

The State Bar of California
PRO BONO PRACTICE PROGRAM

The Pro Bono Practice Program (“PBP Program”), previously known as the Emeritus Attorney Pro Bono Program, is designed to take advantage of the legal skills, training and experience of attorneys taking a temporary or permanent break from the active practice of law, and offer them the opportunity to contribute their valuable legal expertise to assist low income Californians. Eligible participants will receive a waiver of the active State Bar membership fee, have access to free and reduced rates to attend MCLE programs sponsored by the State Bar and the Continuing Education of the Bar (CEB), and a free one hour self-study MCLE course published monthly in California Bar Journal. The rules can be found at [Title 3, Division 2, Chapter 6 of the State Bar Rules and Regulations](#).

To be eligible for the Pro Bono Practice Program, an attorney must:

- Be in good standing with the State Bar of California;
- Have been admitted to practice law in California at least three (3) years preceding application to the program;
- Have practiced law or served as a judge in California at least three (3) of the last five (5) years;
- Agree to practice law on a pro bono basis *only* through a qualified legal services provider, a State Bar certified lawyer referral service, or a court-based self-help center;
- Comply with MCLE requirements for active attorneys;
- Reapply to the Pro Bono Practice Program annually.

To apply to the Pro Bono Practice Program:

- Contact and make arrangements with a [qualified legal services provider](#), [State Bar certified lawyer referral service](#) no-fee or pro bono panel; or [court-based self-help center](#);
- Complete and sign the *Pro Bono Practice Program Application & Sworn Statement*;
- Have the *Declaration by Qualified Legal Services Provider, State Bar Certified Lawyer Referral Service, or Court-Based Self-Help Center* signed by the directing or supervising attorney
- Submit **both completed** forms to the State Bar and a staff member will contact you (be sure to keep a copy for your records).

For additional information, contact Michael Dayao, 415/538-2328 or michael.dayao@calbar.ca.gov

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Application and Sworn Statement

I understand that I must:

- Be an **ACTIVE** member of The State Bar of California while enrolled in the Pro Bono Practice Program;
- Complete a transfer form to change from inactive to active status, if necessary;
- Reapply to the PBP Program annually;
- Comply with Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) requirements;
- Have practiced law, or served as a judge, for at least three of the last five years
- Have been admitted to the practice of law in California for at least three years preceding this application;
- Have no record of public discipline the three years preceding the application;
- Read and abide by the Rules of Professional Conduct and provisions of the State Bar Act (*Business & Professions Code, Section 6000 et seq.*) relating to the professional duties and obligations of an attorney;
- Neither ask for nor accept compensation of any kind for the legal services authorized;
- Not engage in the practice of law nor intend to practice law during the applicable year, except in association with the qualified legal services provider, the State Bar certified lawyer referral service, or court-based self-help center** named on page 3.

*** For the purposes of the Pro Bono Practice Program, a court-based self-help center is a self help program that is in compliance with California Rule of Court 10.960.*

PRO BONO PRACTICE PROGRAM APPLICANT

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this _____ day of _____, 2_____, at _____, California.

Signature: _____ State Bar Number: _____

Name (print): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ e-mail: _____

Name of qualified legal services provider, State Bar certified lawyer referral service, or court-based self-help center:

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***Declaration by Qualified Legal Services Provider,
State Bar Certified Lawyer Referral Service,
or Court-Based Self-Help Center***

(Title 3 Division 2 Chapter 6 of the State Bar Rules and Regulations)

(Please have the directing or supervising attorney of the program you have selected sign the following declaration and submit to the State Bar.)

**LEGAL SERVICES PROVIDER, LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE,
or COURT-BASED SELF-HELP CENTER**

I have reviewed this application and confirm that the applicant will provide pro bono legal services with the entity named below:

Directing or Supervising Attorney (print): _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name of Entity: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ e-mail: _____

*** For the purposes of the Pro Bono Practice Program, a court-based self-help center is a self help program that is in compliance with California Rule of Court 10.960.*

Complete and sign these forms:

- *Pro Bono Practice Program Application and Sworn Statement*
- *Declaration by Qualified Legal Services Provider, State Bar Certified Lawyer Referral Service, or Court-Based Self-Help Center*

Submit form by mail, Email, or by fax to:

Michael Dayao
The State Bar of California
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
michael.dayao@calbar.ca.gov
Fax: 415/538-2552

Remember: Submit both signed, completed forms (pages 2 and 3).