

THE JUDICARE PROJECT

VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY INFORMATION



WHAT IS JUDICARE?

The Judicare project provides funding to legal services providers throughout Maryland to recruit experienced family law lawyers who will accept contested family law cases for a reduced fee. Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service (MVLS) is looking for volunteers to take on contested custody and other highly contested family cases.

The purpose of this statewide project is to address the heightened numbers of unrepresented low-income parties in contested family law cases. Without the Judicare project, low-income family law litigants are often unable to access help from legal services because of the complex nature of their cases.



WHO ARE THE CLIENTS?

Judicare clients must meet the same asset and income guidelines as are required for referral to a pro bono lawyer, i.e. income less than 50% of the Maryland median income, following the Maryland Legal Service Corporation's income guidelines.

The MVLS Judicare Program serves Anne Arundel, Calvert, Carroll, Cecil, Charles, Frederick, Garrett, Howard, Somerset, St. Mary's, Washington, Wicomico, Worcester counties and Baltimore City. Other legal services providers operate Judicare programs in the rest of the state (a complete list is available at www.mlsc.org).

ATTORNEY REQUIREMENTS

Attorneys must have at least three years of family law experience and be admitted to practice law in Maryland. This requirement may be waived if the attorney has two years of family law experience and works with an experienced family law attorney in their law firm.



COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Benefits of participating in Judicare include:

- ◆ Guaranteed compensation
- ◆ First tier malpractice insurance
- ◆ PBRC litigation fund reimbursement of litigation costs

Attorneys are paid \$120 per hour with a cap of \$4,200.

HOW DO I JOIN?

To join, contact Family Law Staff Attorney, Nancy Grimm, at 443-451-4071 or ngrimm@mvslaw.org.

If you are not yet on our volunteer panel please apply online at www.mvslaw.org.