



The Colonial Lawyer

MARSHALL-WYTHE SCHOOL OF LAW
COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

Volume I No. 4

Williamsburg, Virginia

March, 1968



Vernon Spratley, Fred Grill, Roger Amole and Scott Swan, law students, participate in the Legal Aid project in Norfolk associated with Volunteers in Service to America.

LAW STUDENTS AID VISTA IN NORFOLK

Late in November, Peter Brocolletti, a 1967 graduate of Marshall-Wythe now serving as a VISTA volunteer, contacted second year student Jerry Robertson. He asked Jerry to make known to the school that legal assistants were badly needed in Norfolk by the Tidewater Legal Aid Society, an organization which would provide free legal services to indigents in the Norfolk-Portsmouth area. Jerry cooperated by leading an investigating party to Norfolk to explore the possibility further and to consult with Brocolletti. The result of that trip was a decision on the part of four second year students to begin a new program of legal aid within the law school in conjunction with the Tidewater Legal Aid Society.

By the start of second semester a regular schedule had been established for students making weekly

LAW STUDENTS AID

(Continued From Page 1)

make determinations as to whether applicants qualify as indigents entitled to aid under the program. This is done by referring to an income scale which lists the maximum income allowable for individuals having various numbers of dependents, and comparing it with information given by the applicant as to his income and assets. If the applicant qualifies, a student briefs his problem and collects pertinent information that will assist Mr. Brocolletti in litigating the matter.

In addition to conducting interviews, students prepare various legal forms, such as bills of complaint, orders of reference, petitions for name change, affidavits for numerous purposes, etc., and make investigations as to the validity of statements made by applicants.

By mid-February, Mr. Brocolletti and Company had screened over 135 indigents, and of that number, 77 actual cases developed. Statistics compiled as of January 31 showed that domestic relations problems comprised the bulk of the TLAS' work load. As of that date, the number of domestic relations matters handled was 24. These were 4 adoption cases, 6 contract-

lems, 2 insurance cases, 2 housing problems, 1 truancy case, 3 credit arrangements, and 1 court cost problem.

The volume of TLAS business has increased rapidly since the program was started in December. Wide coverage has been given it by television and the newspapers. Mr. Brocolletti and the Norfolk Bar Association acknowledge gratefully that the present volume of legal services rendered by TLAS could not be handled without the aid of Marshall-Wythe volunteers.

Students who are participating on a regular weekly basis are: Vernon Spratley, Scott Swan, Roger Amole, Joel DeBoe, Sharon Hoffman, Bill Register, Betsy Stever, Fred Grill, Leonard Starr, Paul Morley, Barry Hollander, Frank Sando, Joe Smith, Joe Kelly, Rob Elliot, Chris Sutton, and Hal Bonney. In addition, the following students have signed up for participation and will be scheduled as they become available: Jerry Robertson, Ed Newton, Eleanor Seitz, Tony Gaeta, Bruce Long, Terry Light, Bert Smith, Kent Wilcox, George Jensen, B. W. Walters, A. C. Woodruff, and Bob Lowman, Student Director of the program; Roger Amole will furnish information about participating to anyone interested.