

# STATE BAR OF TEXAS

Texas Lawyers Care  
tlcmail@texasbar.com



August 26, 2009

Re: Harris County Emeritus Attorney Pro Bono Indigent Guardianship Project

Dear Attorney:

The *Harris County Emeritus Attorney Pro Bono Indigent Guardianship Project* (Project) is a new, exciting volunteer opportunity. The Project seeks Emeritus Attorneys to handle indigent adult guardianship cases through the Houston Bar Association's Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program (HVLP).

Your name was obtained from the State Bar of Texas' inactive and retired attorney files. Under the Texas Emeritus Attorney Rules, inactive and retired attorneys can return to the practice of law on a pro bono basis without having to activate their licenses.

The Project is a pilot program with the dual goal of recruiting Emeritus Attorneys in Harris County and assisting low-income families and other petitioners in establishing guardianships in uncontested cases. Though a background in guardianship law is not required, such experience is useful.

In accordance with the Texas Emeritus Attorney Rules, all participating attorneys of the Project will be supervised by a licensed Texas attorney who is either an HVLP staff attorney or a volunteer attorney for HVLP. HVLP will assign cases to Emeritus Attorneys and provide them with support. All attorneys will be covered by HVLP's malpractice insurance and will not be expected to bear any out-of-pocket expenses.

HVLP, in conjunction with TexasBarCLE, will offer a free training to describe the Project and provide a substantive review of guardianship law. This one-time, free training is being planned for October 2009. More details will be available soon.

The Project is supported by a grant from the 2009 American Bar Association Enterprise Fund Emeritus Attorney Pro Bono Indigent Guardianship Project and was awarded to Texas Lawyers Care, the pro bono department of the State Bar of Texas, HVLP, the Houston Bar Association and TexasBarCLE.

To find out how you can become an Emeritus Attorney for the Project, please fill out the attached form and return it to Texas Lawyers Care by September 24, 2009. If you have further questions or would like to discuss this with our office, please contact Lisa Villarreal-Rios at 512.427.1859 or [lisa.villarrealrios@texasbar.com](mailto:lisa.villarrealrios@texasbar.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hong Tran Escobar".

Hong Tran Escobar  
Director