



# EMPOWERING PRO BONO DAY NOVEMBER 16, 2022

## EmPOWERing PRO BONO DAY November 16, 2022 Backgrounder for Legal Departments

Pro Bono Institute (PBI) and its Corporate Pro Bono (CPBO) project, in partnership with the legal department of Entergy and Edison Electric Institute (EEI), are hosting the first EmPOWERing Pro Bono Day on Wednesday, November 16, 2022. This event brings together volunteer attorneys and legal staff from electric and gas companies to provide pro bono legal assistance to address critical legal needs of underserved communities. At the 2022 PBI Annual Conference, financial institutions challenged other industries to have a dedicated day of service inspired by [Financial Institution Pro Bono Day](#)—which has been held three times since 2019—and the electric and gas companies were the first to jump in! This event will magnify the impact of participating departments’ legal pro bono programs by coming together with colleagues and community partners to address critical needs through pro bono legal services.

### WHO is participating?

**Organizers:** Legal departments of electric and gas companies may participate by organizing pro bono events and/or by volunteering on EmPOWERing Pro Bono Day.

**Partners:** Many in-house legal departments choose to partner with law firms and legal services and public interest organizations in their community to organize and host pro bono events on EmPOWERing Pro Bono Day. Partner organizations often provide training and resources to the pro bono volunteers, recruit and vet clients, provide space to hold the pro bono event, and more.

**Volunteers:** Many in-house counsel and staff at participating legal departments will volunteer at EmPOWERing Pro Bono Day events.

### WHAT is EmPOWERing Pro Bono Day?

EmPOWERing Pro Bono Day is a day to bring electric and gas companies together to promote in-house pro bono engagement and collaboration, focus and increase their collective impact, and meet the diverse needs of underserved communities. Participating in-house legal departments organize and participate in pro bono trainings and service opportunities of their choice.

Pro bono opportunities can include clinics, research, and other one-day projects, as well as trainings and kickoff events for longer-term representations.

Events can address issues ranging from homelessness, to immigration, to helping small nonprofits and microenterprises with corporate matters, to life planning for veterans, to green card assistance for domestic violence survivors, to advancing racial justice and serving communities of color, and many more. For more examples, see this summary of [2022 Financial Institution Pro Bono Day](#).



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**WHEN is EmPOWERing  
Pro Bono Day?**

**Wednesday, November 16, 2022.** However, events held close in time to November 16 may count as part of the day.

**WHERE is EmPOWERing  
Pro Bono Day?**

Events can be held anywhere around the globe! Events can take place in-person anywhere in your community, or they can be held virtually.

**WHY participate?**

EmPOWERing Pro Bono Day magnifies the impact of electric and gas companies' legal pro bono programs by coming together to address critical needs through pro bono legal services. Volunteers can give back and collaborate with colleagues and with community partners.

**HOW do I participate?**

Contact Alyssa Saunders, Director of Corporate Pro Bono, Pro Bono Institute at [asaunders@probonoinst.org](mailto:asaunders@probonoinst.org), Christy Kane, Senior Pro Bono Counsel, Entergy, at [ckane1@entergy.com](mailto:ckane1@entergy.com), or Emily Fisher, General Counsel, Corporate Secretary & Sr. Vice President, Clean Energy, Edison Electric Institute, at [EFisher@eei.org](mailto:EFisher@eei.org).