

May 10, 2024

Dear Bar Leader,

We are reaching out to urge you and your members to get involved in the New York State Attorney Emeritus Program (AEP) this year. The AEP is an initiative by the New York State Unified Court System, enthusiastically supported by Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson, aimed at promoting pro bono civil legal service by senior attorneys.

Especially with the increasing need for civil legal services post-COVID-19, the need for pro bono volunteers is more critical than ever. From housing to family law matters, immigration to consumer debt, AEP volunteers play a crucial role in providing access to justice for New Yorkers who are unable to afford counsel.

Any attorney aged fifty-five or older, retired or active, with at least ten years of experience and in good standing can make a significant difference by enrolling as an Attorney Emeritus. Emeritus volunteers who register as active can earn up to 15 CLE credits and receive special recognition from Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson and Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Edwina G. Richardson. Many of your bar association members will be recognized for their contributions and participation in the Program.

Your leadership and the support of your members can truly make a difference. Let us collaborate to meet the urgent need for civil legal services in New York State during these challenging times. Among other things, we can help to support your bar association in recognizing AEP volunteers during the 2024 Pro Bono Week in October.

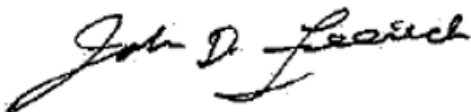
Please link our website - [NYS Attorney Emeritus Program](#) - to your bar association site. Also, let us know if you would like any additional materials and/or speaker recommendations for any of your events, including the opportunity for the AEP team to present to your members. The AEP team welcomes the opportunity to discuss the Program with you and/or your members; please feel free to contact the AEP Coordinator by email at AEPcoordinator@fordham.edu.

We look forward to working together to spread the word and address the critical need for pro bono legal assistance. Please let us know a good time to meet.

Sincerely yours,



Hon. Christine M. Clark
Co-Chair, AEP Advisory Council



John D. Feerick
Co-Chair, AEP Advisory Council