

applebytes

a monthly news update from
Georgia Appleseed Center for Law & Justice

Justice at Our Core Since 2005.

February 2015

Ready to Respond: Post-Disaster Law Practice in Georgia

The impact of Hurricane Katrina may be a distant memory for some, but not for those directly in her devastating path. One thing Georgia Appleseed learned back in 2006 when it investigated the impact of the storm was that many indigent evacuees were in need of timely pro bono legal services.



Fortunately, local Atlanta groups were able to meet that need in 2005-06, but what if metro Atlanta were the disaster site next time? What if the local pro bono resources in other parts of Georgia were overwhelmed by the need of Atlanta evacuees?

Georgia Appleseed learned that our state's rules did not clearly allow for lawyers outside Georgia to join able and willing lawyers in Georgia to provide pro bono help to indigent evacuees within its state boundaries. We knew a proactive approach today could pave the way for a rapid response to those in need in the future.

That "today" took a few years of persistent advocacy at different levels, but once the Georgia Supreme Court became aware of the situation and the solution, the path to resolution became clear.

By order of the Georgia Supreme Court, effective February 5, 2015, Georgia joined a growing number of states in adopting the American Bar Association's Model Court Rule on the Provision of Legal Services Following the Determination of a Major Disaster. [Read the new Rule here](#)

Georgia Appleseed Executive Director Sharon Hill notes, "We fervently hope Georgia never experiences such a disaster as prompted the creation of this ABA Rule, but should it happen, Georgia will be ready."

For more background on this Rule, see "[Post Disaster Law Practice: The ABA Model Rule,](#)" August 2014, *Georgia Bar Journal*.



Atlanta Bar Association
PRO BONO MARCH
MADNESS 2015
Get on the Ball!

**SIGN UP NOW FOR
YPC's
"STUDENT
TRIBUNAL HEARING
TRAINING" CLE**

Tuesday, March 31st
State Bar of Georgia
104 Marietta Street
3 CLEs; 1 Prof Hour

This CLE trains attorneys to represent students who are facing public school disciplinary hearings due to a pending suspension from school of more than ten days. Because of the impact a long-term suspension or expulsion may have on a student's academic success and on the flow to the "school to prison pipeline," it is important that the tribunal process provide meaningful due process to a student. Special focus and opportunity to sign up to represent foster children facing tribunals.

Training Manual included.
Fees apply.
Pre-registration is a must.
Sign up today!

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Center for Law & Justice

THE GOOD APPLE AWARDS 2015

CELEBRATING OUR TENTH ANNIVERSARY

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Summerour Studio | Atlanta, Georgia

Join us as we celebrate the volunteers and supporters who have helped Georgia Appleseed harvest justice throughout the state for ten years.

We congratulate our 2015 Good Apple Award Honorees:

Corporation: Southern Company

In recognition of ten years of leadership and corporate support

Law Firm: Troutman Sanders LLP

For its remarkable contribution of 675 pro bono hours to our Effective Student Discipline project

Volunteer: Jessica McKinney (GE Energy)

In honor of her decade of volunteerism

Become a 10th Anniversary Sponsor

Sponsorship information: www.GoodAppleAwards.org or 404.815.6266



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Years of
Achievement
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