

Dade Legal Aid

MIAMI, FLORIDA

FEBRUARY 2026

BANKRUPTCY ADVOCACY IN ACTION

Celebrating Pro Bono Excellence



When individuals face overwhelming financial challenges, bankruptcy can offer stability, dignity, and a path forward. That promise becomes a reality through the dedication of attorneys, bar associations, and legal aid organizations committed to pro bono service. In this issue, we celebrate milestones that reflect the strength of the bankruptcy pro bono community and its lasting impact on access to justice in Miami-Dade County and beyond.

Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida Honored with Pro Bono Service Award

We are proud to congratulate the Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida (BBASDFL) on receiving the **2026 Voluntary Bar Association Pro Bono Service Award**, presented by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Florida. This distinguished recognition honors voluntary bar associations that demonstrate exceptional commitment to pro bono service and access to justice.

Since its founding in 1980, BBASDFL has been a leader in advancing the bankruptcy system while expanding access to legal services for individuals in need. Through its longstanding partnership with Put Something Back, BBASDFL has supported our efforts by accepting pro bono cases, staffing clinics, serving as speakers and mentors, leading workshops, connecting vulnerable individuals with volunteer attorneys, and other initiatives

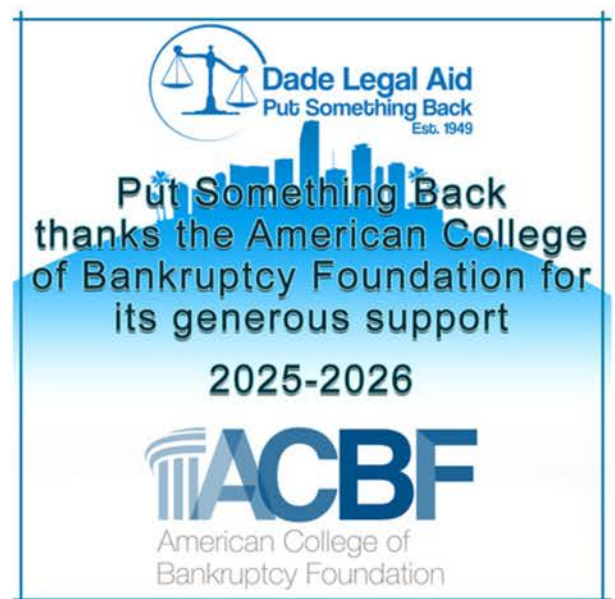


that expand access to justice. This award is a well-deserved recognition of BBASDFL's sustained leadership, service, and impact within the bankruptcy community. Pictured are BBA President Alan Rosenberg and Financial Literacy Committee Chair Tara Trevorow at the Florida Supreme Court Pro Bono Awards Ceremony. This is the second time the association has received this award.

Put Something Back Awarded Grant by the American College of Bankruptcy Foundation

Put Something Back is proud to announce that it has been awarded a **generous grant from the American College of Bankruptcy Foundation**, further strengthening its ability to serve indigent debtors in Miami-Dade County.

For many clients—including older adults, individuals with disabilities, and families facing overwhelming financial challenges—a successful bankruptcy can mean more than debt relief. It can provide stability, dignity, and a renewed sense of hope. This grant will allow Put Something Back to expand its reach and continue connecting clients with dedicated volunteer attorneys committed to meaningful pro bono service.



Financial Literacy Workshops

The BBASDFL has been providing **Financial Literacy Workshops** throughout the community. Recently one was held in partnership with Dade Legal Aid/Put Something Back and the Wilkie D. Ferguson Bar Association to benefit the community. The workshop provided practical information and resources designed to support financial stability and informed decision-making.



We extend our sincere appreciation to our outstanding presenters, Tara Trevorow, Rachelle Tasher and Sonya Rodricks, as well as our dedicated staff and volunteers. Pictured left to right are Cynthia Stafford, Tasher, Trevorow, Rodricks, Alexa Philossaint and Kelly Araujo.

Liz Marquardt, Esq., Bankruptcy Clinic Coordinator

Liz Marquardt, Esq. serves as the law school clinical coordinator. She is a CPA and attorney with expertise in forensic accounting, financial and legal compliance, and organizational restructuring, and has held many senior leadership roles during her career. She was a Senior Director with Alvarez & Marsal Tax, LLC and with LNR Partners LLC, after beginning her career at KPMG.

To serve as a mentor for one of the new law school clinics, contact EMarquardt@dadelegalaid.org

To accept a new bankruptcy pro bono case, contact bankruptcy@dadelegalaid.org



Looking Ahead

Together, these recognitions underscore the power of collaboration between the bankruptcy bench, bar, and Legal Aid community. We extend our sincere gratitude to Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida, the American College of Bankruptcy Foundation, Palm Beach Legal Aid Society, and the many pro bono attorneys whose commitment makes access to justice possible for our most vulnerable neighbors.

