



The Volunteer Lawyers Project

The Volunteer Lawyers Project was established to address the growing demand for legal services for low-income residents by mobilizing volunteer lawyers to provide pro bono representation.

Many local bar associations have joined the effort. The process of recruiting and training volunteers continues to be essential to meet the community's needs.



The VLP partners with the Cincinnati, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, and Warren County Bar Associations.



What We Do:

Full Representation

Our volunteer lawyers provide full representation to resolve a wide variety of issues including divorce and custody disputes, bankruptcy, eviction and foreclosure defense, and tax disputes. To learn more about the types of cases we address, go to vlpcincinnati.org/what-we-do.

Clinics

The VLP operates clinics that are opportunities for volunteer lawyers to provide advice and counsel. We conduct Divorce Clinics with the support of Legal Aid paralegals. We offer Family Law Clinics in partnership with Hamilton County Domestic Relations Court and Clermont County Domestic Relations Court to assist low-income individuals filing for divorce on their own. The VLP also conducts Wills and Advance Planning and Veterans Clinics.

How the VLP Works

Legal Aid manages the VLP. Requests for legal assistance can be made by calling the Legal Aid Line: 513-241-9400. Legal Aid Society staff conduct intake screening of applicants and refer eligible clients to volunteer lawyers. Legal Aid lawyers and private lawyers provide back-up to volunteers on substantive matters. Legal Aid paralegal staff also provide support for the VLP's Divorce and Wills Clinics. Legal Aid administrative, management, and accounting staff also support the VLP.



How We Support Volunteer Lawyers

Legal Aid lawyers with experience in the practice area are available for back-up support in most cases. The VLP provides malpractice insurance to cover our volunteer lawyers when they handle VLP cases. We also offer free CLE programs to volunteers who accept two or more pro bono cases in a year. If the client's first language is not English, our volunteers have access to Language Services free of charge.

For more information, go to vlpcincinnati.org/volunteer/how-vlp-supports-its-volunteers.

Did you know?

Any lawyer licensed to practice in Ohio can sign up to volunteer for the VLP. Lawyers employed by corporations, but not admitted to the full practice of law in Ohio, may do pro bono work for clients of qualified legal aid organizations.

Volunteer Today!

It's easy to sign up at
vlpcincinnati.org/volunteer/vlp-registration/.

Questions?

Call (513) 362-2864 or email
mrussell@lascinti.org
for more information.



Our mission is to recruit, train, and support a dedicated community of volunteer lawyers to address the legal needs of individuals who cannot afford legal representation. In some instances, the VLP may compensate active volunteers with a reduced fee, determined by the type of legal matter, which is paid by the VLP rather than the client.

The VLP is committed to ensuring access to justice for the vulnerable in our community and to expanding our capacity to fulfill this mission through volunteer lawyer recruitment.

Volunteer Lawyers Project
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