

**INTERESTED IN CIVIL OR FAMILY LAW?
WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY?
WANT TO SERVE THE UNMET LEGAL NEEDS OF THOSE APPEARING PRO SE IN
FEDERAL OR FAMILY COURT IN BUFFALO?**

PRO SE CIVIL LITIGATION PRACTICUM

**BUFFALO OR ROCHESTER
PLACEMENTS AVAILABLE!**

More than twenty-five million Americans are denied legal assistance each year due to lack of resources. This crisis impacts individuals and families that are part of our most vulnerable populations. In this service-learning practicum, students will interview clients at the courthouse and assist practicing attorneys in advising clients through the ECBA Volunteer Lawyer's Project (VLP) or the Volunteer Legal Services of Monroe County (VLSP).

Working with Professor Bernadette Gargano, Bridget O'Connell, Esq., and VLP or VLSP, students perform legal research, develop legal resources for unrepresented litigants, and provide litigants with assistance in navigating legal documents and the court system.

Students will staff either the Help Desk in Erie County Family Court or the Pro Se Assistance Program in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of New York. As part of their fieldwork, students will participate in skills training and write a white paper (5-6 pages) on a social justice/access to justice topic of the student's choosing.

This award-winning practicum allows students to provide access to justice at several locations across Western New York! This course satisfies the experiential requirement and provides the 50-hours of pro bono service required for admission to the NYS Bar.

