

“Reach Out” Program Series to Provide Legal Advice and Assistance to Community Nonprofits

CLEVELAND – March 28, 2012 – The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (CMBA), the Northeast Ohio Chapter of the Association of Corporate Counsel - America (NEOACCA), and the Federal Bar Association, Northern District of Ohio Chapter (FBA) are excited to announce a series of free educational seminars to help nonprofit organizations in Northeast Ohio whose missions focus on community service and who demonstrate financial need.

The new series, organized by the collaborative program “Reach Out: Legal Assistance for Nonprofits,” will provide nonprofit leaders with timely information on legal issues of importance to their organizations, coupled with an opportunity to sit down with attorney volunteers for brief advice and the possibility for further pro bono representation for their legal needs.

“Nonprofits face many of the same complexities as commercial businesses, and sometimes more, but often lack resources or budget for the legal help they need,” said John D. Moran, NEOACCA Board Member and General Counsel of GrafTech International. “This is an opportunity for attorneys to volunteer their talents and assist nonprofit groups to make a difference in our community. And the fact that three bar associations are working together to provide this free legal advice demonstrates the legal community’s tremendous generosity to address needs in the nonprofit community.”

The series of educational seminars and brief advice clinics designed to benefit community nonprofit organizations kicked off March 29. Future seminars and topics include:

April 19, 2012

- Contract Basics
- Real Estate Challenges

July 19, 2012

- Employment Law Primer for Nonprofits
- Intellectual Property Law Tips for Nonprofits

October 25, 2012

- Risk Management and Insurance
- Privacy and Data Protection

All seminars are presented free of charge for leaders of eligible nonprofit organizations and will be held at the CMBA offices, 1301 East Ninth Street in Cleveland.

Attorneys are invited to volunteer for Reach Out and serve as faculty for law-related education programs, provide brief advice and counsel at designated clinics, and/or accepting referrals for pro bono service. Volunteer attorneys will receive free Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits at each educational seminar they attend.

For more information on the Reach Out program and to sign up, visit www.clemetrobar.org/ReachOut.

About the CMBA

The nonprofit Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association operates as a center for legal professionalism in the region, promoting the highest ethical and professional standards. Serving the largest legal community in the state, the CMBA has more than 5,500 members. Learn more at www.clemetrobar.org.

About the Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC)

ACC is the world's largest community of in-house counsel. Our local chapter (the Northeast Ohio Chapter of ACC-America), with over 300 members, offers continuing legal education, networking and pro bono opportunities. More information is available at www.acc.com.

About the Federal Bar Association (FBA)

The Federal Bar Association – Northern District of Ohio is a voluntary, professional organization for attorneys and the judiciary who practice in the federal system or have an interest in federal law. The chapter has more than 500 members. More information is available at www.fba-ndohio.org.

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