

**The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court
Pro Bono Recognition Program Certification for Calendar Year 2015**

Name of law firm, solo practitioner, or other submitting organization:

Contact Person (for law firms or other organizations): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ E-mail Address: _____

This Certification is being submitted by, or on behalf of, a (please check one):

Solo Practitioner Law Firm (lawyers in firm) Government Attorneys Office
 Non-Profit Organization Law School Faculty

****THIS FORM SHOULD NOT BE USED BY LAW STUDENTS****

Please note that beginning this year, law students will have a separate process to be recognized for their pro bono commitment. All law schools will be notified when that program information becomes available, which should be no later than the early fall of 2016.

BY MY SIGNATURE BELOW, I CERTIFY THE FOLLOWING WITH RESPECT TO PRO BONO PARTICIPATION DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2015:

Please check at least one below:

That the pro bono legal services hours per attorney, defined as the total number of pro bono hours provided by the Massachusetts Attorneys¹ divided by the number of Massachusetts Attorneys (full-time equivalents), is at least fifty (50)

or

That more than seventy-five percent (75%) of the Massachusetts Attorneys have provided at least twenty-five (25) pro bono hours

AND

Please check the one that applies:

(For law firms and solo practitioners) That for purposes of attorney retention and promotion, time devoted to approved pro bono legal services is treated the same as time devoted to billable time or its equivalent. If billable hours are not strictly or solely used as a criteria for retention and promotion (e.g., contingency fee work or salaried positions), pro bono legal services hours are treated the same as time that is recognized for purposes of retention and promotion; and that for purposes of attorney compensation, time devoted to approved pro bono legal services up to at least fifty hours (50) per year is treated the same as time devoted to billable legal work or its equivalent. If billable hours are not strictly or solely used to measure compensation (e.g., contingency fee work or salaried positions), pro bono legal services are treated the same as time that is determinative of compensation.

(For other organizations) An attorney may devote up to at least fifty (50) hours per year to pro bono services without any negative impact on the attorney's compensation, retention or promotion opportunities

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name and Title (printed): _____

Please return completed Certification to: Blanca Tosado at blanca.tosado@sjc.state.ma.us or by mail to Blanca Tosado, Supreme Judicial Court, One Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 or by facsimile to 617-557-1052.

¹ Please see the full program description for the definition of "Massachusetts Attorney" for purposes of this certification.