

The Difference

News and updates from the Pro Bono Program



A new year! A new semester! Are you ready for some changes? Several new projects on the horizon and numerous projects getting up to speed. Find the details on the [386° Blog](#) or set up a time for a Zoom conference to discuss options, concerns, and next steps.

New! The [Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy](#) is seeking volunteers to work with their immigration attorneys. Work can be done remotely! Spanish speakers encouraged but open to all.

Also New! Starting in Feb. we will partner with the Columbia Chapter of the NAACP and the Eviction Navigators Program. Trained volunteers will work to solve housing issues. Eventually this project may develop into a Pro Bono Legal experience. Watch for details!

Ongoing reminders! Check out the [Homeless Court Project](#). A great opportunity to work on a case from the start until the final hearing!

Looking for something that you can do independently? Model answers for [SC Free Legal Answers](#) could be the solution!

Omne Bonum.

Mindfulness Matters.

We all benefit from looking after our mental health.

As a new year begins, people reflect on the past year and look ahead to a fresh start. 2020 was a year full of difficulty—everyone has heard the word "unprecedented" ad nauseam. But despite all of the "new normal" and the change we were forced to endure as students, everyone stepped up. 2020 should be remembered as a year of growth and a year of learning as much as it will be remembered as a year of apprehension fueled by COVID and election stress. As a 2L, I can't imagine going through my first year of law school in the middle of a pandemic. I'm so impressed by all of my fellow students and encouraged by the fortitude everyone has shown in pressing forward.

Still, I would encourage people not to think of 2021 as a year full of enormous expectations for things to return to "business as usual." First, because things may continue to be difficult for some time, creating massive expectations can only hinder us. I do not mean that people should regard the future negatively. Instead, I would encourage my peers to utilize the new skills they have learned to make further progress during times less than ideal.

The Pro Bono Program and Omne Bonum wish everyone a hopeful and optimistic start to 2021. Check out our [resources!](#)

*Darcy Compton
Pro Board Member*

"Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome."

Booker T. Washington

Love them or hate them, we all have to pay taxes and file a tax return. These are not tasks that are difficult for most of you but for many low income people the process is not only overwhelming but often they miss deductions that would help them. Hint: The Earned Income Tax! You still have time to become a member of the VITA Tax Team and make a real difference. Certification by the IRS is online. Intake/Interviews will be in person but return preparation will be virtual. We start seeing clients on Feb. 13th, Sat. from 9-12 It takes a team effort! NOW is the time to get connected!



Guardians!

of the galaxy! Not quite but consider becoming a guardian *ad litem* for a vulnerable [child](#) or [adult](#).



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

WEB <http://bit.ly/2RsaQgTPROBONO>

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