

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. 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 seeks volunteer attorneys to mentor Emeritus Attorneys handling indigent, uncontested adult guardianship cases through the Houston Bar Association's Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program (HVLP).

The Project is a pilot program with the dual goal of recruiting volunteer attorneys in Harris County and assisting low-income families and other petitioners in establishing guardianships in uncontested cases. The Project specifically seeks Mentoring Attorneys with a background or interest in guardianship law.

All Emeritus Attorneys in the Project will be mentored by a licensed Texas attorney who is volunteering with HVLP. HVLP will match Mentoring and Emeritus Attorneys and provide them with support. Mentoring and Emeritus 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 CLE for Mentoring and Emeritus Attorneys 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, a non-profit corporation providing pro bono legal services to low-income individuals in Harris County through private bar involvement, the Houston Bar Association and TexasBarCLE.

If you are interested in becoming a Mentoring Attorney for the Project, please fill out the enclosed form and return it by September 24, 2009. If you have further questions, please contact Lisa Villarreal-Rios at 512.427.1859 or lisa.villarrealrios@texasbar.com.

Sincerely,

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

Hong Tran Escobar
Director