

Patricia Lee Refo - Advice to New Associate / Law Student

One of the best pieces of advice I could give to a new associate is to remember that you are always going to be a better counselor to your client, a better lawyer to your client, if you are engaged in the world around you. Pick something that's important to you. It can be politics, it can be a charity, it can be the arts, it can be pro bono work. Pick something that is a passion for your and stay involved in that in addition to doing the great work you need to do as a lawyer, because it will help you to be a more rounded person. It will help you to stay engaged in the community in which you live. And particularly with pro bono work, it will put you in touch with real people with real problems which helps to remind you why you went to law school in the first place, which was to help paying clients, sure, but also to help the people who can't necessarily pay our rates but who need the help of a lawyer as well.

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