

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN**

**Notice Regarding Request for Attorneys to Join the
Court's Pro Bono Program**

In 2002, the Bankruptcy Court established a pro bono program which provides free legal services to indigent debtors involved in adversary proceedings related to the discharge and non-dischargeability of certain debts under 11 U.S.C. §§ 523(a) and 727(a). The program also provides services to an indigent former-spouse of a debtor regarding the dischargeability of obligations in a judgment of divorce under 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(5) or (15). The program does not provide legal services related to bankruptcy cases.

Our goal has always been to have 150-200 attorneys on the pro bono list, so that each attorney may only be appointed to a case every three to four years. However, in recent years, participation in the program has declined while adversary proceedings have increased. Therefore, *the Court is sending out this request for members of the bankruptcy bar to volunteer to accept pro bono assignments under the Court's program.*

The pro bono program is an excellent way to get trial experience and counts towards the Michigan State Bar's suggested guideline of 30 hours of pro bono work per year.

For more information about the pro bono program and to volunteer, you can visit the Court's website at <http://www.mieb.uscourts.gov/programs-services>. Applications can be submitted online or by mail.

Date: May 1, 2017

Katherine B. Gullo
Clerk of Court