

DISTRICT OF ARIZONA
PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES FOR LAWYERS

Pro bono representation of parties in civil cases, who are unable to afford an attorney, is an important responsibility of the bar. In addition to providing a valuable service to pro se litigants and the Court, many attorneys find volunteering is a great way to give back to the community and to develop federal court experience. The United States District Court for the District of Arizona offers opportunities for lawyers to assist self-represented litigants in the following ways, and we encourage all bar members to consider participating in one, or both, of these programs. Training is available. Volunteer lawyers receive recognition from the Court at various events throughout the year.

1. Self-Represented Litigant (SRL) Clinic

At SRL Clinics, volunteer lawyers with at least three years of experience provide 30-minute consultations, by appointment, with individuals who cannot afford a lawyer and who are considering or already representing themselves in lawsuits. SRL Clinics take place as follows: In Phoenix, by telephone only from noon and 4:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. In Tucson, at the Evo Deconcini Courthouse between 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. every Thursday. Cases range greatly and can include civil rights, employment discrimination, social security and other types of civil actions. To volunteer for an SRL Clinic in Phoenix, please email your contact information to phxsrl@azd.uscourts.gov, or in Tucson, contact Melissa Spiller-Shiner of Step Up to Justice at mspillershiner@stepuptojustice.org.

2. Civil Litigation Panel Membership (CLPM)

The District Court's Civil Litigation Panel provides for pro bono counsel for litigants referred by the Court for appointment of counsel. Membership on the panel is open to all who are admitted to practice before this Court. Panel membership can afford opportunities for full-scope representation, which often includes cases ready for trial, and/or opportunities for limited-scope representation, such as settlement conferences before Magistrate Judges. Cases in which representation is needed generally involve prisoner rights and civil rights. For additional details, please refer to [General Order 19-15](#). Attorneys who are interested in applying for

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membership on the District of Arizona's Civil Litigation Panel, or serving as a mentor, or who wish to be point of contact for a law firm should complete an on-line application form located on the Court's website by [clicking here](#).

Litigation of a case through the civil litigation panel does not preclude counsel from seeking attorneys' fees and costs for prevailing in a fee-generating civil case. Information on recovering costs is available in [General Order 10-10](#).

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