

Representing the Pro Bono Client: Effective Written Advocacy 2014

April 4, 2014

9:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Why You Should Attend

This program will teach new attorneys and seasoned professionals effective writing techniques to assist pro bono clients with a variety of legal issues. Learn the tools to draft concise complaints, declarations and briefs to help your pro bono clients assert their legal rights and win their cases!

What You Will Learn

- Drafting Effective Briefs
- Preparing Witness Declarations
- Crafting Complaints

Who Should Attend

All attorneys assisting pro bono clients through representation or in clinical settings, firm pro bono coordinators and partners, corporate law department pro bono managers, law clinic students and faculty, and public interest and non-profit organization attorneys and staff would benefit from attending this program.

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Program Schedule

9:00

Program Overview and Introductions

Robert P. Capistrano, Jocelyn Larkin

9:15

The Good Brief

This segment emphasizes the importance of drafting well written points and authorities, the key elements of a good brief, and the steps for actually getting it done.

Robert P. Capistrano, Jocelyn Larkin

10:30

Complaint Drafting

This segment addresses the several purposes of the complaint or petition, and ways to accomplish these while following the technical rules of pleading. You will learn the art and science of complaint drafting and the glories and the pitfalls of the Code of Civil Procedure.

Robert P. Capistrano, Jocelyn Larkin

11:30

Networking Break

11:45

Effective Declarations

This segment focuses on making your points in the declarant's own language, avoiding common evidentiary problems, and developing a persuasive factual narrative.

Robert P. Capistrano, Jocelyn Larkin

12:45

Adjourn

Faculty

Co-Chairs

Robert P. Capistrano

Managing Attorney, San Francisco County Director of Litigation, Advocacy & Training
Bay Area Legal Aid
San Francisco, California

Jocelyn Larkin

Executive Director
Impact Fund
Berkeley, California

Program Attorney: Christina Thompson