

UT LAW CLE

TEXAS  
The University of Texas at Austin  
School of Law

# Pro Bono Opportunities for Business Attorneys

LLCs, LPs AND PARTNERSHIPS



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*TALA was formed in 1979 to meet the legal and accounting needs of artists and art nonprofits. Services include lawyer and accountant pro bono assistance for artists, patent pro bono assistance for inventors, dispute resolution services, and educational programs for the artistic and business communities. Programs are designed to help participants apply sound business practices to protect intellectual property, advance careers, and develop income. TALA believes that individuals, regardless of income, should have access to business knowledge and advice to further a career in the arts.*

# INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS & NONPROFITS

Pro bono legal and accounting services are offered to individual artists and arts related nonprofit organizations from all creative disciplines, including visual arts, musical performance, film and video, writing, acting, dancing, and performing arts. TALA facilitates 350-400 arts matches per year.



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## Sample Assistance Topics

- Copyrights and trademarks
- Contract drafting, negotiation, and review
- Performance agreements
- Recording agreements
- LLC formation
- Consignment and sale terms
- Employment contracts for artists
- Work for Hire agreements
- Licensing of art
- Nondisclosure agreements
- Literary and publishing issues
- Liability waivers
- Gallery agreements
- Nonprofit incorporation, by-laws, and gaining 501(c)(3) status
- General business advice
- Quickbooks set up
- Annual nonprofit budget planning
- General tax advice

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## PATENT PRO BONO

Through a partnership with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), TALA's Patent Pro Bono program is designed to assist financially under-resourced independent inventors in Texas.

With the goal of advancing invention based economic development, the program matches patent attorneys and agents with inventors to assist in filing for patents with the USPTO.

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## MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS



All individuals must be Texas residents with a household (HH) income below 300% of the federal poverty guidelines.

HH of 1 - under \$40,770

HH of 2 - under \$54,930

HH of 3 - under \$69,090

Artists can request assistance with issues directly related to their art practice.

Inventors must also:

- Complete a prior art search of their invention
- Complete the online USPTO Basic Patent Training Certification Course

Nonprofits and groups seeking 501c3 status must have an annual budget below \$200,000.

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Title search: Pro Bono Opportunities for Business Attorneys

Also available as part of the eCourse

[First Friday Ethics \(October 2022\)](#)

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