

Directions for completing this form: Place the title of your workshop in the space indicated, followed by the name and contact information for each of the presenters. Provide a brief description of your workshop by placing the cursor on the line below “Brief Description” and commence typing. To complete the “Topical Outline”, place cursor next to each Roman numeral and begin typing. Then place the cursor next to the “a.” to begin listing sub-topics. To list more than one sub-topic, push “Enter” and “b.” should appear on the next line, and so on. Place the cursor on the line under “Notes” to begin providing your notes. To list bibliographic information, place the cursor next to “1.” and start typing. Push “Enter” to move on to “2.” and etc.

ABA / NLADA 2009 Equal Justice Conference

Maintaining The Focus – Katrina Survivors Still Need Our Help

Davida Finger, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, New Orleans, LA

Rachel Piercey, The Pro Bono Project, New Orleans, LA

Roberta Ritvo, DLA Piper, Washington, DC

Crystal Utley, MCJ, Mississippi Center for Justice, MS

Moderator: Bonnie Allen, Mississippi Center for Justice, Jackson, MS

Brief Description: Nearly four years since Hurricanes Katrina and Rita ravaged the Gulf Coast, many legal issues arising directly from the storms remain, and new challenges continue to be identified. This workshop will identify new and continuing issues arising from the hurricanes, address the implications, such as contractor fraud and foreclosure; and discuss how to sustain volunteer involvement in tackling these ongoing and new challenges. Participants will learn how to better plan for long-term disaster response legal services, and maintain volunteer focus over time.

Topical Outline:

- I. Sample of current legal issues remaining after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita
 - a. Community lawyering
 - b. Contractor fraud
 - c. Lender issues including foreclosure
 - d. Heirship property
 - e. Recovery money
- II. Further elaboration on collaborative models: what worked and how to replicate them
 - a. Spring break law students
 - b. Pro bono

1) Maintaining relationships in pro bono through multiple evolving subject areas

2) Katrina caused a renaissance of pro bono since civil rights movement

c. Organizations

1) National

2) Local grassroots

3) Sustaining partnerships

Notes:

Bibliography & Website Links:

1. www.mscenterforjustice.org

2. www.probono-no.org