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The Pro Bono Collaborative Project Spotlight: RWU Law Alums Providing Pro Bono Through the PBC (September 20, 2018)

Roger Williams University School of Law

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September 20, 2018



Project Spotlight

The Pro Bono Collaborative periodically spotlights one project or issue as a way to keep our volunteers and supporters aware of, and engaged in, PBC projects and local access to justice initiatives.

RWU Law Alums Providing Pro Bono Through the PBC

Brian A. Fielding, Esq. L'10 of **Adler Cohen Harvey Wakeman & Gueguezian LLP** is supervising a RWU Law student and assisting families served by the Medical Legal Partnership and other organizations by addressing their children's special education legal needs.

Jenna Algee Giguere, Esq. L'12 is supervising our law students on our ACI Women's Facility Civil Legal Clinics Project. During the semester she supervises our law students as they interview inmates and provide civil legal advice and counsel.

Dawn Euer, Esq. L'10, **Josh Xavier Esq. L'14**, and **Brett Beaubien, Esq. L'16** are supervising attorneys on our ACI Medium Facility Civil Legal Clinics Project. During the

Spring semester they supervise our law students as they interview inmates and provide civil advice and counsel. **John Karwashan, Esq. L'15** was a supervising attorney on the project for two years until he joined the RI Public Defender and became conflicted out.

Ken Rampino, Esq. L'08 is providing community presentations and health care proxy clinics throughout the state as part of the Elder Law and End-of-Life Planning Project.

Amy Goins, Esq. L'12 and **Peter Skwirz, Esq. L'12** are now providing pro bono legal service and supervising law students on our McAuley House Expungement Project. Throughout the year, Amy and Peter attend monthly clinics at McAuley House, a family style meal site for homeless people on Elmwood Avenue in Providence, where they, along with two law students, meet with anyone interested in talking to an attorney about their criminal record. Amy and Peter are going into their third year on the project. As law students, both Amy and Peter participated in the Expungement Project.

Matt Plain, Esq. L'05 of Barton Gilman LLP is participating in our Guardianship Project with Bradley Hospital's Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, assisting parents of disabled children turning 18 by providing advice and counsel regarding their options and, where appropriate, establishing legal guardianship of their children.

Rui Alves, Esq. L'05 of Barton Gilman LLP and **Joe Farside, Esq. L'06 of Locke Lord LLP** are providing Family Law assistance to participants of the H.O.P.E. Federal Re-Entry Court Project.

Samantha M. Vasques, Esq. L'14 and **Benjamin Rackliffe, Esq. L'07** of Pannone Lopes Devereaux & O'Gara LLC provide legal advice, counsel and representation to non-profit organizations that serve low-income communities.

Dave Pellegrino, Esq. L'05 of Partridge Snow & Hahn LLP is participating in our Special Immigrant Juvenile Status Project, providing direct legal representation to children applying for Special Immigrant Juvenile status—a pathway to citizenship for children who have been abused, neglected, or abandoned by their caregivers and cannot return to their home country.

Kelly Rafferty Meara, Esq. L'11 and **Angelina Landi, Esq. L'12** are both serving as subject matter experts available for PBC law student consultation on SSI/SSDI and Family Law issues, respectively.

About the PBC

The PBC staff identifies and develops pro bono projects that appeal to transactional and business attorneys, facilitates ongoing pro bono projects and works to increase access to justice. The PBC is not a referral program, but instead matches law firms with community organizations to provide pro bono legal assistance in a specific area of law. [Read more about the PBC...](#)

If you are an attorney and would like to get involved in this or any other PBC project, we would love to hear from you.

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