



April 30, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LAWYERS AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO CELEBRATE LAW DAY
Attorneys Volunteering at Area High Schools

Attorneys of the Fifth Judicial Circuit Pro Bono Committee are volunteering in their local high schools to celebrate Law Day, which occurs every year on May 1st. They will be teaching classes to encourage students to develop their own informed opinions concerning current events, law and justice.

“One of the Pro Bono Committee’s goals has always been to provide legal education to the public,” explained PILI’s Executive Director, Michael Bergmann. “These activities will help students understand the greater system of law and justice and how it affects them.”

Local volunteer attorneys and judges, including members of the Pro Bono Committee, will visit classes in Coles, Edgar, Vermilion, and Cumberland counties on or around May 1st. They will discuss relevant topics such as free speech, law and justice, and the rights and responsibilities of citizens.

Pro Bono Committee members are looking forward to these upcoming visits. “This volunteer opportunity provides lawyers and judges with a positive and informative way to introduce students to our legal system,” says Bergmann.

Attorneys will be visiting the following schools on or around May 1st:

- Charleston High School, taught by L. Kaye DeSelms Dent of Frisse & Brewster Law Offices
- Paris High School, taught by Drew P. Griffin of Asher & Smith
- Danville High School, taught by Nancy Livingston of Kesler, Nelson, Garman, Brougher & Townsley, P.C.
- Cumberland High School, taught by Ramona M. Sullivan, Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation

The Fifth Judicial Circuit Pro Bono Committee is a group of lawyers and judges working to enlist, educate and recognize attorneys dedicated to pro bono work. The ultimate goal of the Pro Bono Committee is to expand the reach of legal aid to poor and underrepresented communities. It was launched on May 31, 2013 in partnership with Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation and the Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI). More information about the Committee is available at: www.pili.org/5thcircuit.

About PILI: PILI's mission is to cultivate a lifelong commitment to public interest law and pro bono service within the Illinois legal community to expand the availability of legal services for people, families and communities in need. PILI envisions a legal community with a deeply rooted culture of service, where law students, lawyers and legal professionals at all stages of their careers engage in public interest law or pro bono work, and remain committed to addressing the unmet legal needs of the poor and underrepresented.

To learn more about PILI, visit our website at www.pili.org, or contact PILI Executive Director Michael Bergmann at mbergmann@pili.org or 312-832-5129.