

## VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION: ATTORNEY EMERITUS

**Name of Organization:** Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project (BBA VLP)

**Brief Description of Organization:** The mission of the BBA VLP is to ensure that the legal system is accessible to those who, because of special needs or the overwhelming burdens of poverty, would not otherwise have their rights protected or their voices heard. Since 1990, dedicated volunteers from the private bar have provided critical pro bono assistance through the VLP to thousands of individuals and families from Brooklyn's poorest neighborhoods. The goal of each VLP volunteer is to use the legal system to help people regain dignity and control over their lives. The VLP's primary referral areas are family law, elder law, consumer law, Chapter 7 bankruptcy, wills, guardianship, and a newly-initiated Foreclosure Intervention Program in partnership with South Brooklyn Legal Services. In addition to serving those in need through direct representation, the VLP has established several innovative education and outreach programs for seniors and self-represented litigants.

**Population Served:** Low-income Brooklyn residents.

**Website:** <http://www.brooklynvlp.org/>

**Phone:** 718-624-3895

**Address:** 44 Court Street, Suite 1206

Brooklyn, NY 11201

## VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR CONTACT

**Name:** Sidney Cherubim, Esq.

**Title:** Director of Legal Services

**Phone:** 718-624-3894 ex. 2

**Email:** [scherubin@brooklynvlp.org](mailto:scherubin@brooklynvlp.org)

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Chapter 7 Bankruptcy:** Consumer bankruptcy protection is often chosen as a last resort by individuals and families facing insurmountable debt after trying to cope with job loss or serious medical problems. VLP volunteer attorneys assist individuals with drafting bankruptcy petitions and by representing them in Chapter 7 proceedings in the United States Bankruptcy Court, Eastern District of New York.

**Can Volunteers Work Off Site?** Yes.

**Type of Work:** Full Representation and Limited-Scope Representation.

**Location, Days and Hours of Volunteer Opportunity:**

Downtown Brooklyn office located near the state and federal courts.

**Area(s) of Substantive Law:** Chapter 7 Bankruptcy

**Supervision:** Staff Supervising Attorneys and experienced practitioners in each of the referral areas serve as mentors to all volunteer VLP attorneys.

**Training:** The VLP conducts training programs for attorneys in its primary areas of referral. Each program is accompanied by a training manual with relevant case law, statutes, and forms.

## REQUIREMENTS OF VOLUNTEER

**Time Commitment:** From as little as two hours a month to full-scale representation with concomitant time commitment.

**Previous Experience in Substantive Law Required:** No.

**Specific/Previous Experience Required:** No

Updated: 01.28.2016