COMMISSION?

The Commission's focus will be on fostering a culture of pro bono service in Idaho. Targets identified by the ABA to achieve such a cultural change include:

- Adoption by firms of pro bono policies, starting "top down" with the major firms.
- Resolving obstacles to pro bono participation by public sector attorneys
- Identifying best practices to foster pro bono service including practical approaches to judicial support and encouragement

9

WHERE DO YOU FIT IN?

- ▶ GET THE WORD OUT ABOUT PRO BONO WEEK


Pro Bono Week Kickoff Celebration

Start your day with us as we
celebrate the dedicated attorneys who
volunteer at clinics, work with CASA
and take our cases!

Monday, October 24th
8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Alia's Coffee House
908 W. Main St.
Downtown Boise

Drop in for coffee & cinnamon rolls
Sign up for our 6.1 Challenge!

 **IDAHO VOLUNTEER
LAWYERS PROGRAM**

Contact Jenni Jordan for more information jjordan@isb.idaho.gov

10

WHERE DO YOU FIT IN?

GET THE WORD OUT ABOUT PRACTICE WITH PURPOSE
ROAD SHOW

PRACTICE WITH PURPOSE

It's one thing to talk about meaningful pro bono work. But how do you get started? How can you ensure you're doing your part?

Join retired magistrate Mick Hodges and attorneys from around the state to learn about pro bono opportunities and how even in retirement you can help as an Emeritus attorneys.

October

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
04	05 Trails End Brewery, 356 W. Bosank Ave., Coeur d'Alene, 5:30-7 p.m.	06 Hells Canyon Grand Hotel, 621 21st St., Lewiston, 5:30-7 p.m.
11 Canyon County Administrative Building, 111 North 11th Ave., Suite 130, Caldwell, 5:30-7:30 p.m.	12 Idaho Supreme Court Building Lincoln Room, 451 W. State St., Boise, noon-1:30 p.m.	13 Miner's Gate, 205 Shoshone St. N., Twin Falls, 5:30-7 p.m.
18	19 The Yellowstone Restaurant, 230 W. Bonneville St., Pocatello, 5:30-7 p.m.	20 Bonneville County Courthouse Centennial Room, 605 N. Capital Ave., Idaho Falls, noon-1:30 p.m.

You are invited to a one-hour meal & CLE ethics training on topics important to pro bono practitioners. Learn about the benefits and the need for pro bono service at an event near you!

For questions contact Jennifer Schindele at jschindele@sb.idaho.gov. We'll see you there!

11

WHERE
DO YOU
FIT IN?

DUST OFF YOUR OLD
PRO BONO POLICY OR
ADOPT A NEW ONE

12

ISC PRO BONO POLICY

- ▶ The Idaho State Judiciary encourages all employees who are attorneys to participate in the provision of voluntary pro bono legal service to persons who lack the means to gain access to justice. This policy implements that vision.
- ▶ In general, approval of an attorney's request to engage in pro bono legal work shall be granted if the work complies with Rule 3.10 and Rule 2.12(A) of the Idaho Code of Judicial Conduct, as well as this Policy, and would not:
 - ▶ Violate any federal or state law or bar rule
 - ▶ Interfere with the proper and effective performance of the attorney's official duties, including the time and availability requirements of his or her position
 - ▶ Create or appear to create a conflict of interest

13

ISC PRO BONO POLICY

Attorneys are expected to seek pro bono legal opportunities that can be done outside their scheduled work hours. However, pro bono legal work may in limited circumstances occur during work hours. Supervisors are urged to be flexible and to accommodate where feasible the efforts of attorneys to do pro bono work.

Full-time attorneys must continue to account for all required work hours during each week (excluding leave that they are otherwise entitled to use), plus whatever additional time is needed to provide the service the Idaho State Judiciary expects. Part-time attorneys must account for the number of hours provided in their part-time agreement. Pro Bono work is undertaken in addition to, not in lieu of, these core responsibilities.

Attorneys providing small amounts of pro bono time during the work day should be allowed to take advantage of flexible work schedule arrangements rather than being required to take leave. Significant blocks of time spent on a pro bono matter—i.e., amounts in excess of one hour—should be recorded as leave. Leave can be of any type including accumulated comp time, vacation time, or work without pay.

14

ISC PRO BONO POLICY

As a general rule, employees may use government property only for official business. This Policy authorizes the limited use of governmental resources, as follows:

Personal uses that involve only negligible expense to Idaho State Judiciary (such as electricity, ink, small amounts of paper, ordinary wear and tear) and that does not interfere with the conduct of official business

Use of court databases, including the court case management system, is prohibited. Use of electronic research subscriptions, including Westlaw, is authorized.

An attorney providing pro bono services shall not meet with a client on Idaho State Judiciary premises.

15

WHERE DO YOU FIT IN?

GET THE WORD OUT ABOUT PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES WEBSITE

<https://www.idahoprobono.org>

16

WHERE DO YOU FIT IN?




ORGANIZE FRIENDLY COMPETITION



CONSIDER GETTING INVOLVED IN EXISTING EFFORTS

<https://info.lit.org/2022/09/26/2022-09-26-1516>



CELEBRATE THOSE WHO TAKE ON PRO BONO