

# Hiltgen & Brewer, P.C. Give Gifts of Time and Treasure

By Regan Beatty

A lesson learned: in the world today, there may be people who can't afford to give money to a worthy cause, but everyone can volunteer. If you give someone a vehicle to put their gifts to use, those gifts will not go unused.

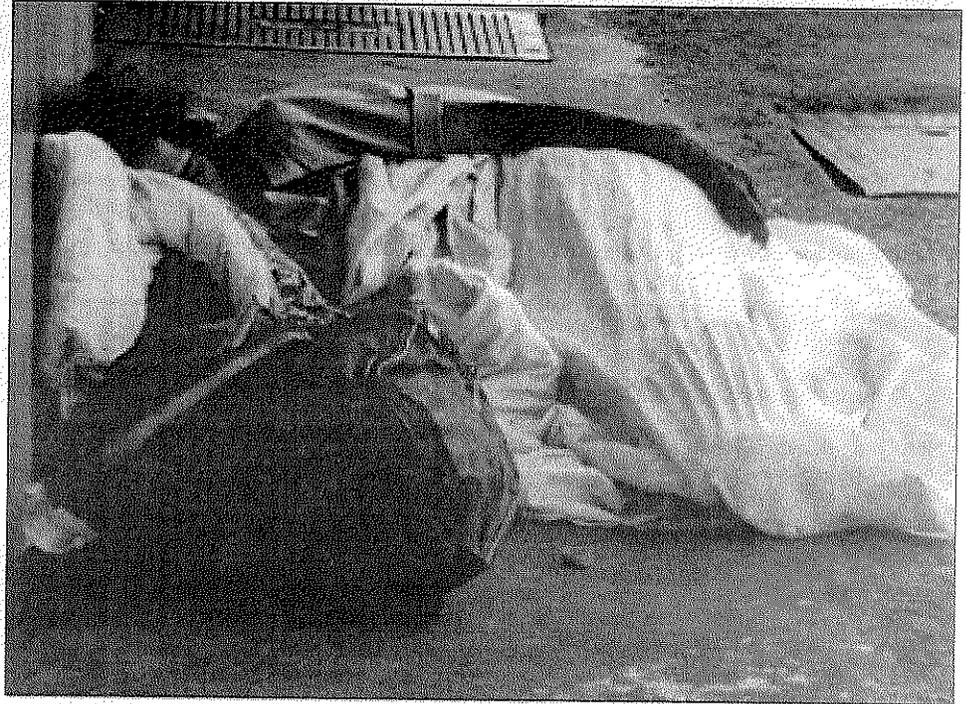
Mike Brewer, of the firm, Hiltgen & Brewer, PC, put this lesson to use with his and his firm's volunteer service and other gifts to the City Rescue Mission. The City Rescue Mission, located in Oklahoma City, provides food, shelter, clothing, and spiritual direction to those who are homeless. Looking for a way to give back, Brewer found the City Rescue Mission and asked the first question, "What can I do to help?"

When told in November that the Mission was facing a Thanksgiving meal with a broken ice machine and a need for an additional commercial freezer, Brewer and his firm took action. Brewer contacted a friend who was able to obtain a commercial ice maker and freezer at cost. Through contributions of the partners, Hiltgen & Brewer purchased the appliances, which were delivered in time for the Thanksgiving meal.

The true gift of the firm, however, lies

in the service contributions of its employees and attorneys. While working with the Mission to make the appliance donation, Brewer learned of volunteer opportunities and provided his firm the vehicle to serve. They formed teams of five to volunteer to serve lunch at the Mission on a regular basis. The firm continues to help, serving the Maundy Thursday meal and handing out Easter baskets just last month. Once family members of the firm learned of the opportunities, they too looked for ways to serve. Children donated stuffed animals. Others gave blankets, coats, and mittens. Whatever the donation, it was given with a caring heart and a hope to make a better day for someone in need.

The lesson learned by Brewer and his firm is one that other attorneys and other firms in this community can adopt and put into action. Simply by asking the question, "What can I do to help?", we can also give something to those in need. Many firms and attorneys in this community have already answered the call by putting together teams to serve at Christmas, by their attorneys serving on the board of the Mission, and by donations of money, clothing, and "immediate need" items.



The City Rescue Mission, located in Oklahoma City, provides food, shelter, clothing, and spiritual direction to those who are homeless.

Gifts come in many forms—money, supplies, and volunteer service. As attorneys, we're aware of our obligations to clients and to the profession, but often, we forget that service obligations extend far beyond the bar. Ultimately, the only question left to ask is, "Which gift are you able to give?"