

BRIDGING GAPS IN ACCESS TO JUSTICE: DUANE MORRIS ALUMNI GIVE BACK



DUANE MORRIS
PRO BONO

WHY GIVE BACK?

- ▶ 63 million Americans—or 1 in 5—qualify for free legal assistance.
- ▶ Approximately 50 percent of qualifying individuals are turned away from legal aid simply due to a lack of resources.
- ▶ Less than 20 percent of low-income Americans' needs are met.
- ▶ Law firm and in-house attorneys can help bridge this justice gap by teaming up to provide pro bono legal assistance.

Duane Morris responds to the call for responsible business practices through pro bono efforts increasing equal access to justice in our communities. **Duane Morris Alumni Give Back** formally aligns, activates and encourages alumni to team up with current firm attorneys through its Pro Bono Program, including attending public interest CLEs and legal clinic volunteer opportunities, where available.

Duane Morris proudly sponsors regular pro bono clinics throughout our offices focusing on diverse matters, including:

- ▶ Medical legal partnerships at several hospitals and medical centers;
- ▶ U.S. naturalization screenings and application preparation clinics;
- ▶ Will drafting and advanced planning clinics for individuals with terminal illnesses, veterans and more; and
- ▶ Office hours for various court-sponsored self-help programs, entrepreneur and inventor clinics, and many more.

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR RETURNSHIPS

Professionals seeking to return to the workforce after an extended absence may be interested in a “returnship” at Duane Morris or a collaborating legal aid. The program, lasting anywhere from 10 weeks to six months, gives participants the opportunity to relaunch their careers through immersive work experience, trainings and other aspects of the workforce to help with readjustment.

RECONNECTING THROUGH ALUMNI CLES:

Alumni CLEs offer another path for reintegrating into the workforce and enhancing relationships with fellow Duane Morris alumni and current attorneys. Alumni CLEs also provide the opportunity to engage with the legal community and gain access to educational opportunities while earning valuable CLE credit.

“We aren’t passengers on Spaceship Earth, we’re the crew. We aren’t residents on this planet, we’re citizens. The difference in both cases is responsibility.”—Apollo Astronaut Rusty Schweickart, best known as the first to pilot the Lunar Module



DUANE MORRIS 2018
PARTNERS IN
PRO BONO

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Marissa Boyers Bluestine



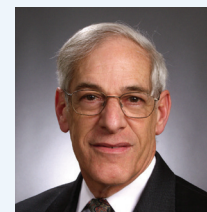
In Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, the Pro Bono Program supports alumna Marissa Boyers Bluestine (Philadelphia), Executive Director at the Pennsylvania Innocence Project, by assisting in individual innocence investigations and cases, as well as in amicus briefs across the commonwealth. Through the global Innocence Network and other state-based Innocence Projects, Duane Morris attorneys across the United States aid individuals seeking to be exonerated of crimes for which they were wrongfully convicted and work to ensure that the scientific basis of testimony in science-dependent cases is fully examined.

Jamie Dyce



New York alumna Jamie Dyce joined Duane Morris in 2009 as an associate. During her tenure, she became involved with the firm’s support of Pajama Program, a nonprofit organization committed to providing children with a caring bedtime ritual through the magical gifts of pajamas and books. In September 2016, Jamie joined the organization as Director, and assumed the role of Executive Director in May 2017.

Al Zabin



Boston alumnus Al Zabin was a strong supporter of pro bono during his 12 years at Duane Morris, where he concentrated on trial and appellate law. He retired in 2015 and became a full-time volunteer lawyer at Greater Boston Legal Services, one of the oldest legal aids in the country. As one of the 20 Access to Justice Fellows, Al devotes between 10-20 hours per week on pro bono projects relating to criminal justice reform, assisting veterans, immigration matters and advising on governance issues for the Boston Harbor Association.

SUPPORTING IN-HOUSE CORPORATIONS IN DEVELOPING PRO BONO PROGRAMS

- ▶ Developing pro bono mission statements, policies and practices as well as advising on malpractice and ethical issues associated with pro bono practices.
- ▶ Developing corporate strategic plans to ensure pro bono is infused into the culture and practices of the corporation and considered when working with external preferred law firms.
- ▶ Creating corporate pro bono programs that will assist with retention and promotion.
- ▶ Developing best practices for leadership to advance pro bono within the organization.
- ▶ Designing and implementing training programs on the ethics of pro bono service and cultural competency as well as various substantive legal areas traditionally encompassing "poverty law."
- ▶ Incorporating pro bono clients into supply chain, thus ensuring greater visibility and platform for under-resourced, minority-owned and women-owned businesses.

PRO BONO 360

Pro bono service is infused into all aspects of Duane Morris' life and culture. We have incorporated more clients into our pro bono activities than ever before and expanded our regular clinic participation; to additional states and nonprofit partners. A special effort is made to weave pro bono clients into the firm's supply chain. Our annual pro bono report furthers this goal by utilizing photographs taken by pro bono clients. In 2017, Duane Morris highlighted the work of NYC Salt. Duane Morris represents NYC Salt in various business and corporate transactions, as well as mentors the organization's students. NYC Salt is a New York nonprofit organization that engages high school students through professionally led volunteer instruction in photography and digital technology. Its mission is to inspire students by exposing them to the professional world of the visual arts.



The photograph "Splash" by NYC Salt photographer Danny Martinez was given to each Duane Morris attorney who contributed 100 or more hours of pro bono service. The ripple effect, so beautifully shown in the photograph, represents the difference that even one hour of pro bono service can make in our clients' and in our own lives.

PRO BONO BY THE NUMBERS

23% of pro bono time devoted to nonprofit organizations and microentrepreneurs supporting Duane Morris' communities



77% of pro bono time spent assisting individuals of limited means

Attorneys providing **20+** pro bono hours annually

55%

Percentage of total firm hours dedicated to pro bono

3%



34,000+ PRO BONO HOURS donated in 2017 in over **1,000 matters**

Equivalent to **18 full-time attorneys** performing pro bono activity

FOR MORE INFORMATION



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Duane Morris Pro Bono Law Blog

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