

**American Bar Association  
CPR Policy Implementation Committee**

**Variations of the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct**

**Rule 6.1 Voluntary Pro Bono Publico Service**

Every lawyer has a professional responsibility to provide legal services to those unable to pay. A lawyer should aspire to render at least (50) hours of pro bono publico legal services per year. In fulfilling this responsibility, the lawyer should:

(a) provide a substantial majority of the (50) hours of legal services without fee or expectation of fee to:

(1) persons of limited means or

(2) charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental and educational organizations in matters that are designed primarily to address the needs of persons of limited means; and

(b) provide any additional services through:

(1) delivery of legal services at no fee or substantially reduced fee to individuals, groups or organizations seeking to secure or protect civil rights, civil liberties or public rights, or charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental and educational organizations in matters in furtherance of their organizational purposes, where the payment of standard legal fees would significantly deplete the organization's economic resources or would be otherwise inappropriate;

(2) delivery of legal services at a substantially reduced fee to persons of limited means; or

(3) participation in activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession.

In addition, a lawyer should voluntarily contribute financial support to organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means.

Variations from ABA Model Rule are noted. Based on reports of state committees reviewing recent changes to the model rules. For information on individual state committee reports, see <http://www.abanet.org/cpr/jclr/home.html>.

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	<p>Comments not included.</p> <p>*Current links to state Rules of Professional conduct can be found on the ABA website: <a href="http://www.abanet.org/cpr/links.html">http://www.abanet.org/cpr/links.html</a>*</p>
AL Effective 2/19/09	<p>Deletes “Voluntary” from title; Replaces text with: <i>A lawyer should render public interest legal service. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by providing professional services at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations, by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession, and by financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means.</i></p>
AK Effective 4/15/09	<p>Same as MR</p>
AZ Effective 12/1/03	<p>(a) A lawyer should voluntarily render public interest legal service. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by rendering a minimum of fifty hours of service per calendar year by one or a combination of the following activities: (1) Providing professional services at no fee or at a substantially reduced fee to the poor or near poor or to organizations that have as a principal purpose promoting the interests of the poor or near poor, or to individuals, groups or organizations seeking to secure or protect civil rights, civil liberties or public rights; or (2) Providing services at no fee or at a substantially reduced fee in connection with law-related education sponsored by the Arizona Bar Foundation or activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession; or (3) Providing professional or other law-related services at no fee or at a substantially reduced fee to charitable groups or organizations. (4) When pro bono publico service is done at a substantially reduced fee, the fee shall be agreed to in writing at the inception of the representation and refer to this Rule. (b) A lawyer who works less than full-time may discharge this responsibility by adjusting downward the fifty hour standard by an appropriate percentage. A lawyer who renders substantially more than fifty hours of service in one year may carry over excessive hours to subsequent years in satisfaction of the standard. (c) A law firm or other group of lawyers may satisfy their responsibility under this Rule, if they desire, collectively. For example, the designation of one or more lawyers to work on pro bono publico matters may be attributed to other lawyers within the firm or group who support the representation. Other forms of collective activity, if approved by the State Bar, may also satisfy the responsibility. (d) The efforts of individual lawyers are not enough to meet the needs of the poor. The profession and government have instituted programs to provide direct delivery of legal services to the poor. The direct support of such programs is an alternative expression of support to provide law in the public interest, and a lawyer is encouraged to provide financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means or to the Arizona Bar Foundation for the direct delivery of legal services to the poor.</p>
AR	<p>Same as MR</p>

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Effective 5/1/05	
CA Current Rule	[California's Rules of Professional Conduct are structured differently from the ABA Model Rules. Please see California Rules : <a href="http://calbar.ca.gov/calbar/pdfs/rules/Rules_Professional-Conduct.pdf">http://calbar.ca.gov/calbar/pdfs/rules/Rules_Professional-Conduct.pdf</a> ]
CO Effective 1/1/08	(b) Adds "legal or public" before "services;" Adds to end: <i>"Where constitutional, statutory or regulatory restrictions prohibit government and public sector lawyers or judges from performing the pro bono services outlined in paragraphs (a)(1) and (2), those individuals should fulfill their pro bono publico responsibility by performing services or participating in activities outlined in paragraph (b)."</i>
CT Effective 1/1/07	A lawyer should render public interest legal service. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by providing professional services at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations, by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession, and by financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means.
DE Effective 7/1/03	have a different formulation of the pro bono rule. decided not to add minimum aspirational standard of 50 hours. A lawyer should render public interest legal service. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by providing professional services at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations, by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession, and by financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means.
District of Columbia Effective 2/1/07	Title: deletes "Voluntary" A lawyer should participate in serving those persons, or groups of persons, who are unable to pay all or a portion of reasonable attorney's fees or who are otherwise unable to obtain counsel. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by providing professional services at no fee, or at a substantially reduced fee, to persons and groups who are unable to afford or obtain counsel, or by active participation in the work of organizations that provide legal services to them. When personal representation is not feasible, a lawyer may discharge this responsibility by providing financial support for organizations that provide legal representation to those unable to obtain counsel.
FL Effective 5/22/06	Pro Bono Public Service (a) Professional Responsibility. Each member of The Florida Bar in good standing, as part of that member's professional responsibility, should (1) render pro bono legal services to the poor and (2) participate, to the extent possible, in other pro bono service activities that directly relate to the legal needs of the poor. This professional responsibility does not apply to members of the judiciary or their staffs or to government lawyers who are prohibited from performing legal services by constitutional, statutory, rule, or regulatory prohibitions. Neither does this professional responsibility apply to those members of the bar who are retired, inactive, or suspended, or who have been placed on the inactive list for incapacity not related to discipline.

(b) Discharge of the Professional Responsibility to Provide Pro Bono Legal Service to the Poor. The professional responsibility to provide pro bono legal services as established under this rule is aspirational rather than mandatory in nature. The failure to fulfill one's professional responsibility under this rule will not subject a lawyer to discipline. The professional responsibility to provide pro bono legal service to the poor may be discharged by:

- (1) annually providing at least 20 hours of pro bono legal service to the poor; or
- (2) making an annual contribution of at least \$350 to a legal aid organization.

(c) Collective Discharge of the Professional Responsibility to Provide Pro Bono Legal Service to the Poor. Each member of the bar should strive to individually satisfy the member's professional responsibility to provide pro bono legal service to the poor. Collective satisfaction of this professional responsibility is permitted by law firms only under a collective satisfaction plan that has been filed previously with the circuit pro bono committee and only when providing pro bono legal service to the poor:

- (1) in a major case or matter involving a substantial expenditure of time and resources; or
- (2) through a full-time community or public service staff; or
- (3) in any other manner that has been approved by the circuit pro bono committee in the circuit in which the firm practices.

(d) Reporting Requirement. Each member of the bar shall annually report whether the member has satisfied the member's professional responsibility to provide pro bono legal services to the poor. Each member shall report this information through a simplified reporting form that is made a part of the member's annual membership fees statement. The form will contain the following categories from which each member will be allowed to choose in reporting whether the member has provided pro bono legal services to the poor:

- (1) I have personally provided \_\_\_\_\_ hours of pro bono legal services;
- (2) I have provided pro bono legal services collectively by: (indicate type of case and manner in which service was provided);
- (3) I have contributed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to: (indicate organization to which funds were provided);
- (4) I have provided legal services to the poor in the following special manner: (indicate manner in which services were provided); or
- (5) I have been unable to provide pro bono legal services to the poor this year; or
- (6) I am deferred from the provision of pro bono legal services to the poor because I am: (indicate whether lawyer is: a member of the judiciary or judicial staff; a government lawyer prohibited by statute, rule, or regulation from providing services; retired, or inactive).

The failure to report this information shall constitute a disciplinary offense under these rules.

(e) Credit Toward Professional Responsibility in Future Years. In the event that more than 20 hours of pro bono legal service to the poor are provided and reported in any 1 year, the hours in excess of 20 hours may be carried forward and reported as such for up to 2 succeeding years for the purpose of determining whether a lawyer has fulfilled the professional responsibility to provide pro bono legal service to the poor

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	<p>in those succeeding years.            (f) Out-of-State Members of the Bar. Out-of-state members of the bar may fulfill their professional responsibility in the states in which they practice or reside.</p>
GA* Effective 1/1/01	<p><i>*Has not amended Rule since the most recent amendments to the ABA Model Rules</i></p> <p>Does not have first sentence, “Every lawyer...unable to pay;”            (a) Changes “majority” to “portion;”            Adds to end: “No reporting rules or requirements may be imposed without specific permission of the Supreme Court granted through amendments to these Rules.</p> <p>There is no disciplinary penalty for a violation of this Rule.”</p>
HI* Effective 1/1/94	<p><i>*Has not amended Rule since the most recent amendments to the ABA Model Rules</i></p> <p><b>Rule 6.1. PRO BONO SERVICE;</b>            Doesn’t have first sentence, “Every lawyer...unable to pay;”            (a) Changes “a substantial majority...hours” to “at least twenty-five hours;”            Adds to end: “Where, in a given year, the lawyer experiences personal or employment circumstances that make it unduly difficult or impossible to provide services which qualify as pro bono activity, the lawyer may substitute such a financial contribution for direct pro bono legal services.”</p>
ID Effective 7/1/04	<p>(b)(1) ends at “in furtherance of their organizational purposes”</p>
IL Effective 1/1/2010	<p>Reserved</p>
IN Effective 1/1/05	<p>A lawyer should render public interest legal service. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by providing professional services at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations, by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession, and by financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means.</p>
IA Effective 7/1/05	<p>Same as MR</p>
KS Effective 7/1/07	<p>Rule is equivalent to MR but shortened and with different wording:  <i>6.1 Public Service: Pro Bono Public Service</i></p> <p><i>A lawyer should render public interest legal service. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by providing professional services at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations, by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession, and by financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means.</i></p>
KY Effective	<p>Does not adopt</p>

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7/15/09	
LA Effective 3/1/04	First sentence of introduction is different: "Every lawyer should aspire to provide legal services to those unable to pay." After (b): does not include final sentence of MR.
ME Effective 8/1/09	Deletes second sentence, starting with "A lawyer should aspire;" adds subtitle, "Aspirational Goals" before sentence beginning with "In fulfilling;" adds to end of sentence "provide legal services without fee or expectations of fee to;" Does not have MR(a) but (1) and (2) is the same as MR (a)(1) and (a)(2); Does not have MR (b); (3) is similar to MR (b)(1) but deletes language before "individuals;" Does not adopt MR (b); (3) is similar to MR (b)(1); (4) is similar to MR (b)(3) but deletes language before "activities;" Does not adopt MR (b)(2); Last paragraph of Rule puts "should" before "contribute."
MD Effective 7/1/05	substantially different from MR: (a) Professional Responsibility. A lawyer has a professional responsibility to render pro bono publico legal service. (b) Discharge of Professional Responsibility. A lawyer in the full-time practice of law should aspire to render at least 50 hours per year of pro bono publico legal service, and a lawyer in part-time practice should aspire to render at least a pro rata number of hours. (1) Unless a lawyer is prohibited by law from rendering the legal services described below, a substantial portion of the applicable hours should be devoted to rendering legal service, without fee or expectation of fee, or at a substantially reduced fee, to: (A) people of limited means; (B) charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters designed primarily to address the needs of people of limited means; (C) individuals, groups, or organizations seeking to secure or protect civil rights, civil liberties, or public rights; or (D) charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters in furtherance of their organizational purposes when the payment of the standard legal fees would significantly deplete the organization's economic resources or would otherwise be inappropriate. (2) The remainder of the applicable hours may be devoted to activities for improving the law, the legal system, or the legal profession. (3) A lawyer also may discharge the professional responsibility set forth in this Rule by contributing financial support to organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means. (c) Effect of Noncompliance. This Rule is aspirational, not mandatory. Noncompliance with this Rule shall not be grounds for disciplinary action or other sanctions.
MA Rules effective	Changes language to:  <i>A lawyer should provide annually at least 25 hours of pro bono publico legal</i>

<p>9/1/08</p>	<p><i>services for the benefit of persons of limited means. In providing these professional services, the lawyer should:</i></p> <p><i>(a) provide all or most of the 25 hours of pro bono publico legal services without compensation or expectation of compensation to persons of limited means, or to charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, and educational organizations in matters that are designed primarily to address the needs of persons of limited means. The lawyer may provide any remaining hours by delivering legal services at substantially reduced compensation to persons of limited means or by participating in activities for improving the law, the legal system, or the legal profession that are primarily intended to benefit persons of limited means; or,</i></p> <p><i>(b) contribute from \$250 to 1% of the lawyer's annual taxable, professional income to one or more organizations that provide or support legal services to persons of limited means.</i></p>
<p>MI* Rules effective 10/1/88</p> <p>New Proposed 11/24/09</p>	<p><i>*Has not amended Rule since the most recent amendments to the ABA Model Rules</i></p> <p><b>Rule 6.1 Pro Bono Publico Service.</b> <i>A lawyer should render public interest legal service. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by providing professional services at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means, or to public service or charitable groups or organizations. A lawyer may also discharge this responsibility by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system, or the legal profession, and by financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means.</i></p> <p>Same as 1988 Rule.</p>
<p>MN Effective 10/1/05</p>	<p>Same as MR</p>
<p>MS Effective 11/3/05</p>	<p>(a) Professional Responsibility. Each member of the Mississippi Bar in good standing and not exempt hereunder, as part of the member's professional responsibility, should (1) render pro bono legal services to the poor and (2) participate, to the extent possible, in other pro bono service activities that directly relate to the legal needs of the poor.</p> <p>(b) Discharge of the Professional Responsibility to Provide Pro Bono Legal Services to the Poor. The professional responsibility to provide pro bono legal services to the poor may be discharged by:</p> <p>(1) annually providing at least 20 hours of pro bono legal services to the poor, or</p> <p>(2) annually providing at least 20 hours of pro bono legal services to charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental or educational organizations for the purpose of providing legal counsel and representation to the poor, or</p> <p>(3) making an annual contribution of at least \$200 to the Mississippi Bar, which will be used by the Bar to provide legal services to the poor through legal aid organizations.</p>

(c) Collective Discharge of the Professional Responsibility to Provide Pro Bono Legal Service to the Poor. Each member of the bar should strive to individually satisfy the member's professional responsibility to provide pro bono legal service to the poor. Collective satisfaction of this professional responsibility is permitted by law firms only under a collective satisfaction plan that has been previously approved by The Mississippi Bar and only when providing pro bono legal services to the poor

- (1) in a major case or matter involving a substantial expenditure of time and resources; or
- (2) through a full-time community or public service staff, or
- (3) in any other manner that has been approved by The Mississippi Bar.

(d) Exemptions. Those exempt from the provisions of this rule are:

- (1) those lawyers who are restricted from practicing law outside their specific employment,
- (2) members of the judiciary and their staff,
- (3) other government lawyers who are prohibited from performing legal services by constitutional, statutory, rule, other regulatory prohibitions, or by employment policies,
- (4) attorneys employed in established Legal Services Programs, and
- (5) members of the bar who have acquired inactive or active exempt status or who are suspended.

Nevertheless, exempt attorneys are encouraged to assist in meeting the needs of the poor for legal services to the extent that they can, whether by monetary contributions or otherwise.

(e) Reporting Requirement. Each member of the bar shall annually certify whether the member has satisfied the member's professional responsibility to provide pro bono legal services to the poor. Each member shall certify this information through a form that is made a part of the member's annual membership fees statement which shall require the member to report the following information:

- (1) the number of hours the attorney dedicated to pro bono legal services,
- (2) whether the attorney satisfied the obligation through a collective plan, the name or nature of that plan, and
- (3) if the attorney has satisfied the obligation by contribution, the amount of that contribution.

If the attorney has not provided pro bono legal services to the poor in the current year, the form shall so state, and the reason for non-compliance shall be stated. If the attorney is exempt from the obligation to provide pro bono services to the poor, the report shall so state and indicate the nature of the exemption.

(f) Compliance.

The provisions of Rule 6.1(b) are aspirational goals and an affirmation of professional responsibility, but are not mandatory and do not constitute a basis for discipline under the Rules of Discipline for the Mississippi Bar.

The reporting requirements of Rule 6.1(e) are mandatory and the failure to report this information shall be treated in the same manner as failure to pay dues or comply with mandatory Continuing Legal Education.

The Bar shall from time to time, but at least annually, provide the Supreme Court with statistical data regarding compliance, providing such information in such form

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	<p>as the Chief Justice shall direct.</p> <p>(g) Credit Toward Professional Responsibility in Future Years. In the event that more than 20 hours of pro bono legal service to the poor are provided and reported in any 1 year, the hours in excess of 20 may be carried forward and reported as such for up to 2 succeeding years.</p>
MO Effective 7/1/07	<p>Replaces language with:</p> <p><i>A lawyer should render public interest legal service. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by providing professional services at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations; by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system, or the legal profession; and by financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means.</i></p>
MT Effective 4/1/04	<p>Does not have “Voluntary” in title</p> <p>First paragraph, second sentence: does not have “aspire”</p>
NE Effective 9/1/05	<p>do not include the first sentence of the MR; do not include a suggested number of hours per year. Remainder of the rule Identical.</p>
NV Effective 5/1/06	<p>(a) Professional responsibility. Every lawyer has a professional responsibility to provide legal services to those unable to pay. A lawyer should aspire to render at least 20 hours of pro bono publico legal services per year. In fulfilling this responsibility, the lawyer should:</p> <p>(1) Provide a substantial majority of the 20 hours of legal services without compensation or expectation of compensation to:</p> <p>(i) Persons of limited means; or</p> <p>(ii) A public service, charitable group, or organization in matters that are designed primarily to address the needs of persons of limited means; and</p> <p>(2) Provide any additional services through:</p> <p>(i) Delivery of legal services at no fee or substantially reduced fee to individuals, groups or organizations seeking to secure or protect civil rights, civil liberties or public rights, or charitable, civic, community, governmental and educational organizations in matters in furtherance of their organizational purposes, where the payment of standard legal fees would significantly deplete the organization’s economic resources or would be otherwise inappropriate;</p> <p>(ii) Participation in activities for improving the law, the legal system, or the legal profession; or</p> <p>(iii) Delivery of services in connection with law-related education sponsored by the State Bar of Nevada, the Nevada Bar Foundation, a county bar association, or a court located in Nevada.</p> <p>(3) As an alternative in rendering at least 20 hours of pro bono publico services per year as provided in subparagraphs (1) and (2), a lawyer may discharge the professional responsibility to provide legal services to those unable to pay by:</p> <p>(i) Providing at least 60 hours of professional services per year at a substantially reduced fee to persons of limited means; or</p> <p>(ii) Contributing at least \$500 per year to an organization or group that provides pro bono legal services to persons of limited means.</p>

(4) When pro bono legal service is performed for an individual without compensation or at a substantially reduced fee, the fee shall be agreed to in writing at the inception of the representation and refer to this Rule.

(5) The following do not qualify as pro bono legal service under this Rule:

- (i) Legal services written off as bad debts;
- (ii) Legal services performed for family members; and
- (iii) Activities that do not involve the provision of legal services, such as serving on the board of a charitable organization.

(b) Reporting; discharge of professional responsibility.

(1) All members shall complete an Annual Pro Bono Reporting Form, indicating services performed under this Rule, to be submitted to the state bar annually on a form to be provided by the state bar with the members' fee statements. If a member fails to file the report required by this Rule, the state bar shall notify the member that a fine of \$100 will be imposed unless the member files the report within a specified period of time not less than 30 days after the notice.

(2) The professional responsibility to provide pro bono services as established under this Rule is aspirational rather than mandatory in nature. Accordingly, the failure to render pro bono services will not subject a member to discipline.

(c) Voluntary pro bono plan. The purposes of the voluntary pro bono plan are to make available legal services to those Nevadans who cannot otherwise afford them and to expand the present pro bono programs. To accomplish these goals the following committees are hereby created.

(1) District Court Pro Bono Committee. In each judicial district, the Chief Judge of the District Court shall appoint a Pro Bono Committee consisting of representatives of various members of the bench and bar as well as pro bono services and community organizations of that judicial district. The responsibility of these committees is to determine and address the specific unmet legal needs of that jurisdiction by way of a plan to be submitted to the Supreme Court. Pursuant to paragraph (d) of this Rule, the Pro Bono Committee may establish a foundation. The foundations are authorized to receive funds paid in satisfaction of an order of any court entered in accordance with paragraph (e) of this Rule and to determine the allocation and use of such funds in a manner consistent with this Rule. If no foundation is established, the Pro Bono Committee is authorized to receive such funds and determine their allocation and use in a manner consistent with this Rule.

(2) Access to Justice Section. The board of governors shall have the power to establish a permanent Statewide Access to Justice Section that shall assist in the implementation of this Rule as well as facilitate and support local efforts to improve the public's access to justice. The initial officers of the Access to Justice Section shall be the currently serving officers of the Access to Justice Committee. Thereafter, elections for officers shall be held as provided in the Access to Justice Section's bylaws, as approved by the board of governors. The Access to Justice Section shall be composed of regular members who are licensed to practice law in Nevada and laypersons who may become auxiliary members.

(d) Foundations. A district court Pro Bono Committee may establish a local foundation to actively promote the provision of civil legal services to disadvantaged persons and households within the district. A foundation established pursuant to this

	<p>Rule shall be created as a Nevada nonprofit corporation and is authorized to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Actively promote the observance of this Rule within the district;</li> <li>(2) Receive donations from members of the State Bar of Nevada and monies from the courts as provided in this Rule;</li> <li>(3) Distribute such funds to providers of pro bono and free or reduced fee civil legal services in the district and to public law libraries;</li> <li>(4) Develop other new sources of funding and support for delivery of civil legal services;</li> <li>(5) Support existing legal services and pro bono efforts and foster new projects to broaden the existing range of civil legal services; and</li> <li>(6) Serve as an educational facilitator to make the community as a whole aware of the efforts being made to provide all Nevadans within the district with full access to the justice system.</li> </ul> <p>(e) Payment of civil sanctions to fund pro bono programs or libraries. Subject to the limitations of this Rule, a court may direct that sanctions or fines imposed under NRS 1.210, NRAP 38, NRCPC 11, JCRCP 11, or like authority be paid to a nonprofit entity or law library specified below. The court’s discretion to direct payment of sanctions or fines to a nonprofit entity or law library, however, is limited to civil sanctions imposed against counsel, parties, witnesses or others appearing before the court and expressly excludes sanctions or fines imposed against a defendant in any criminal case. Payment may be directed only to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) A nonprofit entity or committee designated pursuant to a voluntary pro bono plan described in paragraph (c) to serve the pro bono and access to justice needs either for the judicial district in which the judicial officer presides or, if serving outside his or her judicial district, where the case is heard; or</li> <li>(2) A public law library or nonprofit entity associated with a public law library located either in the judicial district in which the judicial officer presides or, if serving outside his or her judicial district, where the case is heard; or</li> <li>(3) To the Nevada Law Foundation or other statewide nonprofit entity designated by the state bar to serve pro bono and access to justice needs;</li> <li>(4) The supreme court may also direct payment to such nonprofit entities or public law libraries located in the judicial district in which the matter before the supreme court originated or to any other public law library in the state.</li> </ul> <p>(f) Limitation on authority to specify use of funds. A judicial officer who orders payment of a sanction or fine pursuant to paragraph (e) must not participate in the specific determination of which entity will receive the sanction or fine or of how that sanction or fine will be used by the nonprofit entity or law library designated to receive the funds. The judicial officer may, however, serve on the board or as an officer of a nonprofit entity created pursuant to this Rule, or of a law library or nonprofit entity associated with a law library, provided that he or she does not participate in specific decisions regarding the use of any sanction or fine directed to the nonprofit entity or library by that judicial officer.</p>
<p>NH Effective 1/1/08</p>	<p>Changes number of hours to thirty throughout.</p>
<p>NJ</p>	<p>Voluntary Public Interest Legal Service</p>

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Effective 1/1/04	Every lawyer has a professional responsibility to render public interest legal service. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by providing professional services at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations, by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession, and by financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means.
NM Effective 11/2/09	Changed to Rule 16-601 of Article 6. Public Service; Changes “every lawyer has a professional responsibility” to “The legal profession has a responsibility;” Deletes: “A lawyer should aspire to render at least (50) hours of pro bono public legal services per year;” Changes “the lawyer should” to “a lawyer should aspire to;” (a) Deletes “a substantial majority of the (50) hours of;” (a)(2) Changes “and” at the end of subparagraph to “or;” (b) Changed to “provide legal services at;” Text of (b)(1) of ABA Model Rules becomes subparagraph (2) of Paragraph B of New Mexico Rules, with one change: “no fee or a substantially reduced fee” is added before “individuals;” New subparagraph (1) of Paragraph B: “ a substantially reduced fee to persons of limited means; or;” Text of (b)(2) and (b)(3) Deleted; Last paragraph of Rule 6.1 becomes Paragraph D, but deletes “In addition...voluntarily” and adds: “or promote improvement of the law, the legal system or the legal profession.”
NY Effective 4/1/09	Replaces language with: <i>Lawyers are strongly encouraged to provide pro bono legal services to benefit poor persons.</i>  <i>(a) Every lawyer should aspire to:</i>  <i>(1) provide at least 20 hours of pro bono legal services each year to poor persons; and</i>  <i>(2) contribute financially to organizations that provide legal services to poor persons.</i> <i>(b) Pro bono legal services that meet this goal are:</i> <i>(1) professional services rendered in civil matters, and in those criminal matters for which the government is not obliged to provide funds for legal representation, to persons who are financially unable to compensate counsel;</i> <i>(2) activities related to improving the administration of justice by simplifying the legal process for, or increasing the availability and quality of legal services to, poor persons; and</i> <i>(3) professional services to charitable, religious, civic and educational organizations in matters designed predominantly to address the needs of poor persons.</i> <i>(c) Appropriate organizations for financial contributions are:</i> <i>(1) organizations primarily engaged in the provision of legal services to the poor; and</i>

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	<p><i>(2) organizations substantially engaged in the provision of legal services to the poor, provided that the donated funds are to be used for the provision of such legal services.</i></p> <p><i>(d) This Rule is not intended to be enforced through the disciplinary process, and the failure to fulfill the aspirational goals contained herein should be without legal consequence.</i></p>
NC Effective 3/1/03	Does not adopt
ND Effective 8/1/06	A lawyer should render public interest legal service. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by providing professional services at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations, by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession, or by financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means.
OH Effective 2/1/07	Adoption deferred
OK Effective 1/1/08	<p>Changes title to: <b>PRO BONO PUBLIC SERVICE;</b></p> <p>Changes language to:</p> <p><i>A lawyer should render public interest legal service.</i></p> <p><i>A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by:</i></p> <p><i>(a) providing professional services at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations;</i></p> <p><i>(b) serving without compensation in public interest activities that improve the law, the legal system, or the legal profession; or</i></p> <p><i>(c) financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means.</i></p>
OR Effective 12/1/06	Reserved
PA Effective 7/1/06	A lawyer should render public interest legal service. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by providing professional services at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations, by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession, and by financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means.
RI Effective 4/15/07	Same as MR
SC Effective 10/1/05	A lawyer should render public interest legal service. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by providing professional services at no fee or reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations, by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession, and by financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited

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	means.
SD Effective 1/1/04	A lawyer should render public interest legal service. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by: (a) providing professional-services at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organizations; or (b) by service without compensation in public interest activities that improve the law, the legal system or the legal profession; or (c) by financial support for organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means.
TN Effective 1/1/11	Deletes “Voluntary” before “Pro Bono Publico Service”; Deletes first sentence “Every lawyer...”; (a) Equivalent to MR but changes language to: <i>(a) provide a substantial portion of such services without fee or expectation of fee to</i> (c) is similar to last paragraph of MR Rule, but adds “to providing pro bono publico legal services” after “In addition.”
TX* Effective 3/1/05	<i>*Has not amended Rule since the most recent amendments to the ABA Model Rules</i> Does not have.
UT Effective 11/1/05	replaces the last sentence of the Model Rule with: (c) A lawyer may also discharge the responsibility to provide pro bono publico legal services by making an annual contribution of at least \$10 per hour for each hour not provided under paragraph (a) or (b) above to an agency that provides direct services as defined in paragraph (a) above. (d) Each lawyer is urged to report annually to the Utah State Bar whether the lawyer has satisfied the lawyer’s professional responsibility to provide pro bono legal services. Each lawyer may report this information through a simplified reporting form that is made a part of the Bar’s annual dues statement. (e) In addition to providing pro bono legal services , a lawyer should voluntarily contribute financial support to organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means.
VT Effective 9/1/09	Changes “should aspire to render” to “should render.”
VA Effective 1/1/04	(a) A lawyer should render at least two percent per year of the lawyer’s professional time to pro bono publico legal services. Pro bono publico services include poverty law, civil rights law, public interest law, and volunteer activities designed to increase the availability of pro bono legal services. (b) A law firm or other group of lawyers may satisfy their responsibility collectively under this Rule. (c) Direct financial support of programs that provide direct delivery of legal services to meet the needs described in (a) above is an alternative method for fulfilling a lawyer’s responsibility under this Rule.
WA Effective 9/1/06	Title: does not include “Voluntary” First paragraph: replaces “to provide” with “to assist in the provision of,” replaces 50 with 30, deletes “legal” after “pro bono publico”

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	<p>(a): deletes “a substantial majority of the (50) hours of legal services”            (a)(2): replaces “civic” with “civil”            (b): replaces “any additional services” with “pro bono publico service”            (b)(1): deletes “civil liberties or public rights”            Deletes last paragraph            Adds “Pro bono publico service may be reported annually on a form provided by the WSBA. A lawyer rendering a minimum of fifty (50) hours of pro bono publico service shall receive commendation for such service from the WSBA.”</p>
<p>WV*            Effective            1/1/89</p>	<p><i>*Has not amended Rule since the most recent amendments to the ABA Model Rules</i></p> <p><b>Rule 6.1. Pro bono publico service.</b>  <i>A lawyer should render public interest legal service. A lawyer may discharge this responsibility by providing professional services at no fee or a reduced fee to persons of limited means or to public service or charitable groups or organization, by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession, and by financial support for organizations that provide legal service to persons of limited means.</i></p>
<p>WI            Effective            7/1/07</p>	<p>Same as MR</p>
<p>WY            Effective            7/1/06</p>	<p>Title: does not include “Voluntary”            Does not include “publico” with “pro bono” throughout the rule            First paragraph designated (a)            (a)(1): same as MR (a) but adds “within the State of Wyoming” after “legal services”            (a)(1)(i) and (ii): same as MR (a)(1) and (2)            (a)(2) and (2)(i) – (iii): same as MR (b) and (b)(1) – (3)            (b) In the alternative, a lawyer should voluntarily contribute \$500.00 per year to any existing non-profit organization which provides direct legal assistance to persons of limited means such as the Wyoming State Bar Foundation, the Wyoming Legal Services Corporation offices, the University of Wyoming College of Law Legal Clinic, or some similar organization.</p>

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