

New Associates Pro Bono Day
2005 Schedule

Monday, December 12, 2005

**House of the Association, New York City Bar Association
42 West 44th Street**

2:00 – 2:15 Introductory Remarks and Greetings

- William T. Russell, Jr.,
 Chair of the Committee on Pro Bono & Legal Services

2:30 – 4:00 Training Session One

- **Asylum Law** – This discussion covers the laws, regulations and procedures that protect individuals who are seeking asylum in the United States, as well as withholding of removal and Convention Against Torture relief. Topics include the definitions of persecution, well founded-fear, and torture; the grounds for claiming asylum; the one-year filing deadline; expedited removal; and an overview of the affirmative and defensive asylum procedures.
- **Housing Law** – This discussion will cover the nuts and bolts of a non-payment housing court proceeding. Topics will include an overview of the different kinds of housing in New York City, the nature of a summary proceeding, the petition and notice of petition, preparation of defenses and counterclaims, procedure, and negotiations and judgments.
- **Lifetime Planning for the Elderly** – This discussion will cover the basics of life-time planning - drafting of wills, powers of attorney, healthcare proxies and living wills. This is an area of great need for the elderly poor of New York. The written materials will include sample forms and information about the substantive law.
- **Pro Bono Assistance in Disaster Relief Efforts** – This panel discussion will focus on recurring legal issues that arise in the context of disaster relief efforts, including specific events such as Hurricane Katrina, and provide lawyers with practical advice that will assist them in advising and representing clients recovering from disasters.

4:15 – 5:45 Training Session Two

- **Forming and Advising Non-Profit Corporations** – This discussion will introduce you to the representation of not for profit organizations. The focus of the workshop will be the requirements for qualification as a New York State not-for-profit corporation, the procedures for incorporating and an

overview of drafting by-laws. We will also address applying for federal and state tax exemption.

- **Criminal Appeals** – The discussion will provide an overview of what is involved in researching and writing an appellate brief on behalf of an indigent criminal defendant and the best ways to communicate with incarcerated clients, strategies for including clients in the appeals process, avoiding attorney-client conflicts and examine case law that sets out the ethical obligations of criminal appellate attorneys.
- **Environmental Justice in New York City** – The discussion will provide an overview of environmental justice as a movement and the role that lawyers play in advancing it, including an ongoing effort to address New York City’s siting of public schools on contaminated sites in low-income communities of color and long-standing efforts by a coalition of groups representing overburdened communities to remedy New York City’s discriminatory system for handling the City’s solid waste.
- **Legal Issues Facing the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community** – This discussion will provide an overview of many of the unique legal issues facing lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender clients. Topics will include housing issues, and inheritance and property transfer issues facing the community, among others.

6:00 – 7:00 Reception with Cocktails and Live Music