

PRO BONO VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Julie Z. Devine is an experienced attorney having practiced in St. Louis for more than 18 years. As an attorney at Lashly & Baer, P.C., she brings her extensive experience in all areas of litigation and employment counseling for employers in various industries.



Julie Z. Devine
Attorney
Lashly & Baer, P.C.

fellow attorneys to participate. The program has significantly increased participation levels each year since she became involved.

“We are lucky to have such a talented attorney who shares her knowledge to support the community but is also a champion among her peers, encouraging and motivating them to increase their commitment,” said Lisa O. Stump, president of Lashly & Baer, P.C.

Even with a busy practice, Devine has taken on a leadership role to support Lashly & Baer’s Pro Bono Pledge. Devine oversees the ongoing tracking, coaching, and encouragement of

Devine regularly provides educational opportunities to professional organizations, nonprofit partners, school districts, and health care providers. She lectures on topics such as intellectual and developmental disabilities, discrimination, mental health, student matters under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the #MeToo movement, and COVID-19.

Devine supports the St. Louis community in many ways, most significantly by sitting on the Board of Directors and by being actively involved with Rainbow Village. Devine stands by its mission to support the needs of people with intellectual/developmental disabilities by providing safe, affordable, and well-maintained neighborhood homes.

“Julie is a tremendous asset to Rainbow Village and a tireless advocate for our residents,” said Joanna Jones-Raymond, director of Development and Community Relations at Rainbow Village.

Devine also is a volunteer lawyer for the Federal Court Legal Advice Clinic and serves on the BAMSL Pro Bono Committee.



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Celebrate Pro Bono – 2020 Pro Bono Week is Oct. 25-31

Every year since 2009, the American Bar Association (ABA) has promoted a week-long celebration of pro bono work throughout the country. Local and regional pro bono organizations host their own celebration events as part of a nationwide effort to highlight the importance and impact of meaningful pro bono legal work.

BAMSL and its Pro Bono Committee have been active participants in the National Celebration of Pro Bono since its inception, and have offered substantive pro bono-related CLE sessions, legal clinics and recognition events over the past 10 years to further the goals of the celebration week. These events have come together with incredible support of pro bono providers and partners, like the Washington University and Saint Louis University Schools of Law, Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, St. Francis Community Services (CLAM), Arch City Defenders, the MICA Project, the Missouri State Public Defender System and a host of other incredible organizations.

The ABA is again promoting the Celebration Week in 2020 from Oct. 25-31. There is a national theme this year, “Rising to Meet the Challenge: Pro Bono Responds to COVID-19.” Like every year, BAMSL

and its Pro Bono Committee will be taking the lead in planning and supporting our region’s involvement in this important event.

We will again be offering substantive training opportunities related to critical areas of need, including housing and related issues. These sessions will almost certainly be virtual and will focus on legal issues resulting from COVID-19 and the economic devastation it has caused in our communities. The sessions will be topical and will address the existing law, but also the new procedures and practices necessary in this pandemic time.

Further details about these different Celebration events will follow in the next few weeks, so please read your weekly BAMSL Legal Pulse e-news and BAMSL’s social media platforms for more details as they develop.

For the incredible number of you already providing meaningful pro bono service, thank you. Your work is more important now than ever. We hope that all of you contribute your time and expertise, and participate in BAMSL’s Pro Bono Celebration.