

Walk in Solidarity for Social Change Pledge Campaign Q&A



1. WHAT IS THE WALK IN SOLIDARITY FOR SOCIAL CHANGE PLEDGE CAMPAIGN?

The Pledge Campaign provide attorneys with the opportunity to take action and continue to use their knowledge of the law to help create change. We are asking for each attorney to agree to commit, at minimum, ten hours to pro bono or community service initiatives to help advocate and educate communities about their rights. While COVID-19 has impacted nearly every facet of our daily lives, it has disproportionately affected communities of color. We have witnessed repeated acts of racism, bias and lack of compassion with interactions between diverse populations (in particular, Black men and women) and the police. We continue to read stories where Black men and women are prosecuted, harassed and questioned for doing mundane actions like shopping, walking into an apartment building, gardening, bird-watching, flying first class, walking into a courtroom and being identified as everyone except the attorney.

2. CAN I PLEDGE MORE THAN 10 HOURS?

Absolutely!



3. IS THERE A DEADLINE TO COMPLETE THE 10 HOURS?

Yes. Please complete your hours by February 15, 2021.

4. HOW DO I REPORT MY HOURS?

Periodically, we will send out surveys for participants to complete. Be sure to register so you can receive the surveys and updates about upcoming pro bono and volunteer opportunities. At the end of February 2021, we will announce how many hours we donated.

5. HOW DO I LEARN ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES TO PERFORM PRO BONO HOURS OR COMMUNITY SERVICE INITIATIVES?

We encourage you to partner with one of the organizations affiliated with the Walk in Solidarity for Social Change demonstration – The Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association, the Massachusetts Association of Hispanic Attorneys, the Massachusetts Black Women Attorneys, the Asian American Lawyers Association of Massachusetts, the Women's Bar Association, the South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston and the Massachusetts LGBTQ Bar Association. Each organization hosts a number of trainings and volunteer opportunities on matters such as Housing, CORI sealing, Restraining Orders and more. Each organization will have information about upcoming trainings on their websites. Additionally, each participant will receive periodic emails about upcoming opportunities to volunteer.

6. WHAT IF I WANT TO HELP IN AN AREA OF LAW THAT I DO NOT PRACTICE?

No worries! Many of our organizations partner with the experts who offer trainings and resources. You will not go at this alone.

7. OKAY, I'M CONVINCED. HOW CAN I SIGN UP?

Please register here: <https://rb.gy/kmckas> (If you registered for the Walk event, you are automatically signed up. To opt out, please contact info@mablacklawyers.org).

8. IS THE PLEDGE CAMPAIGN OPEN TO ATTORNEYS OF ALL RACES?

Yes! Absolutely. Do it individually, create a team, or get your friends, your colleagues, your mentors and your mentees to join you. Get them to register and create a team name.

9. I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS – WHO SHOULD I CONTACT?

Please contact Stesha Emmanuel, MBLA President (president@mablacklawyers.org) if your question relates to registering and completing hours. If the questions relate to specific trainings – any of our organizations could answer your question.

#NoMoreNoMas #MassLawyersSolidarityPledge



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Let's continue to effect change and get into good trouble.



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