Announcements

Register Now for the 2019 State of the South Conference on February 7 - 8 at the Georgia State University College of Law in Atlanta, Georgia!

New York Times publishes article titled "One Lawyer, One Day, 194 Felony Cases," citing to public defender workload studies conducted by the ABA Standing Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants (SCLAID).

Winter 2019 Issue of Daedalus (publication of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences) entitled "Access to Justice" features 24 freely accessible essays examining the national crisis in civil legal services facing poor and low-income Americans.

News Headlines

ATJ Commissions & Related Developments

IA - People to Watch: Des Moines Attorney Tries to Make the Justice System Work for Iowans

IN - Legal Resources Now Available at indianalegalhelp.org

IN - Study: Indiana Legal Agencies Return $6.70 for Every Dollar Invested

Developments in the Courts

4 Access to Justice Cases to Watch in 2019

The Biggest Access to Justice Decisions of 2018

Courts Turn to Cellphone Bans Despite Access Concerns

To End Fear and Protect Justice, Dozens of Retired Judges Call on ICE to End Courthouse
MA - Massachusetts Access to Justice Commission Announces New Members, Annual Report

OK - Lawyer in the Library: Pilot Program Premieres at Ardmore Public Library

TN - Tennessee Supreme Court’s Access to Justice Commission Releases Pro Bono Report

TN - More Than Half of Tennessee Attorneys Provide Pro Bono Legal Services Valued at Over $130 Million

TX - Baylor Law Student Receives State Pro Bono Award

TX - Legal Aid of Northwest Texas Provides Services During Holiday Influx of Domestic Violence

WV - WVU Law is Now Home to the State’s Access to Justice Commission

WV - Kimble Outlines Vision for Access to Justice Commission

Arrests

Judge and Prosecutor Agree: ICE Arrests at Courthouses Threaten Justice

How State Courts Are Fighting Our National Opioid Epidemic

CA - New Legal Self-Help Center to Open in February

HI - Chief Justice Delivers 2019 State of the Judiciary Address

IA - ‘Think Big’ Iowa Chief Justice Urges Lawmakers in Annual Address

IN - Appellate Courts Seek Extra $1M for Legal Aid, Technology

MN - Court Participants Asked to Take Part in Minnesota Judicial Survey


NY - Shutdown Delays Leave Immigrants in Extended Legal Limbo

OK - Courts to Look for Ways to Reduce Tulsa’s High Eviction Rate

UT - Utah’s Chief Justice Asks Lawmakers to Fund New Judges, While Touting Efforts to Make Civil Courts More Accessible to Those Intimidated by the Legal System

VA - Court OKs Model Policy for Phones, Electronic Devices in Virginia Courthouse

Poverty Population Trends

15 Big Stories on Poverty and Opportunity from 2018

No Country for Old Lawyers: Rural U.S. Faces a Legal Desert

Law Schools & Legal Education

Law Class of 2018 Contributed More Than $85 Million Worth of Pro Bono Legal Services

To Make Law School Truly Accessible, Bring it Online
NY - Too Few Lawyers? Access to Justice in Rural Communities

TN - Federal Shutdown May Leave More Than 900,000 Hungry in Tennessee

VT - Vermont Legal Aid Pushes Rent Assistance to Combat Homelessness

CA - Law Students Ride the 'Justice Bus'

IN - Local Attorneys Assemble Team to Spend Holidays Helping Asylum Seekers

Technology & Data
2018 in Review: A Top 20 Countdown

David Udell Dishes on Growing Access to Justice Research

Despite Its Help, Some Lawyers Oppose Leveraging Tech for Access to Justice

Explosion in Apps Includes Promising Ones to Improve Access to Justice

CT - Connecticut to Begin Online Dispute Resolution Program

MN - Researchers Conducting Study on Access to Justice in Rural Communities

General Civil Justice
America's Civil Justice System Needs Reform, Too

Access-to-Justice Gap? It’s the Economy

Famed Journal Lends Its Clout to Fighting Access Crisis

Stripping the False Premises from Civil Justice Problems

TN - Potentially Burdensome Court Fees Draw Federal Attention to Tennessee

VA - VA. Senate Votes to End License Suspensions Over Fees

Pro Bono & Public Service
Senior Service: How Retired Attys are Battling the Justice Gap

We Don't All Have to Be Ruth Bader Ginsburg

The Pro Bono Law That United Congress

FL - Florence Survivors: Get Free Help Filing FEMA Appeals and Reconsiderations

MD - MD Bar Sees Increase in Pro Bono Hours From Attorneys

NC - Volunteer Attorneys Could Help Homeowners Denied Help From FEMA

PA - Too Poor to Divorce?

Civil Right to Counsel
Eviction on Trial: Cities from New York to Minneapolis are Providing Free Attorneys to Low-Income Tenants Facing Eviction

MA - Letter to the Editor: In Defense of Housing Court

NJ - Tenants' Right to Counsel on the Move, Next Stop Newark

NY - CityViews: New York Now has 'Right to Counsel,' But Tenant Organizing Still Matters

NY - Year One of the NYC Tenant Right to Counsel Program

NY - Cuomo Announces More Help for New
TN - About 12,000 Memphians Have Been Helped Through Pro Bono Legal Clinics

TX - Legal Representation for Detained Migrants Hindered by Access Issues

York Immigrants Facing Deportation

OH - Cleveland Aims to Provide Free Legal Representation for Tenants in Eviction Cases

OH - Cincinnati Fund is Just the First Part of a Bigger Plan to Reduce Evictions in Hamilton County

PA - Philadelphia Could Be Next to Provide Lawyers for Low-Income Tenants

Legal Aid Funding & Service Delivery

Civil Legal Aid's Essential Role in Wildfire Response

Cy Pres Awards Are the Best Answer

AK - When a Landlord-Tenant Relationship Gets Tricky, There's a Hotline to Help

CA - State Sen. Nancy Skinner Introduces Bill to Offer Legal Aid for At-Risk Tenants

CA - Deportation Defense Work Taking Shape

CO - The Immigration System is a Challenge Without a Lawyer. Denver Wants to Change That.

FL - Legal Services Helping Hurricane Michael Victims

FL - Legal Aid Group Gets Grant to Help Hundreds More Hurricane Victims from Irma, Maria

GA - Georgia Legal Services Receives Nearly $750,000 Grant

IL - Prairie State's Ready to Work Project Receives $725,000 from Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois

MA - Support for Domestic Violence Victims Impacted by Government Shutdown
Washington Update

On January 25, President Trump signed a short-term spending bill into law that will reopen shuttered parts of the government through February 15, 2019. The bill allows federal employees to return to work for three weeks and does not include the President’s requested $5.7 billion in border wall funding.

The Chair of the House Committee on Appropriations, Nita Lowey (D-NY), introduced a FY 2019 appropriations bill that was passed by the House of Representatives and included $415 million for LSC, which would constitute a $5 million increase over the previous year’s funding. The Senate bill, which was introduced by the Chair of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, Richard Shelby (R-AL), also included $415 million for LSC. Further, in both bills, $15 million was included for LSC for disaster relief. Notably, the disaster relief money was not subject to spending restrictions, as it had been previously.

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**

Alabama (Montgomery) - Legal Services Alabama Seeks Staff Attorney. Applications due February 25, 2019.

California (Chico) - Legal Services of Northern California Seeks Managing Attorney. Applications due February 8, 2019.


Florida (Tallahassee) - Disability Rights Florida Seeks Executive Director. Applications due February 21, 2019.


Mississippi (Jackson) - Southern Poverty Law Center Seeks Senior Staff and Staff Attorneys, Children's Rights. Applications due February 13, 2019.


New Mexico (Albuquerque) - New Mexico Legal Aid Seeks Executive Director. Applications due February 8, 2019.

Oregon (Klamath Falls) - Legal Aid Services of Oregon Seeks Staff Attorney. Applications due February 11, 2019.

Washington, D.C. - Legal Services Corporation Seeks Program Counsel II or III for Pro Bono Innovation and Veterans Grant Administration. Applications due February 14, 2019.


**Conferences & Events**

2019 State of the South Conference to take place February 7-8, 2019 in Atlanta, GA

Equal Justice Conference to take place May 9-11, 2019 in Louisville, Kentucky.
National Meeting of State Access to Justice Commission Chairs to take place May 10-11, 2019 in Louisville, Kentucky

MIE National Fundraising Conference 2019 & Voices for Civil Justice Media Training to take place July 24-26, 2019 in Chicago, IL

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