

Announcement – Program Expanded **The Pro Bono Program For Bankruptcy Litigation**

Now available for all Divisions within the Western District of Missouri

Attorneys: If you represent a debtor who does not have the ability to pay but must file an adversary action to determine student loan dischargeability or must defend against a creditor's or party's adversary action objecting to the discharge or dischargeability of a debt, please consider referring your client to this program.

Individual debtors file bankruptcy to protect themselves from creditors and to obtain a discharge of their debts. In many personal bankruptcies, however, a creditor will file an adversary proceeding against the debtor to have a debt declared non-dischargeable. Unfortunately, many pro se debtors and debtors with limited means have found themselves facing an adversary proceeding alone, with no ability to hire counsel to defend against the claims. But now there is help!

Debtors who represent themselves in adversary proceedings because they lack the means to hire an attorney increase the burden on the debtor and the court. To address this need, the Pro Bono Program for Bankruptcy Litigation was established to train and coordinate volunteer attorneys to represent needy debtors in adversary proceedings.

If a debtor becomes involved in an adversary proceeding, and cannot afford an attorney, they may be eligible for an appointed attorney through the Pro Bono Program for Bankruptcy Litigation. Application forms are available from all of the agencies listed below and will also be provided to the debtor by the Bankruptcy Court when an adversary proceeding is begun. Once the Pro Bono Program for Bankruptcy Litigation receives a completed application, the debtor will be screened for eligibility and, if found eligible, the Program will try to locate an attorney to represent the debtor pro bono in the adversary proceeding.

For more information about the Pro Bono Program for Bankruptcy Litigation in your area, or if you would like to volunteer, please contact:

Jefferson City
Susan Lutton
Executive Director
Mid-Missouri Legal Services
205 E. Forest Ave.
Columbia, MO 65203
lutton@mmis.org
573-442-0116

Kansas City/St. Joseph/Joplin
Laticia Scott Adams
Volunteer Attorney Project
Legal Aid of Western MO
1125 Grand Blvd., Ste. 1900
Kansas City, MO 64106
lscott@lawmo.org
816-421-8020

Springfield
Deanna K. Scott
Director of Litigation
Legal Services of Southern MO
809 Campbell Ave.
Springfield, MO 65802
deanna.scott@lsosm.org
417-881-1397

Debtors may fax applications for pro bono assistance to the number below. An application form can be found on page two.

Jefferson City
Attn: Susan Lutton
FAX 573-875-0173

Kansas City/St. Joseph/Joplin
Attn: Laticia Scott Adams
FAX 816-474-1578

Springfield
Attn: Phil Masaoay
FAX 417-881-2159

Kansas City/St. Joseph/Joplin

Latricia Scott Adams, Volunteer Attorney Project, 1125 Grand Blvd., Suite 1900, Kansas City, MO 64106
Latricia Scott Adams, fax 816-474-1578

Jefferson City

Susan Lutton, Mid-Missouri Legal Services, 205 E. Forest Ave., Columbia, MO 65203
Susan Lutton, fax 573-875-0173

Springfield

Phil Masaoay, Legal Services of Southern Missouri, 809 Campbell Ave. Springfield, MO 65802
Phil Masaoay, fax 417-881-2159