



Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project, Inc.

Board Member Recruitment Profile 2017

Since its founding in 1990, the Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP) has provided greater access and assistance to the justice system for Brooklyn's underprivileged communities. Its mission is to ensure that high quality pro bono representation is accessible to those who suffer under the overwhelming burdens of poverty and struggle to have their rights protected and voices heard. Working through the VLP, attorneys from the private bar – recruited, trained and supervised by VLP staff – provide critical pro bono assistance each year to thousands of individuals and families from Brooklyn's poorest neighborhoods, achieving positive results in stabilizing custody, visitation and support obligations, obtaining divorces, addressing end of life issues, assisting with immigration and citizenship applications, obtaining Article 17A guardianship, preventing foreclosure and negotiating loan modifications, and halting or reducing debt collection. Last year, VLP assisted over 19,000 Brooklyn residents on their legal matters and over 500 pro bono volunteers donated 12,000 hours in legal services valued at over 3 million dollars.

Currently, the VLP's board consists of 16 members. In its continuing strategic growth efforts, VLP now seeks to add several new board members. The VLP seeks board members who will actively use their contacts and build new ones on behalf of VLP and who will engage in fundraising and networking on behalf of VLP. The VLP seeks board members that are lawyers and non-lawyers with the interests, expertise, skills, energy, and commitment needed to fulfill the board's mission and goals. Candidates interested in and experienced in finance, governance, nominating and development are particularly desired.

The VLP is looking for new Board members with:

- Corporate management experience
- Nonprofit board experience
- Law firm/legal experience
- Real estate, banking, or financial management experience
- New York City business or community leadership experience
- Fundraising/development experience and/or special events production experience
- Networking and fundraising ability/capacity
- Marketing/ public relations expertise
- Government and/or political connections

Major responsibilities include:

- Attend board meetings (4 per year) and committee meetings
- Active committee participation
- Participate in annual fundraising, cultivation and programmatic events

- Meet Give and Get requirement of at least \$5000 per year
- Make strategic connections and introductions for the organization
- Organizational and strategic leadership, advisement, and governance
- Financial management, including adoption and oversight of annual budget
- Fundraising and outreach, strengthening and diversifying VLP's financial base

Terms of service: 3 year terms

Annual budget: \$1,400,000

Current number of Board Members: 16

For more information about the VLP, visit the VLP website at www.Brooklynvlp.org

Contact: Steve Williamson, Nominating Committee Chair: steve@nytrialesquire.com, 516-321-9481 or Heidi Henderson, Executive Director: Hhenderson@Brooklynvlp.org, 718-624-5446