

The Difference

News and updates from the Pro Bono Program



Every Thursday from 1-2 you can drop in and hear not only the latest from the Pro Bono Program but a short interview from an alumnae who is a leader in their field and how they incorporate pro bono service into their practice. Plenty of time to exchange ideas and ask questions. And you can eat your lunch while catching up! We will connect on Blackboard Collaborate Ultra! Here is the [link](#)

November Guests

The Honorable Brian Jeffcoat
Lexington County SC. Summary Court

Adam Landy
IRS, Office of the General Counsel,
Senior Attorney
Baltimore, Md.

[386° View](#) (blog)

[WEB](#)

TWEN Pro Bono Opportunities

 @USCLawProBono

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 LinkedIn Group
USCLawProBono



Advocacy for Abused and Neglected Children

You could be that special person who speaks up and gives a neglected or abused child a voice. You could be their advocate. You could be the person to keep them safe and help them heal.

How? Become a Richland County CASA-Court Appointed Special Advocacates They are constantly seeking new volunteers. Not everyone can do this job, it can be frustrating, emotional and yet rewarding. Training, application and background check are all online. You simply need to contact the [Pro Bono Program](#) to get started or for more information!

The arrival of Covid-19 has made many changes but when you enter the USC School of Law building you can be assured that it is clean and safe. Why? Because of the constant attention of the amazing custodial staff! They quietly go about doing this job and you may not even notice them at work. But you know the surfaces are sanitized and safe. Would you like to say thank you? Good. here is an easy way to do that.

Simply take 1 minute and complete this [survey](#)



Open Casting Call!

All law school community members!

Have you gained any new talents or hobbies over the last year? Do you have any passions to share? Do you have pets that simply need to be on camera? Sing, write poetry? Want to be a star?

Here is your chance to show off!

A group of students, in conjunction with the Pro Bono Program is planning the first ever (virtual) Variety Show! The goal is to have a little fun, showcase our community and yes, donations will be accepted. The money raised will be used for ongoing acts of kindness to show our appreciation to the wonderful maintenance staff! They keep our building clean and our world-class facility in shape for us to learn and advance our profession. We want to show our appreciation with tokens of appreciation on a regular basis as a means of thanking them for their hard work. You can make that happen!

This is where you have an opportunity to shine!

The show will be live streamed, and feature short videos submitted by you! All you need to do is film a short video showcasing your passion! This could be a talent, a hobby, a collection or even your pets being adorable! The video can be as long or short as you like and can be filmed on your phone or any other method you have at your disposal. Need an idea? We have ideas- top 10 lists, playing a musical instrument...

Once acts are selected and compiled into a show it will be available to all to see your talent!

Questions or ideas? Contact Michael Crump at: mcrump@email.sc.edu

Thankful!

We are thankful for our Virtual Reading Day volunteers

Zach Ohanesian • Matthew Looper • Christopher Leicht and Gigi • Morgan Boes • Lillian Lawrence • Dante Esposito • Toni Marie Conliffe • Eva Diaz • Danielle Cassells • Renique Robinson • Danielle Robertson • Kristen Soucy



We are thankful for our *SC Bar Prisoner Correspondence* team! Due to their hard work each inmate who writes to the SC Bar receives a response.

Rachel Bryant • Arden Boore • Morgan Boes • Toni Conliffe • Grace Driggers • Matthew Looper • Lillian Lawrence • Marianna McDevitt • Elvira Oviedo • Isabel Sink • Jason Tullos • Mary Williams • Emily Blackshire • Jada Wilson



We are thankful for everyone who donated to the "**Best Class Food Drive**" and a special shout out to our class leaders- *Matthew Hicks, Nicole Pares and Renique Robinson*



We are thankful for the patience of our new Juvenile arbitrators!
Kaiya Trask, Sheniya Marshall, Abigail Gowdy and Parker Manning



Thanks to our Virtual Friday Blitz team! They answered 201 questions posted online by the public. Those who received answers are thankful for the time and knowledge of our team of students and lawyers



Thankful... for those who attended the Power Lunch Hour and to our guest alumni!

We are thankful for every student who takes the time to get engaged in one of the many programs under the umbrella of the Pro Bono Program We may not have mentioned your name- you know who you are but please know

WE THANK YOU!

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Mindfulness Matters.
We all benefit from looking after our mental health.

A Grateful Heart Promotes A Healthy Mind and Body

It's finally Fall in South Carolina. Thanksgiving has become a little lost in the commercial buzz surrounding Halloween and Christmas. However, the importance of family, fellowship, and gratefulness has not been forgotten!

A recent article from *Greater Good Magazine* poses the thought-provoking question: "**Is Gratitude Good for Your Health?**" Allen cites preliminary research demonstrating that grateful people may have better sleep, fewer aches and pains, and more robust emotional health. Scientists are still trying to distinguish whether gratitude promotes healthier people or people with healthier lifestyles are more inclined to feel grateful. However, studies show that practicing gratitude can help buffer stress by increasing positive thinking. Additionally, by giving back to the community, people foster connections with others. Studies show human connection positively correlates with better physical and emotional health.

Understandably, readers may read the above and ask: "how is it possible to be grateful during one of the most tumultuous years in recent memory?" I would counter that by focusing on small or seemingly insignificant positive occurrences in our day to day lives, we can build resilience in the face of adversity. Additionally, by getting involved in community outreach, we can focus on the bigger picture and remove ourselves from the bubble of day to day struggles we face in light of other struggles community members deal with—ones which we may never understand otherwise. Focusing on the good in the world and our ability to help others may seem like a steep hill to climb for some. Still, I genuinely believe that no matter how difficult a situation, practicing gratitude for what goes right when everything else is going wrong can only help one's life outlook.

You can read the full article on the 360 blog and find ways to get involved and practice gratitude as well!

- **Darcy Compton**
Pro Bono Board Member, 2 L