Your Impact: Pro Bono & Public Service
Hurricanes. Floods. Fires. The legal crisis that individuals and families face in the aftermath can be as devastating as the disaster itself—from insurance disputes, FEMA appeals, landlord tenant disputes, consumer fraud, health and education issues, and so much more. In 2017, following the devastation of Hurricane Harvey and Maria, the ABA recruited nearly 1,300 lawyers and law students to provide free legal services to almost 17,000 people. This was made possible by an anonymous $100,000 donor and the hundreds of people who helped match the gift—doubling its impact!

The imprint volunteer lawyers leave on our system of justice and the clients they serve is felt year-round. Through corporate and law firm gifts, ABAFreeLegalAnswers.org connects lawyers with low-income clients with civil legal questions online. In more than two years, 42,000 questions have been submitted through this virtual legal clinic and more than 5,000 pro bono attorneys have volunteered. This platform serves thousands nationwide and also helps address the justice crisis in rural America where a disproportionate percentage of people live in poverty. Online interaction eliminates rural families having to travel long distances to find a lawyer or be constrained by legal aid office hours.

An often-overlooked population struggling with access to justice issues are veterans and active-duty military personnel. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the ABA Military Pro Bono Project, which secures $1 million in donated billable hours annually from civilian attorneys to assist those currently serving here and abroad. Domestic, consumer, and other issues can distract from their service, and this project champions the legal rights of those actively serving our country.
More than 60 MILLION Americans have family incomes at or below 125% of the Federal Poverty Level, including:

ABOUT 6.4 MILLION SENIORS

MORE THAN 11.1 MILLION PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

MORE THAN 1.7 MILLION VETERANS

ABOUT 10 MILLION RURAL RESIDENTS

86% of the civil legal problems reported by low-income Americans in the past year received inadequate or no legal help.

In the past year, 71% of low-income households experienced at least one civil legal problem, including problems with domestic violence, veterans’ benefits, disability access, housing conditions, and health care.

* Legal Services Corporation. The Justice Gap: Measuring the Unmet Civil and Legal Needs of Low-income Americans
Over 62 MILLION Americans volunteer through or for an organization each year, representing almost a quarter of the U.S. population.

Culture of volunteering is strong among lawyers.

ON AVERAGE, LAWYERS PROVIDE NEARLY 37 HOURS OF PRO BONO EACH YEAR

THE TOP THREE FACTORS THAT MOTIVATE ATTORNEYS TO DO PRO BONO:

HELPING PEOPLE IN NEED

ETHICAL OBLIGATIONS

DUTY AS A MEMBER OF THE LEGAL PROFESSIONAL

Your passion to help others is contagious. Your generosity helps make this world a better place. Whether you give your time to a local youth program or donate clothes to a shelter, your act of kindness is causing a positive ripple effect of across the country.

Pro bono and public service is one of the many guiding principles of the legal profession. As a lawyer, your purpose is to help advance the rule of law and you accomplish this through every single client you serve. When you provide free legal services, you are changing the life of a person who might not get fair treatment under the law. When hundreds of thousands of lawyers come together to volunteer their talents to address legal issues of national importance, or several unite to tackle local concerns effecting an elderly neighbor or rural farmer, the possibilities are endless.

At the American Bar Association (ABA), our members, volunteers and donors are driving access to justice for all. Through the ABA, your philanthropy builds upon the foundation membership provides and further expands legal services. From the legal issues facing disaster survivors to those who are honorably serving our country, your support is connecting more volunteer attorneys with low-income clients than ever before.

Pro bono attorneys change lives. Donors make this possible. **THANK YOU** for joining our family of advocates dedicated to upholding the fundamental principles of justice – life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Your gift to the ABA helps close the justice gap by connecting talented and passionate pro bono lawyers with those in need.
Your gift not only helps address legal issues of national importance, but also those affecting your elderly neighbor or a rural family struggling to navigate a complicated legal system. Your act of kindness and generosity is causing a positive ripple effect across the country and around the world. Thank you!
$10,000+ Organizations

- 21st Century Fox
- AARP
- Accenture, LLP
- AccessLex, Inc
- Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
- American Arbitration Association - ICDR Foundation
- ABA Section of Business Law
- ABA Section of Criminal Justice
- ABA Section of Dispute Resolution
- ABA Section of Intellectual Property Law
- ABA Section of Litigation
- ABA Section of Tort Trial & Insurance Practice
- American Bar Endowment
- American Bar Foundation
- American University Washington College of Law
- Anne and Ronald Abramson Family Foundation
- Annie E. Casey Foundation
- Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP
- AT&T Inc.
- Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC
- The Boeing Company
- C&A Foundation
- California Bar Foundation
- California Health Care Foundation
- Carnegie Corporation
- Casey Family Programs
- Center for Children & Family Futures
- Chemonics International Inc.
- Cooley LLP
- Covington & Burling LLP
- Cravath Swaine & Moore LLP
- Crowell & Moring LLP
- CTC Trading Group, LLC
- DLA Piper LLP
- Equal Justice Works
- FedEx Ground Package System, Inc.
- Fish & Richardson PC
- Fox Rothschild, LLP
- Fund for Nonviolence
- The George L. Ohstrom Foundation Inc.
- Greenberg Traurig LLP
- Hogan Lovells US LLP
- Holland & Knight LLP
- Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP
- Impact Assets
- Indiana Public Defender Commission
- International Paper Company
- Jenner & Block LLP
- Jones Day Foundation
- Justice in Aging
- Juvenile Law Center
- Kirkland & Ellis LLP
- Laura & John Arnold Foundation
- Law School Admissions Council
- Lief Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein LLP
- Lincoln Heritage Life Insurance Company
- Lockheed Martin
- MacArthur Foundation
- Marin Community Foundation
- McCormick Foundation
- McDermott Will & Emery
- Merck & Company - Polaris
- Morrison & Foerster Foundation
- Motion Picture Association of America, Inc.
- Munger Tolles & Olson LLP
- National Center for State Courts
- Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP
- North Carolina Bar Association
- Northwestern Pritzker School of Law
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- NoVo Foundation
- Ohio State Bar Foundation
- OneS Foundation
- Pilot Travel Centers LLC
- Price Philanthropies
- Redlich Horwitz Foundation
- Raikes Foundation
- Sarah Scaife Foundation
- The Schmidt Family Foundation
- Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc.
- Sidley Austin LLP
- The Simmons Foundation
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP
- State Bar of Michigan
- State Bar of Texas
- State Farm Insurance Companies
- State of North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts
- Suffolk University Law School
- Texas Access to Justice Foundation
- Thomson Reuters
- University of Southern California
- University of Texas School of Law - Center for Women
- USAA
- Vera Institute of Justice
- Vinson & Elkins LLP
- Walmart, Inc.
- The Walt Disney Company
- Weil Gotshal & Manges Foundation
- Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
- Wellspring Foundation
- White & Case LLP
- Williams & Connolly LLP

Thank you for helping to make this all possible!
Thank You!

Legal services are human services, and your donation is having an impact in communities across the country. Together, we will lead the charge in righting wrongs, preventing injustices, and building a stronger justice system. If you would like to learn more about the progress of a specific ABA project or entity, please call Chanta Williams, Manager of Individual Giving, at 312-988-5567.

Your tax-deductible gift to the American Bar Association is received through the ABA Fund for Justice and Education (ABA FJE), the 501(c)(3) charitable arm of the American Bar Association.

Thank you for valuing the immediate and long-term impact legal services have on those in need.

CONNECT WITH THE
ABA FUND FOR JUSTICE AND EDUCATION

WEBSITE ambar.org/fje
DONATE donate.americanbar.org/fje
EMAIL fje@americanbar.org
PHONE 312-988-5567