



Need trial experience to obtain board certification or recertification?

Often overlooked sources of trial experience are those relating to pro se parties. There are two ways you can tap into these opportunities:

First is the Court's Legal Assistance Program (LAP). To sign up to be on the list for a possible referral of an adversary proceeding or certain types of contested matters involving an indigent pro se party, go here:

http://www.flmb.uscourts.gov/legal_assistance/volunteer_form.pdf?id=1.

Second is to let a judge know that you are willing to accept (or your associates need and are willing to accept) a trial assignment for a pro se party regardless of whether the triable issue is on the LAP list and regardless of whether the pro se party is indigent. A couple of firms in Tampa have done this, and some of their associates have had real trial time as a result. The judge to whom you make the offer will keep you in mind the next time an appropriate proceeding or contested matter pops up.