Announcements

ABA Resource Center for Access to Justice Initiatives announces the release of its new comprehensive report on effective staffing and funding for Access to Justice Commissions.

ABA Center for Professional Responsibility is now accepting nominations for the 2019 Michael Franck Professional Responsibility award; the deadline for submissions is December 31, 2018.

News Headlines

ATJ Commissions & Related Developments

ABA Releases New Report on Access to Justice Commissions in the US

FL - Access to Justice Commission Targeting Veterans

NV - In Civil Court, Most Low-Income Nevadans Can't Get Attorneys

NY - Chief Judge Hosts 'Justice Gap' Hearing in Albany Monday

Law Schools & Legal Education

AZ/UT - BYU Law and University of Arizona Law Join Forces to Tackle Eviction

GA - Judge Salinas Delivers Center for Access to Justice's Public Interest Keynote

MO - 'Access to Justice' is Focus of Law Speaker Series
Pro Bono & Public Service

ABA President: Bar Groups Should Help Federal Courts Promote Pro Bono for Domestic Violence Victims

ABA President Travels to South Texas, Working to Fulfill ABA’s Promise to Reunite Families

GA - Atlanta Legal Aid Takes on New Foe: Homeowner Tax Hikes

HI - Volunteer Lawyers Prepare to Team Up with FEMA for Hurricane Lane


IL - Letter: Addressing the Shortage of Pro Bono Attorneys

IL - My View: Civil Legal Aid Can Help Homeless Veterans

IL - Legal Aid Attorneys get to Role Play in Trial Training Program

NE - Second Legal Self-Help Desk Opening in Kimball County

NC - How the NC Legal Community is Helping After Florence

NC - North Carolina Hurricane Florence 2018 Disaster Legal Hotline

SC - Free Legal Assistance Available for South Carolina Hurricane Victims

SC - Legal Aid Hotline Available to Hurricane Victims

Civil Right to Counsel

AZ - Here Are Some Ideas About How Arizona Can Fix Its Evictions Process

CA - Proposed Los Angeles Law Would Give Tenants Access to Attorneys

CA - ‘Right to Counsel’ Law for L.A. Tenants Facing Eviction Moves Forward

CA - Voters OK’ed Legal Aid for Tenants Facing Eviction - Now Comes the Hard Part

CA - Some Cities See Eviction Prevention as a Way to Reduce Homelessness

MN - Hennepin County Finalizes Deal for Legal Services for Residents Facing Deportation

NJ - One Simple Way to Help Immigrants Fight Deportation

NJ - Gov. Murphy Pledged, But Hasn't Delivered, Funds for Immigrants

NJ - NJ About to Spend Millions Fighting Deportations

NY - New York City Councilman Pushes Free Divorce Lawyers for Domestic Violence Victims

OH - Cleveland Tenants Want More Legal Help in Eviction Cases

WA - Portland Approves $500,000 to Represent People in Deportation Hearings

WA - Evictions in Seattle, Often Over a Month’s Rent or Less, Add to Homeless Crisis, Report Finds
**General Civil Justice**

Bryan Stevenson Calls on Lawyers to Get Uncomfortable and Deepen Commitment to Justice

Could a Designer’s Mindset Bridge the Justice Gap?

How Lawyers and Judges Can Help Rebuild Public Trust and Confidence in Our Justice System

There Is No Justice as Long as Millions Lack Meaningful Access to It

Can Licensed Legal Paraprofessionals Narrow the Access-to-Justice Gap?

CA - The Thousands of Children Who Go to Immigration Court Alone

NY - Legal Aid Kicks Off Voter Registration Drive at Rikers Island

OK - With One of the Worst Eviction Rates in the Country, Tulsa Has a Major Problem.

PR - They Lost Homes in Hurricane Maria, But Didn't Have Deeds. FEMA Rejected Their Claims.

TN - Being Poor Can Mean Losing a Driver’s License. Not Anymore in Tennessee.

VA - Amended Lawsuit Challenges VA Law that Suspends Driver’s Licenses for Failure to Pay Court Fees

**Poverty Population Trends**

How Rising Inequality Has Widened the Justice Gap

**Technology & Data**

AU - Funding Your Legal Tech Initiative Through an Initial Coin Offering

**Legal Aid Funding & Service Delivery**

ABA Annual Meeting 2018: The Legal Services Corporation in Concert

NBC’s 'The Good Place' Raising Money to Fund Legal Aid for Migrant Children Separated from Parents

CA - Free Legal Assistance Available for California Fire Survivors

CA - Separated Immigrant Families Wound Up in LA. With Help from Legal Aid, City and County, They’re Adjusting

CT - State’s Legal Luminaries Raising Money for Immigration Lawyers


NC - Expungement Clinic in Fayetteville Aims to Get Convictions Cleared

NY - Legal Aid Society Receives $550K in Federal Funding

WA - Legal Aid Nonprofits Receive $600,000 from DOJ

WI - Milwaukee Eviction Defense Project Gets $340K Grant
Washington Update

On June 14, the Commerce, Justice, Science, FY 2019 Appropriations bill passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by unanimous consent with no amendments. The bill funds the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) at a level of $410 million. On June 26, 2018, the Office of Management and Budget sent a letter to the Senate Appropriations Committee arguing that the FY 2019 appropriations bill overfunded some accounts; however, LSC was not included in the letter as one of these accounts. On July 13, the House of Representatives Budget Committee passed Fiscal Year 2019 report language that, while still presenting the elimination of the Legal Services Corporation as a policy option, removed negative language regarding LSC that had been included the Fiscal Year 2018 report. The language that was removed had stated: "Critics have argued that despite restriction(s) already in place, the Legal Services Corporation too often focuses on social activist causes rather than advocating for those persons needing legal help the most."

Additionally, Congress passed a continuing resolution extending the deadline for enacting LSC funding until December 7, 2018. Further, the ABA sent a letter to the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions indicating that all nominees for the LSC Board were found to be qualified upon evaluation. Finally, the ABA sent thank-you letters to all sponsors and cosponsors in the House and Senate of the POWER Act, which was enacted on September 4, 2018.

For more information on the ABA's advocacy efforts on behalf of LSC and to learn how to join them contact Aloysius Hogan, Legislative Counsel, ABA Governmental Affairs Office, or call 202/662-1767.

Job Postings

California (Santa Ana) - Legal Aid Society of Orange County Seeks Special Projects Supervising Attorney. Applications due October 22, 2018.


Indiana (Indianapolis) - Indiana Legal Services Seeks LGBT Victim Assistance Attorney. Applications due October 29, 2018.

Maryland (Annapolis) - Maryland Administrative Office of the Courts Seeks Special Counsel for Technology Initiatives (Access to Justice). Open until filled.

Maryland (Baltimore) - Maryland Legal Aid Seeks Staff Attorney; applications due October 10, 2018. Maryland Legal Aid Seeks Chief Attorney; applications due October 22, 2018.
Michigan (Grand Rapids) - Legal Aid of Western Michigan Seeks Executive Director. Applications due October 15, 2018.


Ohio (Columbus) - Ohio State Legal Services Association Seeks Executive Director. Applications due December 19, 2018.

Ohio (Portsmouth) - Southeastern Ohio Legal Services Seeks Staff Attorney. Applications due October 24, 2018.

Tennessee (Nashville/Clarksville) - Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands Seeks Family Law Attorney and Staff Attorney. Applications due October 17, 2018.


Conferences & Events

MIE New Executive Director Training to take place October 30-31 in Houston, TX

2018 NLADA Annual Conference to take place October 31-November 3 in Houston, TX

Email Shubi Deoras with ATJ news or subscription requests.

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