October 2017

News Headlines

**ATJ Commissions & Related Developments**

AR - Commission Pushes to Unbundle Legal Services

DE - Access to Justice Subcommittees Final Report

**Developments in the Courts**

A Day in Eviction Court Can Be Hard to Navigate

A Day in US Immigration Court

Online Courts Are Open for Business

AZ - Sup. Ct Approves Civil Justice Reforms

CA - No One Is Recording What Happens in Family Law Court Anymore

FL - Trial Courts To Spend More On Interpreting Services

IL - One Legal eFiling Now Available in Illinois

LA - Courts Struggle to Break Language Barriers
Legal Aid Funding & Service Delivery
A New Way to Support Legal Challenges: Crowdfunding

DOJ Invests $3.42 Million in Fight Against Elder Abuse and Financial Exploitation

CA - To Fund Legal Services for DACA Recipients

TN - Sup. Ct Recommends Increased Legal Aid Funding

WA - Seattle Offering Free Legal Help to Immigrants Facing Deportation

Pro Bono & Public Service
2017 Pro Bono Celebration Events

PA - Philadelphia Releases Pro Bono Task Force Report

TX - "Answer-a-Thon" Uses Free Legal Answers to Provide Assistance

TX - Attorneys Rally to Offer Pro Bono to Harvey Survivors

Law Schools & Legal Education
The Cost of Opportunity

Students Virtually Barred from Pursuing Legal Aid Career Unless Rich

ME - School moves to Reverse Shortage of Rural Lawyers

OK - TU Law's Incubator Program Filling Critical Need

General Civil Justice
LSC releases 2016 Annual Report

Hilarie Bass: Lawyers Step Up to Help Disaster Survivors

Congressional Briefing to Highlight Legal Aid's Role in Protecting DV Survivors

A2J Leaders Gather for LSC Forum at Harvard

Technology & Data
Data Science Protecting Democratic Freedoms in the U.S.

Don't Fear Robo-Justice: Algorithms Could Help More People

What Tech is Needed for Access to Justice?

FL - Bar Foundation Takes AI to the Justice Gap
The Continuing Resolution to keep the federal government functioning is still in effect through December 8, 2017, which maintains the Legal Services Corporation’s funding for FY18 at its FY17 level of $385 million. However, in September, the House appropriated only $300 million for the Legal Services Corporation for FY18, a $85 million cut from the current LSC appropriation. At that time, the Chair of the House Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, John Culberson (R-TX), expressed support for the important work of LSC and his commitment to work to increase the allocation in conference with the Senate. While in July, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved $385 million for LSC in FY18, it is unknown at this time when the full Senate will take action on the appropriation bill.

The ABA will continue its advocacy on behalf of LSC and may soon call upon leaders of the bar,
judiciary, ATJ Commissions and others once again to lend their voices in support of this vital program. To aid in these efforts, the ABA has compiled a number of resources on the importance of LSC here. For more information and assistance on advocacy on behalf of LSC, contact Aloysius Hogan, Legislative Counsel, ABA Governmental Affairs Office, or call 202/662-1767.

Job Postings

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation Seeks Executive Director, applications due Nov 30

DC - American Immigration Council Seeks Volunteer Coordinator, Justice Campaign

Massachusetts, Springfield - Pro Bono Director at the Hampden County Bar Association

Minnesota; Minneapolis - Volunteer Lawyers Network Seeks Executive Director, applications due December 17

Tahirih Justice Center in Atlanta, Georgia Seeks New Executive Director

Conferences & Events

MIE National Conference for Legal Administrators to be Held in Memphis November 2-3, 2017

MIE New Executive Director Training to take place December 5-6, 2017 in Washington, DC

The National Legal Aid and Defender Association's Annual Conference to take place December 6-9 in Washington, DC

Legal Services Corporation’s 2018 Tech Innovations Conference to take place January 10-12, 2018 in New Orleans, LA

The Self Represented Litigation Network's 2nd Annual Conference to take place February 22-23 in San Francisco, CA

Conference on Better Access Through Unbundling

2018 Equal Justice Conference to take place May 10-12 in San Diego, CA

GA Judges and Bar Leaders Eliminate Barriers to Justice

NY Holds Statewide Stakeholer Meeting in late September

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