



2109 Bull Street,  
P.O. Box 1445  
Columbia South Carolina 29201

Phone: (803) 799-9668  
Fax: (803) 799-9420

[www.sclegal.org](http://www.sclegal.org) | [www.lawhelp.org/sc](http://www.lawhelp.org/sc) | [www.probono.net/sc](http://www.probono.net/sc)

## PAI RECRUITMENT LETTER

**Date:**  
**To:** Private Attorneys  
**From:** Andrea E. Loney, Executive Director  
**Re:** Participation In Private Attorney Involvement Program

South Carolina Legal Services (SCLS) is seeking your help as a Private Attorney Involvement (PAI) partner. Following are some frequently asked questions and answers about the PAI program which may help you decide to accept cases referred by SCLS..

1. Why contract your services to legal services?
  - You will represent clients who are among the most overlooked and disadvantaged citizens of South Carolina.
  - The clients you accept will have been thoroughly screened and financially qualified by SCLS, and referred to you according to your practice preference.
  - You may accept or deny any client, without explanation, case by case.
  - Your participation may allow needed services to be provided to low-income residents in areas of SCLS attorney shortage.
  
2. How do I get involved in the PAI Program?
  - Call or email the office of SCLS's executive director, Andrea E. Loney, at (803) 744-4179 and request a PAI package or you may complete the contract from the SCLS website at [www.sclegal.org](http://www.sclegal.org) or [www.probono.net/sc](http://www.probono.net/sc)
  - Complete the contract designating the substantive area(s) you want to volunteer. You will only receive clients in the practice(s) you stipulate.
  - Return the completed contract to the SCLS Executive Director Office at 2109 Bull St., Columbia, SC 29201.
  
3. What advantages does the PAI program offer to you?
  - Opportunity to provide low-income citizens access to the legal system.
  - An hourly rate of \$65.00 up to a maximum fee per case.
  - Satisfaction, and recognition for providing a valuable and needed service.

- A great learning experience for new lawyers and lawyers who want to become more knowledgeable and experienced in areas of the law that impact low-income families.
  - Reduced-price training.
  - Provide secondary malpractice insurance coverage for PAI cases.
4. Does SCLS really need my participation?
- Yes. 12.5% of SCLS's grant from the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) is designated by LSC for PAI case referrals of our low-income client population in South Carolina.
  - Yes. Without your assistance in representing low income clients, this money must be returned to LSC.
  - Yes. Although SCLS has 9 offices and a statewide intake office throughout South Carolina, we cannot possibly serve every qualified client within South Carolina who has a legitimate civil problem.
  - Yes. Without substantial Private Attorney Involvement, many eligible clients will go without service.

The SCLS charge is to provide eligible clients in South Carolina with non-fee generating legal assistance in individual cases and with legal outreach and education. The more effective we are at the latter, the more qualified clients learn about and have access to legal services. The need for PAI attorneys grows! Just as you are committed to excellent advocacy for your private paying clients, SCLS is committed to zealously serving those South Carolina applicants who are financially unable to otherwise obtain legal representation.

We need PAI attorneys to handle cases in consumer protection, probate, public benefits, tax, bankruptcy, housing, education, family law, community education and other areas of civil practice. Please remember, you choose when and which clients to accept.

We hope to hear soon that you will make your services available to the low-income community of South Carolina. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me personally at (803) 744-4179 or our General Counsel Tom Bruce at (864) 679-3252.