

*KEY FINDINGS FROM
2004 MARYLAND PRO BONO REPORTING RESULTS*

Maryland Rule 16-903 (effective July 1, 2002) requires all Maryland attorneys authorized to practice law in the state to annually report on their pro bono activities. The definition of pro bono service was redefined by the Court of Appeals in Rule 6.1 with an “aspirational” goal of 50 hours of service for full-time practitioners with a “substantial portion” of those hours dedicated to legal services to people of limited means.

The Administrative Office of the Courts contracted with an independent company (ANASYS) to administer the process and compile the reporting results. There are now three years of reporting results to review and analyze. Some of the key findings from the *Current Status of Pro Bono Service Among Maryland Lawyers, Year 2004* report are summarized below. The most notable observation is that there has been a **steady increase** in: 1) **the number of pro bono hours**; 2) **the percentage of lawyers participating in pro bono activities**; and 3) **the percentage of lawyers providing more than 50 hours of pro bono legal service per year**.

Compliance Rate

- 31,226 Maryland lawyers **filed their pro bono service report** by the final cutoff date and were included in the report (representing a **99% compliance rate**).

Amount of Pro Bono Service

- Among all licensed lawyers, **47.9% reported engaging in some** type of pro bono activity. **Among full-time lawyers practicing in Maryland, that number increases to 63.2%.**
- Lawyers who **filed for all three reporting years, are rendering pro bono services at an increasing rate with 49.6%** reporting pro bono hours.
- **Lawyers provided a total of 1,071, 968 hours** of representational pro bono legal service in 2004 (a four percent increase over 2003.) They gave an additional 442,257 hours to improve the law, legal system or legal profession **totaling over 1.5 million hours of pro bono service.**
- Among all lawyers, 23.1% reported 50 hours or more of pro bono service while among **full-time lawyers, 24% reported donating more than 50 hours.**

Type of Pro Bono Service

- Tracking Rule 6.1, the breakdown of services provided by Maryland lawyers was as follows:
 - **52.2% rendered their services to people of limited means;**
 - 14.8% assisted organizations serving people of limited means;
 - 6.3% worked with entities on civil rights matters; and
 - 26.8% gave organizational help to non-profits.
- Of those hours donated directly to assist people of limited means, 33.7% were referred through a pro bono or legal services organization.

Geographic Distribution

- The **Eastern Shore and Western Maryland** continued to **have higher proportions** of lawyers rendering pro bono services than lawyers in other regions.
- **Western Maryland** reported the **highest percentage of lawyers with 50 hours** or more of pro bono service (34%) **followed by the Eastern Shore**. Garrett County ranked first with 45% of full-time lawyers reporting 50 or more hours followed by Dorchester (42.1%), Somerset (40%), Worcester (38.1%), and Frederick (37.4%) counties. Those with the lowest participation rates included: Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Montgomery, Cecil, Howard and Prince George's counties.

Practice Areas

- The **largest number of pro bono hours** was donated in the **family/domestic** practice area even though family/domestic law ranked seventh as a primary practice area. About 60% of the family law pro bono service was rendered by lawyers who identified their primary practice areas as family, litigation or general.
- Lawyers generally provide a **high percentage of their pro bono service in their primary practice area**. Those in certain practice areas tend to **proportionately provide more pro bono service hours**. The top areas include:
 - Family Law – 71.1%
 - Elder Law – 67.2%
 - Trusts and Estates – 66%
 - Bankruptcy/Commercial – 64.5%
 - General Practice – 63.9%
 - Litigation – 63.2%
- Those lawyers not engaged in pro bono service tend to be younger and in practice areas such as government, banking/finance, insurance, and intellectual property.

Financial Contributions

- The **total financial contribution** to organizations that provide legal services to people of limited means was **\$2,821,759**. **An overall higher percentage of lawyers made financial contributions in 2004**.
- With the exception of lawyers in corporate/business and litigation practice areas, those in practice areas with less participation tend to compensate by making greater financial contributions to legal services organizations.

* * * *

Summarized by the Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service and the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland.

The full report can be found at: www.courts.state.md.us.

Special thanks to the Department of Family Administration, Administrative Office of the Courts and ANASYS for compiling and presenting this data.

Final Report:
*Current Status of Pro Bono Service
Among Maryland Lawyers, Year 2004*

OCTOBER 11, 2005

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</i>	<i>i</i>
<i>I. INTRODUCTION</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>II. GENERAL PRACTICE CHARACTERISTICS OF MARYLAND LAWYERS</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>II.1. Geographical Location</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>II.2. Year of Bar Admittance</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>II.3. Primary Practice Area</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>III. PRO BONO SERVICE</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>III.1. Pro Bono Service by Geographic Location</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>III.2. Beneficiaries of Pro Bono Service</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>III.3. Practice Area and Pro Bono Service</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>III.4. Hours to Improve Law and Financial Contributions</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>IV. CHANGES IN PRO BONO HOURS</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>V. CONCLUSION</i>	<i>23</i>

TABLES AND CHARTS

Table 1.	Location of Lawyers	3
Table 2.	First-choice Jurisdiction	4
Table 3.	All Selected Jurisdictions, 2004	5
Table 4.	Mean and Median Bar Admittance Year by States, 2004	6
Table 5.	Primary Practice Area, 2004	7
Table 6.	Comparison of Primary Practice Area by Location	8
Table 7.	Changes in Lawyers with Pro Bono Activity	9
Table 8.	Pro Bono Hours of Full Time and Other Lawyers by Region, 2004	11
Table 9.	Pro Bono Hours of Full Time and Other Lawyers by Region – Change from 2003	11
Table 10.	Maryland Counties by Percentage of Lawyers with 50 or More Pro Bono Hours, 2004	13
Table 11.	Distribution of Pro Bono Services by Beneficiary Type, 2004	14
Table 12.	Proportion of Pro Bono Hours Spent on Cases from a Pro Bono or a Legal Services Organization	14
Table 13.	Comparison of Practice Areas, 2004	15
Table 14.	Percent of Lawyers who provide Pro Bono Service - by Practice Areas, 2004	15
Table 15.	Pro Bono Service Areas and Practice Areas, 2004	16
Table 16.	Distribution of Hours to Improve Law and Financial Contributions, 2004	17
Table 17.	Lawyers with Financial Contribution – by Practice Area, 2004	18
Table 18.	Proportion of Lawyers with Pro Bono Service by Reporting Status	20
Table 19.	Distribution of Lawyers by their Changes in Pro Bono Hours	21
Table 20.	Changes in Pro Bono Hours by Geographical Location	22

Chart 1.	Number of Lawyers by Bar Admittance Year	6
Chart 2.	Percent of Lawyers with Any Pro Bono Hours by Region	10
Chart 3.	Percent of Lawyers with Any Pro Bono Hours by County	10
Chart 4.	Maryland Counties by Percentage of Full Time Lawyers with 50 or More Pro Bono Hours	12
Chart 5.	Proportion of Lawyers who reported Greater Than '0' Pro Bono Hours by Year	19
Chart 6.	Proportion of Full Time Lawyers with 50 or more Pro Bono Hours	20
Chart 7.	Changes of Pro Bono Activities among 1,645 Lawyers Prohibited To Render Pro Bono Service in Year 2002	21

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

With the adoption of Maryland Rule 16-903, the Court of Appeals of Maryland required all licensed Maryland attorneys to report annually on their pro bono activities. This summary report presents results from the data collected from the Pro Bono Service Report for Year 2004. Below are the major findings from their reporting.

- Among 31,226 Maryland lawyers, 47.9 percent (14,964 lawyers) reported some pro bono activity, a slight increase of 0.5 percent from Year 2003.
- The total number of pro bono hours rendered in 2004 was 1,071,968 a 4.0 percent increase from Year 2003.
- Lawyers who filed the pro bono report for all three years, 2002 - 2004 are providing pro bono activities at an increasing rate, albeit slowly - from 48.9 percent in 2002 to 49.6 percent in 2004.
- Among full time lawyers, the proportion of lawyers who reported greater than '0' pro bono hours increased from 58.3 percent in 2002 to 59.4 percent in 2004. However, during the same period, the proportion of other lawyers (not full time) who reported greater than '0' pro bono hours decreased from 28.0 percent in 2002 to 27.2 percent in 2004.
- Among full time lawyers, 23.1 percent of lawyers provided 50 or more hours of pro bono service during Year 2004.
- Higher proportions of lawyers in rural areas of Maryland rendered pro bono services compared with lawyers in metropolitan regions.
- Western Region of Maryland reported the highest percentage of lawyers with 50 or more pro bono hours among full time lawyers, followed by the Eastern Region.
- Garrett County ranked first in Year 2004 with 45.0 percent of full time lawyers with 50 or more pro bono hours, followed by Dorchester (42.1 percent), Somerset (40.0 percent), Worcester (38.1 percent), and Frederick (37.4 percent) counties.
- Baltimore City ranked the lowest with 21.1 percent of full time lawyers with 50 or more pro bono hours, followed by Anne Arundel County (22.9 percent), Baltimore County (23.3 percent), Howard County (23.3 percent), and Montgomery County (24.1 percent).
- The Family/Domestic practice area was the top pro bono service area while it was the seventh ranked primary practice area.
- A total of 7,107 lawyers spent 442,257 hours participating in activities for improving the law, the legal system, or the legal profession (Question 3) – a 10 percent increase from Year 2003.

- The total financial contribution to organizations that provide legal services to people of limited means (Question 4) was \$2,821,759 from 5,530 contributing lawyers.
- More than 60 percent of “Family” pro bono service was provided by lawyers in three practice areas – Family/Domestic, Litigation, and General practice.
- Among those lawyers who filed the pro bono report for all three years, the proportion of full time lawyers who provided 50 or more pro bono hours increased from 22.1 percent in 2002 to 23.9 percent in 2004.
- Among the lawyers who were prohibited to render pro bono service by statute (Question 5), the proportion of lawyers with pro bono service is only about one-sixth of the proportion among full time lawyers. In comparison, part time lawyers (Question 7) reported pro bono activities close to the level of full time lawyers.
- With the exception of lawyers in Corporate/Business and Litigation, lawyers in practice areas where pro bono activities are lower tend to compensate their lack of pro bono activities by making financial contributions.

I. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Rule 16-903, annual filing of the Pro Bono Legal Service Report is mandatory for all lawyers certified to practice in the State of Maryland. The Maryland Administrative Office of the Courts is responsible for managing the reporting process and for reporting the results to the Court of Appeals. The Maryland Administrative Office of the Courts engaged ANASYS, Inc. (ANASYS) to assist them in managing the reporting process and in compiling and analyzing the data. This report summarizes the results from the third year for which pro bono reporting was required, Calendar Year 2004.

For Year 2004, four mailings were sent out to all licensed Maryland attorneys.

- First round: An initial mailing was sent out on January 3, 2005 to all lawyers who were on the active lawyers' list as maintained by the Maryland Client Protection Fund (CPF).
- Second round: A mailing was sent out on March 21, 2005 to 6,302 lawyers who had not filed their pro bono report by March 15, 2005.
- Third round: A 'Notice of Failure to File' was sent out on May 25, 2005 to 1,832 lawyers who had not filed their pro bono report by May 15, 2005, and
- Fourth round: A 'Decertification Order' signed by the Court of Appeals was sent out on September 8, 2005 decertifying 204 lawyers who had failed to file the report by that date.

ANASYS set up and maintained a web-based online reporting system throughout the reporting period using individualized identification number for each lawyer. The overall percentage of online filing was 60.5 percent and the remaining 39.5 percent filed the pro bono report through the mail. The use of online filing system has been increasing steadily for the last three years of reporting (48.3 percent in 2003 and 26.4 percent in 2002) due to an improved web-based online reporting system and an aggressive promotion of the value and convenience of the online filing. Overall, the quality of submitted data improved over the years as pro bono reporting has been in place for three years. We were able to observe a lower number of erroneous responses and null values (no response), and an increased number of detailed responses.

This report covers the 31,226 pro bono reports received by September 6, 2005, covering 99 percent of all Maryland lawyers. It excludes data from those attorneys who were determined to be inactive lawyers (law clerks, deceased, etc.), and lawyers in the military.

The purposes of this summary report are:

1. to identify and evaluate the status of pro bono service engaged in by Maryland lawyers;
2. to assess whether a target goal of 50 hours of pro bono service for lawyers in the full time practice of law was achieved;

3. to determine the level of financial contribution to legal services organizations by Maryland attorneys; and
4. to identify the areas that need to be improved.

II. GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF MARYLAND LAWYERS

This section presents an overall picture of Maryland lawyers' practices by providing descriptive statistics on practice questions from the pro bono report data.

II.1. Geographical Location

The table below shows the distribution of the 31,226 lawyers by their business address as reported in the Pro Bono Legal Service Report for Year 2004. The result is compared with the distribution in year previous years.

Table 1. Location of Lawyers

	2004		2003		2002	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Maryland	18,540	59.4%	18,491	59.4%	19,098	63.6%
Washington DC	7,410	23.7%	7,438	23.9%	5,798	19.3%
Virginia	1,971	6.3%	1,952	6.3%	2,117	7.1%
Other States	3,210	10.3%	3,137	10.1%	2,896	9.6%
Foreign	91	0.3%	89	0.3%	93	0.3%
Unknown	4	0.0%	46	0.1%	22	0.1%
	31,226	100.0%	31,153	100.0%	30,024	100.0%

Fifty-nine percent of lawyers who are certified to practice in Maryland reported a business address in Maryland. The distribution of business address remained steady from 2003. The substantial exodus of lawyers out of Maryland we observed last year was not repeated in 2004.¹

In addition to the business address information, the pro bono report includes a question on lawyers' jurisdiction. Fifty-eight percent of lawyers (18,130) indicated they practiced in jurisdictions in the state of Maryland, 36 percent (11,209 lawyers) reported out of state jurisdictions, and the remaining 6 percent (1,887 lawyers) did not answer the question.

Among those who reported practicing in Maryland jurisdictions, 5,619 lawyers reported 'All of Maryland' as their jurisdiction as opposed to providing county level information. Table 2 shows the reported jurisdictions by county among 12,511 lawyers who provided specific county jurisdiction information and the comparable information from Year 2003 and 2002.

We can observe that the proportion of lawyers who reported Baltimore City as their primary jurisdiction has been steadily decreasing to 26.8 percent, from 27.8 percent in 2003 and 31.5 percent in 2002. In comparison, higher proportions of lawyers reported their jurisdiction in Montgomery and Baltimore Counties. Table 2 also indicates that 92 percent of all lawyers with

¹ About 10 percent of the lawyers in Maryland in Year 2002 moved out of the state of Maryland in Year 2003.

county level jurisdiction information reported counties in the Central and Capital Regions² as their primary jurisdiction.

Table 2. First-choice Jurisdiction

County Name	Year 2004		Year 2003		Year 2002	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Baltimore City	3,354	26.8%	3,224	27.8%	3,023	31.5%
Montgomery County	2,940	23.5%	2,666	23.0%	1,918	20.0%
Baltimore County	1,737	13.9%	1,537	13.3%	1,212	12.6%
Prince George's County	1,259	10.1%	1,168	10.1%	924	9.6%
Anne Arundel County	987	7.9%	896	7.7%	747	7.8%
Howard County	523	4.2%	504	4.3%	380	4.0%
Harford County	266	2.1%	268	2.3%	235	2.5%
Frederick County	259	2.1%	245	2.1%	200	2.1%
Carroll County	172	1.4%	170	1.5%	148	1.5%
Wicomico County	136	1.1%	112	1.0%	112	1.2%
Charles County	105	0.8%	100	0.9%	81	0.8%
Washington County	101	0.8%	98	0.8%	88	0.9%
Calvert County	93	0.7%	79	0.7%	63	0.7%
Allegany County	83	0.7%	69	0.6%	71	0.7%
Cecil County	79	0.6%	65	0.6%	60	0.6%
Saint Mary's County	78	0.6%	75	0.6%	57	0.6%
Worcester County	76	0.6%	66	0.6%	64	0.7%
Talbot County	74	0.6%	66	0.6%	58	0.6%
Queen Anne's County	50	0.4%	51	0.4%	39	0.4%
Caroline County	38	0.3%	33	0.3%	26	0.3%
Kent County	33	0.3%	30	0.3%	22	0.2%
Garrett County	30	0.2%	24	0.2%	20	0.2%
Dorchester County	22	0.2%	27	0.2%	21	0.2%
Somerset County	16	0.1%	20	0.2%	16	0.2%
Total	12,511	100.0%	11,593	100.0%	9,585	99.9%

When a lawyer reported more than one county as their jurisdiction, we included up to five counties in the data file. Accordingly, Table 3 shows the first choice jurisdiction as well as all the jurisdictions marked by respondents regardless of their order of choice (1st, 2nd --- 5th) for lawyers who reported specific Maryland county information. Since the results were close to those of the previous years', we present only the results of the 2004 reporting.

² Central Region: Baltimore city, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Howard, and Harford County
 Capital Region: Frederick, Montgomery, and Prince George's County
 Western Region: Allegany, Garrett, and Washington County
 Eastern Region: Cecil, Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester County
 Southern Region: Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's County

Table 3. All Selected Jurisdictions, 2004

County Name	Number	Percent
Baltimore City	4,200	21.4%
Montgomery County	3,767	19.2%
Baltimore County	3,243	16.6%
Prince George's County	2,342	12.0%
Anne Arundel County	1,609	8.2%
Howard County	1,030	5.3%
Harford County	555	2.8%
Frederick County	416	2.1%
Carroll County	365	1.9%
Charles County	267	1.4%
Calvert County	222	1.1%
Wicomico County	187	1.0%
Washington County	166	0.8%
Saint Mary's County	159	0.8%
Worcester County	151	0.8%
Cecil County	142	0.7%
Queen Anne's County	126	0.6%
Talbot County	119	0.6%
Allegany County	115	0.6%
Dorchester County	92	0.5%
Caroline County	90	0.5%
Somerset County	88	0.4%
Garrett County	69	0.4%
Kent County	62	0.3%
Total	19,582	100.0%

As was the case in previous reports, for the remaining sections of this report, business addresses of the lawyers are used to designate the geographical location of lawyers rather than jurisdiction. Region level data are presented to account for pro bono activities across the county line. We also matched the business address ZIP code with the County code using the LandView IV that was prepared by the Bureau of Census from the U.S. Postal Service City-State file (November, 1999). This file contains all 5-digit ZIP codes defined as of November 1, 1999, the state and county FIPS codes and the Post Office names associated with them.³ The ZIP code was matched to Census 2000 county information using the FIPS codes.

³ For ZIP codes that cross county boundaries, the Post Office file assigns that ZIP code to just one of the counties rather than to each county

II.2. Year of Bar Admittance

This 2004 report was the first year we used the new CPF ID system which reflects the bar admittance year (and dates) of a lawyer. This enabled us to compare the same self-reported information on the pro bono report with the administrative data as maintained by the CPF. The comparison in a way validated the self-reported data of the pro bono report, as only 1 percent of the lawyers reported an admittance year which was more than 2 years different from the CPF record.⁴ In addition, there are 704 lawyers who did not answer the question on bar admittance year. We use the CPF admittance year for the analysis as it is an administrative record with a better quality of the data than the self-reported data.

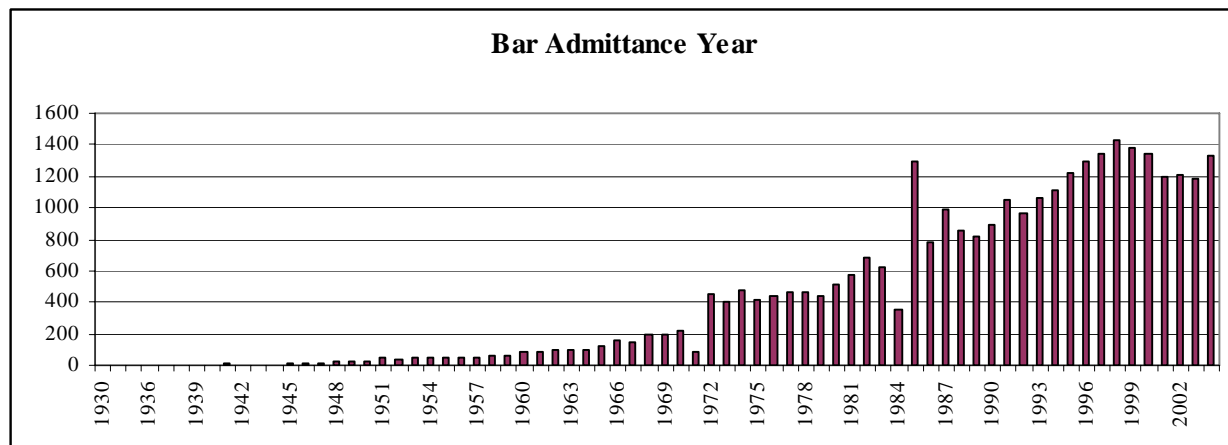
The following table shows the average and median bar admittance year for the lawyers who answered the question. Lawyers with business address in Maryland tend to have practiced law longer than the certified Maryland lawyers whose business addresses are in other states. For example, the median year for bar admittance among the lawyers in Maryland is 1989, while the median for lawyers in Washington DC and Virginia is 1996 and 1995, respectively.

Table 4. Mean and Median Bar Admittance Year by States, 2004

	Maryland	Washington DC	Virginia	Other States	Foreign Countries
Number	18540	7410	1971	3,210	91
Mean	1987.3	1993.4	1993.0	1991.4	1992.1
Median	1989	1996	1995	1994	1994

The following chart shows the distribution of lawyers by their bar admittance year.

Chart 1. Number of Lawyers by Bar Admittance Year



⁴ Among the 31,226 lawyers, 315 lawyers reported admittance year which was more than 2 years different from the CPF record.

II.3. Primary Practice Area

As is the case for jurisdictional data, we entered up to five practice areas. Table 5 shows the primary practice areas among 29,704 lawyers, excluding 1,522 lawyers who did not provide the practice area information. The practice area is identical to 2003 reporting with the exception of the ‘Elder Law’ which replaced ‘Customs/Immigration’ due to a special request from a group of lawyers who practice Elder Law.

Table 5. Primary Practice Area, 2004

	First choice practice area		All selected practice areas	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Litigation	4,138	13.9%	5,969	13.4%
Corporate/Business	3,310	11.1%	4,962	11.2%
Government	2,836	9.5%	3,349	7.5%
Other	2,735	9.2%	3,975	8.9%
Criminal	2,386	8.0%	3,277	7.4%
Real Estate	2,245	7.6%	3,136	7.0%
Family/Domestic	1,628	5.5%	2,562	5.8%
General Practice	1,576	5.3%	2,352	5.3%
Employment/Labor	1,201	4.0%	1,733	3.9%
Personal Injury	1,142	3.8%	2,221	5.0%
Trusts/Estates/Wills	1,090	3.7%	2,117	4.8%
Intellectual Property/Patents/ Taxation	1,046	3.5%	1,291	2.9%
Insurance	750	2.5%	1,139	2.6%
Administrative Law	748	2.5%	1,241	2.8%
Bankruptcy/Commercial	729	2.5%	1,477	3.3%
Health	622	2.1%	1,152	2.6%
Banking/Finance	530	1.8%	781	1.8%
Environmental	481	1.6%	879	2.0%
Elder Law	392	1.3%	585	1.3%
	119	0.4%	294	0.7%
Total	29,704	100.0%	44,492	100.0%

The results closely match the results from previous years. Regardless of the order of choice, the top six practice areas remain the same. They are: Litigation, Corporate/Business, Government, Other, Criminal, and Real Estate.

We also note that the practice areas among lawyers with a business address in Maryland differ from those among lawyers with a business address in other states. As shown in Table 6, lawyers with a business address in Maryland reported higher concentration in such practice areas as: Criminal, Real Estate, Family/Domestic, General, Personal Injury, Trusts, etc. In comparison, lawyers with a business address in other states reported higher concentration in such practice areas as: Litigation, Other, Government, Employment, Intellectual Property, etc.

Table 6. Comparison of Primary Practice Area by Location

	Lawyers in MD	Lawyers in Other States
Litigation	12.3%	16.4%
Criminal	11.2%	3.5%
Corporate/Business	10.2%	12.3%
Real Estate	9.5%	4.8%
Family/Domestic	7.9%	2.0%
General Practice	7.4%	2.3%
Other	7.1%	12.1%
Government	6.7%	13.6%
Personal Injury	5.1%	2.1%
Trusts/Estates/Wills	4.8%	2.0%
Insurance	3.0%	1.9%
Employment/Labor	3.0%	5.6%
Bankruptcy/Commercial	2.5%	1.5%
Taxation	2.0%	3.2%
Administrative Law	1.7%	3.5%
Intellectual Property/Patents/	1.6%	6.2%
Health	1.4%	2.3%
Banking/Finance	1.2%	2.2%
Environmental	0.7%	2.2%
Elder Law	0.5%	0.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

III. PRO BONO SERVICE

In this section, we present results of our analyses of the Year 2004 Pro Bono Report on pro bono service, hours to improve the law and system, and financial contribution.

III.1. Pro Bono Service by Geographic Location

The total number of pro bono hours rendered in 2004 was 1,071,968 a 4.0 percent increase from Year 2003. As was the case last year, there are some lawyers with very high pro bono hours, many claiming to work pro bono full time. There were 112 lawyers who reported to have rendered 1,000 hours or more of pro bono service in 2004. Some of these lawyers work in legal service organizations, some are the designated pro bono coordinator in a large law firm, and some reported high pro bono hours simply because they felt that they are providing legal services at a much reduced rate than their peers. A simple mean can be a biased measure that can swing greatly by these large numbers. Accordingly, the study results are presented in a way to avoid such bias.

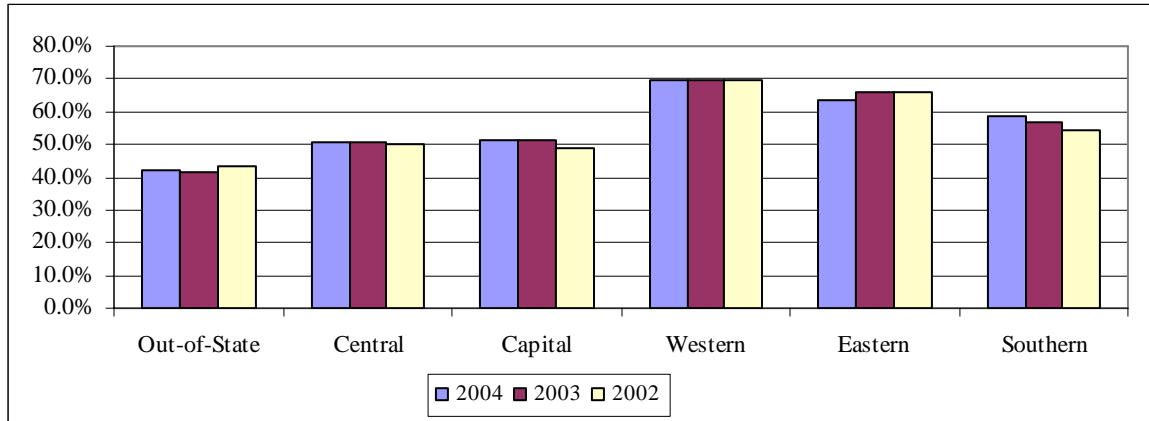
Among 31,226 lawyers, 47.9 percent (14,964 lawyers) reported some pro bono activity, a slight increase of 0.5 percent from Year 2003. As the following Table 7 indicates, the increase is applicable to all lawyers whether they practice law in Maryland or in other states. This result contrasts with a previous year's result (in 2003) when pro bono activity among lawyers in other states decreased by 1.9 percent from 2002 to 2003. Among 18,540 lawyers in Maryland, 9,595 lawyers (51.8 percent) rendered pro bono hours greater than '0', compared with 5,369 (42.3 percent) among 12,686 lawyers in other states. The proportion of lawyers in Maryland who performed pro bono work consistently increased to 51.8% in 2004, from 51.5% in 2003, and 50.4% in 2002.

Table 7. Changes in Lawyers with Pro Bono Activity

	Yr 2004	Yr 2003	Yr 2002
All Reporting Lawyers	47.9%	47.4%	47.8%
Lawyers in Maryland	51.8%	51.5%	50.4%
Lawyers in Other States	42.3%	41.5%	43.4%

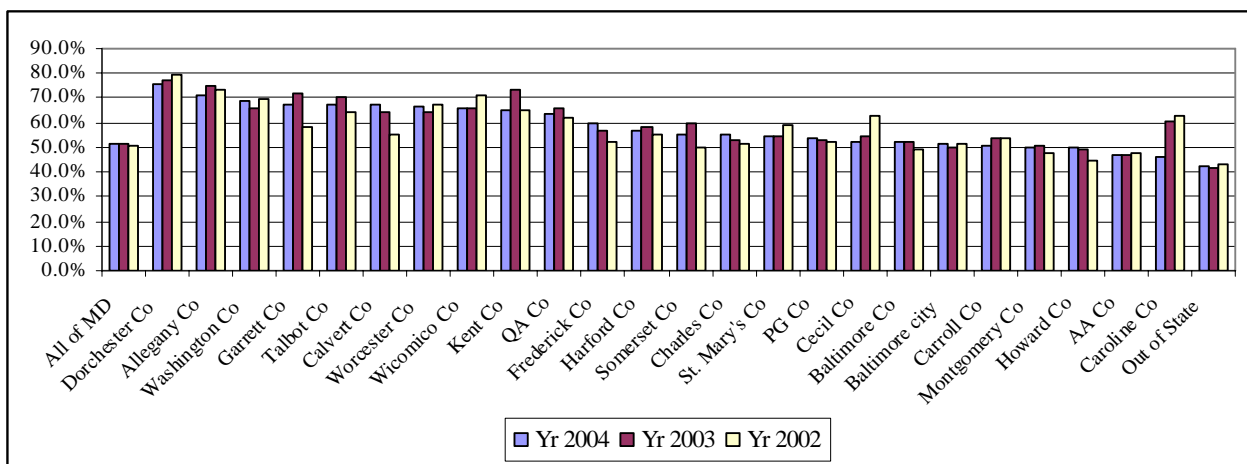
The proportion of lawyers who rendered pro bono service differs by geographical area. As was the case in previous years, higher proportions of lawyers in rural areas of Maryland rendered pro bono services than lawyers in central and capital regions. As shown in Chart 2, a slight increase has been consistent in central and capital regions. One obvious observation is that the proportion of lawyers in eastern counties who rendered pro bono services decreased consistently to 63.4 percent in 2004, from 65.8 percent in 2003 and 66.2 percent in 2002. In contrast, the proportion of lawyers in southern counties who rendered pro bono activities increased consistently to 58.5 percent in 2004, from 56.9 percent in 2003 and 54.4 percent in 2002.

Chart 2. Percent of Lawyers with Any Pro Bono Hours by Region



We also looked at pro bono hours by county (Chart 3). Even though the proportion was lower this year than in previous years, lawyers in Dorchester County in the Eastern Region reported the highest percent (75.8 percent) of lawyers who rendered any pro bono hours, followed by Allegany County (71.0 percent). Many counties in the Eastern Region consistently reported lower proportions of lawyers who rendered pro bono services. Among the counties in Central and Capital Regions, Frederick and PG counties reported consistently higher proportions of lawyers who rendered pro bono services, while the Anne Arundel County reported a lower proportion.

Chart 3. Percent of Lawyers with Any Pro Bono Hours by County



A target goal of 50 hours of pro bono service for lawyers in the full time practice of law was established pursuant to Rule 16-903. Accordingly, we looked into pro bono hours among full time lawyers. As with the previous years, we defined the full time lawyers as those who are not prohibited from providing pro bono services (Question 5 in the Pro Bono Service Report),

are not retired (Question 6), and do not practice law part time (Question 7). Among 31,226 lawyers, 21,565 were identified as a full time lawyer, answering “no” to all three questions. In previous years, we defined all lawyers who are not full time lawyers as part time lawyers. However, since these lawyers include lawyers who are prohibited, retired, and part time, we use the term ‘Other Lawyers’ from this year.

The results (Table 8) show that 23.1 percent of all full time lawyers provided 50 or more hours of pro bono service during the year 2004 – an improvement of 0.2 percent from last year, but far from the target goal. The Western Region was the closest to the goal by having 34.0 percent of full time lawyers who provided 50 or more hours of pro bono services, followed by 33.7 percent in the Eastern Region. The lowest percentages of lawyers providing 50 or more pro bono service hours were found in “Other States” (21.4 percent) and in the Central Region (22.4 percent).

Table 8. Pro Bono Hours of Full Time and and Other Lawyers by Region, 2004

		All Areas	Central Region	Capital Region	Western Region	Eastern Region	Southern Region	All of MD	Other States
All Lawyers	No pro bono hours	52.1%	49.3%	48.6%	30.5%	36.6%	41.5%	48.2%	57.7%
	Less than 50 hours	29.4%	32.8%	31.8%	40.8%	37.4%	34.1%	32.8%	24.4%
	50 or more hours	18.6%	17.9%	19.6%	28.6%	26.0%	24.4%	19.0%	17.9%
Full Time Lawyers	No pro bono hours	42.3%	38.9%	35.6%	20.2%	21.8%	28.1%	36.8%	49.5%
	Less than 50 hours	34.6%	38.6%	39.2%	45.7%	44.6%	43.2%	39.2%	28.5%
	50 or more hours	23.1%	22.5%	25.2%	34.0%	33.7%	28.6%	24.0%	21.9%
Other Lawyers	No pro bono hours	73.9%	70.6%	72.5%	56.8%	63.3%	65.2%	70.7%	79.8%
	Less than 50 hours	17.7%	20.9%	18.2%	28.4%	24.5%	17.9%	20.1%	13.3%
	50 or more hours	8.4%	8.5%	9.3%	14.9%	12.2%	17.0%	9.1%	7.0%

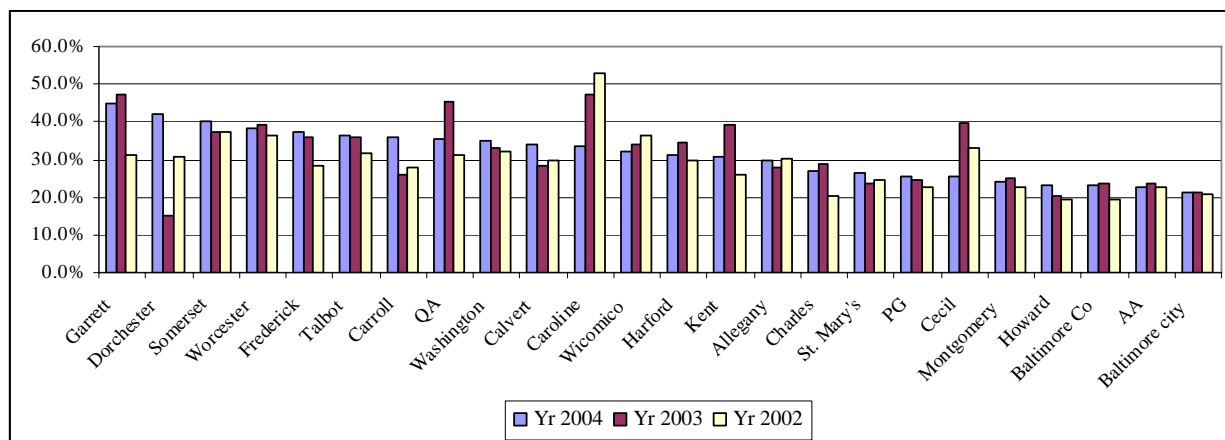
In order to see the trend over time, Table 9 shows the difference in the percentages, from last year, of lawyers who provided 50 or more hours of pro bono services. From this table, we learn the proportion of full time lawyers providing 50 or more hours of pro bono service decreased the most in Eastern Region. We also learn that the most improvement came from ‘Other Lawyers’ in the Southern Region where 8.3 percent more other lawyers provided 50 or more hours of pro bono services in 2004 than 2003.

Table 9. Pro Bono Hours of Full Time and Other Lawyers by Region – Change from 2003

		All Areas	Central Region	Capital Region	Western Region	Eastern Region	Southern Region	All of MD	Other States
All Lawyers	50 or more hours	0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.8%	-2.3%	4.0%	0.4%	0.6%
Full Time Lawyers	50 or more hours	0.2%	0.1%	-0.4%	1.4%	-3.1%	1.3%	0.2%	0.5%
Other Lawyers	50 or more hours	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	1.8%	-1.1%	8.3%	0.2%	0.0%

We ranked Maryland counties by percentage of full time lawyers with 50 or more pro bono hours (Chart 4). Garrett County, which ranked first in Year 2003, ranked first again in 2004 with 45.0 percent of its full time lawyers rendered 50 or more hours of pro bono services, followed by Dorchester (42.1 percent), Somerset (40.0 percent), Worcester (38.1 percent), and Frederick (37.4 percent) Counties.

Chart 4. Maryland Counties by Percentage of Full Time Lawyers with 50 or More Pro Bono Hours



As noted in the previous years' reports, the ranking of the counties in terms of full time lawyers with 50 or more pro bono hours fluctuated a lot from year to year. This is primarily due to the fact that these counties have only a few dozen full time lawyers. For example, Somerset County is reported to have only 10 full time lawyers, followed by Caroline County (15 full time lawyers), Dorchester (19), Garrett (20), etc. In such counties with a small number of full time lawyers, any changes among a few lawyers can affect the percentages greatly and swing the ranking widely. Therefore, the ranking results need to be reviewed carefully.

As was the case last year, the bottom of the list was populated with counties in the Capital and Central Regions. Baltimore City ranked the lowest with 21.1 percent of its full time lawyers rendering 50 or more hours of pro bono services. Anne Arundel County ranked second from the lowest with 22.9 percent, followed by Baltimore County and Howard County (23.3 percent), Montgomery (24.1 percent), Cecil (25.5 percent) counties. However, many counties in the Capital and Central Regions consistently exhibited better results than last year.

Table 10 shows the same results in a tabular format.

Table 10. Maryland Counties by Percentage of Lawyers with 50 or More Pro Bono Hours, 2004

2004 Ranking	County Name	Number of FT lawyers	No pro bono hrs	Less than 50 hrs	50 hrs or more
1	Garrett	20	15.0%	40.0%	45.0%
2	Dorchester	19	5.3%	52.6%	42.1%
3	Somerset	10	30.0%	30.0%	40.0%
4	Worcester	63	17.5%	44.4%	38.1%
5	Frederick	214	19.2%	43.5%	37.4%
6	Talbot	74	16.2%	47.3%	36.5%
7	Carroll	120	25.8%	38.3%	35.8%
8	QA	34	23.5%	41.2%	35.3%
9	Washington	97	18.6%	46.4%	35.1%
10	Calvert	50	18.0%	48.0%	34.0%
11	Caroline	15	26.7%	40.0%	33.3%
12	Wicomico	116	23.3%	44.8%	31.9%
13	Harford	208	26.0%	42.8%	31.3%
14	Kent	26	11.5%	57.7%	30.8%
15	Allegany	71	23.9%	46.5%	29.6%
16	Charles	96	29.2%	43.8%	27.1%
17	St. Mary's	53	35.8%	37.7%	26.4%
18	PG	1,095	36.1%	38.3%	25.7%
19	Cecil	55	36.4%	38.2%	25.5%
20	Montgomery	2,668	36.7%	39.3%	24.1%
21	Howard	484	36.2%	40.5%	23.3%
22	Baltimore Co	1,860	34.9%	41.8%	23.3%
23	AA	900	39.4%	37.7%	22.9%
24	Baltimore city	3,904	42.1%	36.8%	21.1%

III.2. Beneficiaries of Pro Bono Service

The pro bono report includes a series of questions regarding to whom (or to which organizations) the pro bono service was rendered (Question 1). The following is the list of possible responses to Question 1:

- Q1.a. To people of limited means
- Q1.b. To charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters designed primarily to address the needs of people of limited means
- Q1.c. To individuals, groups, or organizations seeking to secure or protect civil rights, civil liberties, or public rights
- Q1.d. To charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, or educational organizations in matters in furtherance of their organizational purposes, when the payment of the standard legal fees would significantly deplete the organization's economic resources or would otherwise be inappropriate

Table 11 shows the results from these questions. Overall, 48.9 percent of all reporting lawyers who rendered pro bono service hours did so to people of limited means (Q1.a); 14.8 percent to organizations helping people of limited means (Q1.b); 8.7 percent to entities on civil rights matters (Q1.c); and 27.6 percent to organizations such as a “non-profit” furthering their organizational purposes (Q1.d). In comparison to lawyers with out-of-state addresses, lawyers with business address in Maryland rendered a higher proportion of their pro bono service to people of limited means and a lower proportion to entities on civil rights matters. The distribution of the pro bono hours does not differ much from last year’s results.

Table 11. Distribution of Pro Bono Services by Beneficiary Type, 2004

	All Reporting Lawyers	Maryland Region					All of Maryland	Other States
		Central	Capital	Western	Eastern	Southern		
Q1.a	48.9%	51.0%	54.4%	53.5%	51.5%	52.3%	52.2%	43.0%
Q1.b	14.8%	15.0%	14.4%	15.9%	13.3%	16.8%	14.8%	15.0%
Q1.c	8.7%	6.2%	7.0%	3.6%	3.2%	4.9%	6.3%	13.0%
Q1.d	27.6%	27.9%	24.2%	27.0%	32.0%	26.1%	26.8%	29.0%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

The pro bono report also asked how many pro bono service hours were spent on cases that came from a pro bono or a legal services organization. Among all reporting lawyers, 33.7, 23.9, 29.3, and 11.6 percents of pro bono service hours rendered, respectively, for the four types of beneficiaries, were rendered to cases that came from a pro bono or a legal services organization (Table 12). Consistent with previous years’ results, for all pro bono service beneficiary types, these percentages are lower for lawyers with a business address in Maryland than those reported by lawyers in other states. This result suggests that lawyers with a business address in Maryland tend to get pro bono cases on their own, rather than through a pro bono or a legal services organization. It also shows that the lawyers in Southern Region continue to report a lower percentage of pro bono services from a pro bono or a legal service organization.

Table 12. Proportion of Pro Bono Hours Spent on Cases from a Pro Bono or a Legal Services Organization

	All Reporting Lawyers	Maryland Region					All of Maryland	Other States
		Central	Capital	Western	Eastern	Southern		
Q1.a	33.7%	33.2%	27.5%	22.5%	28.9%	23.5%	30.7%	40.2%
Q1.b	23.9%	23.0%	21.9%	12.2%	13.0%	13.7%	21.6%	28.4%
Q1.c	29.3%	23.7%	22.6%	16.2%	15.7%	13.0%	22.8%	36.4%
Q1.d	11.6%	10.6%	10.3%	6.2%	8.7%	7.2%	10.2%	14.3%

III.3. Practice Area and Pro Bono Service

We are interested in identifying the practice areas in which lawyers provide pro bono services in comparison to the most frequently practiced primary practice areas. Table 13 shows the top ten primary practice areas and pro bono service areas among all reporting lawyers,

identical to last year's result. We note that the Family/Domestic practice area is the top pro bono service area, followed by Corporate/Business, Other, Real Estate, Litigation, and so on.

Table 13. Comparison of Practice Areas, 2004

Rank	Pro Bono Service Area	Primary Practice Area
1	Family/Domestic	Litigation
2	Corporate/Business	Corporate/Business
3	Other	Government
4	Real Estate	Other
5	Litigation	Criminal
6	Criminal	Real Estate
7	General Practice	Family/Domestic
8	Trusts/Estates/Wills	General Practice
9	Employment/Labor	Employment/Labor
10	Bankruptcy/Commercial	Personal Injury

We note that the percent of lawyers who provide pro bono services differ greatly by their practice area. Table 14 shows that 71.1 percent of Family/Domestic lawyers provided pro bono services, while only 20.1 percent among Government lawyers did so. The top five practice areas are: Family/Domestic, Elder, Trusts/Estates/Wills, Bankruptcy/Commercial, General Practice, and Litigation. The bottom practice areas, excluding unknown, are: Government, Banking/Finance, Insurance, Intellectual Property/Patents, Other, and Administrative Law.

Table 14. Percent of Lawyers who provide Pro Bono Service - by Practice Areas, 2004

Practice Area	Number of Lawyers	Number of Lawyers with Greater Than '0' Pro Bono Hours	Percent of Lawyers Greater Than '0' Pro Bono Hours
Family/Domestic	1,628	1,157	71.1%
Elder Law	119	80	67.2%
Trusts/Estates/Wills	1,090	719	66.0%
Bankruptcy/Commercial	622	401	64.5%
General Practice	1,576	1,007	63.9%
Litigation	4,138	2,617	63.2%
Personal Injury	1,142	687	60.2%
Real Estate	2,245	1,287	57.3%
Employment/Labor	1,201	637	53.0%
Corporate/Business	3,310	1,656	50.0%
Taxation	750	361	48.1%
Health	530	230	43.4%
Criminal	2,386	1,032	43.3%
Environmental	392	169	43.1%
Administrative Law	729	302	41.4%
Other	2,735	1,045	38.2%
Intellectual Property/Patents	1,046	387	37.0%
Insurance	748	266	35.6%
Banking/Finance	481	171	35.6%
Government	2,836	571	20.1%
Total	29,704	14,782	

We were interested in who provided service in the top pro bono service areas. Table 15 shows the results. It shows that more than 60 percent of “Family” pro bono service was provided by lawyers in three practice areas – Family/Domestic, Litigation, and General practice: 36.4 percent of “Family” pro bono service was provided by lawyers who practice “Family/Domestic”, 14.9 percent by lawyers who practice “Litigation”, and 9.9 percent by lawyers who practice “General”. The table also shows that pro bono services in Litigation, Real Estate, Labor, and Criminal are provided predominantly by lawyers who listed these as their practice areas, while the other pro bono service areas are provided by lawyers in a broader practice area.

Table 15. Pro Bono Service Areas and Practice Areas, 2004

Primary practice area	Pro bono service area								
	Family	Business	Real Estate	Litigation	Criminal	General	Estates	Labor	Bankruptcy
Business	4.8%	38.0%	8.8%	5.6%	3.1%	8.7%	7.6%	6.5%	8.4%
Litigation	14.9%	10.9%	8.6%	68.9%	18.2%	16.9%	8.8%	14.8%	9.2%
Criminal	6.5%	1.9%	1.8%	2.9%	51.3%	3.7%	2.1%	2.0%	5.2%
Real Estate	3.2%	8.8%	56.2%	1.3%	1.8%	4.4%	8.4%	1.3%	4.0%
Government	3.5%	3.9%	2.8%	2.9%	1.4%	6.1%	3.2%	3.3%	0.6%
Family/Domestic	36.4%	1.6%	1.4%	1.3%	2.5%	2.9%	1.5%	1.0%	4.2%
General Practice	9.9%	5.4%	3.8%	2.0%	7.2%	25.3%	6.5%	2.3%	7.8%
Labor	1.6%	2.5%	0.9%	1.4%	0.7%	2.6%	1.6%	53.0%	0.4%
Trusts/Estates	2.0%	4.9%	2.5%	0.4%	0.7%	4.2%	42.9%	1.2%	2.4%
Personal Injury	4.2%	2.3%	2.4%	3.2%	5.9%	8.6%	3.2%	3.3%	4.2%
Taxation	0.6%	2.6%	0.8%	0.3%	0.3%	0.8%	2.1%	1.5%	0.4%
Insurance	1.2%	1.6%	1.1%	2.0%	0.9%	2.7%	1.8%	1.5%	0.4%
Banking	0.5%	1.9%	1.9%	0.4%	0.1%	1.2%	0.5%	0.6%	0.4%
Administrative	1.6%	1.2%	0.7%	0.8%	0.6%	2.2%	1.2%	0.6%	1.2%
Bankruptcy	1.4%	1.8%	0.8%	1.3%	0.7%	1.3%	1.2%	0.6%	45.4%
Intellectual Prop.	1.2%	1.8%	1.5%	1.3%	1.0%	1.9%	1.9%	1.5%	1.2%
Health	0.6%	2.0%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.9%	0.5%	0.4%	0.2%
Environmental	0.8%	1.0%	0.7%	0.4%	0.6%	1.2%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%
Elder	0.4%	0.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	1.0%	0.1%	0.2%
Other	4.6%	5.8%	2.8%	3.4%	2.2%	4.4%	3.8%	4.2%	3.6%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

III.4. Hours to Improve Law and Financial Contributions

A total of 7,107 lawyers spent 442,257 hours (402,018 hours, last year) participating in activities for improving the law, the legal system, or the legal profession (Question 3) – 10 percent increase from Year 2003. The total financial contribution to organizations that provide legal services to people of limited means (Question 4) was \$2,821,759 from 5,530 contributing lawyers.

Compared to last year's total of \$ 3,812,263, this amount is a significant drop from Year 2003. However, we have to point out that this result on contribution needs to be interpreted carefully. Unlike previous year, there were only two contributions greater than \$100,000 in 2004: \$125,000 (Washington DC), \$100,000 (Washington DC).⁵ These large numbers contributed by a few can become a cause for bias as they skew the distribution and impact the statistics. Accordingly, in the table below, we present the distribution of hours to improve the law and financial contributions in an effort to provide less biased results.

As was the case last year, we note that a higher percentage of lawyers with a business address in Maryland devoted hours to improving the law, the legal system, or the legal profession than out-of-state lawyers. In comparison, a smaller proportion of lawyers in Maryland, especially in Eastern and Southern Regions, offered financial support to organizations that provide legal services to people of limited means than lawyers in other states. However, we can also observe an overall higher percentage of lawyers with the financial contribution.

Table 16. Distribution of Hours to Improve Law and Financial Contributions, 2004

		<i>All reporting lawyers</i>	Maryland Region					<i>All of MD</i>	<i>Other States</i>
			Central	Capital	Western	East.	South.		
Percent of Lawyers with Hours to Improve Law (Q 3A)	All	22.8%	24.4%	23.0%	30.9%	28.8%	23.5%	24.2%	20.7%
	Full Time	27.6%	30.3%	29.2%	37.2%	35.8%	28.6%	30.2%	24.1%
	Other	12.0%	12.3%	11.5%	14.9%	16.2%	14.3%	12.2%	11.6%
Percent of Lawyers with Financial Contribution (Q4)	All	17.7%	17.3%	14.0%	16.4%	7.5%	8.7%	15.7%	20.7%
	Full Time	20.0%	19.6%	15.1%	19.1%	7.7%	9.0%	17.5%	23.3%
	Other	12.6%	12.6%	12.0%	9.5%	7.0%	8.0%	12.1%	13.6%
Number of Lawyers	All	31,226	11,128	6,148	262	642	311	18,540	12,686
	Full Time	21,565	7,481	3,985	188	413	199	12,293	9,272
	Other	9,661	3,647	2,163	74	229	112	6,247	3,414

We also note that the percentage of lawyers who offered financial contributions differ by their practice areas. As shown in Table 17, the top contributors are in: Administrative Law, Health, Labor, Litigation, and Banking. The bottom contributors, excluding the unknown, are in: Criminal, Elder, Insurance, General, Government, and Personal Injury lawyers. With the exception of lawyers in Corporate/Business and Litigation, we note that lawyers in practice areas where pro bono activities are lower tend to compensate their lack of pro bono activities with the financial contribution.

⁵ In comparison, the top five contributions totaled \$1,615,000 – more than 42 percent of the total contribution amount – in Year 2003. As we pointed out last year, some lawyers were suspected to have included their law firm's contribution (which tends to be larger amounts) in answering the question on financial contribution in Year 2003.

Table 17. Lawyers with Financial Contribution – by Practice Area, 2004

Practice Area	Number of Lawyers	Number of Lawyers with Contribution	Percent of Lawyers with Contribution
Administrative Law	176	729	24.1%
Health	121	530	22.8%
Employment/Labor	268	1,201	22.3%
Litigation	913	4,138	22.1%
Banking/Finance	104	481	21.6%
Corporate/Business	678	3,310	20.5%
Environmental	80	392	20.4%
Bankruptcy/Commercial	121	622	19.5%
Other	519	2,735	19.0%
Taxation	139	750	18.5%
Intellectual Property/Patents	192	1,046	18.4%
Trusts/Estates/Wills	196	1,090	18.0%
Real Estate	395	2,245	17.6%
Family/Domestic	285	1,628	17.5%
Personal Injury	185	1,142	16.2%
Government	448	2,836	15.8%
General Practice	236	1,576	15.0%
Insurance	100	748	13.4%
Elder Law	14	119	11.8%
Criminal	239	2,386	10.0%
Total	29,704	5,409	18.2%

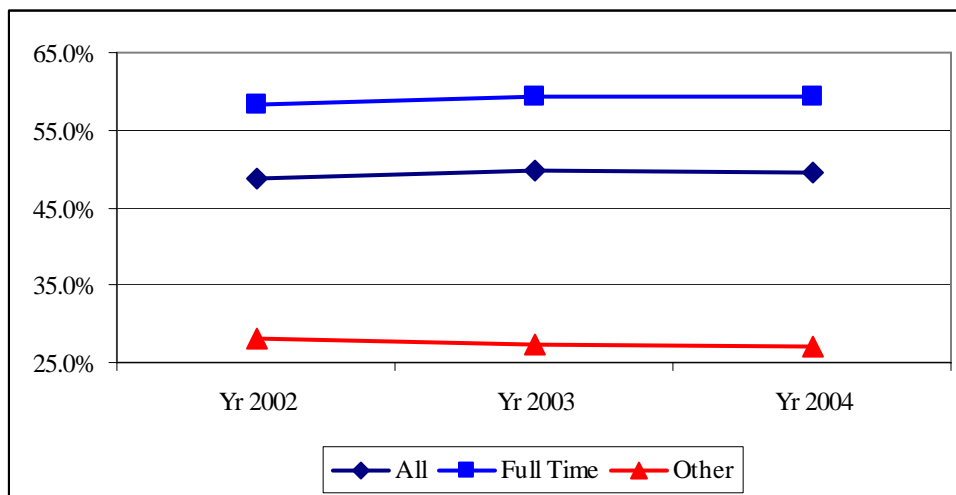
IV. CHANGES IN PRO BONO HOURS

In previous chapters of this report, we presented results of the pro bono reporting in a way that permits us to see cross-sectional changes over time. The cross-sectional results provide a comprehensive snapshot of pro bono service of lawyers year by year. However, one weakness of such snapshot approach is that the lawyer population in each year differs from year to another. Unless, we fully capture the difference in detail, any snapshot statistics can be challenged because we are not comparing the same group of lawyers from year to year. To address this problem, it is beneficial to look at the longitudinal changes at the individual level to see how their pro bono services change over time. This can be accomplished by matching the 2004 data with the 2003 and 2002 data on individual lawyers.

There are 27,348 lawyers (86.5 percent of 31,226 lawyers covered in previous sections of this report) who filed the pro bono report for all three years (2002, 2003, and 2004). This matching rate translates into about 7 percent of annual attrition rate – percent of lawyers who drop out of the pro bono reporting from one year to another. The attrition may be attributable to many factors, including the late filing of the pro bono report, new admittees to the Bar, retirement, or a change in status (e.g., those who became judges, law clerks, inactive, etc.).

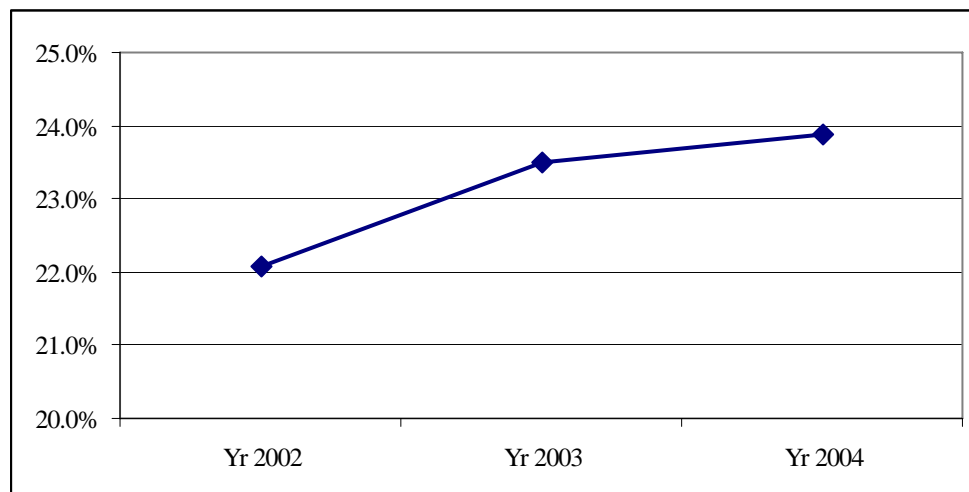
First, in order to look at how pro bono hours change over the last three years, we examined the proportion of lawyers who reported greater than ‘0’ pro bono hours among the 27,348 lawyers. The following chart shows the result. Overall, we can observe that lawyers are providing pro bono activities at an increasing rate, albeit slowly - from 48.9 percent in 2002 to 49.6 percent in 2004. We can also observe a diverging trend between lawyers of full time and of other status. Among the full time lawyers, the proportion of lawyers who reported greater than ‘0’ pro bono hours increased from 58.3 percent in 2002 to 59.4 percent in 2004. However, during the same period, the proportion of other lawyers who reported greater than ‘0’ pro bono hours decreased from 28.0 percent in 2002 to 27.2 percent in 2004.

Chart 5. Proportion of Lawyers who Reported Greater than ‘0’ Pro Bono Hours by Year



The proportion of full time lawyers who provided 50 or more pro bono hours also increased from 22.1 percent in 2002 to 23.9 percent in 2004 (Chart 6).

Chart 6. Proportion of Full time Lawyers with 50 or more Pro Bono Hours



As noted previously, we categorized ‘Other’ lawyers as lawyers who checked off any of the Question 5 on prohibition, Question 6 on retirement or inactiveness, and Question 7 on part time status. However, even among these ‘Other’ lawyers, pro bono service activities vary greatly by their reporting status as shown in Table 18. It shows that the proportion of lawyers who reported greater than ‘0’ hours of pro bono service in 2004 among those who were prohibited to render pro bono service by statute (Question 5) is only about one-sixth of the proportion among full time lawyers. In comparison, part time lawyers reported pro bono activities close to the level of full time lawyers.

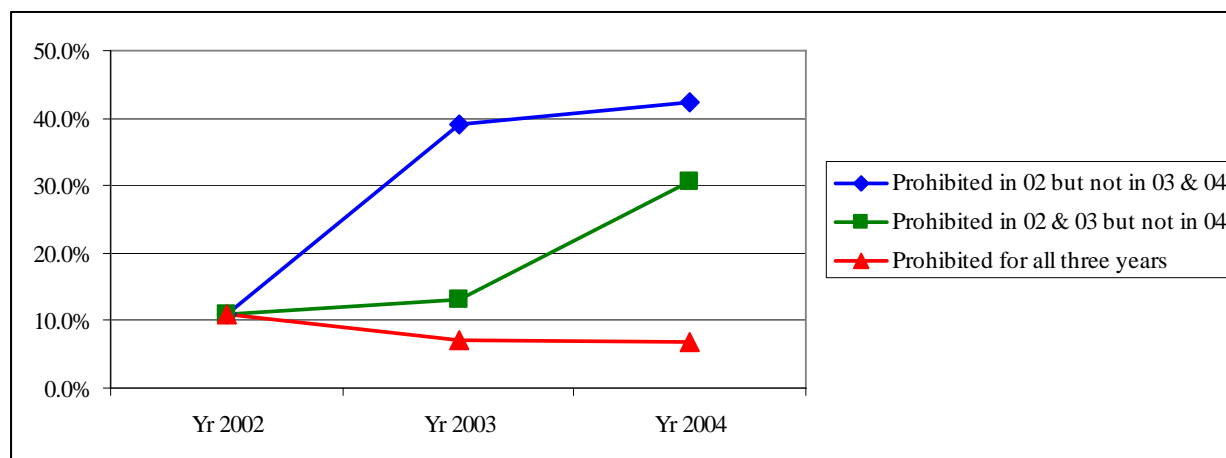
Table 18. Proportion of Lawyers with Pro Bono Service by Reporting Status

Question 5	Prohibited to render pro bono service by statute	9.5%
Question 6	Retired or not actively engaged	13.9%
Question 7	Part time lawyers	52.4%
Full time lawyers who reported all three years		59.4%

This magnitude of the difference in pro bono activities by their reporting status prompted us to examine how pro bono hours change among those lawyers who change their status from year to year. It is impractical to expect retired or inactive lawyers (Question 6) to increase their pro bono activities. The part time lawyers (Question 7) reported to be actively participating in pro bono activities, although at a slightly lower level than the full time lawyers. In comparison, it is our understanding that there is an ongoing effort to facilitate pro bono activities for lawyers who are prohibited to render pro bono services by statute. Accordingly, among the three reporting status, we focused on the lawyers who were prohibited to render pro bono service by statute (Question 5).

There were 1,645 lawyers who reported to be prohibited to render pro bono service by statute in 2002. We followed this group of lawyers through 2003 and 2004 to look at how their pro bono activities change as their reporting status change and Chart 7 shows the result.

Chart 7. Changes of Pro Bono Activities among 1,645 Lawyers Prohibited to Render Pro Bono Service in Year 2002



We can observe a jump of three times or more in the proportion of lawyers providing pro bono services when they become no longer prohibited to do so by statute. This result tells us that many lawyers perceive the prohibition by statute apply to all pro bono activities. It also shows that the proportion (42.5 percent) lags behind the pro bono activities among full time lawyers (59.4 percent) even after two years after the end of the prohibition. This chart seems to indicate the importance of an educational outreach effort to lawyers who are prohibited to render pro bono service by statute.

Table 19 shows the breakdown of lawyers in terms of how their pro bono hours changed from 2003 to 2004. It shows that proportionately more full time lawyers increased their pro bono hours, while proportionately more 'Other' lawyers decreased their pro bono hours.

Table 19. Distribution of Lawyers by their Changes in Pro Bono Hours

	Decreased pro bono hrs.	Unchanged pro bono hrs.	Increased pro bono hrs.	'0' pro bono hr for both years	Total
Other	1,582 (18.0%)	154 (1.8%)	1,354 (15.4%)	5,694 (64.8%)	8,784
Full Time	5,914 (29.2%)	843 (4.2%)	6,628 (32.7%)	6,882 (34.0%)	20,267
Total	7,496 (25.8%)	997 (3.4%)	7,982 (27.5%)	12,576 (43.3%)	29,051

In Table 20, the percentages indicate the difference between the percent of lawyers who increased their pro bono hours and the percent of lawyers who decreased. The positive percentages indicate more lawyers increased their pro bono hours and the negative percentages indicate more lawyers decreased their pro bono hours from Year 2002 to Year 2003.

Table 20. Changes in Pro Bono Hours by Geographical Location

Region	All	Full Time Lawyer	Other Lawyer
Out-of-State	-0.5%	1.0%	-4.7%
Central	1.3%	3.1%	-2.7%
Capital	0.9%	2.6%	-2.3%
Western	2.6%	-1.1%	14.3%
Eastern	3.8%	6.9%	-2.0%
Southern	1.4%	1.1%	2.0%
Unknown Co.	7.7%	13.6%	0.0%

V. CONCLUSION

This report provides an objective analysis of information provided by licensed Maryland attorneys reporting on their pro bono activities during 2004 and in comparison to 2003 and 2002. First of all, the distribution of lawyers by their address was stable from 2003 to 2004 and no evidence of substantial mobility was found. More than 6 percent of all lawyers moved out of Maryland between 2002 and 2003 – a fact that might have affected the previous year’s result. However, we do not observe such level of mobility between 2003 and 2004.

Overall, lawyers certified to practice law in Maryland increased pro bono activities, although the rates of increase are small. The proportion of lawyers who reported greater than ‘0’ hours of pro bono service is up slightly from previous years, as well as the proportion of lawyers who reported 50 or more hours of pro bono service. The proportion of lawyers who made financial contribution is up, too. Full time lawyers who increased their pro bono service hours outnumbered those who decreased their pro bono hours.

In last year’s report, we suggested a strategy for promoting pro bono service to a group of lawyers with lower pro bono activities. For example, we recommended to inform lawyers who are prohibited from rendering pro bono service by statute that they can provide pro bono services in areas other than their practice area. Our recommendation also included an outreach effort to let lawyers know that there are other means of helping people, for example, by providing financial contributions to organizations that serve individuals of limited means.

Using the longitudinal data from 2002 to 2004, we examined the changes in pro bono activities among lawyers who were prohibited by statute from rendering pro bono service in 2002. The analysis shows that many lawyers perceive the prohibition by statute apply to all pro bono activities. It also shows that the proportion (42.5 percent) of lawyers with pro bono activities lags behind the pro bono activities among full time lawyers (59.4 percent) even after two years after the end of the prohibition. This seems to indicate the importance of an educational outreach effort to lawyers who are prohibited to render pro bono service by statute. We also learn, with the exception of lawyers in Corporate/Business and Litigation, that lawyers in practice areas where pro bono activities are lower tend to compensate their lack of pro bono activities by making financial contribution to organizations that provide legal services to people of limited means.

As the years progress, this data will be used to construct a comprehensive longitudinal panel data file. The longitudinal data file will be able to provide concrete answers to many questions, showing changes in pro bono activity among Maryland lawyers and the impact of the new pro bono rules. The data file will serve as a valuable analytical tool to assist the Judiciary in determining how far or close the Maryland Bar is in meeting the aspirational pro bono service goals outlined in the Rules.