# FOCUS ON Access to Pustice For more information, visit www.lsba.org/atj.

## Hurricane Response: Volunteer Remotely to Assist Hurricane Survivors

he Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Access to Justice Department is reminding members that there are two ways to volunteer remotely to assist Hurricanes Ida and Nicholas survivors with their disaster legal needs.

The LSBA's Young Lawyers Division (YLD) is recruiting volunteers to respond to callers via the American Bar Association/YLD Disaster Hotline. When a federal disaster is declared, the Disaster Legal Assistance Program is initiated under an agreement between the LSBA Young Lawyers Division, the ABA's Young Lawyers Division and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This program provides legal information and limited legal advice to low-income disaster survivors through a hotline. Volunteers are needed to return the calls to disaster survivors to help them access resources

and address their disaster legal needs. To volunteer or learn more, contact Josef Ventulan, email jventulan@familycourt.org or call (225)389-7657.

The second way to volunteer remotely is through LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org is an online pro bono program developed by the ABA and administered locally by the LSBA. LA.FreeLegalAnswers allows low-income users to submit civil legal questions through the site that are then answered by attorney volunteers. Malpractice insurance is provided by the ABA, attorneys' answers are anonymous, and all communication is contained within the site. To register as a volunteer with the site, go to: <a href="https://la.freelegalanswers.org/Attorneys/Account/Agreement.">https://la.freelegalanswers.org/Attorneys/Account/Agreement.</a>

Contact Rachael Mills with any questions, email rachael.mills@lsba.org or call (504)619-0140.

CLE credit can be earned for volunteering

with either the ABA/YLD Hotline or LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org.

#### Available Disaster Law Resources Available Online Via *Probono.net*

Numerous resources are available on probono.net/la related to disaster law and the legal issues that may arise after a disaster. Probono.net/la is a website that provides Louisiana's justice community the ability to advertise pro bono opportunities across the state while also providing the necessary pro bono resources to support those opportunities.

Register with the site at www.probono. net/la/join/. View short-term volunteer opportunities (like clinics) at www.probono. net/la/projects/ or organizations at www.probono.net/la/opportunities/.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org



## A FREE ONLINE FORUM FOR CIVIL LEGAL QUESTIONS

### LA.FreeLegalAnswers.org allows volunteers to:

- Log in whenever/wherever Choose the question you answer and respond anonymously
  - Receive training and access to resources Be covered by malpractice insurance

For more information or to volunteer, contact Rachael Mills, ATJ Projects Counsel, by emailing rachael.mills@lsba.org or calling 504.619.0104.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.LSBA.ORG/ATJ OR CALL (504)619-0104





# Lawyers and Libraries Project Needs Attorney Volunteers

or the eighth year in a row, attorneys throughout Louisiana will volunteer their time and talent to participate in the weeklong series of events for "Lawyers in Libraries," coinciding with National Celebrate Pro Bono Week, an annual week of service established by the American Bar Association to highlight the need for pro bono participation and thank those who give their time year-round.

Lawyers and Libraries events will take place Oct. 25-30 in libraries throughout the state. Lawyers can volunteer for a 2-hour session at a participating library to host "Ask-a-Lawyer" consultations or legal workshops on specific legal issues. Individual events are scheduled based on attorney preference and availability.

Consisting of educational seminars and brief, one-on-one consultations, Lawyers in Libraries events have brought legal assistance to more than 3,000 Louisianians

in public libraries and reached patrons in every parish. Last year, events went virtual due to COVID-19 and while the midweek arrival of Hurricane Zeta threatened to derail events, events were able to proceed as planned. Nonetheless, in 2020, Lawyers and Libraries attorney volunteers assisted more than 84 library patrons from 25 different parishes through Ask-A-Lawyer sessions and webinars reached more than 2,500 viewers across the state.

Volunteers are still needed to for this year's events. Twenty-one participating parishes still do not have a single volunteer for the program. Consider volunteering, especially if you live or practice in one of the following parishes:

Acadia

Assumption

Avoyelles

Bienville

Calcasieu

Cameron

DeSoto

East Carroll

Franklin

Iberia

Jackson

Livingston

Madison

Morehouse

Natchitoches

Ouachita

Richland

Union

Vernon

Webster

West Baton Rouge

**To register to volunteer,** visit *https://lil.ivolunteer.com/2021*. For more information, including an event guide with resources and referral information, visit *www.LouisianaLawyersinLibraries.org*.

