

Dear Central Texas Attorney:

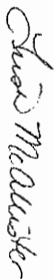
Volunteer Legal Services and Texas RioGrande Legal Aid have partnered to address concerns of our judiciary regarding foreclosures and eviction appeals. We have developed a project that provides low income individuals with legal representation to help prevent families from losing their homes due to the increasing number of home equity loan and reverse mortgage loan foreclosures being filed in Travis County. We have also developed a second project to address the growing number of low income pro se people who are filing a de novo appeal in their eviction cases from JP court to county court at law. The chance that these individuals will prevail in court rises tremendously if they are represented by an attorney.

We need your help to prevent unwarranted homelessness. Please attend this informative seminar and volunteer to help those members of our community who are without access to our legal system. This seminar is free for attorneys who agree to take two cases involving these areas of law from VLS within 12 months of the seminar. VLS has a wide array of support services available to you, including consultants, forms, reference materials, office space, pro bono court reporting and primary malpractice insurance coverage.

Attorneys at TRLA will conduct an initial review of the cases and refer to VLS for placement with a pro bono attorney those cases that meet financial eligibility and have merit. TRLA attorneys will serve as mentors to VLS volunteer attorneys.

We hope you will be able to come. If you have any questions about the seminar or VLS, please call or e-mail Anna K. Meyers, Seminar Coordinator, at 476-5550, ext. 304; akmeyers@vlsoc.org. Thank you!

Sincerely,



Trish McAllister
Executive Director

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Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas
816 Congress, Suite 701
Austin, Texas 78701

VLS VOLUNTEER
LEGAL SERVICES
of Central Texas

**Rule 735 & 736
Foreclosures
and**

Landlord/Tenant Seminar

Friday, October 1, 2010

**Austin Bar Association
Large Seminar Room
816 Congress, 7th Floor
Austin, Texas 78701**

Sponsored By:

Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas
Texas RioGrande Legal Aid
Austin Bar Association
Travis County Women Lawyers' Association
Austin Bar Association Real Estate Section

Foreclosure and Landlord/Tenant Seminar

Friday, October 1, 2010 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Austin Bar Association Seminar Room

Foreclosure & Landlord/Tenant Seminar Registration Form

8:30 a.m. **Welcoming Remarks and Judicial Perspective of Need for Pro Bono Attorneys in Judicial Foreclosure Cases**
 Hon. Lora Livingston
 261st District Court

1:00 p.m. **Judicial Perspective of Need for Pro Bono Attorneys in Landlord Tenant Cases**
 Hon. Eric Shepperd
 County Court at Law #2

8:45 a.m. **Pro Bono Representation and VLS Procedures**

Trish McAllister
 VLS Executive Director

1:15 p.m. **How to Defend Evictions:**

- Justice of the Peace Court Level
 - Procedural defenses
 - Substantive defenses
 - Appeal
 - De Novo Trial at County Court at Law Level
- Nelson Mock
 TRLA Attorney, Team Manager

9:15 a.m. **Foreclosure Overview: Basic Procedure for Rule 736 Foreclosures**

Robert Doggett
 TRLA Attorney/Team Manager

10:00 a.m. Break

2:30 p.m. Break

10:15 a.m. **Procedural Defenses**

Robert Doggett

2:45 p.m. **Other Landlord Tenant Issues:**

- Security Deposits, Landlord Liens, Lockouts, Utility Shutoffs, and Repairs
- Nelson Mock

10:45 a.m. **Substantive Defenses**

Robert Doggett

11:30 a.m. **Practice Tips and Settlement Options**

Robert Doggett

3:30 p.m. Adjourn

12 noon Lunch on your own

Registration Information

There is no cost for attorneys who agree to take 2 Foreclosure or Landlord/Tenant cases through Volunteer Legal Services by 12/30/2011. For all others, the cost is \$190.00. **There will not be a published manual. A flash drive containing the seminar materials will be given to each registrant.** Please bring paper to take notes.

Pre-register by Tuesday, September 28th! No refunds will be granted after noon on Tuesday, December 1st. **Registration confirmation will not be sent.**

Parking

There is limited parking available in the building parking garage. It costs \$25 or you may buy an \$11 pass from VLS. You will not be permitted to come and go.

CLE Credit

An application for accreditation of this activity has been approved the MCLE committee of the State Bar of Texas and is pending. We have been approved for 5.5 hours of MCLE, including 1 hour of ethics, and credit towards membership in the College of the State Bar of Texas.

I volunteer to take two Judicial Foreclosure cases through Volunteer Legal Services during the next 12 months. [No charge]

I volunteer to take two Landlord/ Tenant cases through Volunteer Legal Services during the next 12 months. [No charge]

I speak Spanish fluently (or have staff that does) & would be willing to take Spanish speaking cases.

Enclosed is \$190.00 for the Foreclosure and Landlord/Tenant Seminar Registration **(Make checks payable to Volunteer Legal Services).**

Name: _____

E-Mail: _____

Firm/Agency: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

FAX: _____

Bar Card #: _____

Visa MasterCard Discover

Card Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____

Return this form to: VLS, 816 Congress Ave., Suite 701, Austin, Texas 78701; Fax: 322-0764. Please submit one form per registrant. Contact Anna K. Meyers with any questions: 476-5550 ext. 304; akmeyers@vlsoc.t.org.