

First Friday Ethics

# Know Pro Bono? Yes to Pro Bono! Why and How to Get Billable Hours for Your Soul

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## what does pro bono mean?

- pro bono comes from the Latin phrase pro bono publico which means “for the public good”
- it usually describes the voluntary provision of legal services without any exchange for payment

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## Rule 6.1

The Model Rules of Professional Conduct encourage lawyers to provide at least how many hours of pro bono legal services per year?

- A. 18 hours
- B. 35 hours
- C. 50 hours
- D. 72 hours

## Rule 6.1 Voluntary Pro Bono Publico Service

The Model Rules of Professional Conduct encourage lawyers to render at least 50 hours of pro bono legal services per year without fee or expectation of fee to the following person(s) or group(s):

## Rule 6.1 Voluntary Pro Bono Publico Service

(1) persons of limited means or

(2) charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental and educational organizations in matters that are designed primarily to address the needs of persons of limited means

## emphasis on provision of direct legal services

- the Model Rules recognize that lawyers have a special responsibility to secure access to justice for the poor –
- with a corresponding duty to ensure that justice is not rationed by the inability to pay

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