# Current Status of Pro Bono Service Among Maryland Lawyers

January 2018 to June 2019



Administrative Office of the Courts

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## **Executive Summary**

Maryland Rules 19-306.1 and 19-503 establish an aspirational goal of 50 hours of pro bono service annually per attorney and require all attorneys authorized to practice law in Maryland to report on their pro bono activities. Rule 19-306.1(b)(1) elaborates upon the goal, noting:

a substantial portion of the applicable hours should be devoted to rendering legal service, without fee or expectation of fee, or at a substantially reduced fee, to:

- (A) people of limited means;
- (B) charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters designed primarily to address the needs of people of limited means;
- (C) individuals, groups, or organizations seeking to secure or protect civil rights, civil liberties, or public rights; or
- (D) charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters in furtherance of their organizational purposes when the payment of the standard legal fees would significantly deplete the organization's economic resources or would otherwise be inappropriate.

This summary report presents results from data collected from Pro Bono Service Reports for January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. The reporting cycle was 18 months because of the implementation of AIS and our desire to consolidate the pro bono reporting cycle with the CPF payment cycle so attorneys could fulfill one compliance process each year that combined all requirements. For this reason results from this cycle are not easily comparable to prior reporting cycles. Note also that for smaller jurisdictions, relatively large percentage differences may reflect fairly small absolute differences. Highlights of the results are below.

- Among lawyers certified to practice law in Maryland, 15,909 (39.7%) reported some pro bono activity and they collectively provided 1,229,131 hours of pro bono service.
- Among 17,377 full-time lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland, 46.9% provided some pro bono service. Lawyers in the Eastern Region had the highest percentage of full-time lawyers who reported providing any pro bono service (64.2%), followed by the Western Region (60.4%).
- Among full-time lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland, 17.9% met the aspirational goal of providing 50 or more hours of pro bono service across Rule 19-306.1(b)(1)'s categories.
- The Eastern Region had the largest percentage of full-time lawyers who reported providing 50 or more hours of pro bono service (32.4%), followed by 20.0% in the Western Region, and 18.6% in the Capital Region.
- Dorchester County had the largest percentage of full-time lawyers reporting 50 or more probono hours (40.9%), followed by Talbot County (39.2%), and Caroline County (38.1%).



- A total of 7,579 lawyers reported participating in activities related to improving the law, the legal system, or the legal profession, with a total of 470,967 hours.
- The total reported financial contributions to organizations that provide legal services to people of limited means was \$7,531,612 from 7,449 contributing lawyers.
- Attorneys reported providing 48.5% of reported pro bono hours to people of limited means and 17.8% of reported hours to organizations helping people of limited means. Entities seeking to secure or protect rights and liberties were the reported recipients of 13.1% of reported hours, and attorneys reported providing 20.5% of hours to organizations in matters furthering their organizational purposes. In comparison to lawyers with out-of-state primary addresses, lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland reported a smaller percentage of hours provided to entities on civil rights matters and larger percentages in other categories.
- About 84% of all full-time lawyers who report practicing in government agencies and 83% of lawyers who do not practice reported providing no pro bono service, as compared to 37.4% of lawyers in private firms. Only 4.0% of lawyers in government and 7.9% of corporate counsel reported providing 50 or more hours of pro bono service, compared to 27.2% among lawyers in private firms.
- Lawyers submitting their Pro Bono Legal Service Reports are asked to consider making a one-time voluntary donation to a Maryland legal services provider upon completing the report. In total 1,575 lawyers made unconfirmed donations through the Attorney Information System totaling \$189,240.02.



### Introduction

Filing a Pro Bono Legal Service Report is mandatory, pursuant to Maryland Rule <u>19-503</u>, as a condition precedent to the practice of law in Maryland. The Administrative Office of the Courts is responsible for managing the reporting process and promptly submitting a compilation of non-identifying information and data from the Pro Bono Legal Service Reports to the Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service.

Lawyers usually submit their Pro Bono Legal Service Reports annually. As part of implementation of the Attorney Information System (AIS), however, which consolidates Maryland attorneys' compliance requirements and standardizes the reporting calendar, the current report summarizes Pro Bono Legal Service Reports submitted for calendar year 2018 and fiscal year 2019 (i.e., January 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019). Appendices B and C provide a sample Pro Bono Legal Service Report and instructions on completing the report in AIS, respectively.

To the extent practicable, the current report mirrors the form and content of the legacy reports.<sup>2</sup> Due to the unique 18-month reporting period and other differences noted below, however, the current report is not directly comparable to legacy reports, the last of which concerns calendar year 2017. Note also that for smaller jurisdictions, relatively large percentage differences may reflect fairly small absolute differences. The current report will also not be directly comparable to future reports, the first of which will concern fiscal year 2020. The Committee should consider what additional or different analyses would be of interest in those future reports.

During 2019 and 2020, several communications were sent out to Maryland attorneys on active status regarding reporting of their pro bono activities during the reporting cycle. Pursuant to Maryland Rule 19-801(c), all communications with attorneys may be sent electronically:

- First round: An initial email was sent on July 10, 2019, to all lawyers who were on active status in the Attorney Information System (AIS).
- Second round: An email reminder was sent out on September 4, 2019, to lawyers who had not filed their pro bono report as of that date.
- Third round: An AIS Alert and Compliance Reminder was emailed on December 10, 2019, to lawyers who had not filed their pro bono report as of that date.
- Fourth round: A 'Notice of Failure to File' was sent out on February 11, 2020, to approximately 900 lawyers who had not filed their pro bono report.
- Fifth round: On May 7, 2020, a 'Decertification Order' signed by the Court of Appeals was sent to 87 lawyers who had failed to file the pro bono report by that date.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In addition to annual reporting on pro bono activity, AIS combines attorney registration and maintenance of current contact information, payment of Client Protection Fund assessments, and reporting on IOLTA accounts. Prior to AIS, the compliance requirements did not all follow the same fiscal year-based reporting cycle. More information about AIS is available at https://mdcourts.gov/lawyers/ais.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Legacy reports for calendar years 2002 through 2017, prepared by ANASYS, Inc., are available at <a href="https://mdcourts.gov/probono/reportsinfopackets">https://mdcourts.gov/probono/reportsinfopackets</a>.



This report covers the 40,067 Pro Bono Legal Service Reports received from lawyers listed as active in AIS by May 6, 2020, for the January 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019, reporting period.

The purposes of this summary report are:

- 1. to identify and evaluate the status of pro bono service engaged in by Maryland lawyers;
- 2. to assess whether a target goal of 50 hours of pro bono service for lawyers in the full-time practice of law was achieved;
- 3. to determine the level of financial contribution to legal services organizations by Maryland attorneys; and
- 4. to identify areas that need to be improved for promoting pro bono services.



## **General Characteristics of Maryland Lawyers**

This section provides an overall picture of Maryland lawyers' practices using descriptive statistics from the Pro Bono Legal Service Report data.

## **Geographical Location**

Table 1 below shows the distribution of lawyers by address in AIS.

Although the legacy reports categorized attorneys by their business addresses, the current report uses the addresses designated in AIS as primary. Primary addresses in AIS include 20,872 business addresses (52.1%), 7,399 personal addresses (18.5%), 11,733 addresses of unknown type (29.3%), and 62 temporary addresses (0.2%). The table omits 1 (one) lawyer with no primary address in AIS.

About 60% of lawyers certified to practice in Maryland report a primary address in Maryland, followed by almost 17% in Washington, D.C. The table includes numbers from previous years for reference. These are not directly comparable due to both the change from business to primary address and the change in reporting period noted in the Introduction.

Table 1. Location of Active Lawyers Admitted to Practice in Maryland

	AIS – Prima	ry Address	Legacy Reports – Business Address						
	Januar to June		CY 2017		CY 2016		CY 2015		
	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	
Maryland	24,205	60.4%	22,448	55.8%	22,482	56.5%	22,276	56.6%	
Washington, D.C.	6,637	16.6%	9,432	23.5%	9,232	23.2%	9,262	23.5%	
Virginia	3,453	8.6%	2,999	7.5%	2,978	7.5%	2,901	7.4%	
Other U.S.	5,631	14.1%	5,146	12.8%	4,920	12.4%	4,747	12.1%	
Foreign	140	0.3%	183	0.5%	182	0.5%	173	0.4%	
Total	40,066	100%	40,208	100%	39,794	100%	39,359	100%	

In Table 1, and throughout this report, "Other U.S." includes 50 attorneys (approximately 0.13% of the total) with primary addresses in American Samoa (1), Guam (3), Puerto Rico (6), Saipan (1), and the U.S. Virgin Islands (5), or with diplomatic or overseas military primary addresses (34).

In addition to the lawyer's primary address in AIS, the Pro Bono Legal Service Report collects information on up to 3 jurisdictions where each lawyer reports practicing. Approximately half of the attorneys (20,099) reported practicing in one or more Maryland jurisdictions (including 3,679 who claim to practice in "All of Maryland"), while about 35% (13,961) reported practicing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The AIS data include 11 attorneys with 2 addresses designated primary addresses. This report uses the business address for the 6 of those 11 with a business address and the personal address for the remaining 5 attorneys. For only 2 attorneys does the selected address affect the state or county; using business addresses places those 2 attorneys in Baltimore City, rather than Baltimore County and Montgomery County.



outside of Maryland only. The remaining 15% of lawyers, who did not provide any practice jurisdiction, indicated elsewhere in their Pro Bono Legal Service Reports either that they are judges or clerks (278)<sup>4</sup>—who are not asked to report their practice jurisdiction—or that they are not practicing (5,729).

Table 2 below shows the distribution of reported practice jurisdictions. Although the corresponding table in the legacy reports included a single practice jurisdiction, in Maryland only, per attorney, the current report includes information on up to 3 reported practice jurisdictions. Because lawyers could report up to 3 jurisdictions, the 52,283 total reported jurisdictions is greater than the total number of lawyers.

For the current reporting period the percentages displayed in Table 2 are of all 40,067 lawyers (as opposed to, e.g., all reported practice jurisdictions or all reported Maryland practice jurisdictions). For reference Table 2 includes numbers from previous years. These are not directly comparable due to the inclusion of up to 3 practice jurisdictions, whether or not in Maryland, from the current reporting period, and the change in reporting period, noted in the Introduction.

Notwithstanding the methodological changes from the legacy reports, the Maryland jurisdictions where the largest numbers of attorneys reported remain Montgomery County (5,331), Baltimore City (5,247), Baltimore County (4,288), Prince George's County (3,324), Anne Arundel County (2,188), and Howard County (1,383)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Generally, judges and law clerks should not receive the notice to report. These 278 self-identified judges and clerks include 113 with out-of-state primary addresses. Of those with Maryland primary addresses, most reported being with the United States District Court, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Coast Guard, no organization was listed, or they appear to work for law firms; 4, however, show a Maryland (State) court in the organization field.



**Table 2. Attorneys' Practice Jurisdictions** 

	Prac Jurisd	Up to 3 ctice ictions	Legacy Reports – 1 Practice Jurisdiction								
		y 2018 e 2019	CY	2017	CY	2016	CY	CY 2016			
	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>			
Allegany	139	0.3%	122	0.6%	116	0.6%	111	0.6%			
Anne Arundel	2,188	5.5%	1,641	8.3%	1,607	8.2%	1,551	8.1%			
<b>Baltimore City</b>	5,247	13.1%	4,831	24.5%	4,860	24.8%	4,805	25.0%			
<b>Baltimore County</b>	4,288	10.7%	2,727	13.8%	2,703	13.8%	2,680	14.0%			
Calvert	248	0.6%	123	0.6%	130	0.7%	132	0.7%			
Caroline	96	0.2%	40	0.2%	41	0.2%	37	0.2%			
Carroll	367	0.9%	243	1.2%	231	1.2%	218	1.1%			
Cecil	192	0.5%	114	0.6%	103	0.5%	101	0.5%			
Charles	413	1.0%	186	0.9%	187	1.0%	173	0.9%			
Dorchester	100	0.2%	37	0.2%	37	0.2%	42	0.2%			
Frederick	698	1.7%	429	2.2%	403	2.1%	404	2.1%			
Garrett	79	0.2%	34	0.2%	36	0.2%	37	0.2%			
Harford	624	1.6%	365	1.9%	367	1.9%	376	2.0%			
Howard	1,383	3.5%	901	4.6%	890	4.5%	897	4.7%			
Kent	71	0.2%	51	0.3%	43	0.2%	40	0.2%			
Montgomery	5,331	13.3%	5,137	26.0%	5,147	26.3%	4,936	25.7%			
Prince George's	3,324	8.3%	2,004	10.2%	1,943	9.9%	1,923	10.0%			
Queen Anne's	153	0.4%	58	0.3%	64	0.3%	62	0.3%			
Somerset	108	0.3%	22	0.1%	18	0.1%	17	0.1%			
St. Mary's	195	0.5%	99	0.5%	101	0.5%	97	0.5%			
Talbot	163	0.4%	118	0.6%	110	0.6%	109	0.6%			
Washington	242	0.6%	142	0.7%	159	0.8%	166	0.9%			
Wicomico	240	0.6%	184	0.9%	173	0.9%	175	0.9%			
Worcester	202	0.5%	112	0.6%	101	0.5%	98	0.5%			
All of Maryland	3,679	9.2%	3,172	-	3,061	-	3,314	-			
Out of State	16,506	41.2%	16,514	-	16,203	-	15,878	-			
Blank or N/A	6,007	15.0%	809	-	966	-	991	-			
Total	52,283										

The remaining sections of this report use lawyers' primary addresses in AIS to designate the locations of lawyers rather than their reported practice jurisdictions.



#### **Years Admitted**

Table 3 shows the mean and median numbers of years admitted as of June 30, 2019 (i.e., the end of the reporting cycle). The minimum number of years admitted was less than 1, for an attorney admitted June 28, 2019, while the maximum was 69 years. The table shows that lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland have generally practiced law longer than lawyers with primary addresses elsewhere.

Table 3. Mean and Median Years Admitted by Location

	Maryland	Washington, D.C.	Virginia	Other U.S.	Foreign	Totala	
N	24,205	6,637	3,453	5,631	140	40,067	
Mean	20.3	15.1	16.7	17.3	16.2	18.7	
Median	19.0	13.0	16.0	16.0	14.5	17.0	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Total includes 1 (one) lawyer with location unknown.

#### **Practice Areas**

Similar to geographical practice jurisdictions, AIS collects data on up to 3 primary practice areas of law per attorney. Table 4 shows those primary practice areas among all 40,067 lawyers and for the 17,380 full-time lawyers<sup>5</sup> with primary addresses in Maryland. Litigation is the most common practice area reported for both groups, followed by Corporate/Business. The third and fourth most common practice areas are Other and Criminal, respectively, for all lawyers, while these are reversed for the full-time Maryland subset.

Because lawyers could report up to 3 practice areas, the total reported practice areas for all lawyers and for full-time lawyers in Maryland exceed the total numbers of lawyers and full-time lawyers in Maryland, respectively. The percentages displayed are of all lawyers and all full-time lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland, respectively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> As in the legacy reports, full-time lawyers are those who did *not* indicate, in response to screening questions, that they were (a) prohibited from providing pro bono legal service, (b) retired or not actively engaged in the practice of law, (c) practicing law part-time, or (d) a law clerk or sitting or senior judge. These screening items are in Step 1 of the Pro Bono Legal Service Report in AIS (see Appendix C).



Table 4. Attorneys' Practice Areas of Law

	Practice Are All Lav			Areas Among awyers in Maryland
	<u>N</u>	%	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>
Administrative Law	3,376	8.4%	1,546	8.9%
Banking/Finance	1,116	2.8%	491	2.8%
Bankruptcy/Commercial	938	2.3%	574	3.3%
Corporate/Business	5,190	13.0%	2,507	14.4%
Criminal	3,940	9.8%	2,324	13.4%
Elder Law	438	1.1%	261	1.5%
Employment/Labor	2,365	5.9%	1,063	6.1%
Environmental	684	1.7%	232	1.3%
Family/Domestic	2,482	6.2%	1,770	10.2%
General Practice	2,376	5.9%	1,385	8.0%
Government	3,735	9.3%	1,664	9.6%
Health	1,159	2.9%	579	3.3%
Insurance	1,088	2.7%	630	3.6%
Intellectual Property/Patents	1,391	3.5%	480	2.8%
Litigation	6,171	15.4%	3,127	18.0%
Personal Injury	2,515	6.3%	1,863	10.7%
Real Estate	3,001	7.5%	1,754	10.1%
Taxation	1,055	2.6%	458	2.6%
Trusts/Estates/Wills	2,291	5.7%	1,365	7.9%
Other	4,767	11.9%	2,061	11.9%
Blank or N/A	6,007ª	15.0%	504 <sup>b</sup>	2.9%
Total	56,085		26,638	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> These lawyers indicated elsewhere in their Pro Bono Legal Service Reports either that they are judges or clerks (278), the Pro Bono Legal Service Reports for whom do not include the practice area question, or that they are not practicing (5,729).

practicing (5,729).

b Although these attorneys meet the definition of full-time attorneys, see footnote 5 above, they reported elsewhere in their Pro Bono Legal Service Reports that they are not practicing.



### **Pro Bono Service**

In this section, we present results of analyses of the 2018-2019 Pro Bono Legal Service Report data on pro bono service provided, hours spent to improve the law and the legal system, and financial contributions made by Maryland lawyers.

## **Pro Bono Service by Primary Address Location**

In total Maryland lawyers reported providing 1,229,131 hours of pro bono service.<sup>6</sup> For reference, in calendar years 2017 and 2016 the total numbers of pro bono hours were slightly lower, a little less than 1.2 million hours, but these are not comparable with the current report due to the change in reporting period. Taking the different reporting period into account, the per month average is substantially lower.<sup>7</sup>

As shown in Table 5, among 40,059 lawyers, 15,909 (39.7%) reported some pro bono activity. Among 24,201 lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland, 10,025 (41.4%) rendered pro bono hours greater than zero, compared to 37.1% among lawyers with primary addresses out of state. The table includes percentages from previous years for reference, even though these are not comparable, due to the change in reporting period and the change from business to primary address, as described above.

Table 5. Percentage of Lawyers with Any Pro Bono Activity

	January 2018 to June 2019	CY 2017	CY 2016	CY 2015	CY 2014
All Reporting Lawyers <sup>a</sup>	39.7%	41.2%	41.7%	42.1%	42.4%
Lawyers with Primary Addresses in Maryland	41.4%	44.4%	45.3%	45.8%	46.0%
Lawyers with Primary Addresses Out of State	37.1%	37.2%	37.1%	37.3%	37.6%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Includes 1 lawyer with location unknown.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> This total and other pro bono service analyses in this report exclude 8 attorneys who each reported providing more than 40 hours per week of pro bono service, with one attorney reporting more than 48,000 hours of pro bono. We assume these entries are data entry errors, calculation errors, or from attorneys employed in public interest organizations incorrectly characterizing all their work as pro bono.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Per month averages also may not be directly comparable from CY2017 to CY2018/FY2019 given that donations of time or money may vary by time of year.



As Figure 2 shows, the proportions of lawyers who rendered pro bono service also differ by region of primary address within Maryland. The Central Region includes Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard Counties, and Baltimore City. The Capital Region includes Frederick, Montgomery, and Prince George's Counties. The Western Region includes Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties. The Eastern Region includes Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties. The Southern Region includes Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties. During the 2018-2019 reporting period, larger proportions of lawyers in rural areas of Maryland rendered pro bono services compared to lawyers in the Central and Capital Regions. Again, we provide percentages from previous years for reference.

Figure 1. Percentage of Lawyers with Any Pro Bono Hours by Region

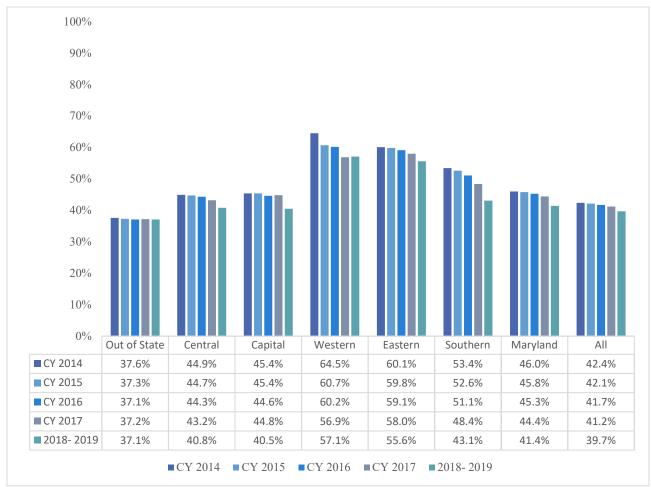




Figure 3 displays pro bono participation by county.<sup>8</sup> The largest percentage of lawyers reporting any pro bono service was in Garrett County, with 73.5% of lawyers rendering pro bono service. Lawyers in Talbot County reported the second highest level of pro bono participation (62.9%), followed by Kent County (62.8%).

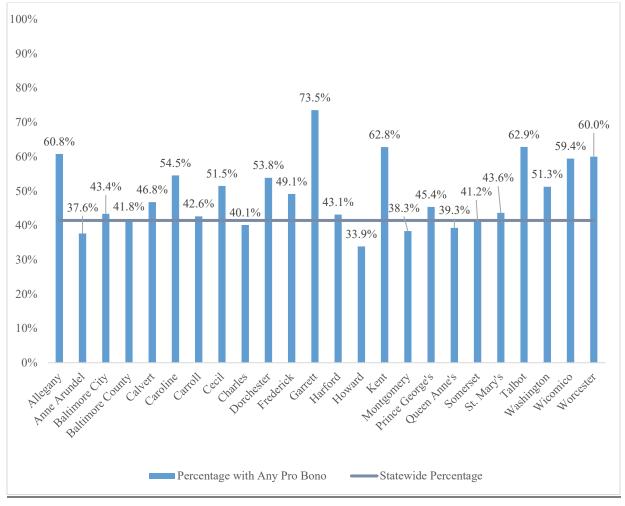


Figure 3. Percentage of Lawyers with Any Pro Bono Hours by County

Maryland Rule 19-306.1 establishes an aspirational 50-hour pro bono service goal for lawyers practicing full time. As shown in Table 6, among full-time lawyers in Maryland, 46.9% reported providing more than zero hours of pro bono service during the 2018-2019 reporting cycle. Among all full-time lawyers in Maryland, 17.9% reported providing 50 or more hours of pro bono service during the 2018-2019 reporting period. The Eastern Region had the largest

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> County is generally the county listed for the primary address in AIS. For approximately 250 attorneys with primary addresses in Maryland missing a county in AIS, we used the ZIP code from the primary address and the ZIP Code Lookup Table available from the Maryland Open Data Portal (updated September 12, 2018). For more than 96% of attorneys with primary addresses in Maryland that have both county and ZIP code information in AIS, the ZIP code obtained using the lookup table matches the county from AIS. For the approximately 600 attorneys where these conflict we use the county from AIS because ZIP codes may cross jurisdictional boundaries.



percentage of full-time lawyers providing any pro bono (64.2%), followed by the Western Region (60.4%). The Eastern Region was, again, the highest with 32.4% of full-time lawyers who reported providing 50 or more hours of pro bono service, followed by 20.0% in the Western Region, and 18.6% in the Capital Region. Lawyers in the Southern Region reported the lowest percentage of lawyers providing 50 or more pro bono hours (15.2%).

Table 6. Pro Bono Service by Region

		All Areas	Central Region	Capital Region	Western Region	Eastern Region	Southern Region	All of Maryland	Out of State
	No pro bono	60.3%	59.2%	59.5%	42.9%	44.4%	56.9%	58.6%	62.9%
All Lawyers	<50 hours	23.9%	26.2%	24.4%	37.2%	29.5%	29.8%	25.8%	20.9%
	≥50 hours	15.8%	14.6%	16.1%	19.9%	26.0%	13.3%	15.6%	16.2%
	No pro bono	54.7%	53.8%	54.1%	39.6%	35.8%	49.6%	53.1%	57.1%
Full-Time Lawyers	<50 hours	26.9%	29.5%	27.4%	40.4%	31.8%	35.2%	29.0%	23.8%
	≥50 hours	18.4%	16.7%	18.6%	20.0%	32.4%	15.2%	17.9%	19.2%
	No pro bono	75.7%	73.4%	72.6%	53.5%	64.5%	73.4%	72.6%	81.3%
Other Lawyers	<50 hours	15.6%	17.6%	17.3%	26.8%	24.2%	17.5%	17.8%	11.7%
	≥50 hours	8.7%	9.0%	10.1%	19.7%	11.3%	9.1%	9.6%	7.0%
	No pro bono	24,150	7,945	5,478	127	340	286	14,176	9,973
All Lawyers	<50 hours	9,563	3,521	2,248	110	226	150	6,255	3,308
	≥50 hours	6,346	1,961	1,484	59	199	67	3,770	2,576
E 11 00°	No pro bono	16,090	5,246	3,523	89	191	173	9,222	6,868
Full-Time Lawyers	<50 hours	7,902	2,874	1,783	91	170	123	5,041	2,861
·	≥50 hours	5,422	1,632	1,211	45	173	53	3,114	2,308
Other	No pro bono	8,060	2,699	1,955	38	149	113	4,954	3,105
Other Lawyers	<50 hours	1,661	647	465	19	56	27	1,214	447
	≥50 hours	924	329	273	14	26	14	656	268

For reference Table 7 shows the differences in the percentage points, from calendar year 2017, notwithstanding that the numbers are not directly comparable, of lawyers who reported providing 50 or more hours of pro bono services.



Table 7. Percentage Point Change in Lawyers with ≥ 50 Hours of Pro Bono Service

	All Areas	Central Region	Capital Region	Western Region	Eastern Region	Southern Region	All of Maryland	Out of State
All Lawyers	0.3%	0.0%	-0.8%	0.4%	1.1%	0.7%	-0.2%	0.9%
Full-Time Lawyers	-0.2%	-0.4%	-2.2%	-2.7%	-0.9%	-1.9%	-1.1%	1.0%
Other Lawyers	0.4%	0.2%	0.5%	8.1%	1.5%	3.7%	0.6%	-0.2%

Table 8 shows the percentages of full-time lawyers in Maryland reporting any pro bono service and with 50 or more pro bono hours by primary address location. Garrett County had the largest percentage of full-time lawyers who reported any pro bono service (79.2%), followed by Kent County (74.1%), and Dorchester County (72.7%). Dorchester County (40.9%) had the largest proportion of lawyers who reported providing at least 50 hours or pro bono service, followed by Talbot County (39.2%), and Caroline County (38.1%).



Table 8. Percentage of Full-Time Lawyers in Maryland with  $\geq$  50 Hours of Pro Bono Service by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Number of Lawyers	No Pro Bono	<50 Hours Pro Bono	≥50 Hours Pro Bono
Allegany	76	30.3%	46.1%	23.7%
Anne Arundel	1,568	58.3%	27.5%	14.2%
Baltimore City	Baltimore City 4,132		29.6%	18.1%
<b>Baltimore County</b>	2,497	51.8%	31.5%	16.7%
Calvert	107	43.9%	35.5%	20.6%
Caroline	21	38.1%	23.8%	38.1%
Carroll	194	44.8%	31.4%	23.7%
Cecil	73	39.7%	31.5%	28.8%
Charles	164	51.2%	36.0%	12.8%
Dorchester	22	27.3%	31.8%	40.9%
Frederick	355	42.3%	33.0%	24.8%
Garrett	24	20.8%	45.8%	33.3%
Harford	297	48.8%	33.0%	18.2%
Howard	1,064	60.9%	25.8%	13.3%
Kent	27	25.9%	51.9%	22.2%
Montgomery	4,609	56.4%	26.0%	17.6%
Prince George's	1,553	49.9%	30.1%	20.0%
Queen Anne's	67	53.7%	14.9%	31.3%
Somerset	13	46.2%	30.8%	23.1%
St. Mary's	78	53.8%	33.3%	12.8%
Talbot	97	29.9%	30.9%	39.2%
Washington	125	48.8%	36.0%	15.2%
Wicomico	136	35.3%	33.8%	30.9%
Worcester	78	28.2%	39.7%	32.1%
Statewide Total	17,377	53.1%	29.0%	17.9%



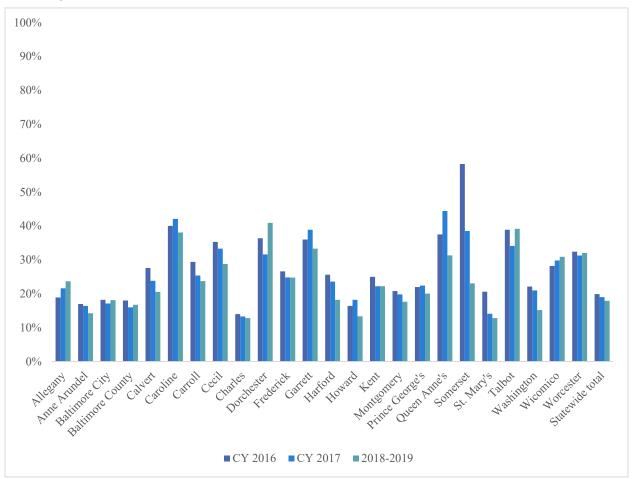


Figure 4. Percentage of Full-Time Lawyers with ≥50 Hours of Pro Bono Service by Primary Address Jurisdiction

Figure 4 displays the percentages of lawyers with 50 or more hours of pro bono service visually. The figure also includes percentages from previous years for reference, although these are not comparable.

#### **Pro Bono Service Beneficiaries**

The Pro Bono Legal Service Report includes a series of items regarding the recipients of pro bono legal service. The possible responses in Section 5 of Step 3 of the Pro Bono Legal Service Report in AIS are:

- 5A.People of limited means;
- 5B. Charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters addressing the needs of people of limited means;
- 5C. Individuals, groups, or organizations seeking to secure or protect civil rights, civil liberties, or public rights; and
- 5D.Charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters furthering their organizational purposes, when the payment of the standard legal



fees would significantly deplete the organization's economic resources or would be inappropriate.

Table 9 presents the results from these items. Overall, people of limited means received the plurality of pro bono hours provided (48.5%), while organizations addressing the needs of such people received an additional 17.8% of reported pro bono hours. Lawyers reported providing 13.1% of pro bono hours to entities pursuing rights and liberties, and 20.5% of hours to organizations in matters furthering the organizations' purposes. Lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland rendered a smaller proportion of their pro bono service on civil rights and liberties than out-of-state lawyers, with larger proportions in all other areas.

Table 9. Distribution of Pro Bono Service by Beneficiary Type and Region

Section <sup>a</sup>	All Areas	Central Region	Capital Region	Western Region	Eastern Region	Southern Region	All of Maryland	Out of State
5A.	48.5%	48.6%	52.5%	59.5%	61.1%	58.4%	51.2%	44.9%
5B.	17.8%	20.0%	16.2%	14.0%	19.0%	22.5%	18.3%	17.1%
5C.	13.1%	7.8%	10.5%	8.5%	2.4%	3.7%	8.6%	19.2%
5D.	20.5%	23.6%	20.8%	18.0%	17.4%	15.4%	21.9%	18.8%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Reporting Sections are as follows: 5A. People of limited means; 5B. Charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters addressing the needs of people of limited means; 5C. Individuals, groups, or organizations seeking to secure or protect civil rights, civil liberties, or public rights; and 5D. Charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters furthering their organizational purposes, when the payment of the standard legal fees would significantly deplete the organization's economic resources or would be inappropriate.

The Pro Bono Legal Service Report asks how many of the pro bono service hours provided were on matters referred by pro bono and legal services organizations. Among all reporting lawyers, 43.1% of all pro bono hours provided were on matters referred by an organization (see Table 10). The proportion of reported hours provided on matters referred by organizations ranged from slightly more than a quarter of hours provided to further organizational purposes (26.2%) to just over one half of the pro bono hours provided people of limited means (50.2%). Lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland provided less of their pro bono service on matters referred by a pro bono or legal services organization than lawyers with primary addresses out of state.



Table 10. Percentages of Pro Bono Hours on Matters from a Pro Bono or Legal Services Organization by Beneficiary Type and Region

Section <sup>a</sup>	All Areas	Central Region	Capital Region	Western Region	Eastern Region	Southern Region	All of Maryland	Out of State
5A.	50.2%	46.1%	45.6%	35.6%	56.8%	33.3%	46.1%	56.3%
5B.	41.8%	40.9%	35.9%	43.1%	47.6%	31.4%	39.3%	45.3%
5C.	45.2%	45.6%	32.9%	2.9%	27.7%	46.3%	38.2%	49.3%
5D.	26.2%	25.7%	28.4%	11.6%	11.9%	19.0%	25.9%	26.8%
Total	43.1%	40.2%	39.1%	29.6%	46.5%	31.2%	39.7%	47.6%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Reporting Sections are as follows: 5A. People of limited means; 5B. Charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters addressing the needs of people of limited means; 5C. Individuals, groups, or organizations seeking to secure or protect civil rights, civil liberties, or public rights; and 5D. Charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters furthering their organizational purposes, when the payment of the standard legal fees would significantly deplete the organization's economic resources or would be inappropriate.

#### **Practice Areas and Pro Bono Service**

Table 11 shows the five most frequent attorney practice areas contrasted with the five most frequent pro bono service areas among full-time lawyers in Maryland.

Table 11. Comparison of Pro Bono Service Areas and Practice Areas Among Full-Time Lawyers in Maryland with Any Pro Bono Activity

Rank	Pro Bono Service Area	Practice Area
1	Family/Domestic	Litigation
2	Other	Corporate/Business
3	Corporate/Business	Criminal
4	General Practice	Other
5	Criminal	Personal Injury

The percentages of lawyers who reported providing pro bono services differs greatly by their reported practice areas. Among full-time lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland, Table 12 shows that 42.9% of lawyers who reported Elder Law as a practice area reported providing 50 or more pro bono hours, followed by 40.3% among those who reported practicing Family/Domestic legal practice, and 39.4% among reporting Trusts/Estates/Wills. These were also the 3 practice areas where the greatest percentages of lawyers reported providing any pro bono service.



Table 12. Reported Pro Bono Service by Attorneys' Practice Areas of Law

	Number of Lawyers <sup>a</sup>	Percentage with ≥50 Pro Bono Hours	Percentage with >0 Pro Bono Hours
Administrative Law	1,546	16.4%	31.1%
Banking/Finance	491	18.7%	43.4%
Bankruptcy/Commercial	574	31.4%	68.6%
Corporate/Business	2,506ª	26.7%	54.0%
Criminal	2,324	26.1%	50.0%
Elder Law	261	42.9%	75.1%
Employment/Labor	1,063	22.7%	48.4%
Environmental	231ª	16.9%	33.8%
Family/Domestic	1,770	40.3%	73.8%
General Practice	1,384 a	38.7%	71.0%
Government	1,664	9.7%	23.7%
Health	579	13.3%	33.3%
Insurance	630	11.9%	31.9%
<b>Intellectual Property/Patents</b>	480	16.7%	41.9%
Litigation	3,127	29.2%	55.8%
Personal Injury	1,863	27.6%	57.0%
Real Estate	1,754	25.8%	55.7%
Taxation	458	28.2%	61.4%
Trusts/Estates/Wills	1,364 a	39.4%	75.1%
Other	2,060 a	23.6%	45.8%
Blank <sup>b</sup>	504	4.4%	4.4%
Total	26,633ª	25.9%	51.5%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Numbers in this column differ slightly from Table 4 due to omission of extreme values. See footnote 6.

### **Hours to Improve the Law and Financial Contributions**

During the 2018-2019 reporting period, a total of 7,579 lawyers reported contributing hours to activities related to improving the law, the legal system, or the legal profession in Step 4 Section 8 of the Pro Bono Legal Service Report in AIS. The total of such hours was 470,967. For reference, in calendar year 2017 the total was 371,677 reported hours from 7,238 lawyers, which equates to approximately 30,973 hours per month for calendar year 2017 and 26,165 hours per month for the current period 10. The total financial contributions to organizations that provide legal services to people of limited means (Section 9 of Step 4) was \$7,531,612 from 7,449

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Although these attorneys meet the definition of full-time attorneys, see footnote 5, they reported elsewhere in their Pro Bono Legal Service Reports that they are not practicing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Similar to analyses of pro bono service, see footnote 6, we omit 6 attorneys who report contributing more than 40 hours per week on these activities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Similar to footnote 7, the effects of seasonality may make these per-month averages not comparable.



contributing lawyers<sup>11</sup> (for reference \$5,634,476 in financial contributions were reported by 8,106 lawyers in 2017).

Table 13 presents the percentages of lawyers who reported devoting hours to improving the law (Section 8) and making financial contributions (Section 9). Higher percentages of all lawyers and full-time lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland devoted hours to improving the law, the legal system, or the legal profession, compared to out-of-state lawyers, but smaller proportions of lawyers in Maryland reported providing financial support.

Table 13. Percentages of Lawyers Who Contributed Hours to Improve the Law or Made Financial Contributions, by Region

Section <sup>a</sup>		All Areas	Central Region	Capital Region	Wester n Region	Eastern Region	Southern Region	All of Maryland	Out of State
8	Full- Time Lawyers	21.5%	23.6%	21.7%	20.9%	21.2%	21.5%	22.7%	19.7%
8	Other Lawyers	11.8%	11.5%	11.8%	7.0%	16.5%	7.1%	11.6%	12.0%
8	All Lawyers	18.9%	20.3%	18.8%	17.6%	19.7%	17.1%	19.6%	17.9%
9	Full- Time Lawyers	19.7%	17.9%	18.5%	11.1%	9.0%	9.5%	17.6%	22.8%
9	Other Lawyers	15.4%	15.1%	16.6%	12.7%	10.8%	9.7%	15.4%	15.5%
9	All Lawyers	18.6%	17.1%	18.0%	11.5%	9.5%	9.5%	17.0%	21.1%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Reporting sections are as follows: 8. hours devoted to participating in activities that improve the law, legal system, or legal profession; hours improving the law; 9. financial contributions made to agencies that provide legal services to people of limited means.

The percentages of full-time lawyers in Maryland who reported financial contributions also varied by reported practice areas. As shown in Table 14, attorneys who reported practicing in Health, Elder Law, and "Other" had the largest percentages who reported making a financial contribution (regardless of amount). Attorneys who reported practicing Personal Injury, Insurance, and Criminal law had the smallest percentages reporting financial contributions.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> We omit seven attorneys who reported negative financial contributions. This includes one reported contribution of \$1,162,000.



Table 14. Full-Time Lawyers in Maryland Who Reported Financial Contributions by Practice Areas

	Number of Lawyers <sup>a</sup>	Number of Lawyers Reporting Contribution	Percentage of Lawyers Reporting Contribution
Administrative Law	1,546	286	18.5%
Banking/Finance	491	98	20.0%
Bankruptcy/Commercial	574	111	19.3%
Corporate/Business	2,507	475	18.9%
Criminal	2,324	247	10.6%
Elder Law	261	64	24.5%
Employment/Labor	1,063	212	19.9%
Environmental	232	42	18.1%
Family/Domestic	1,769ª	317	17.9%
General Practice	1,385	232	16.8%
Government	1,663ª	287	17.3%
Health	579	152	26.3%
Insurance	630	85	13.5%
<b>Intellectual Property/Patents</b>	480	80	16.7%
Litigation	3,127	609	19.5%
Personal Injury	1,861ª	266	14.3%
Real Estate	1,754	322	18.4%
Taxation	458	89	19.4%
Trusts/Estates/Wills	1,365	258	18.9%
Other	2,060 <sup>a</sup>	416	20.2%
Blank <sup>b</sup>	504	80	15.9%
Total	26,633ª	4,728	17.8%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Numbers in this column differ slightly from Table 4 due to omission of negative values. See footnotes 6 and 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Although these attorneys meet the definition of full-time attorneys, see footnote 5, they reported elsewhere in their Pro Bono Legal Service Reports that they are not practicing.



## **Pro Bono Service by Employment Type and Firm Size**

Table 15 shows the distribution of lawyers, excluding 278 sitting judges, senior judges, and law clerks, by their reported type of employer. Overall, about half (19,964) of all lawyers reported practicing in a private firm. Among full-time lawyers, the percentage practicing in a private firm was somewhat higher, at 57.8%, and among full-time lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland, slightly higher still (59.6%).

Table 15. Distribution of Lawyers by Employer Type

	Private Firm	Corporate Counsel	Government Agency	Not Practicing	Legal Services Organization	Public Interest Organization	Total		
Ful	Full-Time Lawyers								
N	17,012	3,443	6,682	911	572	801	29,421		
%	57.8%	11.7%	22.7%	3.1%	1.9%	2.7%	100.0%		
Ful	l-Time Lawy	ers with Maryl	and Primary Add	resses					
N	10,363	1,713	4,051	504	367	382	17,380		
%	59.6%	9.9%	23.3%	2.9%	2.1%	2.2%	100.0%		
Ful	l-Time Lawy	ers with Out-o	f-State Primary A	<u>ddresses</u>					
N	6,649	1,730	2,631	407	205	419	12,041		
%	55.2%	14.4%	21.9%	3.4%	1.7%	3.5%	100.0%		
All	All Lawyers								
N	19,964	3,876	8,509	5,729	682	1,029	39,789		
%	50.2%	9.7%	21.4%	14.4%	1.7%	2.6%	100.0%		

Among 19,964 lawyers who reported practicing in a private firm, 22.8% reported a solo practice (see Table 16), 15.9% reported working in a small firm (2-5 lawyers), 10.8% in a medium firm (6-20 lawyers), 5.5% in a large firm (21-49 lawyers), and 19.2% in an extra large firm (50 or more lawyers), as Table 16 shows. More than a quarter did not indicate their firm's size.



Table 16. Distribution of Lawyers in Private Firms by Firm Size

	Not Indicated	Solo	Small	Medium	Large	Extra Large	Total	
Ful	Full-Time Lawyers in Private Firms							
N	4,328	3,133	2,873	2,007	1,034	3,637	17,012	
%	25.4%	18.4%	16.9%	11.8%	6.1%	21.4%	100.0%	
Ful	l-Time Lawy	ers in Private l	Firms with Maryla	nd Primary	<u>Addresses</u>			
N	2,391	2,393	2,158	1,401	627	1,393	10,363	
<b>%</b>	23.1%	23.1%	20.8%	13.5%	6.1%	13.4%	100.0%	
Ful	l-Time Lawy	ers in Private l	Firms with Out-of-	-State Primaı	y Addresses			
N	1,937	740	715	606	407	2,244	6,649	
%	29.1%	11.1%	10.8%	9.1%	6.1%	33.7%	100.0%	
All	All Lawyers in Private Firms							
N	5,136	4,553	3,179	2,155	1,107	3,834	19,964	
<b>%</b>	25.7%	22.8%	15.9%	10.8%	5.5%	19.2%	100.0%	

The percentages of lawyers in private firms of varying sizes differs greatly by their primary address location. Proportionally more lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland reported practicing as solo practitioners or in smaller firms compared to lawyers with primary addresses out of state. The difference is especially noticeable among full-time lawyers in extra large firms. The proportion of full-time lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland who reported working at extra large firms (13.4%) is well under half the proportion for full-time lawyers out of state (33.7%).

Pro bono activity varied greatly by employment type. As Table 17 indicates, about 84% of all full-time lawyers in government agencies and 83% of lawyers who do not practice report providing no pro bono service, compared to about 37% of lawyers in private firms. Only 4.0% of lawyers in government and 7.9% of corporate counsel reported providing 50 or more hours of pro bono service, compared to 27.2% among lawyers in private firms. A higher proportion of full-time lawyers with Maryland addresses reported providing any pro bono service than full-time lawyers elsewhere, but a smaller percentage reported providing 50 or more hours.



Table 17. Employer Type and Pro Bono Service Among Full-Time Lawyers

	Private Firm	Corporate Counsel	Govern- ment Agency	Not Practicing	Legal Services Organ- ization	Public Interest Organ- ization	Total		
All Full-Time	Lawyers								
No pro bono	37.4%	70.9%	84.3%	83.1%	67.2%	64.7%	54.7%		
<50 hours	35.4%	21.2%	11.7%	12.3%	19.6%	17.3%	26.9%		
≥50 hours	27.2%	7.9%	4.0%	4.6%	13.2%	18.0%	18.4%		
Full-Time Law	vyers with M	Iaryland Addr	<u>esses</u>						
No pro bono	36.6%	70.6%	82.0%	81.5%	67.3%	62.3%	53.1%		
<50 hours	37.7%	21.2%	13.6%	14.1%	19.4%	20.9%	29.0%		
≥50 hours	25.7%	8.1%	4.4%	4.4%	13.1%	16.8%	17.9%		
Full-Time Law	Full-Time Lawyers with Out-of-State Addresses								
No pro bono	38.5%	71.2%	87.9%	85.0%	66.7%	66.8%	57.1%		
<50 hours	32.0%	21.2%	8.7%	10.1%	20.1%	13.9%	23.8%		
≥50 hours	29.5%	7.6%	3.4%	4.9%	13.2%	19.2%	19.2%		

Among full-time lawyers in private firms, firm size is an important predictor of pro bono hours. As Table 18 indicates, with the exception of lawyers in extra large firms, as firm size increases the proportion of lawyers reporting any pro bono hours decreases.

Table 18. Firm Size and Pro Bono Service Among Full-Time Lawyers in Private Firms

	Not	G .	G 11		_	Extra				
	Indicated	Solo	Small	Medium	Large	Large	Total			
All Full-Time Lawyers										
No pro bono	38.7%	27.4%	37.1%	50.0%	53.3%	33.1%	37.4%			
<50 hours	35.4%	39.5%	38.2%	32.9%	29.4%	33.0%	35.4%			
≥50 hours	25.9%	33.1%	24.7%	17.1%	17.3%	33.9%	27.2%			
Full-Time Lav	vyers with Ma	aryland Addr	esses							
No pro bono	38.7%	25.6%	36.6%	47.4%	49.1%	35.5%	36.6%			
<50 hours	36.4%	40.7%	38.8%	35.2%	32.5%	37.6%	37.7%			
≥50 hours	24.8%	33.7%	24.6%	17.4%	18.3%	26.9%	25.7%			
Full-Time Lav	vyers with Ou	ıt-of-State Ad	dresses							
No pro bono	38.6%	33.2%	38.7%	55.9%	59.7%	31.7%	38.5%			
<50 hours	34.1%	35.5%	36.2%	27.7%	24.6%	30.1%	32.0%			
≥50 hours	27.3%	31.2%	25.0%	16.3%	15.7%	38.2%	29.5%			



Appendix A provides a more detailed analysis of pro bono hours provided.

Although providing pro bono service on matters referred by a pro bono or legal services organization entails several benefits, <sup>12</sup> lawyers reported providing much of their pro bono service on matters not referred by such organizations. To understand why lawyers forego those benefits Step 3 Section 6 of the Pro Bono Legal Service Report asks why they provided pro bono outside of an organized program.

Table 19 shows responses from lawyers who reported providing non-referral pro bono hours. The majority reported that clients come to them directly. About 7% of all lawyers (6% of full-time lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland) stated that organizations did not contact them. Slightly fewer reported participating in in-house pro bono programs or indicate control over client selection as the reason. Fairly small numbers of respondents gave other reasons.

Table 19. Reasons for Pro Bono Service Outside of an Organized Program

	All La	wyers	Full-Time Lawyers in Maryland		
	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	
In-house pro bono program	719	6.4%	241	4.0%	
Clients come to me directly	5,733	51.2%	3,290	54.7%	
Control over client selection	578	5.2%	361	6.0%	
Too much paperwork/bureaucracy	110	1.0%	56	0.9%	
Negative past experience	54	0.5%	36	0.6%	
Was unaware of benefits	125	1.1%	64	1.1%	
Lack of interest in case-types	243	2.2%	121	2.0%	
Never contacted by an organization	774	6.9%	371	6.2%	
Other	697	6.2%	332	5.5%	
No Reason Provided	2,165	19.3%	1,142	19.0%	
Total	11,198	100%	6,014	100%	

The Pro Bono Legal Service Report asks lawyers who did not provide any pro bono service what prevented them (Step 3 Section 7 in AIS). Unfortunately, only 324 attorneys of the more than 24,000 with zero pro bono hours (1.3%) responded to this question, and the responses showed significant reporting anomalies. Therefore, these responses are not included in this report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Most legal services organizations provide training, mentoring, malpractice insurance, eligibility screening of clients, and a litigation fund.



# **Voluntary Donations to Maryland Legal Services Providers**

After an attorney submits their Pro Bono Legal Service Report, AIS displays the Pro Bono Donation screen, giving lawyers the option to make voluntary contributions to selected organizations.

If a lawyer would like to donate they indicate the amount in the box provided, and select the DONATE button for the program to which they would like to contribute. To complete the donation, the attorney must reenter the amount on the organization's direct payment page. AIS does not process or verify the actual payments. For this reason, data reported here reflects unverified contributions from Maryland lawyers. Attorneys may be unable to complete their donations for a variety of reasons.

For the combined 2018-2019 reporting cycle, 1,575 attorneys reported 1,913 unverified donations to 39 organizations. Unverified donations totaled \$189,240.02. Table 20 below shows the results for the 2018-2019 period. For reference, 790 lawyers made 970 unverified donations totaling approximately \$103,000 in calendar year 2017.



**Table 20. Unverified Donations to Maryland Legal Services Providers** 

Organization	2018-2019
Allegany Law Foundation	\$751.01
Alternative Directions, Inc.	\$301.00
Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center	\$660.00
Ayuda	\$3,439.00
Baltimore Bar Foundation Senior Legal Services	\$3,071.00
CASA de Maryland	\$8,049.00
Catholic Charities Baltimore Immigration Legal Services	\$6,910.00
Catholic Charities DC Immigration Legal Services	\$6,742.00
Citizens Assisting and Sheltering the Abused (CASA Inc.)	\$1,485.00
Community Law Center	\$1,660.01
Community Legal Services of Prince George's County	\$2,085.00
Disability Rights Maryland	\$7,197.00
FreeState Justice	\$2,635.00
Harford County Bar Foundation	\$625.00
Heartly House	\$1,060.00
HIAS	\$2,822.00
Homeless Persons Representation Project	\$4,305.00
HopeWorks of Howard County	\$1,565.00
House of Ruth Maryland	\$18,384.00
Life Crisis Center	\$310.00
Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center	\$3,168.00
Maryland Legal Aid	\$35,330.00
Maryland Legal Services Corporation	\$5,015.00
Maryland Public Interest Law Project	\$1,585.00
Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service	\$12,070.00
Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence	\$465.00
Mid-Shore Pro Bono	\$2,555.00
Montgomery County Bar Foundation	\$5,610.00
Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland	\$14,705.00
Public Justice Center	\$3,610.00
SARC (Sexual Assault/Spouse Abuse Resource Center)	\$3,491.00
Sexual Assault Legal Institute	\$2,090.00
Southern Maryland Center for Family Advocacy	\$772.00
St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center	\$1,350.00
Tahirih Justice Center	\$3,150.00
University of Baltimore Students for Public Interest	\$2,260.00
University of Maryland School of Law Medical-Legal Partnership Clinic	\$2,140.00
Whitman-Walker Health	\$3,001.00
Women's Law Center of Maryland	\$12,817.00
Statewide Total	\$189,240.02



### **Conclusion**

This report provides analyses of information reported by licensed Maryland attorneys on their pro bono activities during the 2018-2019 reporting period. The percentages of lawyers who reported participating in pro bono activities or making financial contributions are not directly comparable to previous reporting periods.

The data show large numbers of Maryland attorneys did not provide any pro bono service during the reporting period. Among those that do, large numbers did not meet the 50-hour aspirational goal established by Maryland Rule 19-306.1.

The available data do not explain why more attorneys did not participate or reach 50 or more hours. We note, however, that the relatively large percentages of Maryland lawyers practicing in smaller firms might not have the resources or margins available to lawyers in larger firms, making the financial burden of pro bono work relatively more difficult to bear. And the relatively large share of lawyers working in government agencies may be subject to rules or policies, whether official and formal, or implicit and informal, inhibiting outside legal practice, including pro bono service.

Direct questions about this report to:

Jamie L. Walter, Director, Research & Analysis <u>Jamie.Walter@MDcourts.gov</u> 410-260-3527

Or

Justin P. Bernstein, Senior Research, Research & Analysis Justin.Bernstein@MDcourts.gov 410-260-3527



## Appendix A

This Appendix provides a more granular breakdown of pro bono service. Whereas the main body of this report presents information on any pro bono hours, as opposed to none, and 50 pro bono hours or more, this Appendix provides information with additional intermediate cutoffs. This Appendix also subdivides respondents by their number of years admitted.

Table A1 shows the distribution of pro bono hours by attorney location. Although the differences are small, a lower percentage of full-time lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland reported providing 50 more hours of pro bono service than lawyers with primary addresses out of state, but larger percentages reported participation in pro bono at each of the intermediate threshold levels greater than zero.

Table A1. Pro Bono Hours Distribution by Attorney Location

	0 Hours	>0 & ≤5 Hours	>5 & ≤10 Hours	>10 & <50 Hours	≥50 Hours	Total
All Lawyers	60.3%	3.6%	4.6%	15.6%	15.8%	100%
Full-Time Lawyers	54.7%	4.0%	5.2%	17.6%	18.4%	100%
Full-Time Lawyers with Maryland Addresses	53.1%	4.5%	5.8%	18.7%	17.9%	100%
Full-Time Lawyers with Out-of-State Addresses	57.1%	3.4%	4.3%	16.1%	19.2%	100%

Among full-time lawyers, reported pro bono hours differ by years admitted as well. As Table A2 indicates, generally the more years of practice, the larger the percentage of attorneys who reported providing larger numbers of pro bono hours. Among full-time lawyers with fewer than 5 years of practice, for example, 59.6% reported providing no pro bono service and 18.1% reported 50 or more hours of pro bono. In comparison, among full-time lawyers with 25 or more years of practice, only 42.1% reported providing no pro bono service and 24.3% reported 50 or more pro bono hours.

Table A2. Pro Bono Hours by Years Admitted Among Full-Time Lawyers

	0 Hours	>0 & ≤5 Hours	>5 & ≤10 Hours	>10 & <50 Hours	≥50 Hours	Total
<5 Years	59.6%	4.5%	4.7%	13.1%	18.1%	100%
≥5 Years & <10 Years	64.6%	3.3%	4.6%	12.6%	14.9%	100%
≥10 Years & <15 Years	62.8%	4.1%	4.6%	14.8%	13.7%	100%
≥15 Years & <20 Years	56.3%	4.2%	5.5%	18.1%	15.9%	100%
≥20 Years & <25 Years	51.1%	4.3%	5.9%	19.3%	19.4%	100%
≥25 Years	42.1%	4.1%	5.6%	23.9%	24.3%	100%

Table A3 shows the distribution limited to full-time lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland. While the distribution is generally similar to the pattern shown in Table A2, the differences by the years admitted are, arguably, slightly more pronounced.

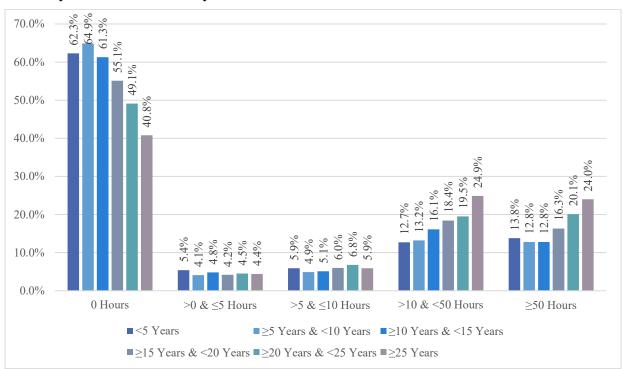


Table A3. Pro Bono Hours by Years Admitted Among Full-Time Lawyers with Primary Addresses in Maryland

	0 Hours	>0 & ≤5 Hours	>5 & ≤10 Hours	>10 & <50 Hours	≥50 Hours	Total
<5 Years	62.3%	5.4%	5.9%	12.7%	13.8%	100%
≥5 Years & <10 Years	64.9%	4.1%	4.9%	13.2%	12.8%	100%
≥10 Years & <15 Years	61.3%	4.8%	5.1%	16.1%	12.8%	100%
≥15 Years & <20 Years	55.1%	4.2%	6.0%	18.4%	16.3%	100%
≥20 Years & <25 Years	49.1%	4.5%	6.8%	19.5%	20.1%	100%
≥25 Years	40.8%	4.4%	5.9%	24.9%	24.0%	100%

Figure A1 depicts the information from Table A3 visually.

Figure A1. Pro Bono Hours by Years Admitted Among Full-Time Lawyers with Primary Addresses in Maryland



There could be many reasons for the above differences, one of which could be employer organization type. Table A4 compares the distribution of full-time lawyers with primary addresses in Maryland by type of employer and years admitted. The longer ago a lawyer was admitted, the more likely they are to report practicing in a private firm. Other employer types generally show decreases as years admitted increases.



# Table A4. Type of Employer by Years Admitted Among Full-Time Lawyers with Primary Addresses in Maryland

	Private Firm	Corporate Counsel	Govern- ment Agency	Not Practicing	Legal Services Organ- ization	Public Interest Organ- ization	Total
<5 Years	54.6%	6.5%	24.6%	5.0%	4.3%	5.0%	100%
≥5 Years & <10 Years	50.4%	10.2%	30.4%	3.4%	3.1%	2.5%	100%
≥10 Years & <15 Years	53.2%	12.5%	27.2%	3.1%	1.8%	2.2%	100%
≥15 Years & <20 Years	55.3%	11.5%	27.6%	1.8%	1.8%	2.0%	100%
≥20 Years & <25 Years	56.0%	13.1%	24.7%	2.6%	1.7%	1.9%	100%
≥25 Years	71.8%	8.2%	15.7%	2.2%	1.1%	1.0%	100%



## Appendix B. Sample Pro Bono Legal Service Report

Pro Bono Report for your records - Do not mail.

#### COURT OF APPEALS OF MARYLAND LAWYER PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICE REPORT

This is your Pro Bono Legal Service Report to be completed in accordance with Maryland Rule 19-503. You must complete and submit the report in AIS by **SEPTEMBER 10th** of each year. Failure to do so may result in decertification to practice law. Your report is confidential under the Maryland Public Information Act, although the non-identifying data contained in the report are not confidential.

THE REPORTING PERIOD: January 1, 2018 THROUGH June 30, 2019

PRACTICE STATUS: Lawyer's status during all or part of the reporting period.

- Check all that apply:
- I was prohibited by statute, ordinance, rule, or regulation from providing Pro Bono legal service as
  described in Rule 19-306.1 [formerly Rule 6.1(b)(1)] of the Maryland Lawyer's Rules of
  Professional Conduct.
- I was retired or not actively engaged in the practice of law.

No

c. I was practicing law part-time.

No

No

- d. I was a Judicial Law Clerk or a Sitting or Senior Judge during the entire reporting period. NOTE: If at any time during the Reporting Period you were not a Judge or Law Clerk, then you must file Pro Bono and IOLTA reports.
- No

e. None of the Above.

Yes

#### PRACTICE AREA:

2. Select where you practice: Private Firm - Solo Practitioner (1 lawyer)

3. Primary practice area(s): Personal Injury, Other, Criminal

4. Primary practice jurisdiction(s): Baltimore City, Wicomico County, Worcester County

#### PRO BONO SERVICE AND SUPPORT REPORTING:

I provided Pro Bono legal services without fee or expectation of fee, or at a substantially reduced fee, as follows:

Services Provided to:	Area(s) of Law:	Hours Provided Which Were Referred by a Pro Bono or Legal Services Organization	Additional Pro Bono Hours Provided (Not Through an Organization)	
A.People of limited means	NONE	0	0	0
B.Charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters addressing the needs of people of limited means	NONE	0	0	0
C.Individuals, groups, or organizations seeking to secure or protect civil rights, civil liberties, or public rights	NONE	0	0	0

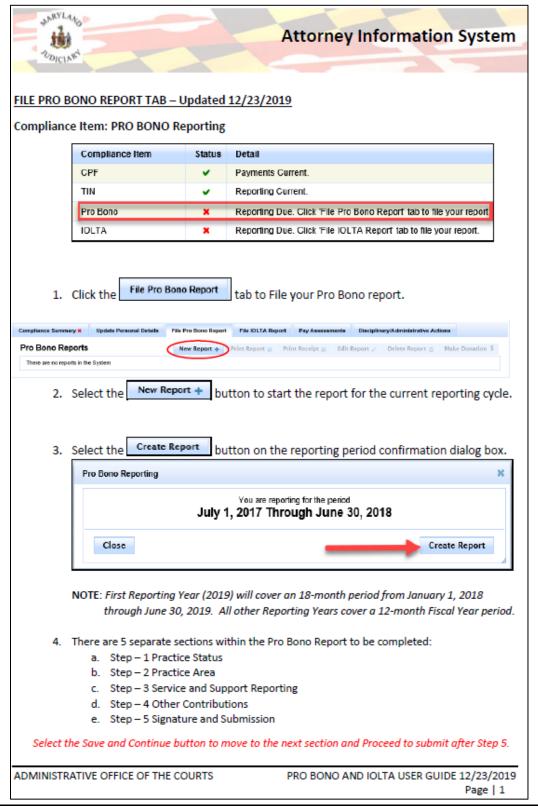
Attorney# Page 1 of 2



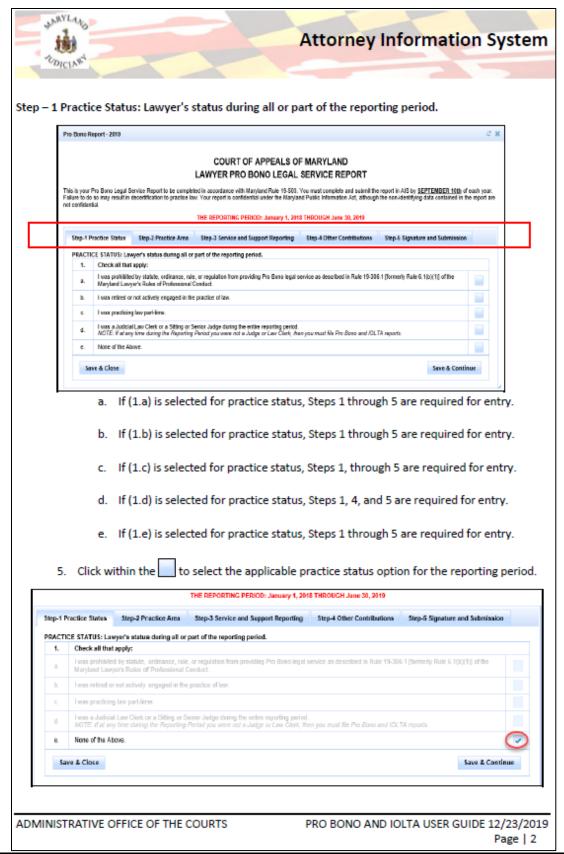
Pro Bon	o Report for your records -	- Do not mail.		
Services Provided to:	Area(s) of Law:	Hours Provided Which Were Referred by a Pro Bono or Legal Services Organization	Hours Provided (Not	
D.Charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters furthering its organizational purposes, when payment of standard legal fees would significantly deplete the organization's economic resources or would be inappropriate	NONE	0	0	0
	TOTALS	0	0	0
6. Most legal services organizations provide training, mentoring, malpractice insurance, eligibility screening of clients, and a litigation fund. If you did Pro Bono outside of an organized program, why?				
7. If you did not engage in Pro Bono this	s past year, what prevented	you? Lack	of time	
DONATIONS REPORTED FOR THE Y	EAR 2018			
OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:				
<ol> <li>I devoted the hours indicated to partic or legal profession.</li> </ol>	cipating in activities that im	prove the law, le	egal system,	0
Specify Activities: NONE				
I made financial contributions to one of limited means as indicated.	or more agencies that provi	ide legal services	s to people	\$0.00
Lawyer's signature (Please enter your full name. Note that, by entering you that this form is filed by you personally.)	r name here, you are certifying	-	Date Subm	itted
Attorney#			Page 2	of 2



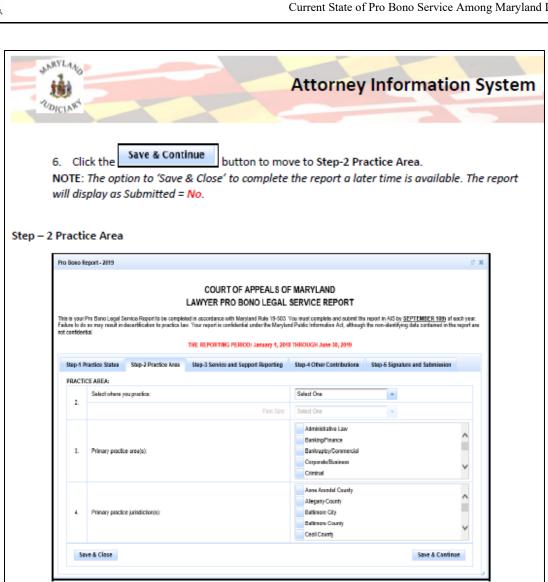
## Appendix C. Attorney Information System Pro Bono Reporting Instructions











7. Select Practice Area from the drop down



NOTE: When the option of Private Firm is selected the Firm Size is required.

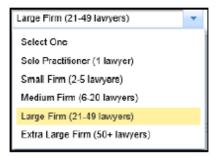
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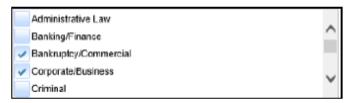




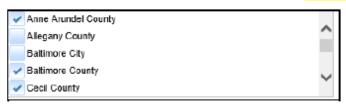
a. Select the Firm Size from the drop down Ist.



8. Select Primary practice area(s) using the scroll bar. Max of 3 are accepted.



9. Select Primary practice jurisdiction(s) using the scroll bar. Max of 3 are accepted.



- 10. Click the Save & Continue button to move to Step-3 Service and Support Reporting.
  - a. Review the areas on the screen.
    - i. If Pro Bono services were provided, only complete Step 3, section (5).
    - If Pro Bono services were NOT provided, complete Step 3, section (6) and (7).
  - b. Please complete the following sections per type of services provided to (A-D):
    - i. Area(s) of Law:
    - Enter # of Hours provided which were referred by a Pro Bono or Legal Services Organization.
    - Enter # of Additional Pro Bono Hours provided (Not Through an Organization).

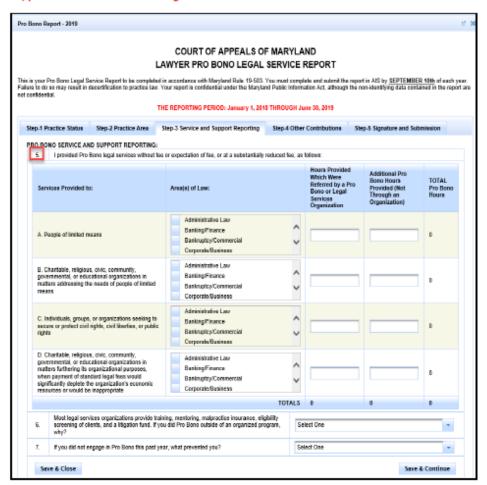
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### Step - 3 Service and Support Reporting

NOTE: If Pro Bono services were NOT provided - Leave section 5 empty and answer sections 6 and 7. Otherwise, proceed with section 5 and ignore sections 6 and 7.

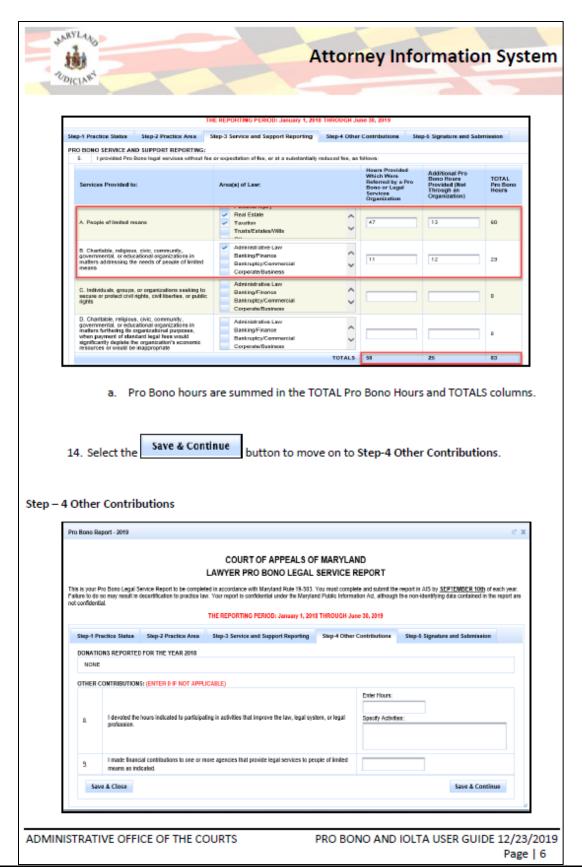


- Select Area(s) of Law using the scroll bar to locate area. Max of 3 are accepted.
- Enter Hours Provided Which Were Referred by a Pro Bono or Legal Services Organization in the blank field per Services Provided to: options (A-D).
- Enter Additional Pro Bono Hours Provided (Not Through an Organization), if applicable, in the blank field per Services Provided to: options (A-D).

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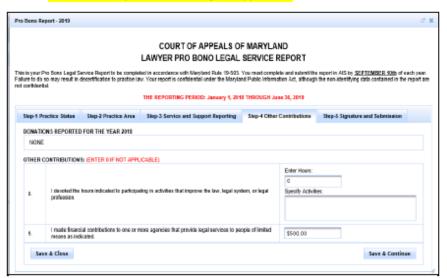






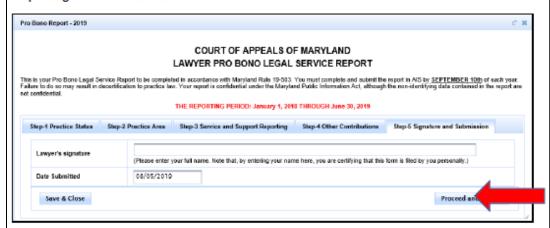


- For section 8: Enter Other Contributions hours. A number is required Enter '0' if not applicable.
  - Specify Activities: Specify the types of Activities related to the hours indicated. (Text is limited to 255 characters.)
- For section 9: Enter the amount of any Financial Contributions made to people of limited means. A number is required - Enter '0' if not applicable.



17. Select the Save & Continue button to move to Step - 5 Signature and Submission.

## Step - 5 Signature and Submission



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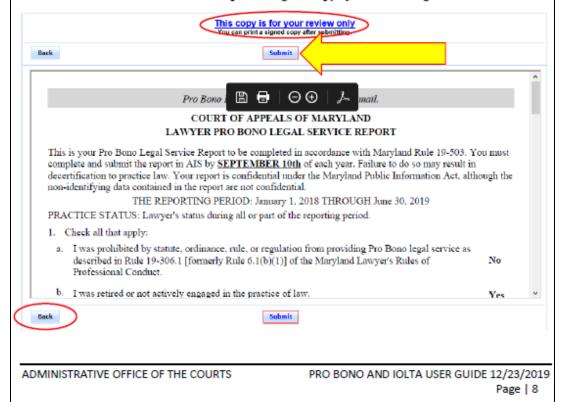


- Lawyer's Signature: Please enter your full name. Note that, by entering your name here, you are certifying that this form is filed by you personally.
- 19. Date Submitted: This will be filled by the system once the report is submitted.

OPTION: Review previous steps to verify accuracy before proceeding.

- 20. Select the Proceed and Review button to review your answers as a report.

  NOTE: If any sections are not complete an error will generate in a red banner at the top of the screen correct the issue, select the Save and Continue button on that Step, then return to Step 5 and Proceed and Review.
- The generated Pro Bono Report will display all answers entered in the Pro Bono steps.
   NOTE: The report is for review only and a signed copy can be printed after submitting.
  - a. Pro Bono Report for your records Do not mail.
  - b. Review all sections for accuracy.
  - Select the navigation bar on the right to scroll through the report.
  - d. The Signature and Date Submitted will be blank in this view until officially submitted. You can print a signed copy after submitting.





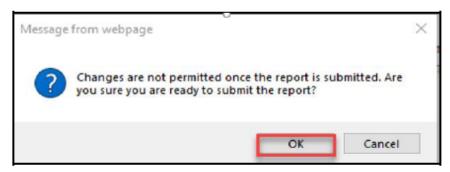


22. Select the button on the bottom of the report screen to return to make any corrections to the reported data in the relevant section(s).

OR....

- 23. Select the Submit button to officially submit your Pro Bono Report Filing.
  - The following message is displayed to warn that changes are not permitted once the report is submitted.

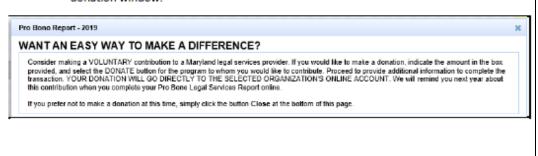
### 24. Click OK.



- 25. The Pro Bono Donation screen is displayed at this time giving lawyers an option to make a voluntary contribution directly to a selected organization(s).
  - Make a donation (See the "How to make a donation to a Pro Bono Organization in AIS" quick reference guide in the AIS Learning Center on the Annual Compliance Requirements page at: <a href="https://mdcourts.gov/lawyers/ais/annualcompliance">https://mdcourts.gov/lawyers/ais/annualcompliance</a>)

OR...

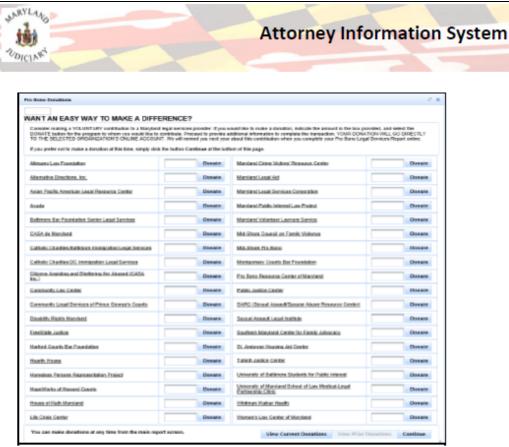
 Select the Close button or hit the 'X' at the top of the Dialog box to close the donation window.



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- c. Donations can be made at this time or later.
- Once the donation page is closed a <u>Filing Confirmation Receipt</u> is displayed showing that the Pro Bono Report Filing was competed.



- A copy of the Confirmation Receipt can be printed from the main File Pro Bono Report tab.
- 27. Select the Close button.

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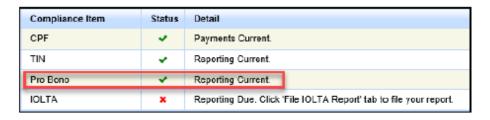
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#### 28. In Summary:

- a. The report was successfully submitted.
- b. The Report can be printed from the File Pro Bono Report tab.
- c. The Filing Confirmation Receipt can be printed form the Pro Bono Report tab.
- d. Donations can be made at any time by selecting the Make Donation \$ button.
- e. The option to Edit the Report is no longer available after submitted.
- f. The option to Delete an incomplete Report is no longer available after submitted.
- g. Pro Bono Compliance status is changed to Reporting Current.



END OF DOCUMENT

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