



## Marquette Volunteer Legal Clinics

### Another welcome to Stephanie Tapia

Stephanie Tapia is again expanding her role with the Marquette Law School's Office of Public Service. Nearly three years ago as a freshman, Stephanie was introduced to the MVLC through Marquette's Service Learning Program. For two semesters, Stephanie did intake for the United Community Center and helped with the Family Forms Clinic in the Milwaukee Justice Center. Subsequently, Stephanie worked for the Office of Public Service in a variety of roles—employee, driver, interpreter, volunteer. Now she is helping us out (again!) during Mindy's maternity leave.

Next fall, Stephanie is going to graduate school for Translation and Interpretation so she can become a court interpreter. Stephanie said about the MVLC "Being a part of the MVLC has been a continuous learning experience and a blessing." The feeling is definitely mutual. Outside of the clinic, Stephanie likes to spend time with family, workout, try new restaurants, and be creative with DIY projects. Welcome again to Stephanie!

### Congratulations to JJ Moore!

Congratulations to JJ Moore, the recipient of this year's Milwaukee Bar Association *Pro Bono Publico* Award. To date, JJ has logged over 700 hours of pro bono during his time at Marquette Law School – and he still has all year to go before graduation! JJ is a second-year member of the MVLC Student Advisory Board and is one of the student coordinators this semester at the House of Peace. Congratulations to JJ on a well-deserved award honoring his service to the Milwaukee community.



### Updated Client Intake Forms

You will notice that our client intake forms look a bit different. Law student: thanks for taking the time to read these new forms and fill them out completely. Lawyers: thanks for taking a moment to help the student make sure the type of legal question and advice provided are accurately recorded.

### Save the Date

October 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:10 PM: **Brown Bag CLE Presentation** entitled **Surviving Domestic Violence and Navigating the Law**. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

October 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM and 1:00 to 3:00 PM: **Project Homeless Connect**. Join us to volunteer at our brief legal advice clinic at this annual event held on Marquette's campus. Email [Kathryn.Mertz@marquette.edu](mailto:Kathryn.Mertz@marquette.edu) if you are interested in volunteering.

October 24<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM: **Coalition on Access to Legal Resources Meeting**. Join other civil legal service providers for this annual gathering at Marquette Law School to celebrate National Pro Bono week and hear an update from the Wisconsin Access to Justice Commission. RSVP to [Stephanie.Tapia@marquette.edu](mailto:Stephanie.Tapia@marquette.edu).

October 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM: **Milwaukee Bar Association Pro Bono Cocktail Reception**. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

November 9<sup>th</sup> at 12:10 PM: **Brown Bag CLE Presentation** entitled **Quit Quitclaiming**. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

### Volunteer Attorney Spotlight



Attorney Ed Sarskas is a partner with the law firm Michael Best & Friedrich in a practice in commercial litigation focused on intellectual property. Ed has been volunteering for a number of years with the MVLC and is the

pro bono coordinator for his firm. "All volunteers should understand that when they go to volunteer, they have an opportunity to make a positive impact on everyone they encounter including other volunteers, whether it be in conversations during the car ride over or in passing while waiting for clients. We have an opportunity to encourage each other and should never shy away from taking full advantage of that opportunity. I appreciate that aspect of volunteering. Together we can make a difference and inspire one another in the process." For the full interview, visit our website [here](#).

### Student Advisory Board Spotlight



SAB Member Olivia Garman just started her second year at Marquette Law School. Originally from Bettendorf, Iowa, Olivia majored in Anthropology at Marquette University and was part of the 3+3 Pre-Law Scholars track

allowing her to enter law school a year early. After law school, she plans to practice criminal law. Olivia has volunteered at the MJC and VSO locations of the MVLC and is excited about being the SAB member for the VSO this semester. She loves all cats and hopes to one day be a cat lady. Olivia enjoys IKEA cinnamon rolls and Cheezits.



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### PRAISE FOR VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY, SONYA BICE, & LAW STUDENT, NICOLE MULLER:

"We were very pleasantly surprised with the amount of help and direction we received from Sonya. She is extremely passionate and gave us her undivided attention for a full hour. Thanks to Sonya and Nicole, we are much more confident about moving forward in pursuit of money that we feel is rightfully ours!

We will definitely recommend your services to family and friends. Thank you!"

- House of Peace Clinic client

## Loans for Immigration Documents

Mitchell Bank is offering DACA recipients a loan of \$495 to cover the filing fee associated with renewal requests. Current DACA recipients have the opportunity to file a renewal request and extend DACA status and authorization if the individual's current status will expire any time prior to March 5, 2018. The renewal request must be filed by October 5, 2017. Interested individuals should stop by Mitchell Bank at 1039 W. Mitchell Street or call at (414) 645-0600 for more information.

## Proof of Food Share for Fee Waivers



Showing proof of Food Share is the quickest and easiest way to have a Petition for Waiver of Fees and Costs approved. The law library at the courthouse will assist people to print the necessary Food Share verification ONLY IF THEY HAVE THEIR FOOD SHARE CARD WITH THEM. Please instruct clients who will be requesting a fee waiver to bring their Food Share card (a.k.a. Quest Card) to the courthouse library.

Better yet, ask the client if they have their most recent benefits statement (see example to the left), something recipients receive in the mail each month. This is the proof required for approval by the Chief Judge's staff who considers these requests in Room 609. If they have this, they can skip the law library all together.

We are upgrading our volunteer database. While we re-structure and clean up our data, we might have a few ugly things happen. For example, last week an incorrect auto-reminder was emailed to 32 people. Thanks for your patience while we sort everything out. At the end of the day, we will all benefit from a better, more user-friendly system.

