



Legal Assistance of Dakota County, Ltd.

2007 Volunteer Attorney Program News

Volunteer Attorneys Raise the Bar!

Our sincere thanks to everyone who responded to our volunteer recruitment efforts in 2006.

Whether you personally stepped up to the plate or encouraged your colleagues to join our program, you helped LADC make great strides this year. We are pleased to report that you:

- doubled the numbers of volunteer attorneys in our program,
- increased the number of clients receiving representation from a volunteer attorney by 25%,
- shortened the wait time for representation to less than three months, and
- increased the number of self-help sessions at the Dakota County Family Law Self Help Center by 44%.

Thank you!

Volunteer Attorney Llewellyn “Lew” Linde Receives Award

Lew Linde proudly received the **3rd Annual First Judicial District Pro Bono Award**. A reception in Lew’s honor was held at the law offices of **Jagow, Meinerts, Grove & Valentine**, who are also dedicated attorneys with our Volunteer Attorney Program. The **Honorable Paul Anderson** and the **Honorable Richard G. Spicer** were on hand to present the award, along with the **Honorable Joseph T. Carter** and the **Honorable Michael R. Savre**. Thanks to all who joined us in recognizing Lew’s service!

Lew Linde began practicing law in Minnesota in 1960 and since then was a dedicated and active volunteer

with a variety of programs. Over the past six years, during his retirement, Lew has been an invaluable volunteer at LADC. He has consistently exceeded our expectations by taking fifteen to twenty pro bono cases per year.

This is a great honor for a deserving volunteer as the Pro Bono Award is given to volunteer attorneys who devote significant time and attention to the development and delivery of legal services



Judge Carter, Lew Linde,
Judge Spicer & Justice Anderson

to low income residents of Minnesota. Lew Linde exemplifies this commitment to aiding those in need of pro bono legal services.

CLE Credits for Pro Bono Activity

The Minnesota State Bar Association will be petitioning the Minnesota Supreme Court to revise Rule 6 (Special Categories of Credit) of the Rules of the Minnesota State Board of Continuing Legal Education to include limited continuing legal education credit for pro bono legal services.

If the Supreme Court adopts this rule, an attorney may receive a limited number of CLE credits for pro bono

legal services, up to a total of six CLE credits within a three-year reporting period.

This rule change recognizes the pressing need for lawyers to provide pro bono legal services in Minnesota.

The rule change fulfills the educational and professional development purposes of CLE through exposure to and participation in new areas of the law, development of existing skills in pro bono

matters, and contact with new cultures and communities that will shape the individual lawyer’s understanding of access to justice.

If the Supreme Court approves the rule change, as a pro bono attorney through Legal Assistance of Dakota County, you would be eligible to receive these CLE credits.

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Two Ways to Volunteer

1 Take a **full-representation case** on a volunteer basis. You always have the option of rejecting a case if your schedule does not permit. We hope volunteers will accept one to two cases per year. Cases are available in a variety of legal areas with a primary emphasis in family law; family law is the most needed area of representation for low-income people.

2 Provide information at **Dakota County Family Law Self Help Center**. This all-volunteer staffed self-help center, allows pro se litigants with family law problems an opportunity to talk for 30 minutes with an attorney. Each session is a total of three hours, and there are several sessions each month at three locations: Apple Valley, West St. Paul, and Hastings. As a volunteer, we hope that you will take at least two sessions per year.

In addition to the personal benefit you receive from contributing to your profession and community, there are also tangible benefits to volunteer service with LADC. We award one or two **scholarships to the Family Law Institute every year**, and all of our volunteers have access to **ProJusticeMN.org**, our **malpractice insurance**, and **reduced tuition to the Minnesota Legal Services Coalition CLE programs**. You also receive a **free listing in the Dakota County Bar Association Attorney Referral Service**.

Cheers!

This year the efforts of our **volunteer attorneys** along with the **Dakota County Bar Association**, **Dakota County Law Library**, and **Dakota County District Court**, were recognized by the PS&R Division of Dakota County. Collaborators received a "**Spreading the Cheer**" award, recognizing the dedication and support that makes the **Dakota County Family Court Self Help Center** not only possible, but also a collaborative success. Congratulations to all involved. Cheers!



Sara Galligan & Suzanne Grossman (back row)
Jenny Ryan, Karissa Richardson, Ann Hill & Lew Linde (front row)