Volunteers needed now to help with eviction cases

There is an urgent need for volunteers to serve as an "Attorney of the Day" and/or be available to provide pro bono consultations to litigants in eviction cases. A small amount of your time can make a big difference for tenants, landlords, and the Court.

Since the eviction moratorium has expired the court is anticipating an influx of new cases. There are, however, many landlords and tenants who cannot afford to retain legal counsel. Therefore, we need your help.

Volunteers are needed to serve as "Attorney of the Day" and/or be available to provide pro bono consultations to litigants.

Volunteers interested in the Attorney of Day program can sign up to appear at court at any of the following days/times:

Contra Costa Superior Court UD Calendar Schedule:

Pittsburg (Dept. 57): Tuesday, Thursday 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Martinez (Dept. 57): Wednesday, Friday 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Richmond (Dept. 54): Tuesday, Thursday 1:15 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

By agreeing to volunteer, you will provide legal counsel to a pro per litigant immediately prior to their hearing/trial. Written materials will be provided to volunteers to assist with the consult. To be clear, we are not asking that you represent any party during court proceedings.

Any attorney interested in signing up to be an "Attorney of the Day" can sign-up here: <u>https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/10C0F49A9AD29A1FCC25-attorney</u>

If you cannot participate in the Attorney of the Day program, you can still help. Attorneys are also needed to provide pro bono legal advice (not representation) to pro per litigants prior to their hearing or trial date. Some pro per landlords may need a consultation prior to filing a case. By agreeing to volunteer to provide consultations, you authorize us to provide your business contact information to a litigant, who may then contact you to schedule a mutually convenient (Zoom, in-person, or telephone) appointment for a pro bono consultation. Please reach out to Deborah or Samantha (see below) if you can provide pro bono consultations.

Offering pro bono service is a great way to gain experience, build a network, and to provide assistance to those who need it most. A small amount of your time can make a big difference for tenants, landlords, and the Court. Therefore, we urge you to sign up for the Attorney of the Day program or to provide pro bono consultations. Doing so will only help the courts and all parties move through these cases as efficiently as possible.

For more information please contact:

Deborah Levy at (925) 307-9520 or <u>dlevy.congressofneutrals@gmail.com</u> or Samantha Sepehr at (925) 287-3540 or <u>ssepehr@schofieldlawgroup.com</u>