

Volunteer Lawyers Project: Equal Access to Justice for Low-Income Nebraskans



Bridging the Justice Gap

In the United States, there is a huge gap between the millions of people who need legal services and those who can afford them. In fact, the number of people who need pro bono legal help is on the rise.

In partnering with the Nebraska State Bar Association's Volunteer Lawyers Project, Kinney Mason strives to be part of the solution, taking on pro bono or reduced fee family law cases and helping bridge the gap.

The Volunteer Lawyers Project was created by Nebraska lawyers with a common passion – an unwavering commitment to pursue equal justice under the law for Nebraskans who, because of social and economic barriers, cannot access the courts and our system of justice.

A Win-Win Partnership

While Kinney Mason can, and does, give back to the community in a variety of ways, perhaps the most impactful and personally rewarding is by leveraging our legal skills to directly impact the less fortunate and unrepresented in our state. In that way, our work with the Volunteer Lawyers Project is a win-win.

Managing Partner John Kinney opened the door to our partnership with the Volunteer Lawyers Project last year, taking on two pro bono divorce cases. Now, our associate attorney, Samantha Robb, has taken the reins.

Honing Her Craft

Samantha, who received her J.D. from Creighton Law in 2020, says working with the Volunteer Lawyers Project is a way to give back to her community while gaining experience and building her skill sets.

"I first learned about the Volunteer Lawyers Project in law school," Samantha says. "Creighton does a great job promoting it and encouraging young lawyers to get involved in pro bono work. With my law degree, I recognize I'm in a privileged position. If I have the opportunity to do this, if I possess this knowledge, the least I can do is help those who aren't able to navigate the law on their own and can't afford to hire someone."

Samantha has closed one divorce case through this partnership so far, and says her client was very appreciative.

"People shouldn't be denied access to legal services," Samantha adds. "I'm happy to help close the justice gap."