

Bankruptcy, divorce, custody, wills – attorneys to give free counsel at local law clinics

Community members struggling with civil legal problems can bring them to one of two upcoming community law clinics presented by the Akron-Canton Barristers Association and Community Legal Aid Services. The clinics take place Saturday, Sept. 15, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the House of the Lord Church, 1650 Diagonal Road in Akron and Saturday, Sept. 29, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at St. Paul AME Church, 1800 Tuscarawas St. East in Canton.

Presented on behalf of the Akron-Canton Barristers Association's 70th anniversary, the free clinics will feature individual consultations for attendees with attorney members of the Akron-Canton Barristers.

"Equal access to justice is a fundamental element of the Rule of Law. Many of the rights and privileges that we all enjoy stem from attorneys advancing the cause of justice on behalf of the poor and disenfranchised. Pro Bono legal services to the community continue the time-honored quest for liberty and justice for all," says Akron-Canton Barristers member Magistrate Kimberly L. Oliver, Summit County Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division.

Legal Aid Executive Director Steven McGarrity describes the pro bono legal clinics as a natural fit for Legal Aid. "Our mission is to transform the lives of our clients through legal advocacy. Everybody, including community members with limited income, should have access to legal help with issues that affect their lives and livelihoods. The legal advice that clients will receive at these clinics will help them solve real problems.

"We're grateful the Barristers came to us to partner with them on the clinics as part of their 70th anniversary celebration. It is a real honor for all of us at Legal Aid to partner with an organization that has been fighting the good fight for civil rights and justice for all for 70 years." McGarrity says.

Pre-registration is highly recommended. Register at Legal Aid's Hotline at 800-998-9454.

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