



1200 Fifth Avenue, Suite 600 | Seattle, WA 98101

KCBA Pro Bono Services Family Law Mentor Program

Volunteer Position: Mentee Attorney

Program Description: The Family Law Mentor Program facilitates the representation of low income clients in contested dissolutions of marriage, petitions to establish parenting plans and parentage proceedings where children are at risk. Mentees (new or non-family law attorneys) are paired with a Mentor (experienced family law attorney) who provides training and assistance throughout the case. Mentees attend two initial training classes and represent one pro bono client.

General Duties:

- Meet with client, develop case strategy with Mentor
- Drafting pleadings (including initial filing and motions)
- Appear on behalf of client at settlement conference
- Represent client at court hearings and possibly a trial

Time Commitment: Cases vary in difficulty and length and may require 6 to 12 months to complete. Mentee attorneys agree to represent client through completion of case.

Qualifications:

- Must be licensed to practice law in Washington State
- Mentees must be available for two initial training workshops and the first client meeting, held at the KCBA office (consecutive Tuesdays or Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.)

Benefits:

- Work with clients while building negotiation and litigation skills
- Opportunity to represent a client in court with the support of an experienced attorney
- Learn substantive family law and network with practicing family law attorneys
- Attend free or low-cost CLEs, receive CLE credits for pro bono service
- Professional Liability Insurance provided by the KCBA

Training and Support:

- Mentor Program Manual CD Rom with detailed instructions on family law practice procedures and links to state/local family law forms and state/local court rules
- Binder with information on working with domestic violence survivors
- Workshop 1: Mentors teach family law basics
- Workshop 2: Review case summaries with Mentor, select client. Attorneys meet with new client for approximately one hour and then debrief to discuss next steps.
- Family Law Mentor Program Managing Attorney serves as backup mentor

Apply online: http://www.kcba.org/pbs/volunteer_app.aspx