

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON SCHOOL OF LAW SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARD APPLICATION 2011-2012

Background and Purpose

The School of Law, in its efforts to reinforce the notion that law students have a professional responsibility to serve the public interest, is making available 1-5 Social Justice Awards. With scholarship values of approximately \$1000-\$3000 each, these awards are intended to recognize and support law students who demonstrate a commitment to the notion of professional public service.¹ We hope that the availability of these awards will provide incentive and opportunity to students whose commitment to public interest entails inordinate financial sacrifice.

Eligibility for Consideration

Eligibility for these awards is limited to current first and second-year law students who are in good academic standing at the School of Law. Candidates should have a demonstrated record of commitment to public service/pro bono work and/or an expressed intention to undertake such work during the coming summer and possibly upon graduation.

While it is not possible to provide an exhaustive list of the types of public service and pro bono work that would qualify a student for consideration of the Social Justice Awards, the following may be suggestive: Legal Aid and public defender offices; youth and family service organizations; or various non-profit organizations (e.g., civil rights-civil liberties groups; religious organizations; environmental groups).

Terms of the Award

The value of each award will be approximately \$1000 - \$3000 each, with the Selection Committee determining the exact amounts in light of the merits of the applications received. *These awards will be applied to tuition charges for the Fall 2011/Spring 2012 academic year, split between fall and spring semesters.*

Application Review, Procedure and Time Frame

The committee reviewing these application include member of The Pro Bono Commitment to Community Committee. They will give preference to those who have initiated a Pro Bono Pledge Program Time Log when considering applicants. Candidates for the Social Justice Awards should complete the application form no later than **Wednesday, April 13, 2011** to the Office of Admissions, 112 Keller Hall. Announcement of the award will be made in late Spring 2011.

¹ **The Preamble to the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct, paragraph 6:**

As a public citizen, a lawyer should seek improvement of the law, access to the legal system, the administration of justice and the quality of service rendered by the legal profession. As a member of a learned profession, a lawyer should cultivate knowledge of the law beyond its use for clients, employ that knowledge in reform of the law and work to strengthen legal education. In addition, a lawyer should further the public's understanding of and confidence in the rule of law and the justice system because legal institutions in a constitutional democracy depend on popular participation and support to maintain their authority. A lawyer should be mindful of deficiencies in the administration of justice and of the fact that the poor, and sometimes persons who are not poor, cannot afford adequate legal assistance. Therefore, all lawyers should devote professional time and resources and use civic influence to ensure equal access to our system of justice for all those who because of economic or social barriers cannot afford or secure adequate legal counsel. A lawyer should aid the legal profession in pursuing these objectives and should help the bar regulate itself in the public interest.

**UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON SCHOOL OF LAW SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARD
APPLICATION 2011-2012**

Name _____

Starting Fall 2011, what year student will you be? Second Third
(circle one)

Current Address _____

Current Phone _____

Summer Address _____

Summer Phone _____

Summer E-mail _____

Please provide responses to the following questions (not to exceed two typewritten pages) and submit a resume to the Office of Admissions, 112 Keller Hall by **Wednesday, April 13, 2011.**

1. Describe the extent of your involvement in public service activities prior to or during law school. Please be specific in describing the type of work and time devoted to such activities.
2. Describe any planned involvement in pro bono work/public service activities to date (pro bono work which you intend to complete during the summer of 2011). Indicate the extent to which this work has been finalized (e.g., you have been offered and have accepted the position; you are in the process of applying for such a position, etc.)
3. Describe (in one paragraph) your reason(s) for becoming involved in pro bono work.
4. Describe any financial hardship resulting from your pro bono work (past, present or planned work).