Announcements

The ABA Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service seeks nominations for the Pro Bono Publico Award, which honors individual lawyers and small and large law firms, government attorney offices, corporate law departments and other institutions in the legal profession that have enhanced the human dignity of others by improving or delivering volunteer legal services to our nation's poor and disadvantaged. Submit your nominations by March 2, 2018!

The ABA Standing Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants seeks nominations for the Harrison Tweed Award, which recognizes the extraordinary achievements of state and local bar associations that develop or significantly expand projects or programs to increase access to civil legal services for persons living in poverty or criminal defense services for indigents. Submit your nominations by April 2, 2018!

News Headlines

ATJ Commissions & Related Developments

OK - Oklahoma Access to Justice Commission Looking for Ways to Provide Free Legal Help to the Poor

WI - State Bar of Wisconsin's Board of Governors Supports Pro Hac Vice Fee

Developments in the Courts

Some U.S. Borrowers Jailed Over Civil Debts, ACLU Report Shows

IA - Court Officials Warn of Delayed Justice, "Chaotic" Damage

IA - Proposed State Judicial Cuts Could
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<td>Exemption for Indian Child Welfare Cases</td>
<td>Impact North Iowa Courthouses, Court Systems</td>
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<td>KY - Lawmakers Look at Fixing The Imbalance in Judicial Workloads</td>
<td>Canada - Province Invests More Than $7M in Ottawa's Justice System</td>
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<td><strong>General Civil Justice</strong></td>
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<td>Expungement Law Helps Human Trafficking Victims Move Forward</td>
<td><strong>Law Schools &amp; Legal Education</strong></td>
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<td>Justice Dept. Office to Make Legal Aid More Accessible Is Quietly Closed</td>
<td>CA - Pepperdine Legal Clinics Aid California Fire Victims</td>
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<td>Justice Dept Sidelines Office Dedicated to Expanding Legal Aid to Poor Citizens: Report</td>
<td>GA - College Law Students Offering Pro Bono Defense for Struggling Renters</td>
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<td>NLADA Releases Report on Public Service Loan Forgiveness and the Justice System</td>
<td>LA - 'Dreamers' to Get Assistance Through Tulane Law School Legal Aid</td>
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<td>Study: Legal Needs Rise Despite Available Aid</td>
<td>ME - Work on Front Lines of Immigration Deeply Moves UMaine Law Students</td>
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<td>CA - ICE to Target Undocumented Immigrants at California Courthouses</td>
<td>NH - UNH Law Provides Boost to Work Force, Improves Access to Justice in New Hampshire</td>
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<td>CT - ICE Targeting Immigrants at Courthouses</td>
<td>TX - Baylor Law Students Learn How to 'Make a Difference'</td>
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<td>OR - Unique Law Library Has Served Community for 79 Years</td>
<td>TX - SMU Law Students Create Apps to Help Legal Aid Lawyers</td>
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<td><strong>Civil Right to Counsel</strong></td>
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<td>Provide Legal Counsel at Public Expense for When Physical Liberty is at Stake, ABA House Urges</td>
<td><strong>Technology &amp; Data</strong></td>
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<td>Advocates Promote a Right to Counsel in Civil Cases, Too</td>
<td>Legal Services Corp. Starts at Beginning to Modernize Grants System</td>
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<td>NY - Court Commission Pushes Changes Ahead of Housing Right to Counsel Rollout</td>
<td>Online Tool Helps Immigrants Protect Their Future</td>
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<td>NY - The Right to Counsel for Tenants Who Face Eviction</td>
<td>Social Media Unites Lawyers to Help Those in Need</td>
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<td>MA - New Game for Self-Represented Litigants</td>
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Legal Aid Funding & Service Delivery

ABA President Says Trump's Plan to Defund Legal Services Corporation 'Should Be Dead on Arrival'

Brooks, Upton Displeased with President's Plan to End Civil Legal Aid for Nation's Poor

Legal Aid Funding Included in Budget Deal

Legal Services Corporation Gets $15 Million in Disaster Relief Funding Legislation Passed Friday

Video: Senator Lindsey Graham on the Importance of Federal Funding for Legal Aid

CA - Sonoma County Fire Survivors Struggle to Secure Aid from FEMA

CT - Congress Must Act to Bring Civil Legal Aid to Every Homeless and Struggling Veteran Who Needs It in 2018

CT - Legal Aid Nonprofit Receives $15K Grant

CT/NY - Vets Receiving Help with Legal Issues Have Improved Mental Health, Less Homelessness

FL - 23 Organizations Gathering Under One Roof to Help the Needy

FL - $2.25M Endowment Established by Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, Baptist Health

FL - Business Process Analysis in Legal Aid: How Florida Rural Legal Services Partnered with Toyota to Improve Its Client Intake and Customer Service

FL - Low-Income Hurricane Victims Being

Pro Bono & Public Service

Hundreds of Attorneys Join Time's Up Legal Defense Fund

Panelists Discuss Delivering Pro Bono Services After Disasters at ABA Meeting in Vancouver

CA - This New Bill Would Make Pro Bono Mandatory - Or Else Pay Up

FL - CABA Pro Bono Finds Purpose in Serving Immigrant Children

MD - Lawyers Donate More Than $1 Million Hours of Legal Service

VA - Danville Group Forms to Boost Free Legal Services to Low Income Clients

VA - Supreme Court Enacts Voluntary Pro Bono Reporting
Denied Legal Assistance

ID - 'Barely Scratching the Surface:' Idaho Legal Aid Needs and Deserves Help From the State

KY - Guest Op-Ed: Governor's Budget Would Cut Critical Programs

KY - Kentucky Governor Proposes Cuts to Civil Legal Aid

MA - Ministering to Puerto Rico’s Pain: Civil Legal Aid Lawyers Assisting Those Seeking Mass. Refuge

NY - Free Legal Aid Offered to Small-Biz Owners Squeezed by Landlords

NY - Putting a Price on Heat, Legal Aid Threatens to Sue Housing Authority

OH - Cleveland Tenants Organization, Out of Cash, Suspends Operations After More Than 40 Years

OH - Defunding Legal Services Corporation, per Trump’s Wishes, Would Cut Almost $4 Million From Local Legal Aid Groups

OH - Immigration Legal Services Fund Collects $800,000

SC - South Carolina Legal Services Celebrates 50 Years Helping Low-Income Residents

TN - Chattanooga Legal Community to Increase Efforts to Meet Underserved’s Legal Needs

TX - Legal Aid for Low-Income Texans Cut Under Proposed 2019 White House Budget

Canada - Legal Aid Funding in B.C. Budget Doesn’t Cover Demand for Services, CBA Says
Washington Update

On February 9th Congress passed another Continuing Resolution (CR) to keep the federal government functioning through March 23, 2018 at the FY 2017 level. As a result, the Legal Services Corporation's funding for FY18 will be maintained at its FY17 level of $385 million, minus a slight rescission that was imposed across the board when a previous CR was adopted. In addition, LSC received $15 million for mobile resources, technology, and disaster coordinators for the three major 2017 hurricanes and the 2017 wildfires.

The final FY2018 appropriation for LSC will depend upon further Congressional action. 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 when the full Senate will take action on the appropriation bill. At this point, Congress has until March 23 to enact FY 2018 appropriations legislation, pass another temporary CR, or shut down the government once again.

ABA Day in Washington, D.C., which will take place on April 10-12, will provide leaders of the bar, judiciary, ATJ Commissions and others with an excellent opportunity to advocate with Members of Congress for additional funding for LSC. For more information on ABA Day and to register, go to https://www.americanbar.org/advocacy/governmental_legislative_work/aba-day.html. 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

**Illinois (Chicago)** - LAF Seeks Staff Attorney (5) Openings. Applications due March 5, 2018.

**Maryland (Baltimore)** - Maryland Legal Aid Seeks Director of Advocacy for Elder Law and Health Care. Applications due March 6, 2018.


**Maryland (Baltimore)** - HCU Seeks Staff Attorney. Applications due March 11, 2018.


**Florida (Gainesville)** - Southern Legal Counsel Seeks Staff Attorney. Applications due March 14, 2018.


New York (Jamestown) - Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc. Seeks Staff Attorney - Family Court Project. Applications due March 26, 2018.

California (Los Angeles) - Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County Seeks Associate Supervising Attorney. Applications due March 30, 2018.

California (Los Angeles) - Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County Seeks Staff Attorney (LAHSA). Applications due March 30, 2018.

Conferences & Events

ABA Day to take place May 10-12 in Washington, D.C.

MIE New Executive Director Training to take place May 8-9 in San Diego, CA

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

2018 National Meeting of State Access to Justice Commission Chairs to take place May 12 in San Diego, CA

MIE 2018 National Fundraising Conference to take place July 25-27 in Los Angeles, CA

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