

Impact Pro Bono Litigation and Community Service

Related Professionals

Amy C. Farish
PARTNER

At Yetter Coleman, we believe that public service is a fundamental part of the practice of law, and an integral part of our firm's work. And we have the track record to prove it.

Since the founding of our firm, providing legal services for those in need has been a key part of our practice. As trial attorneys, we have a unique ability to effect change and can help influence both the content of laws and the manner of their implementation. We use our influence and knowledge to make the world a better place. Our pro bono work is an expression of our values and the moral and social responsibility that comes with such privilege.

Inequality in access to legal services and representation can feel like an insurmountable problem. There will always be need, and it can be difficult to determine how to triage the many requests for legal help. In some cases, the help of an advocate can change lives.

For that reason, much of our pro bono work is focused on a particularly vulnerable group for which we believe we can do the most good: children. Children, especially those in the immigration and foster care systems, are often left without a voice. Nobody is more vulnerable. Nobody is less capable of navigating the legal system. And nobody benefits more from legal representation in court proceedings which are often complex, baffling and bureaucratic.

Pro bono and community work helps us, too. Serving others is a great way to build camaraderie and create a sense of belonging in the law for our team. After all, many of us became lawyers because we wanted to help people. Our pro bono work puts this principle of service to work.

Our policies encourage a widespread, substantial commitment to pro bono work. We treat pro bono clients with the same level of dedication, professionalism and excellence that characterize all of our client relationships. We take pro bono work seriously and demand the same degree of effort and skill from our lawyers and support professionals as would be expected for any other engagement.

To that end, every lawyer at Yetter Coleman can dedicate up to 120 billable hours per year to pro bono work. The billable hours credit is a tangible, meaningful demonstration of the value we place on public service. Every year, most of our lawyers participate in pro bono work.

Our firm also partners with several organizations that provide support and assistance to marginalized and at-risk groups. We're particularly proud of these affiliations, which include a strong partnership with Houston Volunteer Lawyers, the largest provider of pro bono legal

services in Harris County and the surrounding areas.