



**Pro Bono in January Winter Break Trip, January 2011  
Application Packet**

**Trip Overview**

UT Law students will travel to the **Rio Grande Valley** to participate in law-related volunteer projects from **January 9-14, 2011**. The trips are being organized by PB in J, a law student organization, and the law school's Pro Bono Program, whose joint vision is that UT Law students will have the opportunity to participate in meaningful pro bono work through a week-long service trip during the second week of January.

Past trip projects have engaged students in law-related work such as interviewing, surveying, hosting legal clinics, drafting, researching, and more (to learn more, see [www.utlawprobono.org](http://www.utlawprobono.org) under Opportunities). This year, students will engage in similar type work in collaboration with **South Texas Pro Bar, South Texas Civil Rights Project, and Texas RioGrande Legal**. While a few projects in the Valley must be staffed by Spanish-speakers, Spanish ability is NOT a requirement to participate. However, the selection committee will consider students' language abilities to ensure there are enough Spanish-speakers to cover project needs.

Participants must arrive at their designated location by 3 pm on Sunday, January 9 and must attend a group orientation/training that afternoon, followed by a dinner that evening. Participants will work on projects from Monday, January 10, through Thursday, January 13, for at least 8 hours a day and including some evening hours. Student may have to wrap up projects on Friday, January 14 but we expect all students may leave by noon on Friday. Participants are also expected to attend a mandatory pre-meeting trip on **November 29, 2010 at 5:30 pm** in **TNH 2.124**. Trip packets will be distributed at this meeting. Finally, trip participants must attend a post-trip debriefing meeting, to be scheduled for sometime in late January.

The William Wayne Justice Center will reimburse the following trip expenses:

- Fuel costs for those who drive carpools that include 2 or more participants
- Lodging costs for Sunday through Thursday nights at the designated lodging site
- Meal costs from Sunday through Friday, based on a modest daily stipend (paid after the trip).

Trip participants will be expected to stay at the designated lodging site and to share a room with up to three other students. If space is available at the site, students may choose to stay in a single room at their own cost. The Justice Center will make carpool and lodging arrangements for the group; expect lodging to be modest.

The trip application is open to all UT Law students, but space is limited. To apply, please submit a completed Application and Trip Commitment form, 1-page essay, and resume to the Justice Center by **4:30 pm on Wednesday, November 17, 2010**.

Participants will be selected and announced on November 19, via email. Those selected have until **noon, November 20** to confirm their participation. We will keep a waitlist and offer spaces to students on the list if participants withdraw. **Students who want to remain on the waitlist must also attend the Nov. 29 meeting**. If you are not committed to participating, please do not apply. It may be difficult for students on the waiting list to change their plans.

For questions, please contact Pro Bono Administrator, Elena Yujuico ([eyujuico@law.utexas.edu](mailto:eyujuico@law.utexas.edu)).



### Application and Trip Commitment

#### Part I. Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Expected graduation date: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you applied to a previous winter break trip? Yes/No If yes, how many times? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you gone on a previous winter break trip? Yes/No List years: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you taken the Pro Bono Pledge? Yes/No

Are you able to drive your own car to the trip location? Yes / No

If so, are you willing to take passengers? Yes / No

How many? \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Drivers who receive reimbursement for fuel costs will be expected to drive at least 2 other participants to and from the trip location and to and from projects and meals during the week.

Would you prefer to stay in a single hotel room at your own cost? Yes / No

If you are not selected in Mid-November, would you like us to put your name on a waiting list? Yes / No

Do you speak Spanish? If so, please indicate your language ability by marking all relevant options below. If not, indicate this by marking "Do Not Speak Spanish.")

\_\_\_\_\_ Do Not Speak Spanish

\_\_\_\_\_ Basic Conversational

\_\_\_\_\_ Basic Reading

\_\_\_\_\_ Basic Writing

\_\_\_\_\_ Proficient Conversational

\_\_\_\_\_ Proficient Reading

\_\_\_\_\_ Proficient Writing

\_\_\_\_\_ Fluent Conversational

\_\_\_\_\_ Fluent Reading

\_\_\_\_\_ Fluent Writing

Please provide a copy of your resume and a brief essay (no more than 1 page, double-spaced) explaining your interest in participating in this trip. If you feel you have any specialized skills that might be relevant to the trip, please explain these in your essay. This information will help us determine project placement for those selected for the trip.

**To complete your application, read and sign the Trip Commitment on the back of this form.**

Please submit a complete Application and Trip Commitment form, essay, and resume to the Justice Center, CCJ 1.324, by 4:30 pm, Wednesday, November 17, 2010. Questions? Contact Justice Center Administrator Elena Yujuico at 232-1989 or [eyujuico@law.utexas.edu](mailto:eyujuico@law.utexas.edu).



## Part II. Trip Commitment

I have read the Application Packet in its entirety and have indicated my information and preferences on the Application. I understand that students will provide their own transportation or carpool to the trip location.

If selected to participate, I will arrive at my trip location by 3 pm on Sunday, January 9, 2011. I will attend the group orientation that afternoon and dinner that evening, and will work on my assigned project(s) for at least 8 hours a day, including some evening hours, Monday through Thursday, January 10-13.

I understand that the Law School will reimburse fuel costs for those who drive their own cars to the trip location and drive at least 2 other participants to and from the trip location and to and from projects and meals during the week. I also understand that the Law School will pay for hotel/lodging costs for Sunday through Thursday nights at the group lodging and provide a modest daily stipend for meals had Sunday through Friday (paid after the trip based on my receipts). I will stay at the group hotel/lodging and understand that the lodging will be modest. I will either share a room with up to three other students or, if I have indicated on my application form, and if space is available, pay for a single room at the group hotel at my own cost.

I will participate in a mandatory pre-trip meeting on November 29, 2010 at 5:30 pm and post-trip debriefing meeting to be scheduled in late January. I understand that the Law School will post information about the trip and trip photographs on its website. I give the Law School and the Justice Center permission to post and otherwise disseminate my photograph and information about my participation in the trip.

If I am selected to participate in the trip, or choose to remain on the waitlist, I will submit required forms, including a copy of a state-issued ID, health, and auto insurance, if applicable, by the designated due date.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_