

Business section distributes pro bono campaign posters

When Dorene Yates, pro bono coordinator for Florida Rural Legal Services, delivered a framed "One" poster to 10th Circuit Judge Marcus Ezelle, he was inspired to quote from Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*: "How far that little candle throws its beams! So shines a good deed in a naughty world."

The Florida Bar Business Law Section, in partnership with the One Campaign, sponsored a project to distribute the posters to state and federal trial court judges primarily assigned to handle civil matters. The posters read: "Before you ask me about your case, ask me how you can be the ONE."

The One Campaign, launched in October 2009 by the Supreme Court's Standing Committee on Pro Bono, and led by First District Court of Appeal Judge William Van Nortwick, challenges lawyers to "Just take one case; make one promise; represent one client."

A letter accompanies the posters, signed by Business Law Section Chair Mindy Mora and Judge Van Nortwick, outlining the hope that the judges will display the posters in locations where they can be readily seen by attorneys to raise awareness of the legal needs of the poor.

The Florida Pro Bono Coordinator Association accepted the duty of distributing the posters. Yates, public relations chair for FPBCA, said the group "welcomed the opportunity to meet with the judges, present the posters, and share the pro bono efforts that are taking place at the local level."

The Business Law Section's pro bono mission statement is: "To achieve 100 percent participation in pro bono service by BLS members and attorneys in their firms."



MARCUS EZELLE, Hardee County administrative judge for the 10th Judicial Circuit, receives a "One" poster from Dorene Yates, pro bono coordinator for Florida Rural Legal Services.