April 2017

ACCESS TO JUSTICE HEADLINES

News Headlines

ATJ Commissions & Related Developments
AK – Commission Proposal Selected for LSC-Microsoft Portal Project

MA – Survey Launched to Gain Feedback for Justice for All Project

MT – Commission Requests Study of LLLTs, Working Group Formed

NC – Commission Pro Bono Resource Center Turns 1

TX – Commission Kicks Off Annual Fundraising Campaign

TX – Law Students Serve on Commission’s Pro Bono Spring Break Program

Developments in the Courts
Gorsuch Confirmed to Supreme Court; read what he has said about A2J here

Functional Literacy Framework And Challenges of Navigating Court Forms

CA – Chief Says Court Not The Place for Immigration Enforcement

MA – Capital Plan Available for Comments Through May 26

MN – Court Funding in Minnesota: Justice is at Stake

NY – Courts Struggle to Keep Up with Language Access Challenges

NY – Judges Silver and Mendelson promoted to replace Justice Fern Fisher

Canada – Supreme Court Endorses Key Principles for Assisting SRLs
**Technology & Data**

5 Questions with Jim Sandman About Legal Tech Developments

5 Ways to Adopt Technology and Improve Access to Justice

Attorneys Use Virtual Reality to Demystify the Courtroom

Making Mobile Devices Easier to Use for Seniors

Podcast on the Possibilities and Limitations of Legal Tech

Everyone’s Talking About Chatbots

IL – Partnership between IOLTA and ROSS Intelligence to Provide AI Legal Research Tool

Canada – Ontario Project to Test Whether SRLs Benefit From Unbundling

**Pro Bono & Public Service**

Bipartisan POWER Act to Connect Victims with Legal Representation Reintroduced

Leidos Launches Pro Bono Legal Initiative to Help Veterans

CA – Mandatory Reporting Bill Moving Through Legislature

LA – Attorney Calls on Lawyers to do Pro Bono Work

NY – NYU Law Expands Pro Bono Opportunities for Students

TX – Austin Bar, Local Attorneys Launch Free Cancer Legal Clinic

WA – AG’s Military Pro Bono Legislation Passes Legislature

**Civil Right to Counsel**

Civil Legal Aid Makes Difference for Crime Victims

NY – First in Nation to Provide Lawyers for Immigrants Facing Deportation

WA – Seattle & King County Provide Legal Representation for Immigrants

**Law Schools & Legal Education**

Concerns About The Fate Of Student Debt Forgiveness

First Participants in the TX Incubator Help to Close the Justice Gap

**Poverty Population Trends**

As Poverty Rates Decline, Children Still Suffer Most

How Poverty Changes the Brain

The Narrowing, But Persistent, Gender Gap in Pay

Americans Have Mixed Views on Policies Encouraging Broadband

**General Civil Justice**

LSC Announces Pilot States for LSC-Microsoft-Pro Bono Net Portal Project

Public Welfare Foundation Justice for All Project Issues Q1 Report

A Solution for the Access Crisis in Our Civil Justice System

Social Impact Bonds and Access to Justice
Legal Aid Funding & Service Delivery

LSC Interactive Map About Proposed LSC Defunding


Pro Bono Institute Stands with LSC

On the Trump Budget and the Community's Reaction

Martha Bergmark, On the Consequences of the Trump Budget

Legal Aid Needs Its Own Advocates to Stop Defunding

Calls to Defund LSC Are Based on Outdated Information

Cuts to Legal Aid Would Be Catastrophic for Children

Trump Wants to Cut Off Poor People's Legal Lifeline

Will Budget Cuts to LSC Diminish A2J? Hear from Jim Sandman and Linda Klein

FL – Chief Justice Labarga Writes Letter in Support of Legal Aid Funding

FL – Study Shows Legal Aid Positively Impacts Economy

IL – Rule Change Raises Over $1M in Legal Aid Funds

IN – Bar Foundation Awards $700K in Grants for Legal Aid

Spotlight

20,000 Legal Aid Defender Cards Get Delivered to Congress
ME – Justice for All Depends on Legal Aid Providers

ME – Study Shows Civil Legal Aid Has Broad Economic Impact

MT – Legal Services, Americorps Serve Montana Well

MT – Sup Court Raises Concerns About Legal Aid Funding. Original letter available here.

NJ – Budget Cuts May Slam Courthouse Door

NY – Former Chief Judge Expects Congress to Restore Legal Aid

OH – Chief Justice Asks Lawmakers to Stop Legal Aid Elimination

OH – Insurance Giant Offers Legal Aid to Those With Disabilities

PA – Preserving Funding for Legal Services is Critical

VA – Statewide Bar Groups Back Legal Aid

WI – Advocates Rally to Save LSC from Trump Budget

Canada – Research Institute Publishes Report on Study of Legal Services in Alberta

Job Postings

Executive Director South for LAF (formerly the Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago), Chicago

NLADA Seeks Directors of Information Technology and Communications and Senior Program Associate of Federal Funding

The Volunteer Attorney Program in Duluth, MN Seeks Executive Director, open until filled

Volunteer Legal Services Project of Monroe County, NY Seeks Executive Director, applications due June 21
Conferences & Events

MIE’s 2017 National Fundraising and Directors Conference will take place in Washington, DC on July 19-21

MIE’s New Executive Director Training will take place in Pittsburgh, PA on May 2-3

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

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