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**INDIANA BAR
FOUNDATION**

The FOUNDATION of OUR PROFESSION

December 6, 2012

Honorable Brent E. Dickson
Chief Justice of Indiana
State House, Suite 306
200 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Dear Chief Justice Dickson:

As a steadfast supporter of pro bono work by attorneys, I thought you might be interested in hearing about a new initiative of the Indiana Bar Foundation and the Indiana Pro Bono Commission that was recently launched to help encourage more Indiana attorneys to do pro bono work. A new website (www.IndianaLegalAnswers.org) has recently been created to help match volunteer attorneys with low income Hoosiers to help them with their various civil legal issues. You can think of the website as essentially a virtual "talk to a lawyer" program but with the added benefit that it is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Attorneys can respond to various legal questions from the convenience of their home computer, smart phone, tablet or other internet enabled device.

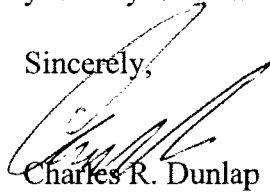
We are currently recruiting volunteer attorneys to register on the site with the plan of going "live" to begin taking questions from low income Hoosiers on January 1, 2013. Not only is this website going to be a new tool to provide assistance to people in need around the state, but we hope it will also give new options for Indiana attorneys to perform pro bono work in manageable amounts of time and reduce some of the hesitancy attorneys may have initially from taking on an entire case. Hopefully this will be a good way to encourage attorneys to go further and take on additional pro bono work as well once they overcome some of their initial concerns.

In addition to the website itself, one aspect that we are very proud of is that this new tool was developed through a tremendous partnership of volunteers from Tennessee as well as Indiana. The law firm of Baker Donelson in Tennessee through the leadership of Buck Lewis, one of their senior partners, first developed the program a few years ago for their state. The program was extremely successful and they generously offered all of the website code and technical assistance for free to help us create an Indiana version of their program.

On our end, the Foundation and the Pro Bono Commission purchased the servers and computer hardware necessary to host the website and with the support of Don Lundberg and the leadership of the law firm of Barnes and Thornburg, their information technology department translated the Tennessee version of the website into our own Indiana version. During the 6 month process, the employees of Barnes and Thornburg including Rand Hammack, Matthew Schrock, Travis Box and Lori Boyer donated a substantial amount of time setting up the website and making it a reality.

Thank you for letting me share this exciting collaboration with you. During this holiday season I thought you might enjoy hearing about one way attorneys and law firms in two different states have worked together to help their fellow citizens in need. For a fairly nominal dollar investment a new program has been created that will provide a tremendous return on investment by helping countless Hoosiers in need of pro bono legal assistance. Happy Holidays, and thank you for your continued leadership and support of pro bono efforts in Indiana.

Sincerely,



Charles R. Dunlap
Executive Director

cc: J. Mark Robinson
President
Indiana Bar Foundation

Hon. David Avery
Vice-Chair
Indiana Pro Bono Commission

Buck Lewis
Baker Donelson

Hon. Martha Wentworth
Chair
Indiana Pro Bono Commission

Donald Lundberg
Barnes & Thornburg