

::::: ATTENTION ATTORNEYS :::::

DO YOU WANT TO DO SOMETHING TO HELP THE HAITIAN COMMUNITY?

**BROOKLYN DEFENDER SERVICES
BROOKLYN BAR ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROJECT
BROOKLYN BAR ASSOCIATION
BROOKLYN WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION**

are sponsoring the

**HAITIAN IMMIGRATION LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY LEGAL CLINIC**

SPECIAL CLE TRAINING: FEBRUARY 3, FROM 5:30 to 7:30 PM

WHAT IS THE PROGRAM? THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF HAITIAN IMMIGRANTS CURRENTLY LIVING IN BROOKLYN. LAST WEEK, THEY WERE GRANTED THE RIGHT TO TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS ("TPS"), WHICH MEANS THAT HAITIAN PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES ON THE DATE OF THE EARTHQUAKE ARE ABLE TO CONVERT THEIR ILLEGAL STATUS TO A LEGAL ONE. THEY CAN THEN WORK LEGALLY AND HOPEFULLY BETTER HELP THEIR FAMILIES IN HAITI. LAWYERS ARE NEEDED TO STAFF TEMPORARY LEGAL CLINICS AT WHICH WE WILL GIVE ADVICE ABOUT TPS AND ASSIST IN FILLING OUT APPLICATIONS.

HOW DO YOU VOLUNTEER? ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS SHOW UP THE EVENING OF **FEBRUARY 3** AT THE BROOKLYN BAR ASSOCIATION, 123 REMSEN STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11201. THERE WILL BE A TWO-HOUR TRAINING SESSION, ATTORNEY SCREENING AND SIGN UP. VOLUNTEER ATTORNEYS MUST BE THERE FROM 5:30 TO 7:30 FOR THE TRAINING AND NEED TO COME EARLY OR STAY LATE FOR SCREENING AND SIGN UP. YOU DO NOT NEED TO PRE-REGISTER. JUST BRING YOURSELF AND YOUR CALENDAR ANYTIME AFTER 4:00.

WHAT IS THE TRAINING? LAWYERS WILL LEARN GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF IMMIGRATION LAW, SPECIFICALLY FOCUSING ON TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS (TPS). WE WILL ALSO GIVE GUIDELINES FOR OTHER TYPES OF IMMIGRATION RELIEF FOR WHICH HAITIAN PEOPLE MAY BE ELIGIBLE. YOU WILL LEAVE THE TRAINING READY TO SPEAK WITH INDIVIDUAL CLIENTS ABOUT THEIR ELIGIBILITY FOR TPS AS WELL AS THE PROS AND CONS OF FILING AN APPLICATION. YOU WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY OTHER AVENUES OF IMMIGRATION RELIEF THAT CLIENTS MIGHT NEED TO PURSUE. THE BBA VOLUNTEER LAWYER PROJECT WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE LOGISTICS OF BEING A VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY, SUCH AS MALPRACTICE COVERAGE. YOU WILL RECEIVE 2 HOURS OF CLE CREDIT THROUGH BROOKLYN DEFENDER SERVICES, AN ACCREDITED CLE PROVIDER.

WHAT IS THE LEGAL CLINIC? VOLUNTEERS WILL BE WORKING IN GROUPS. EACH GROUP OF ATTORNEYS WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY EXPERT IMMIGRATION ATTORNEYS TO ANSWER QUESTIONS. THERE WILL ALSO BE REPRESENTATIVES FROM BROOKLYN DEFENDER SERVICES TO HELP ANY CLIENT WHO HAS A CRIMINAL CONVICTION. THERE WILL BE OTHER SERVICES AVAILABLE AS WELL, INCLUDING SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WHO MAY BE ABLE TO APPLY FOR VISAS, POLITICAL ASYLUM OR OTHER FORMS OF LEGAL STATUS.

CONTACT INFORMATION: LISA SCHREIBERSDORF, BDS (718) 254-0700, EXT 105; JEANNIE COSTELLO, VLP (718) 624-5446 ** IMMIGRATION ATTORNEYS OR ATTORNEYS WHO SPEAK CREOLE OR ARE OF HAITIAN DESCENT WHO WANT TO VOLUNTEER, PLEASE CALL L. SCHREIBERSDORF OR J. COSTELLO BEFORE FEBRUARY 3.