

# The Difference

News and updates from the Pro Bono Program

## Taxes, Children, Refugees, Veterans & more....

The end of the semester brings exams! Yes, unavoidable but what happens after exams?

Winter Break is a great time to reassess your professional identity and look at opportunities to improve skills, explore career options but most importantly it is a time to figure out what you can do to help others.

Winter Break is the perfect time to get certified to help prepare tax returns for low income clients. Hard copies of resource materials are now



available and the online test is up and running. Certified preparers and intake interviewers will start delivering services in Feb. but waiting to the last minute to get certified is not a good idea.

This is very much a team effort. Tax classes are not necessary but being a VITA volunteer certainly helps put a face to a discussion of tax policy.

Winter Break is also the perfect time to complete your application to become a [Richland County Volunteer Guardian ad Litem](#). Training dates are set for Jan. and as always, it will be at the Law School. An online application is available but must be completed before you attend training. You can make a real difference in the life of an abused or neglected child by being their voice in the wilderness.



You say you want to help veterans, the homeless and refugees? Check out the event listing or click on the categories on the 386° Blog. There are sign up links for the [H.E.L.P.](#) and [Lawyers4Vets](#) monthly clinics.

You can still step up to help at the [Carolina Survivor Clinic](#).

Refugees who have been victims of torture are waiting for your help in preparing for their citizenship exam.



These projects take little of your time, require no training but can have great impact. All the initial information you need can be found on either the 386° Blog or the Pro Bono Homepage

## What are you waiting for?

# Wills and ????

Dates and locations for [will preparation sessions](#) and [Friday Blitzes](#) have been set. You can find them on the 386° Blog with sign up links.

Good news [1L's](#) you can now sign up to help respond to questions posted by the public to the SC Bar's online forum. Bad news- there are only a limited number of volunteer spaces. We know you have some knowledge after your first semester but not to worry, no one knows all the answers---we do know how to problem solve!



**Free  
Advice**

*You only get one chance to make a first impression. Signing up for an event and not showing up does not help create a positive reputation!*



386° View (blog) <http://probono.scschooloflaw.org>  
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