CELEBRATE PRO BONO 2014
October 2014

PR A R I E S T A T E C E L E B R A T E S P R O B O N O

October 19-25 is national Celebrate Pro Bono Week. Prairie State is pleased to have this opportunity to recognize the amazing work of our hundreds of dedicated volunteers. Between October 1, 2013 and September 30, 2014, over 600 pro bono attorneys (and innumerable paralegals, legal assistants, and law students) assisted more than 1400 clients through Prairie State’s Volunteer Lawyer Program. These volunteers contributed in a multitude of ways. They assisted clients with bankruptcies, powers of attorney, and divorces; taught classes to pro se litigants; mentored other pro bono attorneys; and trained Prairie State attorneys.

The value of pro bono work cannot be overstated. There are over 435,000 people living in poverty in Prairie State’s 36 county service area. These people need legal help: nearly half of low-income households experience at least one civil legal problem per year, but only 1 in 6 of these households receives legal assistance. Prairie State staff cannot meet the need for legal assistance alone. Each year Prairie State turns down thousands of meritorious requests for legal help simply because we do not have enough paid staff to serve these clients.

This is where pro bono attorneys come in. Pro bono attorneys fill a critical need and help ensure equal access to justice for Prairie State’s clients. To our hundreds of volunteers: thank you for your time, expertise, and commitment to serving Illinois’ most vulnerable residents.

Not involved yet? Contact your local office pro bono coordinator (see pages 8 and 10) to get involved. Don’t forget that retired, inactive, out of state, and corporate attorneys can perform pro bono work through Prairie State.

PRAIRIE STATE AWARDED LSC PRO BONO INNOVATIONS GRANT

Prairie State is excited to be one of only 11 programs in the country awarded a Legal Services Corporation (LSC) Pro Bono Innovations grant.

The grant will fund Prairie State’s new Borderless Pro Bono Project. Through this project, volunteer attorneys will provide brief services—including advice, pro se assistance with court forms, and community education—to unmarried parents with family law issues. Use of technology will enable the large population of collar county attorneys to volunteer to serve clients in Prairie State’s rural counties, where there are fewer attorneys (and more conflicts!).

Look for more information about this new opportunity in the coming months.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

> Prairie State thanks over 600 pro bono attorneys.
> More than 1400 clients helped through Prairie State’s Volunteer Lawyer Program.
> Retired, inactive, out of state, and corporate attorneys can perform pro bono work through Prairie State.
> We need you! Get involved today.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

What our clients say 2
Bob Muir and KCBA win ISBA award 2
Meet our volunteers 3
Pro bono roster 4-7
Meet our pro bono coordinators 8
Celebrate Pro Bono Week events 9
Upcoming trainings 10

CELEBRATE PRO BONO 2014
October 19 - 25, 2014

National Pro Bono Celebration

Celebrate Pro Bono

PRAIRIE STATE Legal Services
Equal Access to Justice
“Thank you, new light was shed on my life after my visit, weight has been lifted off my shoulders, I can now stand tall.”

“[Prairie State] was just what I was looking for to help me move forward. Learned a lot in a little time. Bless the people who volunteer to help people like myself. Big hearts! Thank you.”

“Thank you! You changed my life forever. For the better.”

“I feel I was really treated with the upmost respect. I really want to thank Prairie State! But my heart really goes out to my volunteer attorney. Thank you and God Bless.”

“This attorney is awesome! He did so much to get me in the right direction. Thank you so much!!!”

ROBERT E. MUIR AND KANE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION RECEIVE ISBA JOHN C. MCANDREWS PRO BONO SERVICE AWARD

Prairie State congratulates Peoria volunteer attorney Robert Muir and the Kane County Bar Association, recipients of the Illinois State Bar Association’s 2014 John C. McAndrews Pro Bono Service Award.

Bob Muir has volunteered with Prairie State since 1999, and he redoubled his pro bono efforts upon his retirement from Caterpillar in 2004. Since that time, Bob has served over 128 Prairie State clients and given over 2,093 hours of his time. Bob is not afraid to take on tough cases, and he has had a profound impact on his clients.

In addition to its strong support of Prairie State’s Volunteer Lawyer Program, the Kane County Bar Association is a leader in the area of bar association pro bono delivery. The Kane County Bar Association operates or supports a number of pro bono programs, including Lawyer in the Lobby, Ask a Lawyer, and Lawyer in the Library.

Prairie State is proud to partner with Bob and the KCBA.

(L to R) Peoria volunteer attorney Bob Muir; Kane County Bar Association Executive Director Jan Wade; Prairie State Legal Services Fox Valley Pro Bono Coordinator Marcy Heston.
MEET PRAIRIE STATE’S VOLUNTEERS

KATHLEEN CURTIN

Firm: Curtin Law, LLC

Years in practice: 7

Type of practice: Qualified Domestic Relations Orders (QDROs)

How long have you volunteered with Prairie State? Since 2008

Types of cases you handle for Prairie State: QDROs, as well as QDRO training for other attorneys

Why do you volunteer with Prairie State? When I graduated from law school in 2007, I immersed myself in the local legal community through volunteerism. I saw it as a great way to develop my legal skills while helping those in need. I maintain a steady stream of clients at Prairie State, as well as the Legal Aid Society, and train other volunteer attorneys on QDRO-related services.

Why is pro bono work important? Pro bono work is the only way some people can avail themselves of the protections of the court system. Those with the greatest vulnerabilities within our society – domestic violence victims, low-income individuals and families, people with disabilities and the elderly – are those who often have the most need for someone to advocate for them. A person’s financial status or physical well-being should not preclude them from getting high-quality legal care.

Fun fact about Kathleen: Before going to law school, I worked for an international chemical manufacturing company for three decades.

MICHELLE MANCIAS

Organization: State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, Bloomington

Years in practice: 20

Type of practice: In-house counsel – insurance/financial services

How long have you volunteered with Prairie State? About 10 years

Types of cases you handle for Prairie State: family law, debtor/creditor, advanced directives

Why do you volunteer with Prairie State? Prairie State is a wonderful organization, providing much needed services to our community, and I am happy to volunteer to the extent I am able. They are very supportive of their volunteers and make the experience fulfilling.

Why is pro bono work important? There is always a need. I feel I have been blessed to be where I am today, and enjoy many advantages that flow from having a good education and a law degree. I was brought up believing it’s a moral obligation to help out where I can, using the tools or education that I have.

Fun fact about Michelle: I am a beginner piano student. My kids’ teacher is mine too.

DAVID N. STONE

Firm: Retired, McHenry County

Years in practice: 46

Type of practice: General

How long have you volunteered with Prairie State? 6 years as an in-house volunteer

Types of cases you handle for Prairie State: principally plenary Order of Protection hearings, but occasional divorce, custody, paternity and other crazy things

Why do you volunteer with Prairie State? I am a retired attorney, the practice of law has been good to me. I like the idea of helping people who otherwise would not find help. It also gives me a sense of purpose in my retirement. It is a lot more fun practicing law without worrying about billings and overhead!!!

Why is pro bono work important? People without resources deserve to have their problems addressed with a modicum of respect.

Fun fact about Dave: Because of my 46 years of practicing in McHenry County, I have a lot of knowledge of people, places and things. For this reason, I am nicknamed “The Commissioner” in Prairie State’s Woodstock office.
CELEBRATE PRO BONO 2014

PRAIRIE STATE LEGAL SERVICES
2013–2014 PRO BONO ROSTER

With deep gratitude, Prairie State is proud to recognize the following attorneys, who provided pro bono services through Prairie State’s Volunteer Lawyer Program between October 1, 2013 and September 30, 2014.

David Aaby
Robert Ackley
Shama Ahmed
Daniel Alcorn
Stephanie Ames
Brett Anderson
Burr Anderson
Tyler Anderson
Anthony Andreano
Gail Anstett-Patrick
Larry Apfelbaum
Carlos Arevalo
David Armstrong
McLean Arnold
Connie Augsburger
Lee August
Meg Augustine
Dolores Ayala
Carol Bailey
Kathleen Bailey
Jeffrey Baldacci
Steven Balk
Jack Ball
Richard Balog
Thomas Barger III
Gwendolyn Barlow
Robert Baron
James Bass
John Bathke
Jack Beaupre
Amy Beckmann
Andrew Bell
A. Lou Benassi
Roger Benson
Susanna Berna
Howard Bernstein
Elizabeth Berrones
Shari Bertane
Timothy Bertschy
Amy Biesenthal
James Bishop
Kenneth Black
Thomas Blade
Brent Blair
Michael Blake
Jonathan Bobell
Kirk Bode
Christopher Bohlen
Meghan Bolte
James Bolz
Jennifer Bonesteel
John Boos Jr.
Stuart Borden
Joseph Borsberry
Sumner Bourne
Deanna Bowen
Adam Bowton
Robert Boyack
M. Margaret Bradshaw
John T. Brady
Aaron Brakke
Paul Braun
Mark Brent
Ann Brezinski
David Brown
Jeff Brown
Gene Brucker
Carl Buck
James Buck
Bruce Buckrop
Michelle Buckwalter-Schurman
Tristan Bullington
Amanda Burton
Anne Burton
Helen Bus
Stephanie Butler
Bradley Cahow
Hon. Michael Caldwell
Heather Calvert
Reginald Campbell
Theresa Campbell
James Campion
Michael Caravello
Mario Carlasare
Deanna Carlson-Webb
Julia Carpenter
Emily Carrara
Peter Carroll
David Carter
Kathleen Carter
John Cassidy III
Alvin Catella
Cathy Cavins
Joseph Cernugel
Michael Chapski
Portia Chen
David Christensen
Julie Cibulskis
Carleen Cignetto
Richard Claahsen
Brent Claricoates
Carrie Clark
Timothy Clark
Scott Clemens
Kendric Cobb
Lisa Coffey
Robert Coletta
David Collins
Kenneth Collinson
Carlo Colosimo
Dawn Conolly
Ann Conroy
James Cooke
Melissa Cooney
Stephen Cooper
Stacy Crabtree
Tim Creedon
Margaret Crowell
Christina Cullom
Linda Cunabaugh
George Cuonzo
Deanna Curl
Kathleen Curtin
Douglas Cuscaden
Floyd Dailey
Burt Dancy
Spencer Daniels
Bradley David
Dean Davis
Julia Davis
Melody Davoust
Susan Dawson-Tibbits
Courtney Dean
Vincent DeCandio
Joseph Dehn
Daniel Deneen
Russell DePew
William Detrick
Allen DeVary
Rayne DeVivo
Judith DeVriendt
Donald Dickinson
Susan Dillon
Terry Dodds
Peter Donat
Walter Donat
Lucy Dorenfeld
Mike Dorsey
Chris Doyen
Michael Doyen
Daniel Doyle
Michael Doyle
Jessica Drahos
Lea Drell
Sarah Duffy
Blake Dunlap
David Dunn
Marshall Dusenbury
Elizabeth Duvall
Laura Dzielski
James Eagle
Kenneth Eathington
Tom Edwards
Michelle Eggert
Randall Ehlers
Bernard Engels
Dustin Essig
Angela Evans
Joseph Fackel
Tionn Fambro
Karren Farmer
Timothy Feeney
Stephen Fieweger
Jay Filler Jr.
Jeffrey Fisher
Michael Fitzgerald
Aileen Flanagan
Gary Flanders
Mark Flannery
Michael Fleming
Richard Foreman
William Franks
Barbara Frantz
Michael Fritz
Eric Frosh
Jacob Frost
Kathleen Fuhrmann
J. Harrison Fulk
Kim Fuller
Lori Fulton
Michael Funkey
Brian Gabor
John Gaffney
Sergio Galindo
Aaron Galloway
Michael Galvin
Ryan Gammelgard
David Ganfield II
Jesus Garcia-Briales
James Garrison
Brian Garwood
Timothy Gatz
Gary Gearhart
Michelle Gehris
Robert Geiger
Daniel Gerber
William Gerber
Peggy Gerkin
Frank Giampoli
Ellen Gibson
David Giesinger
Doug Gift
John Gilbert
Joseph Gilfillan
Carl Gilmore
Jim Ginzkey
Kelly R. Giraudo
Kristin Givens
Steven Glancy
Deborah Goldberg
Loren Golden
Lillian Gonzalez
Gary Gooding
Michael Gorcowski
Randy Gordon
Grant Gorman
Carrie Gorup
Gabrielle Gosselin
Thomas Gosselin
Edward Graham
Steve Greeley
Jay Greening
Lawrence Gregory
William Gregory
Thad Gruchot
Matthew Gubbins
Carrie Haas
LaTosha Hall
Dawn Hallsten
Michael Halpin
George Hampilos
Jason Han
Ronald Hanna
Marissa Hanson
Rebecca Hanson
Theresa Hardesty
Daniel Hardin
Debbie Harper
Holly Harris
John Harris
Patricia Harris
Daniel Harrod
Sam Harrod
Brian Hart
Joan Hartrop
Stephen Haugh
Mark Heimsoth
Jeremy Heiple
Angela Henderson
Mike Henneberry
Joshua Herman
Brian Hiatt
Ann Hill
Carol Hill
Robert Hills
Nathan Hinch
Kenneth Hoch
Frank Hoffman
Judy Hogan
Christopher Hollingsworth
William Holman
Vicki Hoogervorst
William Hotopp
David House
Timothy Howard
Laura Hunt
Daniel Huntley
Otto Hurtado
Boyd Ingemunson
Alicia Ivy
Stephen Jacobs
Carolyn Jansons
Robert Jennetten
James Jensen
Nickolas Jerde
Gary Johnson
Heather Johnson
Jennifer Johnson
Mark Johnson
Randy Johnson
John Julian
Heidi Jund
David A. (Andy) June
Ford C. (Chet) June III
Mary Kanaly
Kevin Kane
Christopher Kanthak
Jim Keely
Bill Keene
Roger Kellerman
Victoria Kelly
Casey Kepple
David Kerpel
Alex Ketay
Monica Kim
Jennifer Kincaid
William King
Patrick Kinnally
Alfred Kirkland Jr.
Elizabeth Klahn
Kimberly Klein
Robert Klein
Daniel Klenke
Richard Kohn
Peter Komon
Anita Kopko
Scott Kording
Douglas Koth
Kathleen Kraft McDonald
Michael Kraft
Jeffrey Krasner
Stephen Krentz
Jeff Krumpe
continued from page 5

Ed Kuleck
Denise Kuzniewski
Rebecca Lamm
Dawn Landwehr
Curtis Lane
R. James Lannon
Van Larson
Tom Laughlin
Karen Lavin
David Layfer
James Leahy
James LeFante
G. Timothy Leighton
Philip Lengle
Robert Lenz
Jeff Lindsay
Brigette Lobacz
Lawrence Lobb
Lee Lockwood
Susan Lonergan
Adam Long
Chad Long
Gary Lothson
Joseph Lovelace
Elizabeth Lovig
Kevin Lowe
Paula Lundberg
Ronald Lundeen
Brian Lutz
Peter Lynch
Angela P. Madison
James Magee
Steven Mahrt
William Mahrt
Matthew Majernik
Rita Maldonado
Laura Malinowski
Michelle Mancias
Chris Marder
Kelsey Marquard
Brett Marshall
Tamara Marshall
Cecile Martin
Desiree Martin
Cynthia Matre
Wendy Maulson
Dirk May
Eric May
Teresa McAdams
Ambrose McCall
Joseph McCarron
Don McClarey
Thomas McClure
Thomas McConnaughay
Deborah McCoy
Amy McFarland
Laura McGarragan
Melissa McGrath
Christy Meredith
Michael Mersot
Rita Mertel
Magen Mertes
Dana Meyer
Amber Mikula
Tina Miller
Todd Miller
Morgan Milner
Louis Milot
Daniel Mintz
Laura Miroballi
Jamie Mitchell
Thomas Moens
Cathy Molchin
Mark Monaco
David Moore
Jennifer Morris
David Morrison
Michelle Mosby-Scott
George Mueller
John Muir
Robert Muir
William Mullen
G. Edward Murphy
Heena Musabji
J. Sue Myatt
Jaime Myers
F. Jack Nathan
Charles Nave
Jesus Negron
Robert Neirynck
Oliver Nelson
Steven Nelson
Hope Nickel
Nathaniel Nieman
Karla Niemann
Kristin Nieminski
Raymond Nolasco
Rodney Nordstrom
Michael Nordwall
Kimberly Norton
Alan Novick
Lisa Nyuli
Daniel O'Connell
Helen Ogar
Roman Okrei
Joseph Olsen
Darin Osmond
Sabrina Ostrom
Adrienne Packard
Larry Paluska
Sandra Parga
Michael Parish
Damon Park
Robert Park
Robert Parker
Lindsay Parkhurst
Paul Patricoski
Donna Peel
Phyllis Perko
Charles Petersen
Aimee Peterson
Max Peterson
Mary Petrichius
Douglas Phelan
Adrian Phillips
Ann Pieper
Philip Piscopo
Bradley Popurella
Robert Porter
Catherine Pratt
John Pratt
William Pulak
John Pusey
Drew Quittschau
Erika Rahden
Sharbel Rantisi
David Rawlinson
Charles Rea
James Reilly
Mary Helen Reyna
Elizabeth Rice
Cristian Rich
Lon Richey
Gerard Rickert
Marvin Ripley
Denise Risinger
Ennedy Rivera
John Robertson
Jason Rock
Tiffany Rodriguez
E. William Rolley
We strive to make this list complete and accurate. Please let us know of any errors or omissions, and accept our apologies.
MEET PRAIRIE STATE’S PRO BONO COORDINATORS

Lee August
Disability Rights Pro Bono Project

Retired Judge Jim Brusatte
LaSalle, Bureau, Lee, Putnam, and Grundy Counties

Shirley Coers
Peoria, Stark, Tazewell, western Woodford, Marshall, Knox, Warren, Henderson, Fulton, and McDonough Counties

Wendy Crouch
Winnebago, Boone, Carroll, Jo Daviess, Ogle, and Stephenson Counties

Sandra Crow
Peoria, Stark, Tazewell, western Woodford, Marshall, Knox, Warren, Henderson, Fulton, and McDonough Counties

Suzanne Helwich
Will County

Marcy Heston
Kane, Kendall, and DeKalb Counties

Nancy Hinton
Kankakee and Iroquois Counties

Dori Michaels
McHenry County

Cherie Myers
Rock Island, Henry, Mercer, and Whiteside Counties

Susan Perlman
Lake County

Vickie Smith
McLean, Livingston, and eastern Woodford Counties
CELEBRATE PRO BONO WEEK EVENTS

Visit www.pslegal.org/calendar.asp for more information about these events.

Monday, October 20
10th Judicial Circuit Celebrate Pro Bono Reception
5:30pm-7:30pm
Caterpillar Visitor’s Center, 110 SW Washington Street, Peoria

Tuesday, October 21
“Thanks a Latte” Coffee and Breakfast Bar
8:00am-10:00am
Kane County Law Library & Self Help Legal Center, 37W777 Illinois 38, St. Charles, IL
Sponsored by the Kane County Bar Association Access to Legal Services Committee

Celebrate Pro Bono Coffee and Snack Bar
8:00am-4:00pm
McHenry County Courthouse Lawyers’ Lounge, 2200 N. Seminary Avenue, Woodstock
Enter to win a free Kindle!

Wednesday, October 22
Celebrate Pro Bono Coffee and Snack Bar
8:00am-4:00pm
McHenry County Courthouse Lawyers’ Lounge, 2200 N. Seminary Avenue, Woodstock
Enter to win a free Kindle!

Thursday, October 23
Celebrate Pro Bono Coffee and Snack Bar
8:00am-4:00pm
McHenry County Courthouse Lawyers’ Lounge, 2200 N. Seminary Avenue, Woodstock
Enter to win a free Kindle!

4th Annual Celebrate Pro Bono Week CLE
1:00pm-4:30pm
Kankakee Public Library, 201 E. Merchant Street, Kankakee
Participants will receive 2 hours of general and 1 hour of professionalism MCLE credit

Friday, October 24
ISBA Pro Bono Palooza CLE: Family Law, Employment Law, and Ethics
9:00am-4:30pm
Provena St. Joseph Medical Center, 333 N. Madison, Joliet
Participants will receive 4.5 hours of general and 1.5 hours of professionalism MCLE credit (subject to approval)
Sponsored by the ISBA’s Delivery of Legal Services Committee

Family Law Basics for Pro Se Litigants
Taught by volunteer attorneys from Walgreens’ Corporate Legal Department
9:30am-11:00am
Lake County Sheriff’s Department, 25 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., Waukegan

Eviction Courthouse Project Volunteer Training
1:30pm-3:30pm
Rock Island County Justice Center, 1317 Third Avenue, Rock Island
Participants will receive 2 hours of general MCLE credit
PRAIRIE STATE LEGAL SERVICES

Administrative Office
303 N. Main Street, Suite 600
Rockford, IL 61101
Phone: 815-965-2134
www.pslegal.org

Prairie State Legal Services, Inc. is a non-profit law firm that provides free civil legal aid to low-income persons and seniors. Prairie State has 12 offices serving 36 counties in northern and central Illinois.

LOCAL OFFICES

Bloomington
Serving McLean, Livingston, and eastern Woodford Counties
309.827.5021

Fox Valley
Serving Kane, Kendall, and DeKalb Counties
630.232.9415

Galesburg
Serving Knox, Warren, Henderson, Fulton, and McDonough Counties
309.343.2141

Joliet
Serving Will County
815.727.5123

Kankakee
Serving Kankakee and Iroquois Counties
815.935.2750

McHenry
Serving McHenry County
815.344.9113

Ottawa
Serving LaSalle, Bureau, Lee, Putnam, and Grundy Counties
815.434.5903

Peoria
Serving Peoria, Stark, Tazewell, western Woodford, and Marshall Counties
309.674.9831

Rockford
Serving Winnebago, Boone, Carroll, Jo Daviess, Ogle, and Stephenson Counties
815.965.2902

Rock Island
Serving Rock Island, Henry, Mercer, and Whiteside Counties
309.794.1328

Waukegan
Serving Lake County
847.662.6925

Wheaton
Serving DuPage County
630.690.2130

UPCOMING PRO BONO TRAININGS

Visit www.pslegal.org/calendar.asp for more information about these events.

Confidentiality in a Small Firm Setting
Thursday, November 13, 11:45am-1:30pm, $25 (includes lunch)
Prairie State Legal Services, 303 N. Main Street, Suite 600, Rockford
Participants will receive 1.5 hours of professionalism MCLE credit (subject to approval)
Register at http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=ohnhqucdab&oeidk=a07e9vhkdrd27c6a363

Adult Guardianship Training and Pro Bono Clinic
Saturday, November 15, 9:00am-1:00pm, FREE
Administer Justice, 1750 Grandstand Place,#15, Elgin
Participants will receive 2 hours of general MCLE credit (subject to approval)
To register, contact Marcy Heston at mheston@pslegal.org or 630-232-9415

How To Do A Simple Divorce
Tuesday, November 18, noon-1:30pm, FREE
Lake County Sheriff’s Department, 25 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., Waukegan
Participants will receive 1.25 hours of general MCLE credit
To register, contact Susan Perlman at sperlman@pslegal.org or 224-321-5612

Thursday, December 4, 3:30pm-4:30pm, FREE
Via webinar
Participants will receive 1 hour of general MCLE credit
Register at https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/256543422