

# Federal Pro Se Legal Assistance Project

A project of the City Bar Justice Center and the EDNY



## ONE-YEAR REPORT

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We opened our doors on March 26, 2015 at the

### U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York



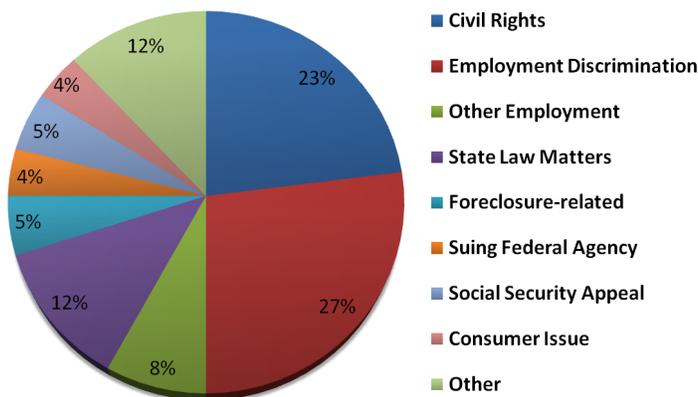
In **1** year of operations, **379** matters have been addressed, with **70%** of clients having multiple appointments.

### Services Provided

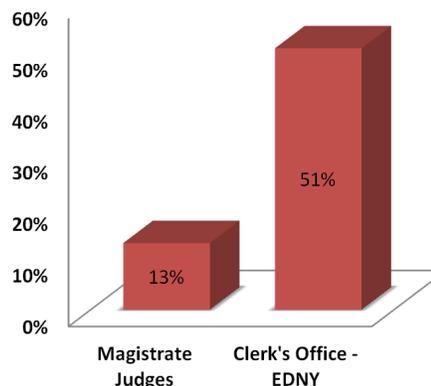
- 200** Brief services including review of papers, research, drafting assistance, strategy discussion, and other advice and counsel to 200 clients
- 58** Advice only to 58 clients
- 59** Advised and referred 59 litigants to nonprofit legal services providers, the City Bar's Legal Referral Service and/or pro bono counsel

We have provided a range of legal services to over 375 people in our first year of operations, and have successfully diverted people whose cases do not belong in the federal court. The City Bar Justice Center continues to expand the pro bono attorney component of the Project, and looks forward to working with additional law schools and law students in the coming year to assist more pro se litigants.

### Types of Cases



### Largest Referral Sources



### Case Examples

- With the Project's help, a low-income client being sued for copyright infringement moved to dismiss the claims against him. The CBJC enlisted a pro bono copyright lawyer as of-counsel to CBJC, and learned that the plaintiff's case suffered from a fatal legal flaw. After the defendant submitted the motion and memorandum of law, drafted largely by our team, the plaintiff sought permission from the Court to withdraw the case.
- The Project first met one of our employment discrimination clients after the client's cursory Complaint had been dismissed for failure to state a claim on which relief may be granted and the Court had allowed him time to amend. This litigant has a compelling claim of disability discrimination and had been unable to state his claim properly because of his lack of legal knowledge and difficulty organizing his information in an understandable and sufficiently detailed way. We successfully worked with the client to outline and draft an Amended Complaint.