

PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES 2010



“Our lives begin to end the day we become
silent about things that matter.”

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Public Service Programs
Brooklyn Law School
250 Joralemon Street
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201
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OPEN LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAMS

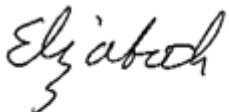
Dear Students:

Brooklyn Law School offers a robust public service program including many pro bono opportunities. Done on a volunteer basis, these opportunities are available both during the academic year and in the summer throughout your law school years. Working for the public good and providing access to justice for underserved communities gives students invaluable experience, as well as the satisfaction of protecting civil rights or improving the quality of someone's life. We encourage all students to participate in these pro bono projects, starting right from their first year. While it is not required, it is hoped that students spend at least 50 hours during law school in pro bono work.

Students' public service work is celebrated at an awards ceremony during their graduating year at which awards are given to all who have completed more than fifty hours of public service. Students must log their hours in the Public Service Work Log to be eligible. The Work Log can be found under "Quick Links" on the Public Service Homepage by going to <https://blsconnect.brooklaw.edu/academics/publicservice1/Lists/Public%20Service%20Work%20Log/overview.aspx>.

To check for announcements and information on pro bono project meetings and trainings, visit the Public Service homepage under the "Academics" tab or under "Resources" in your student homepage "Quicklinks." Please check frequently as students may post announcements at any time.

Now go help, learn and enjoy!



Elizabeth Kane

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COURTROOM ADVOCATES PROGRAM (CAP)

Assist and advocate for victims of domestic violence seeking orders of protection in Brooklyn Family Court. Students help women file petitions for orders of protection and maintain contact and advocate as necessary to ensure petitioner returns for her next court date. Students may also advocate for the client's best interests before the judge on the return date.

ON CAMPUS SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Legal Association for Women.

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS: Sanctuary for Families, a seasoned organization that supervises volunteer advocates.

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: Monday through Friday during the morning or afternoon throughout the year. In addition, Brooklyn Family Court provides an evening session, on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 5-9 p.m. throughout the year.

TRAINING: One four-hour intensive training session is accompanied by a training manual. The training is offered twice a year (once each semester), at Brooklyn Law School and several other law schools in New York. The training is a prerequisite for participation in the program.

GETTING INVOLVED: Look for notices of the Legal Association for Women, attend a meeting or contact the students below for meeting and training schedules.

CONTACTS: Christina Jenkins, christina.jenkins@brooklaw.edu or Rachel Furman, rachel.furman@brooklaw.edu.

CIVIL LEGAL ADVICE AND RESOURCE OFFICE (CLARO)

Assist volunteer attorneys advising consumer debtors including victims of ID theft and predatory lenders and collectors. Help consumers through the daunting process of self-representation and gain experience working with clients and the legal issues related to financial justice that affect a significant portion of the client population.

ON CAMPUS SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: CLARO Student Action Group (CLARO/SAG).

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS: Volunteer Lawyer's Project (VLP), Brooklyn Bar Association.

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: Thursdays at 2:30-4:30 and 6:00-8:00 at the Brooklyn Civil Court. Students may assist at as many or as few clinics as they like, but will benefit most (as will the clients) after attending four or more clinic sessions and developing familiarity with the issues and civil procedures involved.

TRAINING: Students attend a short training at Brooklyn Law School in the early fall followed by a training in October organized for the volunteer lawyers whom they will assist at Brooklyn Civil Court. Training manuals are also provided.

GETTING INVOLVED: Contact CLARO/SAG as listed below. This project may be of interest to anyone interested in debtor-creditor law, consumer protection, economic justice, direct services, or civil procedure. Student volunteers also get exposure to legal issues regarding banking and commercial paper.

CONTACTS: CLARO/SAG at claro@brooklaw.edu, Hal Budnick, hal.budnick@brooklaw.edu or Ratko Caricic, ratko.caricic@brooklaw.edu.



FAIR HEARINGS REPRESENTATION & ASSISTANCE PROJECT (FHRAP)

At FHRAP, students have a unique opportunity to provide meaningful legal assistance to low-income New Yorkers in crucial public assistance matters, while also gaining authentic experience in representation at administrative hearings. Student advocates work with clients regarding denial, delay, reduction, or termination of public assistance benefits - conducting interviews, drafting written communications, negotiating with city and state agencies, and, perhaps most significantly, appearing in person on behalf of clients at benefits hearings before administrative judges.

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS: FHRAP is sponsored by the Brooklyn Branch of Legal Services NYC, with support and participation from other branches of Legal Services NYC.

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: Participation slots are anticipated to be available several days per week at 14 Boerum Place, the Office of Administrative Hearings. Student advocates will meet with supervising attorneys and receive direction in assisting and representing clients. A minimum requirement is one half day assisting clients; further participation would allow for direct student advocacy at hearings and the ability to take on a greater level of responsibility in handling individual client matters.

TRAINING: An on-site project overview training at BLS is tentatively scheduled for a Friday in the fall semester; advanced and/or topical trainings may be scheduled at a later date.

GETTING INVOLVED: Look for flyers and emails in fall for the training date, or email the contact below for more information at any time.

CONTACT: Erika Lorshbough, erika.lorshbough@brooklaw.edu.

IMMIGRATION COURT WATCH, NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD DETAINEE WORKING GROUP

Become a courtroom observer and gain hands-on legal experience while safeguarding due process for immigrant detainees. Participants observe and document proceedings at the 26 Federal Plaza Immigration Court. Complete courtroom observations forms, and enter data into a web form. The reports help to keep judges and court officers accountable for any abuses and unfairness in the system. Witnessing immigration proceedings is a unique way to deepen the law school experience and provides you with a broad view of immigration law and issues. The National Lawyers Guild Detainee Working Group was formed in response to the post-9/11 mass immigration roundups but has since expanded its focus to ensure the fairness of immigration hearings for all litigants. The Detainee Working Group will be in court every week from Monday through Friday for both the morning and afternoon sessions.

ON CAMPUS SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: BLS National Lawyers Guild (NLG).

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS: NYU NLG.

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: Twice a month for a two hour period (in either morning or afternoon sessions).

TRAINING: 1 hour training session required.

GETTING INVOLVED: Watch for notices around school or send an email to the contact below.

CONTACT: Leigh Mangum, leigh.mangum@brooklaw.edu.

LAW AND EDUCATION RESOURCE NETWORK (LERN)

The Law & Education Resource Network is a student-run organization that aims to raise awareness, advance dialogue and encourage advocacy in issues related to education law. We do so by connecting like-minded Brooklyn Law School students, facilitating roundtable discussions with education law professionals and organizing pro bono activities. We intend to harness the energy surrounding school reform and the burgeoning charter school movement and envision creative roles that attorneys can play in furthering the goals of education equity. LERN coordinates pro bono activities with other BLS organizations, schools, and non-profit organizations throughout New York City. Currently, LERN is working with Advocates for Children on the School Monitoring Project, an activity that seeks to gather information regarding school placement issues for special education students in the NYC public schools.

ON CAMPUS SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: LERN is an informal group.

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS: Advocates for Children.

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: N/A

TRAINING: There will be training for each pro bono activity sponsored by LERN.

GETTING INVOLVED: Email the contacts below for more information.

CONTACT: Michael Mastrangelo, michael.mastrangelo@brooklaw.edu.

LAWHELP/NY

LawHelp/NY, a legal information website for low-income New Yorkers, is seeking volunteers for LiveHelp, an online information and referral service that helps people find free legal services and self-help information to address a civil legal crisis. LiveHelp volunteers take on short weekly shifts in which they chat with visitors to LawHelp/NY's website and help them navigate New York's courts, legal service projects and social services. Volunteers can work from home after an in-depth training. LiveHelp provides a simple and flexible opportunity to help people facing unemployment, eviction, domestic violence and other crises.

ON CAMPUS SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: N/A

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS: City Bar Justice Center

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: Students must attend a training session prior to volunteering.

GETTING INVOLVED: E-mail the contact below.

CONTACTS: Abby Biberman, abiberman@nylawhelp.org.

LAW STUDENTS FOR VETERANS' RIGHTS

Law Students for Veterans' Rights is devoted to the representation of veterans throughout the New York City area. We will create awareness and work to solve the problems American veterans face, including access to earned benefits, housing and homelessness problems, and access to information for veterans with issues pending in family court. We work in coalition with the following groups: Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Legal Information for Families Today (LIFT) and a clinic of 10 New York City law firms.

ON CAMPUS SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Law Students for Veterans' Rights.

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION: NY City Bar Association; Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA); LIFT (Legal Information for Families Today).

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: Students can volunteer as much or as little time as they wish throughout the school year.

TRAINING: A short, informal training will be provided at the beginning of any research session or trip to the clinic at the City Bar Association.

GETTING INVOLVED: Email the contact below.

CONTACTS: Bo Ranney, bowen.ranney@brooklaw.edu.

LEGAL OBSERVING AT PROTESTS THROUGH THE NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD

The Legal Observer program is part of the comprehensive legal support coordinated by the NLG to ensure people can express their political views without unconstitutional disruption or interference by the government. Legal Observers work with NLG attorneys who represent individual activists and political organizations, and play a distinct role separate from participants at protests and demonstrations. They are trained to witness and document police actions, violations of rights, and arrests and to provide factual information for evaluation by attorneys. The presence of Legal Observers helps discourage police abuses, and the information collected by Legal Observers is useful in all stages of defending arrestees and in lawsuits against the police or other government agencies when rights violations occur.

ON CAMPUS SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: BLS National Lawyers Guild (NLG).

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS: New York City Chapter and the National Office of the NLG.

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: As appropriate and as each student chooses prior to and during elections and protests or street actions.

TRAINING: Held at BLS each semester, date TBA.

GETTING INVOLVED: Contact the BLS National Lawyers' Guild, or the student contact below.

CONTACT: Cristina Lee, cristina.lee@brooklaw.edu.

MOTIVATING YOUTH THROUGH LEGAL EDUCATION (MYLE)

BLS students coach high school students in understanding constitutional issues and in developing and arguing their position in relation to selected Supreme Court decisions and provided fact patterns. Law student coaches join judges and attorneys in judging competitions. Coaches read and analyze important cases included in the BLS Constitutional Law course and become familiar with briefs by editing and revising those of their students.

ON CAMPUS SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS: BLS MYLE.

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION: Legal Outreach.

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: Four debates throughout the school year; 2-3 hours preparing for each debate.

TRAINING: Mandatory coach training sessions prior to each debate.

GETTING INVOLVED: Look for signs around the law school for more information or contact coordinator below.

CONTACT: Daniel Suh, daniel.suh@brooklaw.edu.



NYCHA EVICTION HEARINGS PROJECT (NEHP)

Advocate for NYCHA residents in administrative eviction hearings. Students help tenants stay in their homes by avoiding evictions or otherwise agreeing to settlements with unfavorable stipulations. Students investigate charges against tenants, interview witnesses, and negotiate settlements. During hearings, students cross-examine witnesses, present mitigating evidence, and submit written closing statements.

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS: South Brooklyn Legal Services.

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: 2-3 students will be assigned to each case. Students should commit enough time to investigate their assigned cases, prepare for the hearings, and draft written closing statements.

TRAINING: Students attend a short training at Brooklyn Law School in the early fall and receive additional trainings and moot preparations prior to the administrative hearings.

GETTING INVOLVED: Contact the email listed below.

CONTACTS: Randi Scherman, randi.scherman@brooklaw.edu.

NYCLU'S PROJECT ON MILITARY RECRUITMENT AND STUDENTS' RIGHTS

Students learn high school students' rights regarding military recruitment at an informational session with an NYCLU representative and then help disseminate that information to students and their parents at a New York City high school. Participation includes passing out "Know Your Rights" pamphlets and Military Recruitment Opt-Out Forms to students, parents, and educators and answering their questions so that they can make informed decisions regarding student military recruitment.

The military has launched an aggressive campaign to recruit students to fill the ranks of the armed services. And since some recent laws have gone into effect, many educators, students and parents have complained that recruiters are using heavy-handed tactics to harass students, violate students' privacy rights, and target poor students and students of color. But students and parents do have the right to limit the information the military has about them and to report abuses if they happen. The NYCLU's Project on Military Recruitment and Students' Rights seeks to give students, families, educators, and advocates the tools to defend their rights against intrusive military recruiting.

ON CAMPUS SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: BLS-ACLU, BLS-NLG.

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION: NYCLU.

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: Participation is at the student's discretion. There are opportunities at least once a semester that last 2-4 hours.

TRAINING: 1 hour general presentation on military recruitment in schools provides you with the necessary information to go out into the community, hand out brochures, and discuss the issue with students, teachers, and parents.

GETTING INVOLVED: Email the contact below for how to get started.

CONTACT: Robert McRae, robert.mcrae@brooklaw.edu.

STREET LAW EN ESPAÑOL

Street Law en Español is a community outreach project sponsored by the Latin American Law Student Association. The program consists of a presentation (usually one each semester) of issues relevant to Spanish speaking communities in Brooklyn. LALSA coordinates with Latino community organizations to determine legal topics of highest interest for the community. Past presentations have included information regarding housing, debtor/creditor issues, and various 'Know Your Rights' programs. The presentations are conducted in both English and Spanish. Students who are interested in being involved, but do not want to present, can help with research, putting together the presentations, and other organizing tasks.

ON CAMPUS SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: BLS Latin American Law Student Association (LALSA).

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS: Latino Justice/ PRLDEF, others TBD.

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: The presentations occur once each semester. There are many opportunities before the presentations to work on preparation and organizing the event.

GETTING INVOLVED: Come to a LALSA meeting or contact the student representative below.

CONTACT: Rosa Cohen-Cruz, LALSA Community Service Coordinator, rosa.cohen-cruz@brooklaw.edu.



STREET VENDOR PRO BONO PROJECT

The Street Vendor Pro-Bono Project is a partnership between Brooklyn Law School and the Street Vendor Project (SVP) of the Urban Justice Center. SVP is a non-profit organization that advocates for a more equitable environment for vending in New York City. The policy objectives range from lifting the cap on vending permits and licenses to reducing the fines associated with vending violations. Through this pro-bono project, students will have the opportunity to advocate on behalf of New York City-based street vendors. Students analyze violations issued by the Department of Health, the Parks Department and the Police Department, and defend the vendor before the Environmental Control Board (ECB), the administrative tribunal that handles civil violations issued by City agencies. Preparation for these cases will involve direct interaction with street vendors, site visits, evidence gathering, and an analysis of Administrative Code provisions and the Rules of the City of New York. Students will refine their legal research and oral argument skills as they present their defenses before administrative law judges at the ECB.

ON CAMPUS SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS: Environmental Law Society.

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION: Urban Justice Center.

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: Commitment of one hearing each semester, which will last approximately five hours.

TRAINING: Mandatory training sessions some time in early fall.

GETTING INVOLVED: E-mail the contact below for more information.

CONTACTS: Lee Miller, leslie.miller@brooklaw.edu.

SUSPENSION REPRESENTATION PROJECT (SRP)

SRP is an advocacy group dedicated to ensuring the educational rights of New York City public school students. SRP gives students the opportunity to represent high school students at their Superintendent's Suspension hearing. Students facing a Superintendent's Suspension are often unrepresented at their hearings and lack the information they need to challenge the charges brought against them. Our goal is to work with students and their families to develop a case to keep them in school.

ON CAMPUS SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: BLS Suspension Representation Project.

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION: New York University Law School's SRP.

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: Cases require roughly 10 hours of time shared by two volunteers.

TRAINING: Fall training on a date TBA.

GETTING INVOLVED: Email the contact below for how to get started.

CONTACT: Ari Cohen, ari.cohen@brooklaw.edu.

UNCONTESTED DIVORCE PREPARATION FOR BATTERED WOMEN

Following a training by a Sanctuary for Families attorney, students are assigned a client and then conduct interviews, prepare divorce petitions, file the court papers, and conduct follow-up meetings with the client. Men and women volunteers are welcome.

ON CAMPUS SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Legal Association for Women.

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS: Sanctuary for Families and the Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyer's Project (VLP).

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: The training is offered in the fall in order to allow sufficient time for students to complete all the necessary steps during the school year. Students need an average of about 10 hours for each petition. The entire project is flexible and can be done at the student and client's convenience.

TRAINING: One 2-hour training in the fall at BLS, usually during October (domestic violence awareness month). Students who are unable to attend the BLS training may attend other fall training sessions at other local law schools.

GETTING INVOLVED: Look for flyers and emails and watch BLS Connect in the fall for the training date.

CONTACTS: Dina Kleyman, dina.kleyman@brooklaw.edu.

UNEMPLOYMENT ACTION CENTER (UAC)

The Unemployment Action Center is a non-profit, student-run organization devoted to the representation of unemployment insurance claimants in New York City. Volunteers advise those trying to recover or enroll in unemployment insurance, prepare for and conduct hearings (including direct and cross examinations of claimants and witnesses where appropriate) before administrative judges at the New York Department of Labor.

ON CAMPUS SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Brooklyn Law School Unemployment Action Center

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS: The citywide Unemployment Action Center.

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: Depending on the availability of clients, students can take as many or as few cases as convenient throughout the school year following training.

TRAINING: A short training which includes mock hearings is given in both the fall and the spring. Participants are provided with a manual at the training program which guides new advocates through the intake, interview, and representation process.

GETTING INVOLVED: Go to a meeting, take the training, get an ID and password to the website, and volunteer for clients described on the site. This project may be of special interest to those interested in labor and employment, workers' rights, direct legal services, due process issues, and learning to prepare for and handle hearings.

CONTACT: Rick Lasher, rick.lasher@brooklaw.edu.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)

VITA volunteers assist low wage workers to file their income taxes and ensure that they get credits to which they are entitled, avoid predatory tax preparers' practices, and get prompt refunds and other financial services. In the past BLS students have provided a critical boost to low-income working families in our neighborhood putting as much as \$300,000 back into the community through this program.

ON CAMPUS SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Brooklyn Law School Tax Law Association.

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS: Internal Revenue Service & FoodChange.

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: From the December training until April 15th. Student volunteers see their clients at a convenient location here in Brooklyn as their schedules permit, but a minimum number of hours are encouraged. Clinics are generally weeknights and weekends.

TRAINING: One or two days in December at the school or at any number of other sites (one day of the training may be taken online) in which students learn basic tax law and the official IRS e-filing system. Upon successful completion of the training students become certified tax preparers.

GETTING INVOLVED: Join the Brooklyn Law School Tax Law Association or contact Joseph Berger. This may be of interest to anyone interested in tax law, client contact, economic justice, financial services and assisting underserved families.

CONTACT: Joseph Berger, joseph.berger@brooklaw.edu.

NON-LEGAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

BLSPI DRIVES

Brooklyn Law Students for the Public Interest (BLSPI) organizes a number of charity drives each year to benefit those in need.

BLOOD DRIVE – Brooklyn students work with the New York Blood Center to coordinate a biannual blood drive on the BLS campus.

CANNED FOOD DRIVE – Every year, BLSPI students organize a Thanksgiving food drive. Non-perishable donations go toward a local shelter's Thanksgiving dinner.

CLOTHING DRIVE – Students coordinate a clothing drive for job seekers living in domestic violence shelters.

CANDY DRIVE – A drive to collect candy for children of domestic violence victims living in shelters who cannot go trick-or-treating on Halloween.

VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE – Students table outside the law school with voter registration forms and offer assistance to those who wish to register to vote.

In addition to these charity drives, BLSPI stands prominently on campus, providing a common tie between on-campus pro bono activity and other involvement with the community of New York. BLSPI is committed to finding opportunities for students to explore legal careers involving the public interest, ranging from bringing in public interest lawyers to speak on behalf of their organizations, to fund-raising for public service fellowship grants that are given to devoted first and second-year members of BLSPI for summer internships.

CONTACT: blspi@brooklaw.edu, Subject: "Pro bono Information" or "Add to Listserve."

OFF CAMPUS OPPORTUNITIES IN NYC METROPOLITAN AREA

Supplementing the “on-campus” programs above, thousands of opportunities for involvement with pro bono activities in the New York area are available through the websites and organizations listed below. In addition, the Public Service Office at Brooklyn Law School is available both to help with individual placements as well as to help students develop new on-campus pro bono initiatives.

FINDING PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION'S CENTER FOR PRO BONO

www.abanet.org/legalservices/probono/home.html

CITY BAR FUND'S PRO BONO GUIDE

www.nycbar.org/CityBarFund/pdf/probono_guide07.pdf

CITY BAR JUSTICE CENTER

www.abcny.org/citybarfund/index.htm

THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY'S PRO BONO PROGRAM

www.legal-aid.org/en/getinvolved/volunteerprobono.aspx

PRO BONO NET

www.probono.net/ny

VOLUNTEERS OF LEGAL SERVICE (VOLS)

www.volsprobono.org

SPECIFICALLY FOR LAW STUDENTS

PRO BONO LEGAL CORPS:

www.equaljusticeworks.org/find/faopblc.php

FOR MORE INFORMATION

ABA'S RULES FOR ATTORNEYS REGARDING PRO BONO, RULE 6.1

www.abanet.org/legalservices/probono/rule61.html

GUIDELINES FOR LAW SCHOOLS ON PRO BONO PROGRAMS

www.abanet.org/legalservices/probono/lawschools/introduction.html

RACE JUDICATA

Race Judicata is an annual 5K Run/Walk held by law schools and law firms across the nation to benefit causes selected by each sponsoring group. The BLS Race Judicata is held in Prospect Park as a fundraiser for the High School for Law and Justice. The Race is held in honor of Professor Barry Zaretsky, a bankruptcy and commercial law professor at Brooklyn Law School.

ON CAMPUS SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Student Bar Association.

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS: Urban Assembly High School for Law and Justice.

WHEN AND FOR HOW LONG: One day in the fall.

TRAINING: If you haven't been training, you can walk rather than run, and you will be in good company.

GETTING INVOLVED: Contact sba@brooklaw.edu. This is a social as well as charitable event. Get your heart pumping, run (or walk) with your friends and the larger BLS community, and benefit a school working hard to bring youngsters previously relegated to very poor schools up to grade level and looking forward to college.

CONTACT: Judith Soto, judith.soto@brooklaw.edu.

POWER LUNCH

Power Lunch is a literacy and mentoring initiative that pairs volunteers with elementary school students for one-to-one reading and conversation during lunchtime. Volunteers commit fifty minutes per week to read with their partner child, plus the time it takes to travel to and from the nearby elementary school. Volunteers who are unable to make a regular, weekly commitment may be paired with another volunteer and read on alternate weeks. Those interested in volunteering must attend a training session.

CONTACT: For more information about the BLS chapter, contact Melissa Palombo, melissa.palombo@brooklaw.edu.