

City Bar Justice Center

Contact Information

Website: <http://www.nycbar.org/citybarjusticecenter/volunteer/>

Phone: (212) 382-6759

Address: 42 West 44th Street, New York NY 10036

Offices: Manhattan

Description of Organization

The City Bar Justice Center CBJC increases access to justice by leveraging the resources of the New York City legal community. Drawing upon our relationship with the New York City Bar, the Justice Center provides legal assistance to those in need; mobilizes lawyers, law firms, corporate legal departments, and other legal institutions to provide pro bono legal services; educates the public on legal issues; fosters strategic relationships; and impacts public policy.

Volunteer Opportunities

Consumer Bankruptcy Project: Trainings are held periodically for volunteers interested in assisting consumers filing for bankruptcy and/or participating in the Bankruptcy Pro Bono Panel. Participation on the Panel is meaningful, yet flexible. Attorneys on the panel are not obligated to accept a pro bono assignment, but agree to be contacted when a matter arises and to consider providing representation.

Elderly Law: At legal clinics held at the Justice Center and at senior centers, staff and volunteer attorneys provide seniors with advice and representation regarding wills, living wills, health care proxies, powers of attorney, government benefits, consumer issues and more, as well as provide training and public education on legal issues of interest.

Foreclosure Project: Volunteer lawyers are recruited and trained primarily to negotiate workout arrangements with lenders and attend settlement conferences. Occasionally, where appropriate, volunteers may represent the homeowner in litigation.

Legal Hotline: Hotline staffer, offer legal information, advice, brief services, and referrals to low-income New Yorkers who cannot afford a private attorney or do not have access to legal representation.

Veterans Project: Volunteer lawyers help veterans file claims and appeals with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Assistance ranges from locating service documents and medical records to preparing and filing claims and directly representing veterans at hearings.

Areas of Substantive Law

Consumer Law

Elder Law

Foreclosure

Veterans Affairs

General Notes

Capacity: Generally, CBJC does not host AEP volunteers on-site. CBJC has the capacity to either refer or mentor hundreds of volunteers.

Experience: Previous experience is not required.

Supervision: The City Bar Justice Center uses on site, on staff mentors to mentor volunteers working directly with the Center. While the volunteer works off-site, they can use the mentor for specific or broad questions, for as little or as much support as they need. Mentor will touch base periodically to make sure things are going well.