

Connecting Low-Income Individuals and Families who need Civil Legal Services with Volunteer Attorneys and Community Resources

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# JUDICARE FAMILY LAW PROJECT UPDATE FY 21

As we begin a new fiscal year, we want to express our deep appreciation for the services you provide to Mid-Shore Pro Bono's clients. As many of you know, MSPB has shifted to all remote services during the COVID-19 emergency to protect our clients, volunteer attorneys, and staff. As the courts continue to open back up, we are working hard to ensure that we have the capacity to handle an anticipated increased volume of cases. While we are expecting an increase in client demand for legal services, funding for legal services has decreased due to the lack of court fees while courts have been closed and low interest rates. In order to meet the demand for legal representation in these conditions, we are requiring volunteer attorneys to accept one pro bono case with every Judicare case.

MSPB will continue to administer the Judicare Program in FY 21 as follows:

- The hourly rate for Judicare clients will remain \$100 an hour with a cap of 30 hours or \$3,000 per case.
- The total billable hours will be 30 hours.
- Invoices MUST be submitted by the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month to ensure prompt processing and turnaround. If invoices are not received by the 5<sup>th</sup>, they will be held until the next month for processing.
- Checks will be issued upon receipt of funds from Maryland Legal Services Corporation.
- Attorneys must accept one *pro bono* case for each Judicare case.

Mid-Shore Pro Bono aims to reimburse you for your work and as efficiently as possible. If you would like to remain on our Judicare Panel, please sign and return the attached acknowledgement form.

If you have any questions, please contact me at <u>mgirard@midshoreprobono.org</u> or Mandy Caulk at <u>mandy@midshoreprobono.org</u> or 410-690-8128.

## Mid-Shore Pro Bono, Inc

## JUDICARE FAMILY LAW PROJECT

## **ACKNOWLEGEMENT of TERM**

I have read and understand Mid-Shore Pro Bono's requirements for acceptance of Judicare cases for FY21 (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021).

Signature

Date