



In-House Pro Bono Roundtable and CLE Session Held in New York

On Wednesday, November 5th from 4:00pm – 6:00pm, the [Greater New York Chapter](#) of the Association of Corporate Counsel held a one hour roundtable discussion and one hour ethics CLE session titled **“Pro Bono and the In-house Attorney: Getting Going, Building Momentum, and Managing Ethical Conflicts.”** The program was held at the New York offices of DLA Piper LLP, a Charter Signatory to the Pro Bono Institute's [Law Firm Pro Bono Challenge](#)[®]. Despite the challenging economic times, the program was well-attended and very lively, with a crowd comprised for the most part of corporate in-house lawyers. A number of law firm and public interest attorneys attended as well.

The first session featured a roundtable discussion on pro bono, moderated by **Esther F. Lardent**, President and CEO of the Pro Bono Institute (PBI), and **Kwanza Butler**, Counsel and Assistant Corporate Secretary, Time Warner Inc. This engaging conversation focused primarily on the creation and maintenance of a pro bono program, how to involve smaller legal departments in pro bono, how to track pro bono data, how the current economic environment affects pro bono work, and what opportunities exist for collaborative projects between and among legal departments.

A one hour CLE session on ethics followed. **Todd Baskin**, Managing Director and Associate General Counsel, Bank of America, **John J. Clarke, Jr.**, Partner, DLA Piper, and **Esther Lardent** facilitated this session. Attendees received materials that included examples of conflict of interest policies compiled by Corporate Pro Bono (CPBO), a detailed PBI article on positional conflicts, and an index of ethics monographs, also provided by PBI.

If you are interested in conducting a CLE session on in-house pro bono and related issues in your community, please contact Eve Runyon, Project Director, CPBO, at erunyon@probonoinst.org. Law Firm Pro Bono Project Member and Challenge Signatory Law Firms and Corporate Pro Bono ChallengeSM Signatories may obtain copies of PBI ethics materials at no cost. To purchase these materials, please visit www.probonoinst.org, or contact PBI at probono@probonoinst.org.