

2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR

PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND GOALS

The 3Rs is an unprecedented program of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association undertaken by members of Cleveland's legal community in partnership with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and East Cleveland City Schools. The program aims to have volunteers personally connect with high school students to address fundamental issues facing the students and, ultimately, our city and region. Using a real-world curriculum based on the U.S. Constitution, The 3Rs calls upon teams of volunteers to go to 10th grade social studies classes to work with small groups of students to accomplish the following goals:

- Improve understanding of and respect for the rule of law and our Constitution
- Improve passage of the social studies section of the Ohio Graduation Test
- Provide practical career counseling to focus students on their potential beyond high school
- Improve the "pipeline" of minorities flowing into legal careers in the region

More than ever, Cleveland and East Cleveland public school students need the personal involvement of the community to help them to maximize their potential. The success of these students and the success of our region are mutually dependent. The Cleveland legal community is well-positioned to make a positive impact through volunteer commitment.

HOW IS THE 3RS MAKING A DIFFERENCE?

- Ohio Graduation test scores in social studies have improved in each of the three years of the program: in 2007, 39.8% of the students passed the OGT; in 2008, 46.7% of the students passed; and in 2009, 54.2% passed.
- More students are getting engaged in internship, study and mock trial programs, pursuing information about post-secondary education, scholarships and financial aid, and seeking other opportunities to develop their skills in preparation for life after high school.
- The program has been hailed by the schools as a model of civic involvement. It has inspired the development of similar outreach efforts by other professional groups including the banking and financial services community in Cleveland, and by other bar associations throughout the country.
- The program has received prestigious awards and recognition, including the First Annual Raymond Pace and Sadie T. M. Alexander Award for Excellence in Pipeline Diversity from the American Bar Association Presidential Advisory Council on Diversity in the Profession in 2009, the Ohio State Bar Foundation Outstanding Program Award in 2008, and the LexisNexis National Community Outreach Award and the American Bar Association Partnership Award in 2007.

3RS VOLUNTEERS

The 3Rs has the strong support and involvement of a large and diverse volunteer pool representing all segments of the legal community. Our volunteer roster includes lawyers from firms of all sizes, solo practitioners, retired lawyers, government lawyers, in-house corporate counsel including members of the Northeast Ohio Association of Corporate Counsel, the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, non-profit organizations and other bar associations, including the Norman S. Minor Bar Association and the Federal Bar Association. The courts are well-represented in the program with volunteer judges and court staff from the U.S. District Court, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Eighth District

Court of Appeals, Court of Common Pleas General Division, Probate Court, Domestic Relations Court, Juvenile Court, Cleveland Municipal Court and suburban municipal courts. The program has volunteers from the faculty and law student bodies of both Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and Case Law School.

3RS SPONSORS

The 3Rs is sponsored by the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, with financial support from the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation and the Federal Court Library and sponsorship from Office Max.

3RS COMMITTEE

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3RS CONTACT

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