

Make Justice Happen

Houston Volunteer Lawyers is the pro bono legal aid arm of the Houston Bar Association

How to Volunteer

www.makejusticehappen.org

How to Volunteer Without Taking a Case

HVL hosts a variety of legal advice clinics throughout the year. We use clinics to perform intake. We recruit and depend on volunteer attorneys, firms, and corporations to help staff these clinics. Clinic volunteers are not obligated to take on a pro bono case, though experience tells us that many volunteers find pro bono cases that they are passionate about through our clinics!

Intake clinics typically last two to three hours and are held at various community centers and social service agencies throughout the greater Houston area. Each clinic begins with a brief training, and an HVL staff attorney is always present to help you. The volunteer attorney's task is to assess the applicant's legal issue, provide initial legal advice, and gather and note relevant facts. Individual interviews typically last between 20 to 30 minutes, with each volunteer seeing between three and five applicants at a clinic. HVL staff attorneys use the notes taken by volunteers at the clinic to make decisions about whether to accept a case for long-term representation.

Legal Advice Clinics are an excellent volunteer opportunity for lawyers in all areas and at every experience level. Clinic dates and locations are listed on the HVL website [here](#). To volunteer for a clinic, advance notice is not required, but please contact our [Pro Bono Coordinator](#) to ensure we are not going to be overstaffed. ****NEW**** You can now sign up online to volunteer at a clinic! Click [here](#) to browse upcoming opportunities.

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<http://www.makejusticehappen.org/node/208/how-volunteer-without-taking-case>

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