

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO



NOTICE FROM THE CLERK NO. 19-09

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND THE ATTORNEY'S ROLE
IN SUPPORT OF VICTIMS P.O.W.E.R. ACT EVENT
AUGUST 28, 2019

Recognizing the extremely high rates of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking that exists in Puerto Rico and how such violence or behavior harms the most vulnerable members of our society,¹ the United States District Court of Puerto Rico ("USDCPR") and the United States Probation Office ("USDCPO"), in partnership with the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico's Women Advocate Office ("PRWAO"), will hold an event on **Wednesday August 28, 2019** at the Clemente Ruiz Nazario United States Courthouse in Hato Rey, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The event aims to raise awareness of domestic violence, sexual assault and staking, and the pivotal role of attorneys in legal processes related to such matters, emphasizing in the availability of pro bono legal services in our community, while empowering survivors and their families to move forward with their lives. The event's featured speakers are: Lersy Boria-Vizcarrondo, Esq., Solicitor PRWAO; Madeline Bermúdez-Sanabria, Esq., Deputy Solicitor PRWAO; Mariamelia Suerio-Alvarez, Esq., Deputy Solicitor Legal Division PRWAO; and Liz Sepulveda-Arroyo, Deputy Solicitor Education and Support Services PRWAO.

The event's registration opens at 8:30 a.m. and the program runs from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., including the opportunity to interact with victim organizations who will be attending the event. Every effort will be made to obtain accreditation from the Puerto Rico Supreme Court's Continuing Legal Education Program. Space will be limited, with reservations on a "first come, first served" basis. Requests for reservation will only be received through the Court's registration application.

Prior to submitting your registration application, be advised that:

- You should click on the registration application link embedded in your e-mail invitation.
- Each attorney must make his/her own reservation.
- Attorneys must be in good standing to register (contact the Clerk's Office Cashier at 787-772-3061 to verify status).
- Participants must commit to attend the entire event, including victim organizations' discussion.
- Only attorneys with confirmed seats may attend the event.
- **Registration for the event starts at 8:30 a.m.**

¹ On September 4, 2018, the President of the United States signed S. 717, the "Pro bono Work to Empower and Represent (POWER) Act of 2018" (P. L. 115-237). The POWER Act authorizes our judicial district to lead at least one public event, in partnership with a State, local, tribal, or territorial domestic violence service provider or coalition and a State or local volunteer lawyer project, promoting Pro Bono legal services as a critical way in which to empower survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and engage citizens in assisting those survivors.

- **The deadline to reserve is August 2, 2019**, or until all seats are taken.
- Attorneys with confirmed reservation who fail to attend must explain reasons in writing.
- **No telephone calls will be accepted.**

After the reservation period has closed, the Office of the Clerk of Court will send a confirmation notice to registered attorneys with a reserved seat to the email address registered in the CM/ECF system. Any cancellations must be notified on or before August 23, 2019 to: prd-cler-registration@prd.uscourts.gov.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 30th day of July, 2019.



FRANCES RIOS DE MORAN, ESQ.
CLERK OF COURT