



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

Honorable Rebecca R. Pallmeyer, Chief Judge | Thomas G. Bruton, Clerk of Court

Pro Bono Resources for Trial Bar Attorneys

General Information

The Trial Bar Pro Bono Program is governed by Local Rules 83.35 – 83.41. Admission to the trial bar and accompanying responsibilities are governed by LR83.11.

If you have general questions about the Trial Bar Pro Bono Program, please contact ProBono_Registration_ILND@ilnd.uscourts.gov.

Conflicts of Interest

Potential conflicts with prior or current clients are at times waivable for pro bono recruitments under the Trial Bar Program. We have established key points of contact with government entities that will assist in reviewing the potential conflict and providing a waiver. Relevant contact information is available [here](#).

Reimbursement of Expenses

Pursuant to LR83.40, expenses incurred by counsel assigned pursuant to LR83.36, or the firm with which counsel is affiliated, may be reimbursed from the District Court Fund in accordance with Local Regulations.

Regulations Governing the Prepayment and Reimbursement of Expenses in Pro Bono Cases, [here](#).

To request prepayment or reimbursement, please use the Court's Pro Bono Expense Form, [here](#).

Prisoner Cases

Written Materials

Guide for Recruited Lawyers in Section 1983 Cases

"So you've been asked to take a prisoner litigation case", by Stanley Wasser Federal Civil Practice Illinois State Bar Association, Vol 14 No. 4, June 2016, reprinted with permission.

Local Prisoner Litigation Manual (update in progress)

Other helpful resources:

Prisoners' Litigation Self-Help Manual, by John Boston (available for purchase)

Prisoner Civil Rights Video Library

Columbia Law School Jailhouse Lawyers Manual

November 9, 2016 audio file - Anatomy of a Prisoner Civil Rights Case

November 9, 2016 audio file - Prisoner Medical Claims








February 8, 2017 video file - Chapman Morning Training

February 8, 2017 video file - Chapman Afternoon Training

If you have questions about the procedure or substance of your claims, please contact James P. Chapman, Illinois Institute for Community Law, jamespchapman@aol.com, 312-593-6998. Jim is a widely recognized expert in prisoner litigation and available to answer questions from volunteer attorneys. Jim also can provide you with information about relevant list serves to connect you with other attorneys locally and nationally who are handling prisoner litigation cases.

Training Videos:

Title

#	Title	
1	Prisoners' Rights Introduction	
2	Prisoners' Rights Pleadings Part I - The Amended Complaint	
3	Prisoners' Rights Pleadings Part II - Specific Causes of Action	
4	Prisoners' Rights Motions in Limine	
5	Prisoners' Rights Motions in Limine - Client's Criminal Record	
6	Prisoners' Rights Request to Produce Documents, Part I	
7	Prisoners' Rights Request to Produce Documents, Part II	

CLE Programs to help you with your case are offered several times per year, and on-line training will be available in the near future.

Resources regarding **Pavey Hearings** are available here .

Resources regarding **Settlement Assistance** are available here .

Employment Cases

Attorney's Guide to Employment Litigation (2012)

ADA and ADEA Handbook (2012)