January 2017

Announcements

Nominations for the Distinguished MLP Advocate and Outstanding MLP awards, due March 6

Nominations for the Harrison Tweed Award, due March 31

Testers and developers needed for Justice Hub, an online community of those interested in joining like minded individuals to create new and transformative justice technology solutions which will increase access to justice.

News Headlines

ATJ Commissions & Related Developments

MS – Releases 2016 Annual Report

MT – Commission Updates on Access to Justice

MT – Video of Public Forum Series

TN – Court Adopts Plain-Language Forms for Uncontested Divorce With Minor Children

Civil Right to Counsel

CT – Task Force Makes Right to Counsel Recommendations

DC – New Report Makes Case for Right to Counsel

MA – Mayor Unveils Bills to Help Tenant Displacement
**General Civil Justice**

LAIR – An Important Program Worth Saving

Needed: Justice for Immigrants Fighting Deportation

Online Quiz Helps Undocumented Immigrants Find Legal Help

Voices for Civil Justice Survey Results

Can Nonprofit Firms Bridge the Access to Justice Gap?

Online Service Offers Crowdsourcing to Hire a Lawyer

Shifting Philanthropy From Charity to Justice

LSC Holds Access to Justice Forum in Atlanta

CT – Mandatory CLE Improves Access to Justice

HI – Legal Resources at Library Increase Access to Justice

ID – Losing Party Liable for Other Party’s Attorneys Fees

LA – Bar Publishes Special Issue on Access to Justice

NE – Chief Justice Provides Access to Justice Update

Canada – New Website Provides Legal Info to Public

NE – Bill Proposes Protections Against Debt Collection

UK – A Look at 2017 Access to Justice

**Legal Aid Funding & Service Delivery**

The Hill Reports Plans for LSC and VAWA Grants

NLADA Letter about Washington Developments

Trump, GOP Set to Battle on Spending Cuts

Legal Services Worried That Trump Will Take Ax to LSC

Fretting About the Trump Effect on Legal Aid

Prepare To Dig In To Preserve Civil Legal Aid

The Ingenious New Plan To Fund Public Interest Efforts

IL – Hands off Chicago’s legal aid funding

IN – Legal Aid Filing Fee Bill Moves to House

LA – Foundation Offers Program to Help Disaster Relief

MA – Need for More Funding Under New Administration

MN – Releases Economic Impact Report

MT – House Approves Civil Court Filing Fee for Legal Aid

NV – Working to Remove Legal Barriers to Employment

OH – Program to Help Tenants Navigate Eviction Process

**Poverty Population Trends**

Where Inequality and Poverty Are Growing Together

**Pro Bono & Public Service**

Lawyers Descend on Airports to Help Detainees
Digital Readiness Gaps Assessment
Most Americans are 1 Medical Bill Away from Financial Disaster
Foreclosure Prevention Returns to the Unknown
CA – Highest Poverty Rate, When Considering Cost of Living
OH – Has Highest APR on Short-Term Loans in the U.S.

Law Students Performed 2.2M Pro Bono Hours Last Year
Startup Aims To Make Pro-Bono Legal Help More Accessible
IN – Senate Committee Extends for $1 Pro Bono Filing Fee
NC – Adopts Mandatory Pro Bono Reporting
UT – No One Complains About This Lawyer’s Bill

Developments in the Courts
IA – Budget Cuts to Judicial Branch
NM – State Court Records Go Online
PA – Court Begins New Education Requirements for Judges
UT – 2017 Court Report Released
VA – Proposed Ending of License Suspensions for Unpaid Court Fines
WA – At the Mercy of the Courts
Canada – Paralegal Pilot Project Comes to an End

Technology & Data
NCSC’s This and That in Court Technology
Preparing Lawyers in a Tech-Driven World
10 Tech Issues that Will Impact Social Justice in 2017
How Do You Know If Aid Really Works?
Richard Zorza’s Post on the TIG Hackathon
VA – Legal Services Launches Tech Initiative
UK – Can Technology Save Access to Justice?
UK – New Report on Tech Innovation in Legal Services

Law Schools & Legal Education
CT – Incubator Set For February Opening
CT – New Legal Incubator Hires Staff

Job Postings
NLADA Seeks Directors of Information Technology and Communications.
Executive Director sought for LAF (formerly the Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago), Chicago.
East River Legal Services Seeks Executive Director, applications due Feb 2.

Philadelphia VIP Seeks Executive Director, applications due February 10th.

Neighborhood Legal Services Program in Washington, DC Seeks Executive Director, applications due February 13.

Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid Seeks Executive Director, applications due February 15.

Disability Law Center Seeks Executive Director, applications due March 12.

Conferences & Events

The 2017 SRLN Conference will take place in San Francisco, CA on February 23-24.

The 2017 MLP Summit will take place in National Harbor, MD on April 6-7.

The 2017 Equal Justice Conference will take place in Pittsburgh, PA on May 4-6.

Email April Faith-Slaker with ATJ news or subscription requests.

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