



Faulkner University
— A CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY —

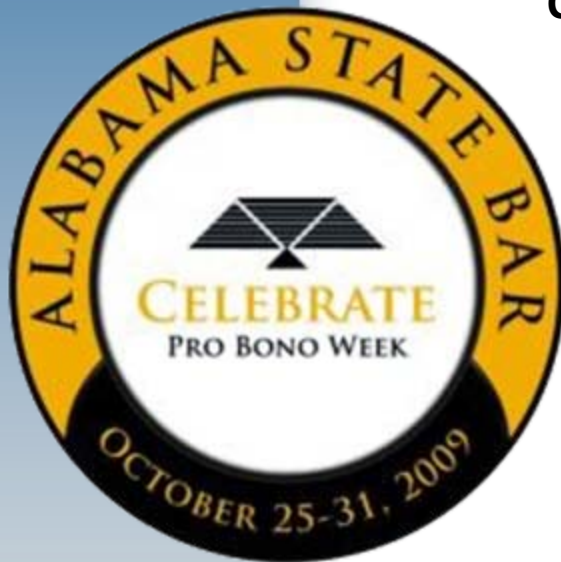
Professional Responsibility for Pro Bono Practice

ALABAMA STATE BAR NATIONAL PRO BONO CELEBRATION

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAM
FOR 1 HOUR OF ETHICS CREDIT

BY

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Preamble: A Lawyer's Responsibilities

As a *public citizen*, a lawyer should seek improvement of the law, of the administration of justice, and of the quality of service rendered by the legal profession. As a member of a learned profession, a lawyer should cultivate knowledge of the law beyond its use for clients, employ the knowledge in reform of the law, and work to strengthen legal education. *A lawyer should be mindful of the deficiencies in the administration of justice and of the fact that the poor, and sometimes persons who are not poor, cannot afford adequate legal assistance, and should therefore devote professional time and civic influence in their behalf. A lawyer should aid the legal profession in pursuing these objectives and should help the bar regulate itself in the public interest. .*

..

.... Lawyers play a vital role in the preservation of society. The fulfillment of these role requires an understanding by lawyers of their relationship to our legal system.

ALA. R. PROF'L. CONDUCT, *Preamble*, ¶¶ 5, 12
(emphasis added).

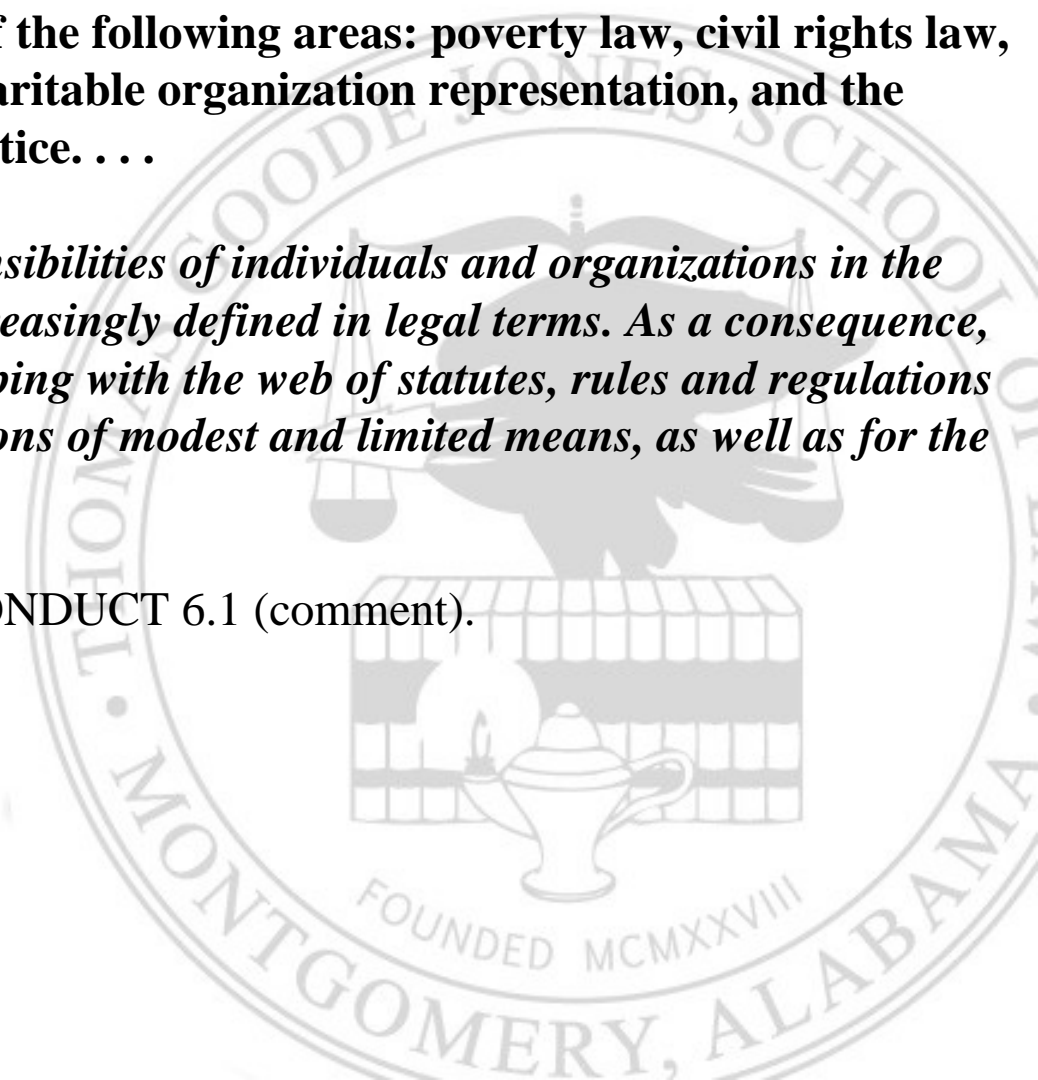




The ABA House of Delegates has formally acknowledged "the basic responsibility of each lawyer engaged in the practice of law to provide public interest legal services" without fee, or at a substantially reduced fee, in one or more of the following areas: poverty law, civil rights law, public rights law, charitable organization representation, and the administration of justice. . . .

The rights and responsibilities of individuals and organizations in the United States are increasingly defined in legal terms. As a consequence, legal assistance in coping with the web of statutes, rules and regulations is imperative for persons of modest and limited means, as well as for the relatively well-to-do.

ALA. R. PROF'L. CONDUCT 6.1 (comment).

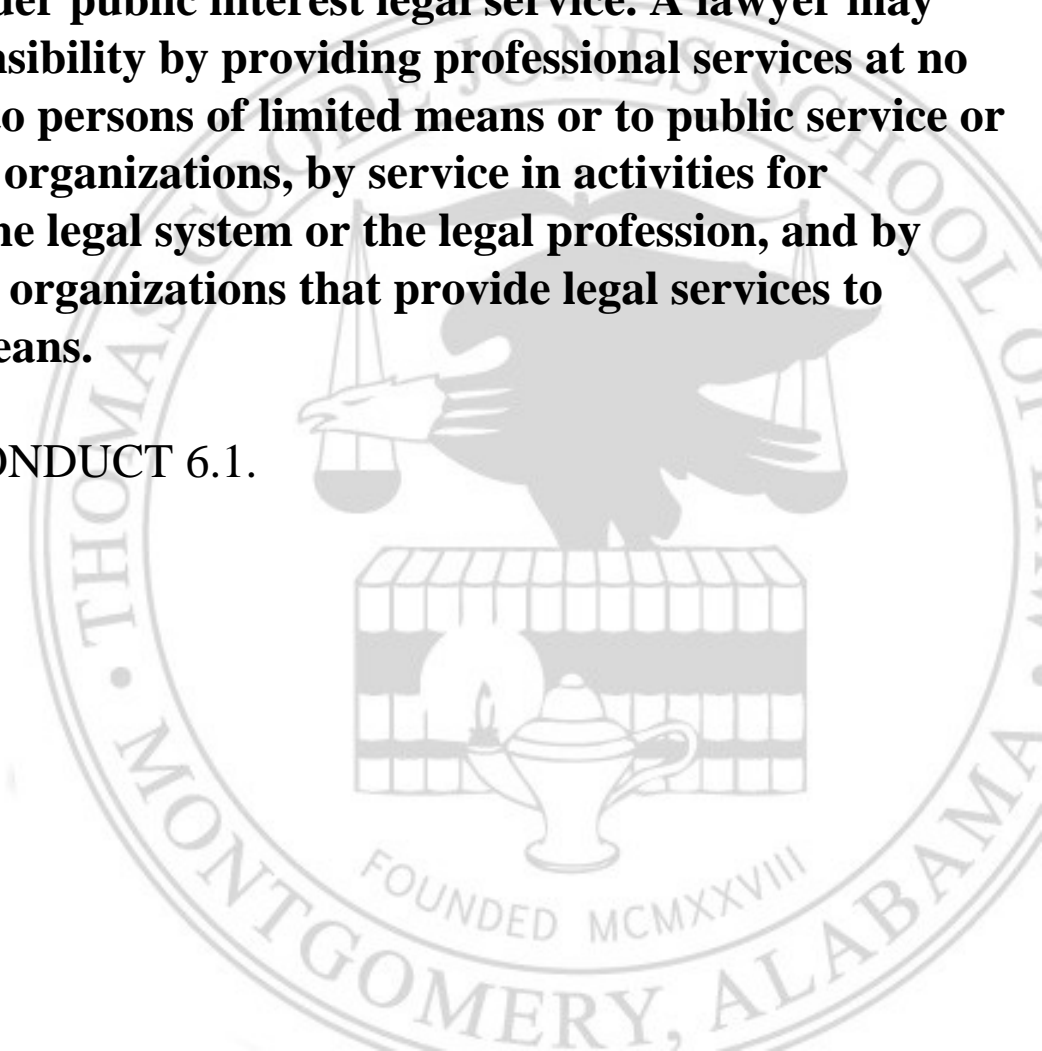




Alabama Rule 6.1 Pro Bono Publico Service

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.

ALA. R. PROF'L. CONDUCT 6.1.





The basic responsibility for providing legal services for those unable to pay ultimately rests upon the individual lawyer, and personal involvement in the problems of the disadvantaged can be one of the most rewarding experiences in the life of a lawyer. *Every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, should find time to participate in or otherwise support the provision of legal services to the disadvantaged.* The provision of free legal services to those unable to pay reasonable fees continues to be an obligation of each lawyer as well as the profession generally, but the efforts of individual lawyers are often not enough to meet the need. Thus, it has been necessary for the profession and government to institute additional programs to provide legal services. Accordingly, legal aid offices, lawyer referral services and other related programs have been developed, and others will be developed by the profession and government. *Every lawyer should support all proper efforts to meet this need for legal services.*

ALA. R. PROF'L. CONDUCT 6.1 (comment) (emphasis added).

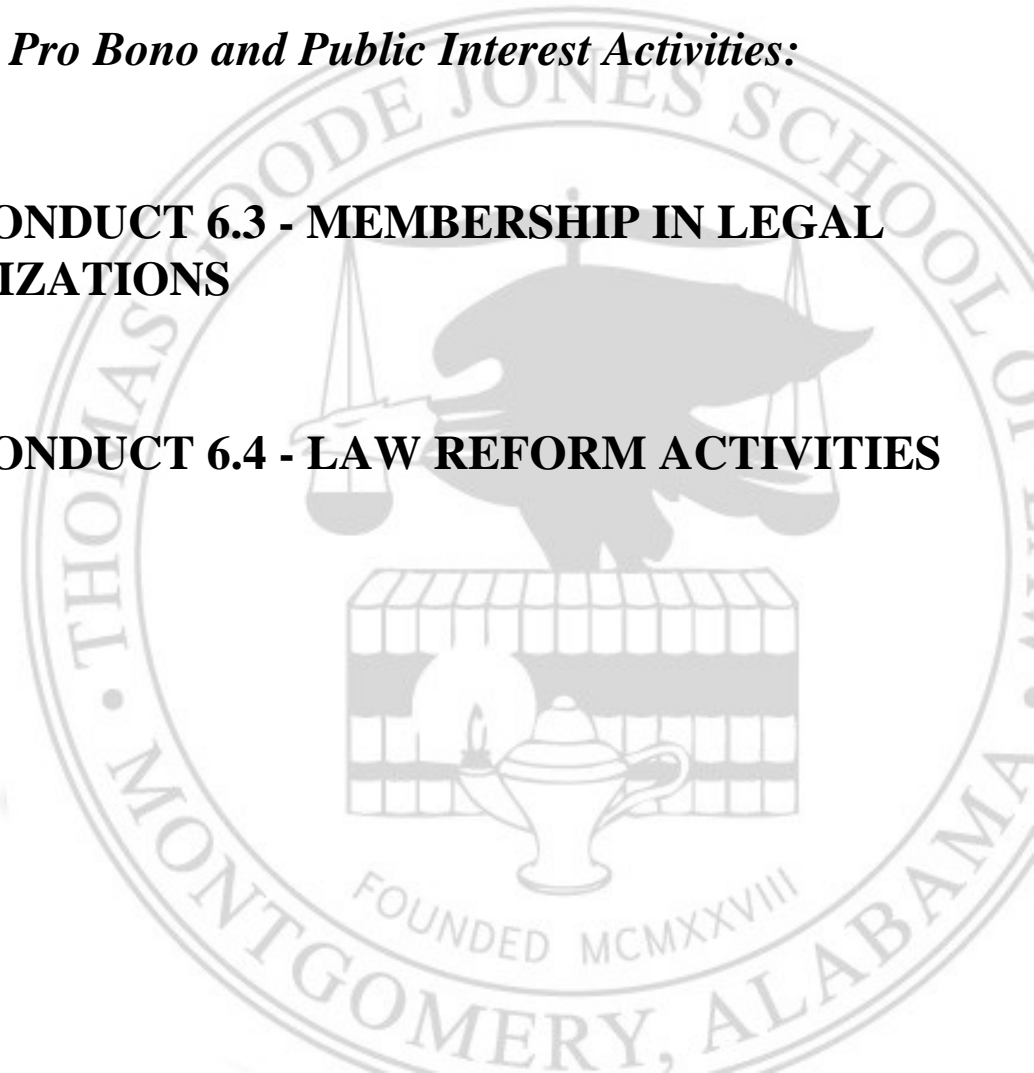




Alternative Pro Bono and Public Interest Activities:

ALA. R. PROF'L. CONDUCT 6.3 - MEMBERSHIP IN LEGAL SERVICES ORGANIZATIONS

ALA. R. PROF'L. CONDUCT 6.4 - LAW REFORM ACTIVITIES





ALA. R. PROF'L. CONDUCT 1.1 – COMPETENCE

ALA. R. PROF'L. CONDUCT 1.3 – DILIGENCE

ALA. R. PROF'L. CONDUCT 1.4 – COMMUNICATION

ALA. R. PROF'L. CONDUCT 1.6 – CONFIDENTIALITY

ALA. R. PROF'L. CONDUCT 1.6 – 1.9 – CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

ALA. R. PROF'L. CONDUCT 1.13 – ORGANIZATION AS CLIENT

ALA. R. PROF'L. CONDUCT 1.14 - CLIENT WITH DIMINISHED CAPACITY

ALA. R. PROF'L. CONDUCT 1.16 - DECLINING OR TERMINATING REPRESENTATION

