OVER 185,000 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE
Tulane Law School is committed to exploring meaningful ways to promote the delivery of legal services to those who cannot afford a lawyer. Tulane is among the most progressive law schools in the United States, particularly in encouraging its students to further the public interest in and out of law school.

Our roster of public interest activities is broad. These activities encompass our clinical education program, our summer stipends for public interest work, our loan repayment assistance program, and most important, our role as the first law school in the country to require its students to perform community service as a condition of graduation.

MANDATORY COMMUNITY SERVICE
In September 1987, Tulane Law School became the first US law school to require its students to perform community service in order to graduate. Each student must now complete a minimum of 30 hours of legal service on behalf of indigent clients in the New Orleans metropolitan area or, during vacation periods, in the student’s home or summer community. The required hours are ungraded, but appear on the student’s transcript as “pro bono” credit.

The decision to begin this pro bono program grew out of concern for the unmet legal needs of the poor as well as concern for the educational enrichment of law students. The essential premise of the program is the “trickle-up” theory of moral obligation. An ideal way to shape attorneys’ attitudes is from the ground up, by instilling in law students a sense of their responsibilities before they become members of the bar. Drawing upon this experience, Tulane graduates should be more willing to seek pro bono opportunities in their law practices and more confident in their ability to provide assistance to those who desperately need it.

Numerous other factors contributed to the adoption of mandatory pro bono service. The poverty visible in New Orleans and the myriad associated legal problems that inundate existing legal service agencies were paramount. In the post-Katrina environment, the community need is greater than ever. So is the need of the students for:

• the chance to experience firsthand the circumstances and viewpoints of some of the tens of millions of Americans who cannot afford lawyers;
• the opportunity to step back from the abstract world of the law library, the hypothetical question, and the sterile appellate setting, and become immersed in reality, and to realize that facts are often ambiguous and impossible to pin down precisely;
• the growth that comes from being personally responsible not merely for doing one’s homework and being prepared to recite in class, but also for extending one’s time and professional expertise to those in need of assistance, and performing tasks in a competent fashion on behalf of a client who depends on that performance;
• the development of a lifelong commitment to serve those who cannot afford a lawyer by working on a full-time basis as a legal services lawyer or a public defender or by regularly seeking pro bono opportunities.
These are the explicit goals of mandatory pro bono service. If some can be achieved for most students, Tulane will have added an important dimension to legal education. While not as profound or prolonged as clinical experience, the mandatory pro bono experience undoubtedly affects many more students. It touches every student and alters the attitudes of many while providing a unique educational opportunity.

The range of pro bono placements is extensive. Our students work with over 50 different organizations providing legal services to under-served populations. This training is now an essential part of our program of legal education.

**CLINICS AT TULANE LAW SCHOOL**

The Law School’s clinical education program offers third-year students the opportunity to gain experience in representing actual clients in real situations under the guidance of Tulane professors, as well as to learn advocacy skills and the necessary substantive law. We have developed a multidimensional clinical program that should permit as many as 90 students each year to participate.

**Civil Litigation Clinic** Students are responsible for cases in federal and state court involving domestic relations, housing law, employment discrimination, and civil rights.

**Criminal Litigation Clinic** Students represent defendants charged with felonies and misdemeanors in the criminal district court and also brief and argue appeals in the state appellate courts.

**Juvenile Clinic** Students represent children or parents in cases involving child abuse and neglect, delinquency, status offenses, adoptions, child support, and termination of parental rights.

**Domestic Violence Clinic** Students provide legal representation to indigent victims of domestic violence in a wide range of matters implicated by relationship violence, including protective orders, victim compensation, divorce, child custody and visitation, spousal and child support, community property, housing, employment, public benefits, tax, and consumer debt.

**The Public Law Center – Legislative & Administrative** Students handle legislative matters and administrative rulemaking proceedings for under-represented groups, such as the elderly and the handicapped.

**Environmental Law Clinic** The first of its kind among law schools in the South, this clinic is designed to train students to be effective environmental lawyers. Students represent clients in judicial and administrative proceedings and provide legal assistance to otherwise unrepresented individuals and citizen organizations that want to protect and restore the natural environment of Louisiana.
EXTERNSHIPS
The Public Interest Externship is a one-semester skills training course encompassing a classroom component and a weekly field placement. Students are assigned field placements at one of eight different sites, including Advocates for Environmental Human Rights, Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center, ACLU of Louisiana, and Orleans Indigent Defender Service.

The Law School offers year-long externships in several different settings. A judicial externship program permits selected third-year students to serve as externs to Federal District Court Judges, US Magistrates, a US Bankruptcy Judge, and Justices of the Louisiana Supreme Court. Two externships in labor law are available with the National Labor Relations Board regional office, and another in maritime law is offered with the Office of Administrative Law Judges at the regional office of the US Department of Labor. Externships have also been established at the Justice Center, a New Orleans coalition of non-profit entities, including the Innocence Project and an office dedicated to indigent capital defense.

A list of some of the entities through which Tulane law students fulfill their pro bono requirement follows:

ACLU of Louisiana
AIDSLaw of Louisiana
Bonnabel High School Litigator Program
CASA - Court-Appointed Special Advocates
Consumer/Foreclosure Legal Advice Program
Covenant House Legal Advice Program
Cuban Detainee Program
Earth Justice Legal Defense Fund
EEOC
Fair Housing Action Center
Family Legal Advice Program
Federal Public Defender
Immigration and Refugee Services
Indigent Defender Program
The Innocence Project

Juvenile Justice Project
Louisiana Crisis Assistance Center
Mental Health Advocacy Service
New Orleans Pro Bono Project
New Orleans Legal Assistance Corporation
Preservation Resource Center (Operation Comeback)
Project for Older Prisoners (POPS)
Street Law Program
Teen Court of Greater New Orleans
Seafarers Institute, NYC
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance
Louisiana Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts
YWCA Courtroom Advocate and Battered Women’s Program
MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO GET INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY WORK

CURRICULUM

“Public interest” law can include many fields of law, as illustrated by the wide variety of experiences that our students have undertaken in fulfillment of our community service requirement. Tulane offers both depth and breadth in the variety of course offerings that might be considered a part of a “public interest” curriculum. Certainly, our clinics are a significant example of public interest law at Tulane. Courses that students wishing to pursue public interest law might take at Tulane, depending on their interests, include:

Constitutional Law
Constitutional Criminal Procedure:
   Adjudication
Constitutional Criminal Procedure:
   Investigation
Constitutional Law I
Constitutional Law: 14th Amendment
Constitutional Law: Freedoms of Speech & Press
Constitutional Law: Religious Freedoms
Constitutional Theory Seminar
Federal Courts
Foreign Affairs

Consumer Law
Commercial Law: Civil Law
   Security Rights
Commercial Law: Secured Transactions
Commercial Law: Payment Systems
Consumer Transactions Seminar
Products Liability
Torts
Toxic Tort Litigation Practice
Toxic Tort Theory & Practice
Criminal Law & Procedure
Constitutional Criminal Procedure: Adjudication
Constitutional Criminal Procedure: Investigation
Criminal Advocacy Seminar
Criminal Law
Criminal Law: Federal
Criminal Law: International
Criminal Litigation Clinic
Criminal Practice, Advanced
Criminal Procedure Seminar: Death Penalty
Domestic Violence Clinic
Domestic Violence Law
Environmental Criminal Law
Juvenile Advocacy Seminar
Juvenile Litigation Clinic

Dispute Resolution
Alternative Dispute Resolution
International Commercial Arbitration
Mediation Seminar
Negotiation & Mediation Advocacy

Environmental & Energy Law
Administrative Law
Advanced Oil & Gas Law
Animal Law Seminar
Disaster Response & Recovery: Legal & Social Implications
Energy Regulation
Environmental Criminal Law
Environmental Law Clinic
Environmental Law: Clean Air Act
Environmental Law: Coastal & Wetlands Seminar
Environmental Law: Endangered Species & Biodiversity Seminar
Environmental Law: Hazardous Wastes & Substances
Environmental Law: Historic Preservation Seminar
Environmental Law: International
Environmental Law: Natural Resources
Environmental Law: Pollution Control
Land Use Planning
Law of the Sea
Marine Pollution
Oil & Gas Law
Sustainable Energy Law & Policy
Tax: Natural Resources Tax
Toxic Tort Litigation Practice
Toxic Tort Theory & Practice
Water Resources Policy

State & Local Government
Fair Housing Law & Litigation
Land Use Planning
Legislative & Administrative Advocacy
Tax: State & Local Taxation

Family Law
Community Property
Domestic Violence Clinic
Domestic Violence Law
Elder Law
Family Law
Family Law: All 50 States
Juvenile Advocacy Seminar
Juvenile Litigation Clinic
Successions, Donations & Trusts
Tax: Gift & Estate Tax Planning
Trusts & Estates, Common Law

Labor Law
Employment Discrimination
Employment Discrimination Seminar
Employment Law
Labor Law
Mediation Seminar

Other Areas
Animal Law Seminar
Health Care Law & Regulation
Immigration Law & Procedure
Legal Profession
Public Interest Externships
Public International Law
Remedies
Trial Advocacy: General Litigation
TULANE PUBLIC INTEREST LAW FOUNDATION

Among the most active and well-supported of the student organizations at Tulane Law School is the Tulane Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF), founded in 1983 to promote interest and opportunities in public interest law. Fundraising by this student organization for summer public interest stipends has become an integral part of the life of Tulane Law School students, staff, and faculty. The organization sells breakfast items each morning, and its other fundraisers include an auction so unique that it is a traditional and anticipated part of the social life of the Law School community. In addition, PILF is active in both the Law School and New Orleans communities. Each year PILF hosts visitors, such as Ralph Nader and Judge Ginger Berrigan, who speak to students about public interest issues. In 2000 PILF started the Street Law Program, which sends law student volunteers into urban high schools and middle schools to teach these students about their Fourth Amendment rights. PILF has also organized student donations of criminal procedure textbooks for inmates at Louisiana’s Angola State Prison.

Tulane’s PILF provides several students with stipends to travel to the Equal Justice Works annual conference and career fair each year. In conjunction with this conference, PSLawNet sponsors an annual Public Service Mini-Conference and presents Pro Bono Publico awards to formally recognize law students for outstanding pro bono commitment. (PSLawNet is a network of 160 law schools, including Tulane, and more than 12,000 law-related public interest organizations in the US and around the world.) Over the past several years, two Tulane Law students have received national recognition at this conference for their public service activities as law students.

SUMMER PUBLIC INTEREST JOBS

The funds raised by PILF are partially matched by the Law School, and the total is used to fund summer grants to Tulane law students who wish to work for public interest organizations or state and local governmental agencies that cannot afford to pay wages comparable to private law firms. Each year PILF raises close to $40,000 through various fundraisers, and the Law School adds sufficient funds to make grants to as many as 30 students. Grant recipients are selected by a committee of faculty and PILF members; awards are based on the nature of the proposed public interest work, the applicant’s demonstrated commitment to public interest work, and participation in PILF activities. Since 1990, close to 400 grants have been awarded to students working in over 35 states and eight countries.

Students with grants usually work for 6 to 12 weeks for organizations that perform legal work in a wide variety of fields, including environmental protection, refugees, housing and public benefits, employment, AIDS, battered women, government whistle-blowers, adoptions, and juveniles. Grant recipients may also work in public defender offices, district attorneys’ offices, the Tulane Law Clinics, and other legal services programs.
## Summer PILF Grants 1992-2009

### Alabama
- Legal Aid
- Tuscaloosa County Public Defender
- Wildlaw

### Alaska
- Alaska Legal Services, Nome
- Alaska Legal Services, Juneau
- Alaska Public Defender Agency
- Trustees for Alaska

### Arizona
- Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment
- Pima and Gila Legal Aid
- Pima County Attorney
- Pima County Public Defender

### California
- AIDS Foundation of San Diego
- AIDS Project
- California Attorney General
- California Rural Legal Assistance
- Capital Appeals Project
- Central American Resource Center
- City of L.A. Department of Emergency Management
- Communities for a Better Environment
- Department of Justice – Environmental Enforcement
- District Attorney – Counties of Los Angeles, San Francisco
- Earth Justice Legal Defense Fund
- Environmental Defense Center
- Environmental Law Foundation
- Homebase
- Legal Aid Foundation of Long Beach
- Legal Aid Society of Santa Clara County
- Legal Services – San Gabriel, Pasadena, Pomona, Northern California
- NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc.
- National Lawyers’ Guild
- Next Door: Solutions to Domestic Violence
- Public Advocate
- Public Counsel Law Center
- Public Defender – Counties of Contra Costa, Los Angeles, Marin, Orange, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara
- Public Law Center
- Resources Agency of California
- San Francisco Department of Child Support Services
- Schonbrun, DeSimone, Seplow, Harris, and Hoffman LLP
- Sierra Club
- US Attorney for the Southern District of California
- Warren Institute on Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity
- Women’s Law Center
- Working People’s Law Center
- Youth Law Center

### Colorado
- American Civil Liberties Union
- Colorado Rural Legal Services
- Earth Justice Legal Defense Fund
- Environmental Defense Fund
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Mr. David Lane, Attorney at Law

### Connecticut
- Disaster Accountability Project
- Hartford State Attorney
- Women’s Education and Legal Fund

### Delaware
- Department of Justice

### Florida
- Bay Area Legal Services
- Center for International Human Rights
- Dade County State Attorney
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Florida Public Defender
- Guardian Ad Litem Program
- Health Rehabilitation Services of Florida
- Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County
- Legal Services – Homeless Advocacy
- Palm Beach County Public Defender
- Sexual Abuse Unit – Florida State Attorney

### Georgia
- Atlanta Legal Aid Society
- Catholic Social Services, Inc.-Immigration Services
- Fulton County Conflict Defender's Office
- Georgia Capital Defender
- Georgia Department of Natural Resources: Coastal Division
- Georgia Legal Services
- Georgia Public Defender Standards Council
- Georgia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts
- Lambda Law/SE Regional Office
- Project SAFE
- Southern Center on Human Rights
- Southern Environmental Law Center
- Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper

### Illinois
- AIDS Legal Council of Chicago
- Center on Wrongful Convictions
- Cook County Public Guardian
- Cook County State's Attorney's Office
- Lake County Public Defender
- Lawyers for the Creative Arts
- Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago
- Midwest Immigrant & Human Rights Center

### Indiana
- American Civil Liberties Union

### Iowa
- Help Legal Assistance
Kentucky
Appalachian Research and Defense Fund of Kentucky
Kentucky Refugee Ministries
Kentucky Resource Council

Louisiana
A.C.O.R.N.
Advocacy Center for the Elderly & Disabled
Advocates for Environmental Human Rights
AIDS Law of Louisiana
ALER
Alliance for Affordable Energy
American Civil Liberties Union
Associated Catholic Charities – Project SAVE
Associated Catholic Charities – Immigration Legal Services
Capital Appeals Project
Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana
Court-Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
Department of Social Services – General Counsel
District Attorney's Office – East Baton Rouge, New Orleans
Earth Justice Legal Defense Fund
Entertainment Law Legal Assistance
EEOC
Fair Housing Action Center
Farm Sanctuary
Federal Public Defender
Friends’ Alliance for the Mentally Ill
Guardian Ad Litem
Gulf Restoration Network
Howell and Snead
Humane Society of Louisiana
Indigent Defender – Plaquemines Parish, Orleans Parish
Innocence Project New Orleans
Jackson Avenue Task Force
Jefferson Parish Juvenile Court
Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana
Legal Advocate, YWCA
Louisiana Crisis Assistance Center
Louisiana Department of Justice
Louisiana Environmental Action Network
Louisiana State Attorney General
Louisiana Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts
Loyola Death Penalty Clinic
Mental Health Advocacy Service
National Labor Relations Board
New Orleans Legal Assistance Corporation – Housing Unit, Family Justice Project, Road Home Unit
New Orleans Pro Bono Project
Preservation Resource Center – Operation Comeback
Rape Crisis Center – YWCA
Smith, Jones & Fawer
St. Charles Wetlands Loss
St. Thomas Community Law Center
Tulane Environmental Law Clinic

Maine
Pine Tree Legal Assistance
Natural Resources Council of Maine

Maryland
Animal Legal Defense Fund
Maryland State Attorney’s Office for Montgomery County
Office of the Public Defender

Massachusetts
Children’s Law Center of Massachusetts
Committee for Public Counsel Services
Conservation Law Foundation
Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights
Department of Social Services – Legal Department
District Attorney – Boston
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1
Harvard Legal Services Center
Irish American Legal Council
Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination

Michigan
Community Immigration Legal Services, Archdiocese of Detroit
Freedom House
Migrant Legal Assistance Project

Mississippi
Mississippi Justice Center
Robert B. McDuff, Esq.

Missouri
Circuit Attorney of the City of St. Louis
Transgender Law & Policy Institute/GLBT Justice Project

Montana
State of Montana Environmental Quality
Montana Legal Services Association

Nebraska
Omaha Trial Court

New Hampshire
New Hampshire Public Defender
New Hampshire Bureau of the Environmental Protection Agency

New Jersey
Atlantic County Improvement Authority
Elderly Ombudsman
Rutgers Constitutional Litigation Clinic

New Mexico
New Mexico Legal Aid Society
Southern New Mexico Legal Services, Inc.–Centro Legal Campesino
Western Environmental Law Center

New York
American Jewish Committee
Association for New Americans
Brooklyn Legal Services
District Attorney – Brooklyn, Albany, Kingston, Manhattan, Suffolk, Westchester
Capital Defender Office
Center for Seafarers’ Rights
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
Legal Aid Society – Brooklyn Office for the Aging Capital Division, Juvenile Rights, Family Law, and Indigent Defense
NAACP Legal Defense Fund
NY Attorney General – Environmental and Civil Rights
NY Lawyers for the Public Interest
New York City Environmental Justice Alliance
New York Civil Liberties Union
New York Legal Assistance Corporation
Prisoners Legal Services of New York
SEPA Mujer – Advocacy for Immigration and Battered Women
US Attorney, SDNY, Criminal Division
Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts

North Carolina
North Carolina Attorney General’s Office
Juvenile Court of Cumberland County
Legal Services of Southern Piedmont
North Carolina Department of Justice – Environmental Enforcement Division, Education Division
North Carolina Death Penalty Resource Center
North Carolina State Legal Services
North Carolina Civil Liberties Union
Patterson, Harleavey and Lawrence
Southern Environmental Law Center

Ohio
Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Oklahoma
Oklahoma Indian Legal Services

Oregon
Audubon Society of Portland
Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide
Multnomah County Legal Aid Services
Oregon Law Center
Oregon Natural Resources Council
Sorenson Law Office

Pennsylvania
Centre County District Attorney
Community Legal Services in Philadelphia
Defender Association of Philadelphia
District Attorney of Philadelphia (Family Violence and Sexual Assault Unit)
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3
Federal Public Defender
HIAAS and Council Migration Service of Philadelphia
Kairys, Rudovsky, Epstein, and Messing LLP

Neighborhood Legal Services Association
Women’s Law Project

Rhode Island
Child Advocates of Rhode Island

South Carolina
Richland County Public Defender

South Dakota
The Lakota Nation

Tennessee
Bring Urban Recycling to Nashville Today
Metropolitan Public Defender
Nashville Public Defender
West Tennessee Legal Services

Texas
Attorney General – Natural Resources Division
Capital Trial Project
District Attorney, Environmental Section, Harris County
Federal Public Defender
Henry, Lowrey and Taylor
Justice for Children
Juvenile Court
Juvenile Public Defender
Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund
Legal Services of North Texas
Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid
US Attorney – Western District

Virginia
Environmental Defense Fund
Southern Environmental Law Center
The Honorable Dale Harris
United Mine Workers of America
Virginia Justice Center

Washington
Environmental Protection Section, Seattle City Attorney
Evergreen Legal Services
Seattle City Attorney – Community Court
Seattle Law Department - Criminal Division
Domestic Violence Unit
Society of Counsel Representing Accused Persons
Snohomish County Prosecuting Attorney
Whatcom County Public Defender’s Office

Washington, DC
ABA Commission on Immigration
American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee
Asian-American Justice Center
Ayuda, Inc. (Domestic Relations)
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law
Bread for the City Legal Clinic
Center on Budget and Policy
Center for Children’s Law & Policy
Central American Refugee Center
Central and East European Law Initiative, American Bar Association
Mandatory Pro Bono Provides a Unique Educational Experience
OTHER STUDENT ACTIVITIES
In addition to our Public Interest Law Foundation, there are other student organizations with public interest involvement. These include the Criminal Law Society, which addresses all aspects of the criminal justice system: law enforcement, defense work, and prosecution. Activities include field trips that illustrate what happens to individuals who are escorted from the courtroom to prison, “ride-alongs” with the New Orleans Police Department, and a variety of speakers. Other relevant student organizations include the Tulane chapter of the ACLU, American Constitution Society, Cuban Detainee Program of La Alianza, Environmental Law Society, Human Rights Law Society, Project for Older Prisoners (POPS), Tulane Child Advocates, Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, Tulane Legal Assistance Program, and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA). Student organizations regularly join forces to sponsor programs of interest to the law school community, including recent programs on Legal Issues in Adoption and a Symposium on the International Human Rights of Women.

Shortly after Hurricane Katrina, even while still evacuated, both students and faculty of Tulane Law School became fully involved in public service activities. The Student Hurricane Network (SHN) became active within weeks after the storm; it is a national association of law students working to support legal aid entities in the hurricane-affected areas and monitoring the rebuilding process. SHN is coordinating pro bono legal work, remote research projects, and educational events across the country. From the Lake to the River: The New Orleans Coalition for Legal Aid & Disaster Relief developed through the efforts of Tulane Law School faculty, students, and alumni. The Coalition serves as a contact point and clearinghouse for legal information designed to assist Hurricane Katrina victims, wherever they may be located. The Coalition also serves as a watchdog and oversight group to ensure that public and private resources are distributed on an equitable basis.

CAREERS
Tulane’s Career Development Office (CDO) is firmly committed to supporting students interested in public service. Along with PILF, the Career Development Office offers information about networking and job opportunities, as well as educational panels and seminars focusing on public interest jobs. Two professional staff members of the CDO are dedicated to the public interest and government sectors: one counselor specializes in providing support and guidance to students interested in pursuing non-profit careers and fellowships, and another counselor provides assistance to students interested in government and environmental law careers.

All career counselors at Tulane use a variety of resources both in print and on-line to assist students with their job searches. Tulane subscribes to PSLawNet.org, a national public interest law database that allows students access to the job postings and profiles of several thousand organizations. PSLawNet.org features current opportunities for volunteer and paid internships and jobs in a variety of public interest and government practice settings, a complete catalog of post-graduate fellowship opportunities, and a variety of other helpful resources. The CDO subscribes to several other job search sites and online databases. Students also have full access to an array of printed career resources in the CDO library.
FIRST LAW SCHOOL IN THE COUNTRY TO REQUIRE ITS STUDENTS TO PERFORM COMMUNITY SERVICE AS A CONDITION FOR GRADUATION
TO REQUIRE ITS STUDENTS TO SERVICE AS A CONDITION FOR GRADUATION
Tulane Law Students & Katrina Recovery

Tulane Law students became involved in helping the city and its citizens recover from Hurricane Katrina within days after the storm hit in August 2005. While students have been involved in physical gutting and rebuilding of homes and schools, they are also doing legal work. Much of the low income population of the New Orleans metropolitan area is still facing obstacles attributable to Katrina damage and/or painfully slow and inadequate recovery programs. Here are some examples of the Katrina-related pro bono work our students perform during the academic year:

**Tulane Law School/ NOLAC Consumer Advocacy Project**
Students staff a weekly mini-clinic at NOLAC where they do intake, interviews, client follow-up or court filings related to pressing consumer issues. Most urgent for many clients now are contractor fraud issues, involving contractors who have collected for work not done and otherwise defrauded those trying to rebuild their homes after Katrina. Other issues addressed in this program are home mortgage issues and bankruptcy.

**Entertainment Law Legal Assistance (ELLA)**
This program is jointly sponsored by the Tulane Law School Pro Bono Program, the Arts Council of New Orleans, and the Tipitina’s Foundation. Many musicians and artists suffered the loss of their instruments or their creative works during the storm and are re-establishing the local music industry and arts community. Students address trademark and copyright issues, incorporation and contractual issues, as well as housing issues.

**AIDSLaw**
The incidence of AIDS and AIDS-related problems did not decrease post-Katrina, but the resources to address these problems are fewer than ever. At AIDSLaw of Louisiana, students participate in drafting wills and counseling about employment rights and legal entitlements, as well as assist in giving legal advice concerning insurance and housing discrimination issues.

**COMMON GROUND Free Legal Clinic**
This clinic was established in the Ninth Ward immediately after Katrina in order to meet the variety of legal needs presented by the disenfranchised populations nearby. Rotating volunteer attorneys are assisted by Tulane law students in client screening and advice concerning a wide range of issues.

**New Orleans City Council**
Students work in the chambers of several council members where they assist with critical legal issues which have arisen post-Katrina. For example, there are blighted housing problems, zoning questions, issues relating to the permitting process, and questions concerning the extent of the legislative power of the City Council.
Tulane has many distinguished alumni serving in the public interest arena who are willing to mentor and serve as resources for current law students considering public service careers. Such alumni include Stacy Seicshnaydre, who was awarded a prestigious Skadden Fellowship upon her graduation from Tulane Law School. As a fellow, Ms. Seicshnaydre worked on fair housing litigation and legislative advocacy issues at the National Lawyer’s Committee for Civil Rights Under Law in Washington, DC. She then became the first Executive Director of the Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center, where she was responsible for the organization’s fair housing education and enforcement programs. She is now a supervising attorney and Director of Tulane’s Civil Litigation Clinic.

Approximately 20% of the students in recent graduating classes have gone into public service after receiving the JD from Tulane. Graduates have pursued government employment as prosecutors, as public defenders, and in a variety of government agencies at all levels. Others work at a wide range of traditional public interest organizations in environmental law, criminal justice, civil rights, housing, health care, and more. On a regular basis, Tulane Law School graduates have been awarded public interest fellowships from organizations including Equal Justice Works, Georgetown University (Prettyman Fellowship), and New Voices. These fellowships have made it possible for Tulane graduates to work for such entities as Florida Institutional Legal Services, the Texas Civil Rights Project, the Louisiana Crisis Assistance Center, the Legal Assistance Foundation of Greater Chicago, the Georgetown Criminal Justice Clinics, and the Innocence Project, among others.

Tulane Law School is a sponsor-level member of Equal Justice Works and participates in the Equal Justice Works Career Fair and Conference in Washington, DC annually. Tulane covers the school’s registration fee, which allows all Tulane students entry into the Career Fair free of charge. The Career Fair hosts more than two hundred organizations and agencies that gather together from across the country to interview students for summer clerkships and permanent attorney positions. The Conference features nationally recognized speakers who discuss cutting-edge legal issues and skill-building tools.

**Loan Repayment Assistance**

Tulane’s loan repayment assistance program can be a significant economic incentive for students who opt to pursue certain public service careers. The program helps eligible graduates pay off a portion of their law school educational loans for a specified period of time. As the program is currently structured, graduates are eligible to apply for loan repayment assistance benefits if they: (a) earn less than a specified annual amount and (b) work full-time as lawyers for certain types of public interest legal service organizations. The program requires that eligible graduates devote a certain percentage of their income toward repayment of non-family law school loans. Tulane Law School reimburses students for their loan repayments above this amount for up to five years. Details concerning salary level, type of eligible employment, percentage of income to be devoted to loan repayment, and applicable caps can be obtained from the Law School Financial Aid office.

In addition, Tulane has received a grant from the Kendall Vick Foundation to provide loan repayment assistance to individuals pursuing public service work, including government employment, in the state of Louisiana.

The federal College Cost Reduction Act of 2007, which went into effect in 2009, will also provide income-based repayment and loan forgiveness options to individuals pursuing public service employment.
PARTNERSHIP WITH TEACH FOR AMERICA
Tulane Law School is pleased to partner with Teach for America in the following ways:

(1) Waiver of Application Fee for Current Teach for America Corps Members - The Law School will grant a waiver of the application fee to any current Teach for America member applying for admission to the Law School.

(2) Two-Year Deferral - Upon request from Teach for America participants who have been offered admission, the Law School will offer a two-year deferral to enable admitted students to begin a two-year commitment to the corps in the year in which law study was to have commenced. The Law School will also grant a two-year deferral to exiting corps members who wish to pursue other endeavors before attending law school, provided they apply for the deferral while they are still corps members.

(3) Teach for America/Tulane Scholarship - Tulane Law School will award a $10,500 scholarship to each Teach for America alumnus accepted into the Law School. One sixth of the award will be credited to the student’s tuition bill at the beginning of each of the six semesters of enrollment at Tulane Law School. This will represent the minimum Tulane Law School scholarship awarded to each alumnus of Teach for America. As is the case with all candidates to Tulane Law School, Teach for America alumni will receive full consideration for all other need- or merit-based financial assistance.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
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Office of Admission
Weinmann Hall, Suite 203
New Orleans, LA 70118-5670
Telephone: 504.865.5930
Fax: 504.865.6710
E-mail: admissions@law.tulane.edu
or visit us on-line at: www.law.tulane.edu
COMMITTED TO EXPLORING MEANINGFUL WAYS TO PROMOTE THE DELIVERY OF LEGAL SERVICES TO THOSE WHO CANNOT AFFORD A LAWYER