

Appendix “A”

Pro Bono Projects Evaluation Criteria

The criteria below are intended to serve as an *aide memoire* to members of the Society tasked with evaluating potential *pro bono* projects. Though they are intended to provide some rigour to any such evaluation, they cannot be seen as a simple checklist. Rather they should be seen as issues the evaluators ought to consider and balance depending on the nature of any given proposed project. These considerations are not presented in order of importance and are not exclusive; there may well be other relevant considerations for a given project.

1. Benefit to Community

- 1.1 Importance of issues to people to be assisted
- 1.2 Importance of issues to society
- 1.3 Is the project aimed at helping especially vulnerable/marginalized/victimized people?
- 1.4 Is the project aimed at helping people of limited means?
- 1.5 Absolute number of people requiring assistance
- 1.6 Is the project duplicative of other efforts?

2. Benefit to TAS

- 2.1 Potential for widespread participation by TAS members
 - 2.1.1 Geographic
 - 2.1.2 Across years of call
 - 2.1.3 Across areas of expertise
 - 2.1.4 Will the project provide opportunities to engage in organized *pro bono* efforts to TAS members that otherwise would not have such opportunities?
- 2.2 Quality of the opportunities to practice advocacy provided by the project
- 2.3 Fostering Collegiality (Connecting/Networking/Mentoring)

3. Burdens on TAS

- 3.1 How much additional development and administration will the project impose on TAS?
 - 3.1.1 Who will undertake the project's development?
 - 3.1.2 Is TAS expected to administer the project?
- 3.2 Potential to generate legitimate criticism of TAS' motives (this criteria must be evaluated with great caution)

4. Other Considerations

- 4.1 Will the project undercut the business of other lawyers (Legal Aid etc.)?
- 4.2 Are there significant numbers of TAS members willing to participate?
- 4.3 Do TAS members have the requisite expertise?
- 4.4 Is there another more appropriate body to service the identified need?
- 4.5 Has TAS' involvement been invited or is the project a member's initiative?
- 4.6 What other agencies/people will be involved in the project?
- 4.7 Does the project have PBLO's support?
- 4.8 Is the project open to all TAS members subject to reasonable restrictions, including, without limitation, demand, administrative capacity and/or expertise requirements?