

PRO BONO COLLEGE OF THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS



Created in 1992 by the State Bar of Texas, the Pro Bono College recognizes those attorneys who have far exceeded the State Bar's aspirational pro bono goal in their efforts to address the vast unmet legal needs of the poor by providing a significant number of hours of eligible pro bono service during the previous year.

Requirements for Membership:

- A candidate for the PBC can be any attorney in good standing with the State Bar of Texas.
- The attorney must have performed a minimum of 75 hours of eligible legal assistance activities during the past year, which are defined as:
 - the direct provision of legal services to the poor without an expectation of compensation, whether civil or criminal;
 - services without fee related to simplifying the legal process for, or increasing the availability and quality of legal services to, poor persons;
 - legal services without fee rendered to charitable, public interest organizations with respect to matters or projects designed predominantly to address the needs of poor persons; **or**
 - legislative, administrative or systems advocacy services without fee provided on behalf of poor persons.
- The attorney must complete and submit the Pro Bono College form to the Legal Access Department (contact information included below). Please note: No retroactive certificates will be issued beyond a grace period of one year.

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
- Recognition in the State Bar Annual Meeting materials
- A Pro Bono College badge on your texasbar.com profile highlighting your philanthropy towards and hard work on behalf of your fellow Texans
- Reduced tuition at the annual Poverty Law Conference sponsored by Legal Access Division of the State Bar
- Most important, perhaps, is the intangible benefit of knowing **you** have provided access to the legal system for people who otherwise would have been denied justice