



FINANCIAL INSTITUTION PRO BONO DAY

April 24, 2025

Backgrounder

WHAT is FIPBD?

Pro Bono Institute (PBI) and its Corporate Pro Bono (CPBO) project are hosting the annual Financial Institution Pro Bono Day (FIPBD) on Thursday, April 24, 2025. This event brings together volunteer attorneys and legal staff from financial institutions and insurance companies to provide pro bono legal assistance to address critical legal needs of underserved communities.

FIPBD promotes in-house pro bono engagement and collaboration, magnifies the impact of legal departments' pro bono efforts, and meets diverse legal needs. Participating legal departments organize and participate in pro bono events of their choice, often in partnership with other departments, law firms, and legal services organizations. Many events are open to volunteers from multiple companies.

Events in the past have addressed issues such as homelessness; transgender name changes; life planning documents for veterans and seniors; green card assistance; naturalization and asylum applications; DACA renewals; Temporary Protected Status applications for refugees; creating legal resources for LGBTQ+ youth; uncontested divorce filings for low-income individuals; tax credit applications for senior citizens; expungement of criminal records; driver's license restoration; research projects for NGOs that serve children around the globe; obtaining vital identification documents; intake clinics; brief advice hotlines; legal assistance for nonprofits or micro-entrepreneurs; and many more.

FIPBD History

FIPBD originated from a [conversation among in-house pro bono leaders](#) from several banks at the 2018 PBI Annual Dinner. They discussed how great it would be for pro bono lawyers and legal staff at competing companies across the industry to collaborate on pro bono. These leaders worked with CPBO to develop the idea and turn it into reality!

For the [inaugural FIPBD on May 2, 2019](#), PBI and CPBO, in partnership with 14 financial institutions in 20 cities, and with law firms and public interest organizations, organized more than 47 pro bono events in which more than 700 volunteers from 21 financial institutions participated. Every year thereafter, the event has continued to grow. At [the 2024 FIPBD](#) on April 18, 2024, 950 in-house attorneys and legal staff from 48 departments volunteered at 81 pro bono opportunities globally, and over 1,200 clients received legal services.



WHO is participating?

Organizers: Legal departments of financial institutions (including credit unions, investment banks, commercial banks, mortgage companies, and others) and insurance companies may participate by organizing pro bono events, and by volunteering on FIPBD.

Partners: Many financial institutions choose to partner with legal services organizations and/or law firms in their community to organize and host pro bono events on FIPBD. 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 help with marketing and logistics.

Volunteers: FIPBD is intended to increase in-house pro bono participation and collaboration. We encourage organizers to plan pro bono opportunities for both attorneys and legal staff, and to open their pro bono opportunities to volunteers at other participating financial institutions.

WHEN is FIPBD?

Thursday, April 24, 2025

Pro bono opportunities held within ten days before or after FIPBD may “count” as FIPBD activities. This accommodates regularly scheduled clinics held on a particular day of the week, as well as conflicting obligations of participating legal departments.

WHERE is FIPBD?

FIPBD pro bono events can take place virtually or in-person anywhere around the globe.

WHY participate?

FIPBD magnifies the impact of financial institutions’ legal pro bono programs by bringing attorneys and legal staff together to address critical needs through pro bono legal services. Volunteers can give back and collaborate with colleagues from other financial institutions and with community partners.

HOW do I participate?

Contact Corporate Pro Bono at cpbo@probonoinst.org, or Alyssa Saunders, Director of Corporate Pro Bono, Pro Bono Institute at asaunders@probonoinst.org, to ensure you are on our mailing list for planning the 2025 FIPBD.