

## STATE OF FLORIDA ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA LAWSON E. THOMAS COURTHOUSE CENTER 175 NW FIRST AVENUE SUITE 3045 MIAMI, FLORIDA 33128 Telephone (305) 349-5720

NUSHIN G. SAYFIE CHIEF JUDGE RICARDA AYALA Judicial Assistant

## Dear Florida Bar Member:

As the new year begins, we have an opportunity to reflect on our commitments and start fresh with a renewed sense of purpose. In that spirit, I am writing to ask you to begin the new year by accepting a pro bono case with *Dade Legal Aid/Put Something Back*. Pro bono work is often one of the most rewarding experiences an attorney can have, and it's an excellent way to begin the year with a sense of fulfillment and meaning.

Dade Legal Aid/Put Something Back connects pro bono attorneys with pre-screened, qualifying individuals who urgently need civil legal assistance. The program serves vulnerable populations, including dependent children, foster youth, the elderly, persons with disabilities, families, veterans, disaster victims, and others who face critical legal challenges. These clients often struggle to navigate legal matters such as divorce, custody, domestic violence, housing issues, debt collection, probate, and more—without the support of an attorney.

I ask you to consider how overwhelming it would be to face such challenges without access to legal representation. The demand for assistance has never been greater, and unfortunately, the current resources available to meet that demand are stretched thin.

Dade Legal Aid/Put Something Back offers comprehensive support to volunteers, including free CLE training, materials, malpractice insurance coverage, mentorship, and research assistance. Most importantly, it provides the immeasurable satisfaction of knowing that your efforts have made a real difference in someone's life.

As attorneys, we swore an oath to "never reject the cause of the defenseless or oppressed or delay anyone's cause for lucre or malice." Let us renew that oath as we step into the new year by accepting a case and helping those in need.

Please join us by completing and returning the attached form or by signing up for a case online:

**Dade Legal Aid/Put Something Back** 

Attn: Mark Brown, Esq., Pro Bono Manager 28 West Flagler Street, Suite 608 Miami, Florida 33130

Let's start the year by "Putting Something Back" and making a lasting difference. Thank you for your generous donation of time, expertise, and compassion.

Warm regards

Honorable Nushin G. Sayfie

Chief Judge, Eleventh Judicial Circuit