Letter from the Program Director

Hannah Marion '23  
Student Director, Pro Bono Program

It has been an honor to serve as the Director of the Pro Bono Board this year. While this year has been challenging, I have had the opportunity to witness the amazing work of our students and board members.

Our board spent a lot of time thinking about ways we could improve and define who we are as a Pro Bono Program. We spent time gathering feedback from students and thoughtfully brainstorming together ways that we can improve based on that feedback.

We also took steps to put those ideas into action. I am excited to see the ways that our program continues to grow and exemplify our values next year.
2022-2023 marked the 25th year of the UNC School of Law Pro Bono Program. To celebrate, the Pro Bono Board planned a 90s themed National Celebrate Pro Bono Week and incentivized student participation with pro bono hats for each student logging 25 or more hours during the school year. At the Practically Transitioned dinner, graduating students with 75+ hours had the opportunity to hear from Candice Wooten Brown ‘01, a board member from one of the first Pro Bono Boards.

In 25 years, Carolina Law students have logged roughly 170,000 pro bono hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Total Hours</th>
<th>Participation Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2023</td>
<td>14,419</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2024</td>
<td>7,056</td>
<td>91.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2025</td>
<td>5,935</td>
<td>59.04%</td>
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Sarah Dobbs ’25, Juliana Bird ’25, Aubree Cosper ’25, and Mandy Mericle ’25 each logged over 25 hours of pro bono and received a 25th anniversary hat.

Program Founder Sylvia Novinsky and Candice Wooten Brown ’01 reminisced about the early days of the Pro Bono Program at the Practically Transitioned dinner in May.
WINTER BREAK PROJECTS

Kacie England ‘24
Homeless Veteran Legal Needs Assessment with Warrior Legal Services Organization

I loved getting to work both virtually and in person with Warrior Legal Services Organization. I thoroughly enjoyed the chance to speak directly with potential clients and get a better sense of what legal services might be needed in the area I will be living in after graduation.

Being able to volunteer in my future community was a wonderful way to spend part of break!

ATTORNEY PROJECTS

46 Attorney Projects
79 Student Participants

Though Attorney Projects are largely done remotely, the Pro Bono Board organized several co-working sessions to provide students an opportunity to share space and encouragement as they work on individual projects.

Emancipate NC was named our Partner of the Year in recognition of the many projects they posted for students throughout the year and the high-quality of supervision their attorneys provided.
Trips

FALL BREAK
Chapel Hill, NC
Special Cancer Pro Bono Legal Project Clinic at NC Basnight Cancer Hospital

Durham, NC
Better Together Expungement Project in Conjunction with Duke Law and North Carolina Central University School of Law and the Durham Expungement and Restoration (DEAR) Program

Student Groups

This year, BLSA participated in the standing expunction clinic and partnered with the Land Loss Prevention Project to do a wills clinic at the Jackson Center on Rosemary Street. These projects gave students the chance to work on court documents and interact with clients. Outside of these projects, members have committed to pro bono through participation in the UNC Cancer Pro Bono Legal Project and various other projects.

The Pro Bono Alumni Board, led by Chair Ashley McAlarney’14 and Vice-Chair Ramona McGee ‘14 provide opportunities for students to connect with alumni, provide a diverse range of projects, and learn valuable lessons for practice.

This year, our Coffee Chat series expanded, providing 8 different coffee chats to 34 students. Topics included intellectual property, regulatory compliance, working as in-house counsel, prisoner rights, healthcare, privacy, and more.

STUDENT GROUPS WHO COMPLETED PROJECTS

- Broun National Trial Team
- Law Students Against Sexual and Domestic Violence (LSASDV)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Christian Legal Society
- Environmental Law Project
- Hispanic Latino Law Students Association (HLLSA)
- Veterans Advocacy Legal Organization (VALOR)
- Child Action
- Innocence Project
- OutLaw
- National Lawyers Guild

Alumni Engagement

Before their March meeting, Pro Bono Alumni Board members collaborated with students on a lunch-time pro bono project.

Deonta Woods ’24 hosted a coffee chat where Brooks Pierce attorney Sarah Saint shared how she incorporates LGBTQ impact litigation with her regular practice.
Expunction Project

Brianne Megahan ‘23
Community Services Coordinator

The Expunction Project is a collaboration with Legal Aid of North Carolina’s Second Chance Team. Students that volunteer with the project are able to assess client’s criminal records and draft petitions for those clients to get their records expunged.

Clients that are helped have been convicted of an expungeable offense and have fully served their sentence. Having a criminal record can impact a person’s ability to get education, proper housing, public benefits, and employment.

In recognition of the disproportionate impact criminal records have on people of color, the Expunction Project teamed up with the Black Law Students Association for a clinic in the Fall that was attended by 19 student-volunteers.

Paul Brown ‘25

Working with the Expunction Project has helped me to understand difficulties that arise in the justice system that I was not aware of prior to law school.

Assisting with expungements reminds me why I chose to come to law school and makes me feel like I am making a difference.

CANCER PROJECT

The UNC Cancer Pro Bono Project brings law student and attorney volunteers to the NC Basnight Cancer Hospital to draft Financial Power of Attorney documents for cancer patients and their caregivers in partnership with Legal Aid of North Carolina.

This important document allows an individual to designate a trusted person to handle their financial matters if and when they are unable to do so themselves.

After two years of remote client interviews, the UNC Cancer Pro Bono Legal Project finally returned to the hospital this year, and we were able to serve our clients while forging meaningful connections through the in-person interview process.

Over the course of six clinics, the UNC Cancer Pro Bono Legal Project served 24 clients and hosted over 70 student and attorney volunteers. We are so thankful for the opportunity to contribute to our healthcare community in this small but impactful way, and we can’t wait to continue this valuable work next year!
Student Recognition

**CLASS OF 2023**

**600+**
Hannah Corinne Marion

**300+**
Sofía Verónica Montez
Richard-Vinh Nguyen-Le
Sawyer Davis
Sarah E. Henning
Brianne E. Megahan
Elijah John Moffe

**200+**
Wynter M. Wolff
Kate Elizabeth Giduz
Sara R. Cassidy
Jared A. Mark
Kate Jacquelyn Shurtleff
Mary Olivia Clark
Courtney May Coppage

**100+**
Carly Amatuzzo
Gabrielle Mangru Delgado
Julius Crosby Brittman
Margaret H. Hay
Isabel J. Rose
Adam C. Gillette
Madison R. Gladwell
Taylor Denise Osborne
Meagan Alexis Watson
Nina Theresa Ganti
Sara Irene Margolis
Maggie Callahan
Alexa N. Frades
Katherine M. DeAngelis
Rachel Allore
Tyler James Ventura
Reagan R. Wooster
Sara Catherine Markov
Anna J. Beck
Meredith Paige Yates
Fiona Garver Craig
Jacob Isaak Brooks
Marcus W. Brown
Allison C. Quigley
Fatmeh Basma
Sydney Welch
Daniel Jordan Rios
Michelle A. Bauer
Siara Kaur Deol
Austin Tyler Hutrell
Ashley Haynes
Michael Stuart Wilson
Allison H. Gray
James B. Huey
Sarah Katherine Cheeley
Pearson Gustave Cost
Hannah Morgan Daigle
Morgan E. Mumford
Kendall Danielle Williams
Meagan Lnnsey Jackson
Ralph William Meekins
Mercedes Arianna Miles
Jake Schindler

**75+**
Chyanne Flores
Avery E. Aulds
John Sutherland Gray
Alexandra L. Deorion
David Kenji Katahira
Michael J. Kenney
Jason N. Davidson
Anya Katherine Hovanic
Grayson William Sotir
Dorothy Chen
Joseph Lucas Taylor
John Chambers

**50+**
Leslie Brooke Baledge
Mary Stewart Wilson
Alexandra Michelle Lawson
Jacob M. Perrone
Steven M. Constanttin
Rachel A. Holtzman
Huiming Ren
Diana Kathleen Fairweather
Mason P. Butner
Dylan O’Ryan Jones
Kasey Amalia West
Aurora L. Jaques
Rebekah Dare Guin
Ellenor Reid Brown
Elisabeth Tidwell
Duma Ali
Katherine L. Mansoor
John G. Monroe
Elizabeth Grey Poole

**CLASS OF 2024**

**300+**
Deonta Raheem Woods
Emily Rachel Zoffer

**200+**
Alex Goodin

**100+**
Allison Cronin
Morgan Michelle Louise Sreriner
Cecilia Barrera
Halie Mariano
Taylor S. Culver
Katherine Ellen Bock
Sj Smith
Benjamin Wood
Robin P. Bleiweis
Xavier Dyer
Jess Errico
Sunny Khan Frothingham
Allison E. Kraynek
Kate Alexander Loan Kozain
Meghan Garrett Rankins

**2022 - 2023 PRO BONO BOARD**

**Director**
Hannah Marion ’23

**3L Class Coordinator**
Taylor Osborne ’23

**2L Class Coordinator**
Taylor Culver ’24

**1L Class Coordinator**
Aprie’la Warren ’25

**Alumni Outreach Coordinator**
Deonta Woods ’24

**Break Projects and Attorney Projects**
Sawyer Davis ’23

**Cancer Clinic Coordinator**
Alex Goodin ’24

**Community Services Coordinator**
Brianne Megahan ’23

**Special Trips Coordinators**
Sofía Verónica Montez ’23
Xavier Dyer ’24

**Student Group Projects Coordinator**
Halie Mariano ’24

**Director of Pro Bono Initiatives**
Allison Constance ’09

**CLASS OF 2025**

**200+**
Juliana K. Bird

**150+**
Mandy Mericle

**100+**
Gabrielle Anna Schust
Brynn Anders Cameron Story

**75+**
Eve Chung
Taylor P. Cole
Dylan T. Jones
Morgan W. Lee
Emma Grace Schambach
Aprie’la Charmeena Warren

**50+**
Drew T. Alexander
Madeleine Grace Clahane
Aubree M. Cooper
Manasi Neeraj Deborah
Chloe Leann Nichols
Grace Elizabeth Roberts
Pro Bono Publico Awards

The Pro Bono Program is pleased to celebrate the outstanding pro bono service of members of the UNC Law community at the Pro Bono Publico Awards Reception in April. Below are this year’s winners.

AWARD WINNERS

Rich Nguyen-Le ’23 Sylvia K. Novinsky Award
For his commitment to serving marginalized communities and meaningful work on a variety of pro bono projects.

Hannah Marion ’23 Sylvia K. Novinsky Award
For her unwavering commitment to pro bono during her time at UNC Law.

Kate Giduz ’23 3L Student of the Year
For her impact on communities in North Carolina through pro bono, including her work on the Juvenile Parole Project.

Elijah Moffe ’23 3L Student of the Year
For his considerable contributions to pro bono this year, including his work with Forward Justice.

Emily Zoffer ’24 2L Student of the Year
For her incredible work coordinating and participating in the Text Abby project.

Juliana Bird ’25 1L Student of the Year
For her tireless commitment to pro bono throughout her 1L year and her efforts to involve other 1Ls in pro bono work.

Black Law Students Association Student Group Project of the Year
For their dedication to offering multiple pro bono projects, including expunction and wills clinics.

Beth Posner ’97 Faculty Member of the Year
For supervising the Text Abby project and training and inspiring students to support teens seeking a judicial bypass.

Tod Leaven ’10 Alumnus of the Year
For his work on behalf of veterans seeking discharge upgrades and partnership with VALOR.

Emancipate NC Partner/Organization of the Year
For the wide variety of social justice opportunities provided to students and excellent attorney supervision.
Agency, Firm & Organizational Partners

Academy of Adoption & Assisted Reproduction Attorneys
Allyn Sharp Law
Army JAG
Association of Administrative Law Judges
Bellock Levine & Hoffman LLP
Bradley Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, LLP
Carolina Abortion Fund
North Carolina Common Enterprise
Catawba County District Attorney's Office
Center for Death Penalty Litigation
Center for International Environmental Law
Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy
Chatham County Public Defender's Office
Children's Advocacy Centers of North Carolina
City of Durham
City of Port Angeles
Colorado State Public Defender Dillon Regional Office
Compass Center for Women and Families
Contra Costa Public Defender
Council for Children's Rights
Dauphin County Bar Association
Durham Expungement and Restoration (DEAR) Program
Democracy NC
Disability Rights North Carolina
District Court 10th Judicial District
Dorn Law, PLLC
Durham Housing Authority
East Carolina University
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Legal Assistance Office
Emancipate NC
Environmental Defense Fund
Federal Public Defender - Eastern District of North Carolina
Firelands Workers Action / Acción de Trabajadores
Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project
Fort Bragg and XVIII Airborne Corps, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate
Forward Justice
Foundation for Individual Rights in Education
Georgia Capital Defender Office
Georgia Innocence Project
Gregory Goad
Guardian Ad Litem - North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts
Guardian Ad Litem District 15B
Harnett and Lee Counties District Attorney's Office
InterAct
Judge James Ammons
Juvenile Parole Project
Kimberly Hoppin, Attorney at Law
Land Loss Prevention Project
Law Offices of F. Bryan Brice, Jr.
Warrior Legal Services
Legal Aid of North Carolina (Domestic Violence Prevention Initiative)
Legal Aid of North Carolina (Durham)
Legal Aid of North Carolina (Fair Housing Project)
Legal Aid of North Carolina (Medical Legal Partnership)
Legal Aid of North Carolina (Foothills)
Legal Aid of North Carolina (Smoky Mountain)
Legal Aid of North Carolina, Inc.
Legal Aid Society of Cleveland
Management Information Exchange
Mark Montgomery, Attorney
McGuireWoods
Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Office
Mecklenburg County Public Defender's Office
NC Department of Justice
National Veterans Legal Services Program
NC Bar Association
NC Basnight Cancer Hospital
NC Center on Actual Innocence
NC Court of Appeals
NC Domestic Violence Commission
NC Innocence Inquiry Commission
NC Justice Center
NC Office of Indigent Defense Services - Forensic Resource Counsel
NC Office of the Capital Defender
NC Prisoner Legal Services, Inc.
NC Pro Bono Resource Center
NC Supreme Court
New Hanover County Public Defender's Office
New York Legal Assistance Group
Nicholson Pham, PLLC
North Carolina Bar Foundation
North Carolina Central University (NCCU) School of Law
North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence
North Carolina Court of Appeals - Judge Jefferson Griffin
Orange County Criminal Justice Resource Office

Orange County District Attorney's Office
Orange County Public Defender's Office
Orange County VITA
Piedmont Defenders
Pisgah Legal Services
Professor Emeritus Richard Rosen
Public Defender Services of Washington D.C.
RTI International
Scharff Law Firm
Southern Center for Human Rights
Southern Coalition for Social Justice
Southern Environmental Law Center
Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid
Tin Fulton Walker & Owen, PLLC
Two Families Law
U.S. Attorney's Office (E.D.N.C.)
U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
U.S. District Court (D.C.)
U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina
U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee
UNC - Child Action
UNC - Death Penalty Project
UNC - Driver's License Restoration Project (DLRP)
UNC - Faculty/Staff
UNC - Innocence Project
UNC - Law Students Against Sexual and Domestic Violence
UNC - National Lawyers Guild (NLG)
UNC Center for Media Law and Policy
UNC Charlotte Student Legal Services, Inc.
UNC Clinical Programs - Startup NC
UNC Greensboro
UNC Law Clinical Program - Community Development
UNC Law Clinical Program - Domestic and Sexual Violence Clinic
UNC Law Clinical Program - Immigration/ Human Rights Policy
UNC Law Clinical Program - Intellectual Property Clinic
UNC Law Clinical Program - Military and Veterans Law
UNC Law Clinical Program - Youth Justice
UNC Law Clinical Programs - Immigration Clinic
UNC School of Government
UNC SOGIESC Human Rights Initiative
UNC - Institutional Integrity and Risk Management
United States Coast Guard
United States Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit
Uptown People's Law Center
US District Court for the District of New Mexico
US District Court, Eastern District of North Carolina
Utah Central Association of REALTORS
Veterans Advocacy Legal Organization (VALOR)
Victim Rights Law Center
Voter Protection Hotline
Wake County District Attorney's Office
Wake County Public Defender's Office
Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs
Wilder Pantazis Law Group
Wilson Center for Science and Justice at Duke Law