

Pro Bono at Legal Aid DC



TAKING A HOUSING LAW CASE

What Type of Housing Law Cases Does Legal Aid DC Place Pro Bono?

Pro bono attorneys **represent clients in eviction cases** in DC Superior Court who are at risk of losing their rental homes. Cases are based on alleged non-payment of rent or alleged lease violations. These attorneys **help protect housing stability and prevent the harmful ripple effects of eviction.**

What Can I Expect in a Pro Bono Housing Case Referral from Legal Aid DC?

- **Training, sample pleadings, and expert mentorship**
- Mixture of **in-person** and **remote court appearances**
- Attorneys have a **say in court scheduling**
- Most cases last **six months to one year**
- Majority **settle through negotiation**
- **Limited discovery**

What Opportunities Do Housing Cases Present?

- Primary Client Contact
- Oral and written Advocacy
- Gathering Evidence
- Negotiations
- Taking Testimony
- Mediation

"If you live in the District and you are an attorney – especially at one of these big law firms – you should be getting involved. The opportunities will manifest for you personally and professionally... There are things that I'll carry with me for the rest of my career."

OLIVER JURY

>15%

of **tenants** at eviction hearings have legal representation, compared to **95% of landlords.**

Represented tenants are

8x less likely

than unrepresented tenants to have a judgment for eviction entered against them.



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