Marquette Volunteer Legal Clinics, includes the Mobile Legal Clinic & the Family Law Advice Clinic. Work one-on-one alongside a volunteer attorney to provide brief legal advice and referrals to unrepresented litigants on a wide range of civil legal matters. Law students explain the limits of the clinic to each client, help frame the legal issue presented, conduct legal research, help prepare legal forms and other documents, maintain the client file, prepare a written summary of next steps for the client while developing professional relationships with the hundreds of volunteer lawyers committed to the MVLCS. Students are scheduled for 2.5-hour shifts, usually every other week. Next Training Session: Tuesday, January 21, 12-1:15PM, Room TBD

Legal Advice Clinic.

Advice Clinic. provides pro bono legal advice and representation to unrepresented litigants at the Milwaukee Justice Center. While there are no formal hours for this clinic, students work one-on-one with a client, under attorney supervision, and learn how to identify the procedure required to help a client meet their goal. Client interviewing skills are central to all types of lawyering and is a skill honed at the MJC. Students interact with circuit court civil procedures ranging from jurisdictional issues to service of process to new matters. Students are scheduled for 1.5 to 2-hour shifts each week. Next Training Session: Friday, January 24, 12-1:15PM, Room TBD

Domestic Violence Injunction Hearings Project.

Conduct client interviews by phone and prepare a written report for a volunteer lawyer who will represent the client in a domestic violence injunction hearing. Learn key questions to ask when preparing a witness and how to gather information beyond what is already contained in a client’s petition for the temporary injunction. Work with the client to identify and gather available evidence. Determine whether the opposing party has been served, whether police reports are available, and if court records contain relevant historical information about either party. Students generally receive a monthly referral and work on their own time (2-4 hours). Next Training Session: Wednesday, January 29, 12-1:15PM, Room TBD

Eviction Defense Project.

Law students and volunteer lawyers work together to respond to Milwaukee’s eviction crisis. Over 14,000 eviction actions were filed in Milwaukee in 2017. In eviction court, most people being evicted do not appear because they do not have a lawyer and, prior to the Eviction Defense Project’s creation in 2016, Legal Action of Wisconsin could help only about 3% of people being evicted. Most landlords have experience in court or have someone representing them. Learn defenses to eviction, determine if a negotiated stipulation is possible, and watch the case resolution before a court commissioner or judge. Students are scheduled for 2.5-hour shifts, usually every other week. Next Training Session: Tuesday, January 21, 12-1:15PM, Room TBD

Legal Action of Wisconsin Student Legal Aid Project.

Expungement, Driver’s License, and Consumer/Bankruptcy Clinics where law students and volunteer lawyers work together to help students remove barriers to graduation and gainful employment. During office hours, law students will meet with clients, conduct intakes, research and investigate issues, draft motions and affidavits from shells, and perform other client services under attorney supervision. Gain experience working directly with clients, researching various court and agency records, and learning substantive law in the areas of criminal records, driver’s license, and bankruptcy. Students are scheduled for 2 to 3-hour shifts, usually every other week. Next Training Session: Tuesday, January 28, Noon-1:15PM, Room TBD

Estate Planning Clinic.

Law students and volunteer lawyers pair up to prepare an estate plan for the client that includes power of attorney documents for health care and finances, a living will, and a will. Helping a client through these processes when they are healthy means later avoidance of court proceedings for guardianship and heirs’ questions about asset distribution. Students are scheduled for 2.5-hour shifts, 1.2 shifts per month, and have about 1.5 hours of preparation work to complete on their own time before the assigned shift. Next Training Session: Wednesday, January 22, 12-1:15PM, Room TBD

Consumer Rights Clinic.

Law students and volunteer lawyers work together at this community based legal clinic for people who have unresolved debt issues, have frequent contact with debt collectors, or are considering bankruptcy as a debt solution. Law students work with clients to draft “Do Not Contact” letters to creditors and help evaluate a client’s eligibility for bankruptcy. Students learn about consumer rights related to debt collection and issues such as car repossession and small claims cases. This clinic operates from 3:00-5:00 PM the third Tuesday each month. Training for this clinic takes place on-the-job.

Parenting Conferences, Alternative Dispute Resolution.

For volunteers with at least one semester of MJC Forms experience. Work with parents hoping to reach an agreement on issues of child support, custody, placement, and more. When a resolution is reached, the law student prepares a stipulation reflecting the terms of the agreement under supervision of a volunteer lawyer. Students are scheduled for a 1.5-hour shift every other week. Training to be scheduled with selected volunteers.

Expungement and Pardons Clinic.

Work alongside volunteer criminal defense attorneys to help clients through the process of applying to remove convictions from records in an attempt to increase employment opportunities, safe, sustainable housing, and pursue educational advancements. Learn how to interpret Criminal Information Bureau (CIB) reports. Students are scheduled for 2.5 hour shifts each month. Training will take place on-site.

Bankruptcy Help Desk.

Join volunteer attorneys to assist Chapter 7 debtors and those considering filing Chapter 7 bankruptcy with the required paperwork. Students learn the basic analysis involved in determining eligibility for Chapter 7 filings and possible alternatives to debt relief. Students are usually scheduled for 1.5-hour shifts, every other week. Training for this clinic is online.

Guardianship Clinic.

Assist the parents of an adolescent with a significant disability in need of a court-appointed guardian as they approach adulthood. Students work directly with a volunteer attorney from Quarles & Brady to complete the required court pleadings in this form-intensive process. A guardianship practice is a natural accomplishment to estate planning work. Approximately 5-hours of work per referral.

IP Brief Advice Clinic.

Work alongside attorneys from Foley & Lardner to provide pro bono advice about intellectual property issues to inventors. This clinic takes place at the Milwaukee Public Library on the last Thursday from 2:45-5PM. Training will take place on-site.

Voter Registration Project.

Assist in registering voters across Milwaukee County at the Milwaukee Justice Center. While clients sit patiently in the waiting room, immerse them in a lively, non-partisan discussion on civic engagement and the importance of voting. This clinic primarily offers experience in election law; including Wisconsin’s residency and ID requirements as well as the state’s position on felon disenfranchisement and the barriers facing many people hoping to vote. Students will be scheduled in shifts between 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Monday-Friday; limited spots are available from 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. on Thursdays. Training for this clinic takes place on-the-job.

Pro Bono Opportunities for Law Students – Spring 2020
Learn more at the Pro Bono Lunch on Wednesday, January 15th, Noon-1:15PM. Sign up for projects online at [https://mulaw.wufoo.com/forms/pro-bono-project-scheduling-spring-2020/](https://mulaw.wufoo.com/forms/pro-bono-project-scheduling-spring-2020/)

What works for you? [1L, Section 1, Scoville, Idelman, Ellis] [1L, Section 2, Boyden, Oldfather, Madry] [1L, Section 3, Parness, Fallone, Murray] [2Ls, 3Ls, & P/T students, please prioritize these shifts]

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Projects on Your Schedule

- Domestic Violence Project: 1 referral per semester, 45 hours per referral
- Guardianship Clinic: 1 referral per semester, 5 hours per referral

**Project with Varied Schedule:**

- Mobile Legal Clinic***, Voter Registration Project*

**KEY:**  *Walking Distance **Shuttle Transportation Provided ***Transportation not provided. Plan to drive, carpool, or Uber/Lyft.
- Prior Experience w/ Project Required
- Spanish-speaking volunteers needed here

Starting March 2020

2-hour shifts available between 8:45AM-4PM Mobile Legal Clinic ***

* KEY:  *
- Walking Distance  
- Shuttle Transportation Provided  
- Transportation not provided. Plan to drive, carpool, or Uber/Lyft.
- Prior Experience w/ Project Required
- Spanish-speaking volunteers needed here