

PRO BONO COLLEGE OF THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS



Guidelines for Associate Membership (Paralegals) in the Pro Bono College of the State Bar of Texas

Paralegal Membership in the Pro Bono College

In 2005, the State Bar of Texas created an Associate Membership in the Pro Bono College recognizing the achievements of Texas paralegals in pro bono service. The State Bar encourages paralegals to enroll in the Pro Bono College.

Requirements for Associate Membership (Paralegals)

- Be a member, in good standing, of the State Bar of Texas Paralegal Division
- Performed a minimum of 50 hours of eligible legal assistance activities, under the supervision of a licensed attorney for legal work, during the past year, which are defined as:
 - a) The provision of legal services on behalf of or for the poor, without an expectation of compensation, or at a substantially reduced fee, whether civil or criminal;
 - b) support services without fee, or at a substantially reduced fee, related to simplifying the legal process for, or increasing the availability and quality of legal services to poor persons;
 - c) legal services without fee, or at a substantially reduced fee, rendered to charitable, public interest organizations with respect to matters or projects designed predominantly to address the needs of poor persons;
 - d) legislative, administrative or systems advocacy services without fee, or at a substantially reduced fee, provided on behalf of poor persons; or
 - e) recruiting volunteers for *pro bono* service, drafting articles related to *pro bono* service for publication, and organizing *pro bono* events.
- Complete and submit the Pro Bono College Application for Associate Membership to Texas Lawyers Care (*application on reverse side of this sheet*)

Benefits

- A certificate signed by the State Bar president and the chief justice of the Supreme Court of Texas
- A free one-year subscription to TexasBarCLE's Online Library (\$250 value)
- Recognition at the State Bar Annual Meeting
- The satisfaction of knowing that **you** have utilized the power of your profession to assist those who otherwise would have been denied justice.