STATE BAR OF TEXAS
DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH & ANALYSIS

Volunteer Legal Services to the Poor 2001 Voluntary Reporting
Final Report: October 2002

The following data is taken from the *Volunteer Legal Services to the Poor 2001 Voluntary Reporting Form*, which was included with the *2002 Annual Access to Justice Statement*, mailed in March 2002 to all active attorney members of the Bar.[1]

Total Forms:

Total forms mailed to active attorney Bar members:	69,241
Total forms received:	63,006[2]
Percentage of total forms returned blank:	55.1%
Percentage of total forms returned completed[3]:	44.9%
Percentage of total forms returned with all fields reported as "zero":	8.3%

Completed Forms:

Number of **completed** forms returned:	28,269
Response rate for completed forms (out of **total** forms mailed out):	40.8%
Percentage of completed forms returned with all fields reported as "zero":	18.5%

	Results Excluding Those Leaving Item Blank		
	Legal Services to the Poor Hours (n = 26,216)	**Substantially Reduced Fee Legal Services to the Poor Hours (n = 19,206)**	**Financial Contributions (n = 16,163)**
Percentage reporting any hours or financial contributions	76.5%	57.1%	44.6%
Percentage reporting 50 or more hours	23.4%	21.3%	Not Applicable
Mean hours and dollars reported (including 0 hours)	35 hours	36 hours	$296
Median hours and dollars	20 hours	10 hours	$0
Percentage leaving item blank (based on total forms: n = 63,006)	58.4%	69.5%	74.3%

Pro Bono Reporting among Active Attorney Members, October 1995 through January 2002

	Fourth Annual Reporting 6/95 – 5/96	Fifth Annual Reporting 6/96 – 5/97	Sixth Annual Reporting* 6/97 – 5/98	Seventh Annual Reporting* 6/98 – 5/99	Eighth Annual Reporting* 6/99 – 5/00	Ninth Annual Reporting + 2000	Tenth Annual Reporting + 2001
Total Forms Mailed to Active Attorney Bar Members	60,797	62,468	63,782	64,919	64,556	67,684	69,241
Total Completed Pro Bono Forms	24,407	21,707	13,601	11,214	13,601	26,171	26,216
Percent reporting any hours	80.3%	80.6%	79.3%	79.9%	84.2%	74.9%	76.5%
Percent with 50 or more hours	25.6%	26.8%	29.5%	28.1%	30.5%	20.1%	23.4%
Mean pro bono hours**	40.4	42.0	37.4	39.9	43.1	30.2	35.3
Median pro bono hours**	25.0	25.5	20.5	20.0	20.0	15.0	20.0
Pro Bono Reporting Response Rate* **	40.1%	34.7%	21.3%	17.3%	21.1%	38.7%	37.9%

* Please note that the figures reported (beginning with the "total completed pro bono forms") for the Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Annual Reporting periods include ***only those active attorney State Bar members who returned the Annual Voluntary Reporting form with Legal Services for the Poor filled in*** (including those who entered zero hours for this category). In this table, those reporting only Volunteer Legal Services or Community Service hours are excluded in order to allow some kind of comparison with prior years.

** Includes those reporting 0 hours.

*** Response rate is calculated by dividing the total completed pro bono forms by the total number of forms mailed to active attorney members of the Bar.

\+ Reporting form for 2000 and 2001 no longer included the categories of Volunteer Legal Services or Community Service hours. The form was revised to request information on: Legal Services to the Poor ("free legal services to the poor and free indirect legal services that substantially benefit the poor"), Substantially Reduced Fee Legal Services to the Poor ("legal services provided at a substantially reduced fee that benefit the poor"), and Financial Contributions ("financial contributions and/or actual out-of-pocket expenses related to legal services to the poor"). The figures reported for 2000 and 2001 above are for the category of "Legal Services to the Poor" only.

Profile of Completed Forms 2001:
Volunteer Legal Services to the Poor by Statistical Category[4]

		Percentage of All Completed Forms[5] (n = 28,269)	Legal Services to the Poor Median/ Mean Hours (n = 26,216)		Substantially Reduced Fee Legal Services to the Poor Median/ Mean Hours (n = 19,206)		Financial Contributions Median/Mean Dollars (n = 16,163)	
			Median	**Mean**	**Median**	**Mean**	**Median**	**Mean**
All Respondents			20	35	10	36	$0	$296
Gender	Male	*72%*	20	37	14	39	$0	$348
	Female	*28%*	12	31	0	30	$0	$184
Race/Ethnicity[6]	Caucasian/Anglo	*86%*	18	34	10	34	$0	$307
	African-American/Black	*4%*	20	40	15	40	$10	$259
	Hispanic/Latino	*7%*	20	42	20	49	$0	$292
	Asian/Pacific Islander	*1%*	12	28	0	19	$0	$141
	Native American Indian	*<1%*	20	30	15	65	$0	$224
	Other	*1%*	20	40	10	49	$0	$215
Years Licensed[7]	2 years or less	*12%*	10	26	0	20	$0	$67
	3 to 6 years	*14%*	15	30	0	31	$0	$130
	7 to 10 years	*13%*	18	33	10	36	$0	$199
	11 to 15 years	*14%*	20	36	15	40	$10	$398
	16 to 20 years	*13%*	20	36	15	41	$25	$455
	21 to 25 years	*13%*	20	41	17	39	$50	$390
	Over 25 years	*22%*	20	42	20	43	$35	$423
	Median years licensed	*14 years*						
Age	21 to 25 years	*<1%*	3	14	0	6	$0	$16
	26 to 30 years	*9%*	10	27	0	17	$0	$60
	31 to 35 years	*14%*	12	26	0	26	$0	$140
	36 to 40 years	*13%*	18	34	10	35	$0	$254
	41 to 45 years	*15%*	20	35	10	37	$0	$346
	46 to 50 years	*16%*	20	37	15	41	$25	$425
	51 to 55 years	*14%*	20	39	20	44	$50	$429
	56 to 60 years	*9%*	20	41	20	49	$43	$382
	61 to 65 years	*5%*	21	43	20	45	$25	$544
	over 65 years	*7%*	20	47	12	40	$1	$239
	Median Age	*45 years*						

		Percentage of All Completed Forms[5] (n = 28,269)	Legal Services to the Poor Median/ Mean Hours (n = 26,216)		Substantially Reduced Fee Legal Services to the Poor Median/ Mean Hours (n = 19,206)		Financial Contributions Median/Mean Dollars (n = 16,163)	
			Median	**Mean**	**Median**	**Mean**	**Median**	**Mean**
County Location[8] (in-state only)	Urban	*94%*	20	35	10	36	$0	$309
	Rural	*6%*	30	48	30	57	$25	$302
Primary Occupation[9]	Private Law Practice	*74%*	20	41	20	47	$50	$402
	Government	*8%*	2	24	0	13	$0	$42
	Judiciary	*1%*	0	22	0	6	$0	$88
	Law Faculty	*1%*	15	45	0	12	$88	$175
	House Counsel	*8%*	5	16	0	4	$0	$128
	Other Law Related	*3%*	10	32	0	16	$0	$175
	Other Non-Law Related	*3%*	0	15	0	4	$0	$67
	Retired or Not Working	*2%*	0	22	0	6	$0	$246
	Unemployed: Looking for Work	*1%*	10	34	0	18	$0	$150
	Unemployed: Not Looking for Work	*1%*	0	14	0	5	$0	$155
Law Firm Size[10]	Sole Practitioner	*42%*	25	46	30	62	$65	$346
	2 to 5 attorneys	*25%*	25	45	25	51	$100	$586
	6 to 10 attorneys	*7%*	20	30	15	32	$0	$498
	11 to 24 attorneys	*7%*	18	28	5	23	$0	$471
	25 to 40 attorneys	*3%*	19	35	0	24	$0	$213
	41 to 60 attorneys	*2%*	15	28	0	11	$0	$297
	More than 60 attorneys	*14%*	15	32	0	11	$0	$303
	Median Firm Size	*3 attorneys*						

Endnote:

[1] Note that this form was in the same format as the form mailed in 2001: 1) It was included on the *Annual Access to Justice Statement* that also requested attorneys' IOLTA status; 2) The three categories for which information was requested were: Legal Services to the Poor ("free legal services to the poor and free indirect legal services that substantially benefit the poor"), Substantially Reduced Fee Legal Services to the Poor ("legal services provided at a substantially reduced fee that benefit the poor"), and Financial Contributions ("financial contributions and/or actual out-of-pocket expenses related to legal services to the poor"); and 3) It was accompanied by a letter signed by all of the Supreme Court Justices specifically encouraging attorneys to complete and return the form.

[2] Duplicate records (containing the same barcard number) in the data were reviewed and eliminated.

[3] Included in the population of those who "completed the form" are those who reported zero as the number of volunteer service hours and financial contributions for the reporting period. Not included in this population are those who simply returned the form with all categories left blank (34,737 forms).

[4] The numbers below "(n =)"are inclusive of those who filled in a category with a zero, but exclude those who left it blank.

[5] Some columns may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

[6] Race/ethnicity was known for 95 percent of the active Bar membership in December 2001.

[7] Based on year first licensed in any jurisdiction.

[8] Fifty-eight out of 254 Texas counties are classified by the U.S. Department of Commerce as components of a metropolitan area.

[9] Occupation and law firm size figures are estimates as these demographics are unknown for some attorneys.

[10] Data for firm size is for private practitioners only.

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