



# THE WSU LEGAL CLINIC

Western State University College of Law  
Terence W. Roberts, Clinic Director

Fullerton, California

## *INFORMATION NOTICE REGARDING ENROLLMENT IN THE LEGAL CLINIC SPRING SEMESTER 2009*

The WSU Legal Clinic continues its sixth year of operation under the supervision of the Clinic Director, Professor Terry Roberts Kelley Jones-Horwood. Kelley assists the Clinic Director by managing the clinic office on the third floor. Over the past five years, WSU student attorneys have provided representation to over four hundred clients in Family Law, Guardianships and Conservatorships. Enrollment in the clinic is available as an elective course for both day and evening division students. Evening division students are encouraged to enroll as the clinic operates during hours that accommodate evening students.

***BE SURE TO CHECK OUT CLINIC INFORMATION AT THE WSU WEBSITE***

### **How Does It Work?**

“It” is the practice of law, which is the purpose of the WSU Legal Clinic. During the first week of the semester, students will attend orientation seminars. At the conclusion of the seminars, Student Attorneys will receive their case assignments. This will start the attorney-client relationship that will extend throughout the semester. Some cases will be carried over from the prior semester; others will involve new clients. Working under the supervision of the Clinic Director, each Student Attorney will work at those tasks necessary to represent the client. These tasks include interviewing and counseling, analyzing the client’s problems and designing a means of resolving them, preparing correspondence to clients, opposing counsel and courts, drafting pleadings, motions, and trial briefs. Court appearances will depend on the status of each case, but will be made by the Student Attorney in the first chair with the director as back up. At the end of the semester, cases will be closed or transferred as appropriate.

## **Prerequisites for Enrollment**

Clinic students must qualify to register with the California State Bar under the Rules for the Practical Training of Law Students. These rules require completion or concurrent enrollment in the second, third or fourth year of law school in good Academic standing and successful completion or concurrent enrollment in Civil Procedure and Evidence. Additionally you must have completed or be enrolled in Professional Responsibility.

## **Academic Credit**

The WSU Legal Clinic is a two-part academic offering. The clinic component is 3 pass-fail units while the seminar is two graded units. Work in the clinic is not performed according to a set schedule. To earn the three units, each student must work 150 hours during the fourteen weeks of the semester. Seminars will be scheduled as a regular class taught by Professor Roberts. Grades will be assessed in the clinic component based on the performance of all tasks necessary to adequately represent your clients. Seminar grades will be based on written assignments.

## **When to Enroll**

Students will get the most benefit from their clinical enrollment if they take the clinic in one of their last two semesters of school. However, any student who meets the prerequisites for enrollment is welcome to apply.

## **Limited Enrollment**

Enrollment is limited to 10 students each semester to comply with ABA, State Bar and School Standards. As a general rule, students who will graduate in May 2008 will be given first preference. If any vacancies remain, any other qualified student will be accepted.

## **Application Process**

Students interested in enrolling in the clinic must file an application. The application is included in this registration packet or is available at the clinic office on the third floor. You will be notified whether or not you have been accepted prior to registration.