

Pro Bono Hot Topics - Clinics in Action

April 17, 2026

9am to 4:15pm (6.0 CLE Credits)

Goal: To equip pro bono volunteers with practical skills for a variety of legal clinics.

8:45 – 9:00 a.m. Registration

9:00 – 9:15 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks, *Zack Ohanesian – SC Bar*

An overview of the day's objectives and how pro bono service increases access to justice statewide

9:15 – 10:00 a.m. Drivers' License Restoration

Explore the most common barriers to reinstating a driver's license and how volunteers can help clients navigate the process. We'll cover key steps, forms, and strategies for successful outcomes in clinic settings.

10:00 – 10:45 a.m. Expungements & Pardons

Learn the eligibility requirements for expungements and pardons, including fee waivers and required forms. This session will provide practical guidance for volunteers assisting clients with clearing criminal records and restoring opportunities

10:45 – 11:00 a.m. Break

11:00 – 11:45 a.m. Wills & Powers of Attorney

This session focuses on drafting simple wills and healthcare powers of attorney in a clinic environment. Volunteers will learn estate planning basics and issues that often impact low-income individuals in establishing their future plans.

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Consumer Defense

Understand how to assist clients facing debt collection and consumer issues through virtual platforms. We will discuss intake, common defenses, and how to make remote pro bono work effective and client friendly.

12:30 – 12:45 p.m. Break

12:45 – 1:30 p.m. GROW SC and Small Business Counseling

Discover how pro bono attorneys can support small businesses and entrepreneurs through the GROW SC initiative. This session will highlight common legal needs and how volunteers can provide meaningful assistance to start ups and low income small businesses.

- NOTE: lunch to be provided during this session

1:30 – 2:15 p.m. Housing Court

Learn about eviction defense and housing-related legal issues impacting low-income clients. We'll cover the basics of housing court procedures and how volunteers can make a difference in preventing homelessness.

2:15 – 2:30 p.m. Break

2:30 – 4:00 p.m. Education Law

This session introduces key issues in education law, with a focus on school discipline matters. Volunteers will gain insight into how to advocate for students and families through pro bono representation.

4:00 – 4:15 p.m. Q+A and Closing Remarks, *Zack Ohanesian – SC Bar*