

In The Spotlight with: Yu Mi Kim-Reynolds, Attorney at Law

By Kate Feeks

Attorney Yu Mi Kim-Reynolds will be on the show *Law Talk* with host John Celebrezze to discuss the details of *pro bono* representation throughout the month of August on Wadsworth Cable (WCTV) Public Access Channel 15, Brunswick Area Television (BAT) Public access Channel 21, and your local Armstrong cable channel 37 in Medina County along with Clear Picture Channels 21 & 22 in Wooster and Massillon.

Ms. Kim-Reynolds is the owner of the Law Office of Yu Mi Kim-Reynolds in Medina, Ohio. Her areas of practice include criminal defense, family law, bankruptcy and juvenile law. She volunteers her time taking *pro-bono* cases from Legal Aid, and also donates her time at the Legal Resource program of the Medina County Domestic Relations Court.

Kim-Reynolds received her juris doctorate from The University of Akron School of Law with emphasis on intellectual property. She also holds a bachelor degree in chemical engineering from Purdue University and a master degree in business administration from Illinois State University. Prior to becoming an attorney, Kim-Reynolds was employed at a Fortune 500 company as a chemical engineer. She also interned as a intellectual property law clerk.

Pro-bono representation is any professional work undertaken voluntarily, without full payment, as a public service. It is common in the legal profession, medical fields, and architecture. *Pro-bono* service utilizes specific skills of professionals to provide service to those who unable to afford those services. “My *pro-bono* service is mostly for no payment or very minor payment.” Reynolds said. Attorneys are encouraged to take *pro-bono* cases because there are so many people who need the help. “For me, I feel that I have obligations. There are lots of people that need representation who just can not afford it, and also my mother always tells me to help others!!!” Reynolds noted.

Pro-bono cases get an attorney into different courtrooms to learn with exposure to other attorneys and judges, which is always helpful. “I also volunteer at the Medina County Domestic Court at the Legal Resource Center. This basically is to help the court. The attorneys can help people understand the process, answer questions, explain documents etc...” said Reynolds.

Although there are many Ohioans living beneath the poverty level today, they still have the opportunity to get legal help provided to them. Locally service is available at Legal Aid located in Akron, Ohio. “Legal Aid is helpful, but tends to be very selective. Another resource would be to contact local attorneys and explain the case and see if they will take it at a reduced fee or rate, just ask.” suggested Kim-Reynolds.

To learn more about *pro-bono* representation, watch for the interview with Attorney Yu Mi Kim-Reynolds and John Celebrezze throughout the month of August on *Law Talk*.