

Dear Prospective Volunteer:

The NYS Courts Access to Justice Program is holding a training session for the Housing Court's Resolution Assistance Program ("R.A.P.")

TRAINING DATE & TIME:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2013

9:30am-10:00am (Registration); 10:00 am to 12:30pm (Training)

TRAINING LOCATION:

New York County Housing Court at 111 Centre Street, New York, NY 10013. **Please enter through White Street** (between Lafayette Street and Centre Street).

TRAINING COST & VOLUNTEER SERVICE:

FREE- in exchange for **30 hours** of volunteer service **between October 21, 2013 and December 31, 2013**: Monday-Friday: 9AM-1PM.

RSVP REQUIRED: Send an e-mail to RAP@nycourts.gov to register for the training with a copy of your resume.

All volunteers are mandated to participate in one two-hour training provided by the Honorable Fern A. Fisher, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for New York City Courts and Director of the New York State Courts Access to Justice Program, and/or her staff.

Training topics include Housing Court Overview, Basics of Nonpayment Proceedings and Interviewing and Communication Skills. In exchange for this free training, prospective volunteers are required to volunteer a minimum of **30 hours** in the Resolution Part **between October 21, 2013 and December 31, 2013** and will receive an electronic copy of the program manual, and, upon request, a certificate of volunteer service upon completion of the training and volunteer hours.

Volunteers are given flexibility with their schedules and may volunteer time in blocks of time as follows:

Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Participants may choose to volunteer in a specific borough. While the program runs in 4 boroughs including Manhattan and Brooklyn, Queens and the Bronx urgently need volunteers.

Each volunteer will be assigned to a Resolution Part of the Housing Court.

Best regards,

Yacine Barry, Esq.
Special Counsel for Housing Court Initiatives
NYS Courts Access to Justice Program

R.A.P. trains volunteers to provide in-court assistance to tenants and owners who are parties to nonpayment proceedings and are appearing without an attorney in the Housing Court, Resolution Part. (Nonpayment proceedings are cases in which an owner/landlord sues a tenant to collect alleged overdue rent). Join R.A.P. if you would like to:

- *Help unrepresented litigants have a productive experience in Housing Court through an offering of non-legal support;*
- *Ensure unrepresented litigants are aware of all of the resources available to them, so that they may better advocate for themselves; and*
- *Provide unrepresented litigants with the confidence to discuss their claims or defenses before a court attorney or judge.*