

TENANTS' RIGHTS PROJECT

REAL CLIENT CONTACT • COURTROOM EXPOSURE • HELPING LOW-INCOME TENANTS



2007-2008 Application

Name: _____ Circle: 1L / 2L / 3L / LLM

Email: _____

Preferred Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Notes (E.g., note if you speak a second language, have time conflicts, or would like to work with a particular partner):

Case Assignment

Please check one:

- Assign me a case now.** I am ready to attend training and accept the commitment of a case. I know I must complete the case once it is assigned to me.
- Confirm before assigning me a case.** I would like to attend training and am interested in working on a case this year, but I am not ready to definitely commit. Contact me before assigning a case.

If there are more interested volunteers than there are cases, **some volunteers may not be assigned a case immediately.** To help us assign cases to those most interested, please answer the following questions. Also feel free to write comments in "Notes" above.

On a scale of 1-5, how interested are you in participating this year?

Least Interested 1 2 3 4 5 Most Interested

On a scale of 1-5, please rate your willingness to wait until later in the year or next semester to start:

Unwilling to wait 1 2 3 4 5 Very willing to wait

Signature

I have read and agree to the conditions of membership (on back) and would like to join the Tenants' Rights Project.

X

Date:

Conditions of TRP Membership

The Tenants' Rights Project is open to all Columbia Law students. However, it is very important that you read and agree to the following statements:

- **CASES ARE TIME-SENSITIVE:** You will be assigned a real case with a real client. It is important that you make it a priority and meet all deadlines. In general, you should complete each step within 24 hours of initiation.
- **TIME COMMITMENT:** Almost always, one case takes less than 15 hours of student time over the course of a semester (<1 hour contacting client, 1-2 hour site visit, 1-2 hours preparing and revising documents, 2 hour client meeting to sign documents, up to 6 hours in court). However, each case is unique and it may take more time to complete an assignment. You commit to finishing your assignment, even if it takes more time than anticipated or takes more time than the mandatory pro bono hour requirement.
- **COMMUNICATION:** You need to keep both your attorney and your assigned TRP Chair informed about your case. Carbon Copy (CC) them on emails you send, and inform them of dates.
- **LEGAL ADVICE:** You are not an attorney, and are prohibited from working or representing yourself as such. Be sure to inform your client that you are a law student working under the supervision of a lawyer. Do not offer legal advice.
- **PRO BONO:** TRP is a Pro Bono student organization. 1Ls may receive voluntary pro bono credit by submitting an Exit Questionnaire. 2Ls and 3Ls must carefully track their hours and submit a Registration Form, Pro Bono Log, Exit Questionnaire, and Supervisor's Report.