



Date: 31 May 2024

Dr Janine Hicks  
Senior Lecturer  
School of Law | University of KwaZulu-Natal  
Mazisi Kunene Road | Durban

Dear Dr Hicks,

**Re: Street Law Outreach & SASLAW PROBONO NPC**

SASLAW Pro-Bono NPC along with its general membership is committed to serving the community by:

- assisting unrepresented and indigent litigants in gaining access to justice.
- acquitting themselves of their regulatory commitments to perform pro bono work.
- assisting the Labour Court in addressing the backlog in its caseload and facilitating the efficient operation of the various Labour Courts.

The SASLAW PROBONO NPC / UKZN partnership was formed in early 2021. The Street law module was recognised as one that would benefit from involvement in our Probono project which runs at the Labour Courts throughout South Africa.

Students participated at the SASLAW Probono offices engaging with litigants who had no other access to justice to see to their Labour Court and other Employment law matters.

The structure of SASLAW's pro bono office encouraged students to develop their listening skills, note-taking skills, and research skills. Students were encouraged to sharpen their research skills by conducting independent research on a particular topic, beyond the information taught to them during placement. It was important for students to do this in order to empower themselves to respond to questions posed to them in their consultations with community members.

Students had the challenging task of breaking down complex legal concepts and presenting them to lay people in simple terms that may be easily understood. This meant that they needed to thoroughly understand the concepts as well. The ability to communicate legal concepts clearly and simply is a skill which will certainly serve students well when they engage in community service when they are in practice. A number of pamphlets and brochures were created for the various processes these litigants face at the CCMA or Labour courts and this contributed positively to the community who were able to better understand the timelines and process they were involved in. These brochures were also translated into Zulu, further assisting communities.

In addition to consultations the students also had the opportunity of witnessing court proceedings which was always very well received.

The SASLAW Probono project in Durban alone has seen and assisted over 5000 clients over the past 8 years and countless hours of Probono work has been conducted by attorneys, students and other volunteers alike.

We were extremely grateful for the assistance and participation from the students who we met and were able to work with during their semesters with us.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diane Cochran". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

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Diane Cochran

SASLAW Probono NPC KZN Manager