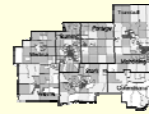


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Pro Bono: Professionalism in the Legal Profession

Jennifer van Dulmen

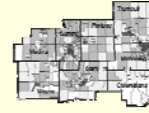
**Managing Attorney
Community Legal Aid**



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Agenda

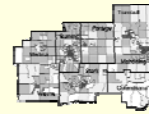
- Views of our Legal System
- Pro Bono: Upholding the Ideals of our Justice System
- Pro Bono Opportunities in Summit County



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Fairness and Equality

How do we uphold the ideals of the legal profession?

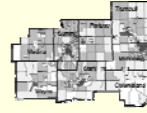


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The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly

1. TV and Movie Portrayals
2. Lawyer Jokes and Cartoons
3. Money, Politics, the Legal System
4. The Real Justice System

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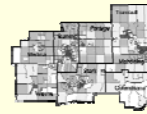
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Famous Trials

- Money, fame, and power... can you buy your way to fair?
 - Rodney King Trials (1992)
 - OJ Simpson Trial (1995)
 - JonBenet Ramsey (1999)
 - Michael Jackson (2005)
 - Casey Anthony (2011)
 - George Zimmermann -Trayvon Martin (2012)

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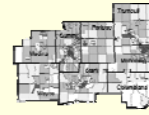


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TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD (1962)



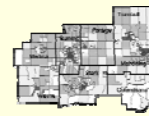
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What is a Photocopier?

OP Ed in the New York Times

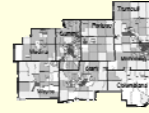


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Issues in our Legal System

- Race and Justice
 - Drug laws – Cocaine vs. Crack in the 80's
 - Prison populations
 - Racial profiling vs. the Black Lives Matter movement
 - Red-Lining - financial, educational, and social effects
 - Public Housing - NIMBY – “Show Me a Hero” HBO Mini-Series

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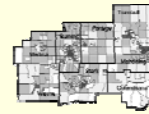
Issues in our Legal System

■ Economic Justice

- Criminal right to an attorney vs. “Civil Gideon”
 - 40% of low income people will have a legal need this year
- Court appointed attorney vs. hired counsel
- The poor and underserved communities are denied access to justice
- Emergence of the pro se litigant
- Emergence of Legalzoom.com
- Big banks and the foreclosure crisis – Who went to jail?
- Payday lending and other predatory practices

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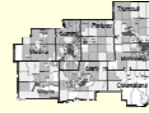
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Who/What Guides the Legal Field?

- The Supreme Court of Ohio
- The American Bar Association, The Ohio State Bar Association, Local Bar Associations
- The Ohio Constitution and ORC
- The Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct
- The MPRE (Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam)
- The Ohio Bar Exam

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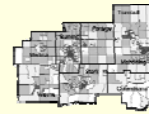


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One of our greatest opportunities to improve fairness, equality, and justice is to engage in pro bono.

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Reduce Obstacles
Increase Resources



Stabilize Fragile
Budgets



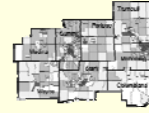
Stabilize
Families



Equalize the Playing
Field

Why is Pro Bono Important?

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Pro Bono Publico

“For the public good”

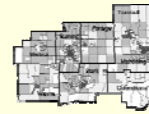
-Latin Translation

“Being or involving uncompensated legal services performed especially for the public good”

-Black’s Law Dictionary

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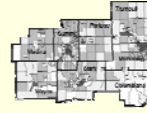
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Pro Bono: A Professional Obligation

- ABA Model Rule 6.1 – Encourages a contribution of fifty pro bono hours per year “without expectation of fee” and primarily to “persons of limited means” or to an organization assisting them. Not adopted in Ohio.
- Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct – Rule 6.5
 - Implications for Limited Service
 - Implications for Conflict
- Voluntary pro bono reporting to Supreme Court

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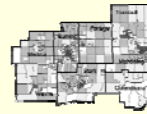
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Pro Bono: A Professional Obligation

- Voluntary pro bono reporting to Supreme Court
- CLE for Pro Bono
- Pro Bono Emeritus Rule

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Why do we need pro bono?

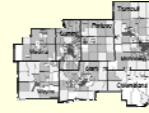
A simple answer.

“[To] maintain a minimum level of basic needs, such as government benefits, income, shelter, utilities, child support and physical protection.”

- American Bar Association

The more complex answer.....

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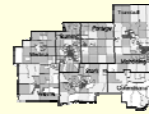


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Poverty Measured in America

1962 “Thrifty Food Basket” concept introduced by a Social Security Administration economist

- Cost of food that would provide minimum amount of nutrition to survive, multiplied by a factor to account for other necessary expenses. The poverty level is adjusted each year using a calculation based upon the Consumer Price Index.



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Federal Poverty Level

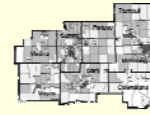
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\$24,300 family of 4 (up \$250 from 2015)

\$11,880 individual (up \$110 from 2015)

Source: US. Department of Health and Human Services

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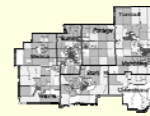
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In Our Community...

- In 2014, 14.8% of U.S. population lived in poverty (slightly down since 2012). The actual number was 46.7 million Americans living below the poverty line. [16% in Ohio / 1.79 million people in Ohio]
- In 2014, 18% of American children live in poverty (21.8% in 2012).
- Nearly 49 million Americans live in food insecure households. Food insecurity—the limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe food. 1 in 5 kids (16 million) are not getting the food they need.
- In Summit County, over 83,035 people (15%) received an average of \$127/month in food stamps (July 2015).

Community *Statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau, NoKidHungry.org, and Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
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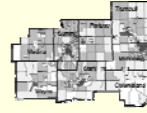
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	Summit	Stark	Mahoning
Unemployment Rate (August 2015)	4.3%	4.4%	5.2%
Received food stamps/ SNAP in July 2015	14.72%	14.24%	19.41%
Received OWF July 2015	0.89%	0.89%	2.12%
Families below poverty level	7.5%	6.8%	9.6%
High School Graduation Rate (4 year)	78.4% F	74.8% F	69.2% F
K-3 Literacy	39.6% D	40.3% D	48.7% C

Sources: Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and Ohio Department of Education

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The Pro Bono Program

Access to Justice

Pro Bono HelpLine
Estate Planning Clinics
Advice Clinics

Building Strong and Healthy Families

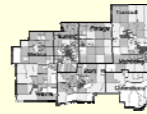
Reduced Fee Divorce Program
Legal Assistance to Victims
Pro Se Divorce Clinics
Pro Se Custody Clinics
Fatherhood Initiative
Equal Education
Medical Legal Partnership

Meeting Basic Needs

Jerome L. Holub Pro Bono Bankruptcy Program
Peace of Mind Clinics
Consumer Protection Clinics
University of Akron Clinics

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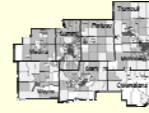
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What to Expect

- A Meaningful Opportunity to Make a Difference
- Malpractice Coverage
- Free CLE Training
- CLE for Pro Bono Service
- Case Support
- Impact Analysis
- Volunteer Recognition and Appreciation

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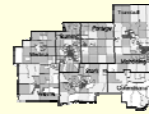
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How Can You get Involved?

- Complete the Volunteer Application in your folder
- Call VLSP at 330-983-2531
- Financially support VLSP/CLAS

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GET INVOLVED TODAY



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