

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION

Recognizing October 25–31, 2009, as

Pro Bono Week

WHEREAS more than 6 million Californians live below 125 percent of the federal poverty level and there are fewer than 800 legal aid attorneys to serve them;

WHEREAS California attorneys donate thousands of hours of pro bono legal services and make annual financial contributions to the Justice Gap Fund and to legal services organizations to help address the huge unmet need for legal assistance for California's poor;

WHEREAS the judicial branch's operational plan calls for the expansion of the availability of legal assistance, advice, and representation for litigants with limited financial resources; and

WHEREAS the American Bar Association has designated October 25–31, 2009, as the first National Pro Bono Week Celebration to recognize the valuable pro bono contributions made by lawyers throughout the year and to increase pro bono participation across the country to narrow the justice gap;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Judicial Council of California recognizes the week of October 25–31, 2009, as the first National Pro Bono Week Celebration, commends California attorneys for their ongoing pro bono contributions, and encourages judges to use the Pro Bono Toolkit to inspire attorneys to engage in pro bono work in order to make a significant difference in the lives of Californians who would not otherwise have access to the legal system.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of August, 2009.

Attest:

Ronald M. George
Chief Justice of California and
Chair of the Judicial Council of California

William C. Vickrey
Administrative Director of the Courts