

Share your bankruptcy knowledge and Come volunteer with us at the

Bankruptcy Assistance Desk

Located at the Dirksen Federal Building 219 S. Dearborn St. 6th Floor, Chicago

Volunteers assist with preparing forms and answering questions about general bankruptcy law or the client's case in particular.

- Time Commitment: 3¹/₂ hour shift with a minimum of six shifts per year.
- •Qualifications: One year of experience practicing bankruptcy law and be an attorney in good standing in Illinois.
- **Training & Benefits:** Complete a 90-minute online training that can be done at the volunteer's home or office. LAF attorneys are available for assistance and support.

If interested or to learn more, please register at <u>www.lafchicago.org/volunteer</u>

LAF provides people living in poverty with comprehensive free civil legal aid. We make equal justice a reality in metropolitan Chicago and break the cycle of poverty.

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You can help make the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois more accessible and understandable to pro se parties, debtors, and creditors by staffing the court's bankruptcy assistance desk at the Dirksen Federal Courthouse.

What is it? Volunteer attorneys who staff the desk offer free bankruptcy advice to parties without lawyers at the Bankruptcy Assistance Desk located at Chicago's federal courthouse. The desk is supported by the bankruptcy court, LAF (Legal Assistance Foundation), and The Chicago Bar Foundation.

Why the need? People in need of help are forced to navigate a complex and often baffling legal process alone.

What will I do? Volunteer answer general questions about bankruptcy law and counsel clients on their cases. They also help clients prepare forms.

Will there be training? Yes. Before seeing clients, you will have access to an online training relevant to from LAF attorneys on common consumer bankruptcy issues and on the relevant Rules of Professional Responsibility. In addition, an experienced lawyer will be available to answer questions and provide support to volunteers during shifts.

What's the commitment? Limited. Two volunteer attorneys are scheduled each day and see a total of ten clients. A volunteer's shift typically lasts about three and a half hours. Once the shift is over, the volunteer has no further obligations to the clients seen that day. Volunteers should be willing to take at least one shift every two months.

What experience is necessary? Volunteers should have at least one year of bankruptcy experience and an active law license.

How do I sign up? If interested or to learn more, please register at www.lafchicago.org/volunteer



Equal justice starts here.