2011

The Connecticut Bar Foundation
Annual Report
The need for legal services is at an all-time high during these very difficult economic times, and the Foundation continues to work with the Executive Branch, the Legislative Branch, and the Judicial Branch, as well as lawyers and banks to identify new and increased revenue.

The James W. Cooper Fellows continue to plan and implement Foundation programs. In addition to the Limited Scope Representation and the Judicial Independence Symposium held at Quinnipiac University School of Law, the Fellows supported the Truancy Intervention Project expansion, the Juries and Justice Symposium, the Russian Rule of Law project, and the development of the Connecticut Innocence Fund. The annual essay contest provides high school students with an opportunity to explore issues pertaining to the rule of law and was named in honor of Yale Law School Professor Quintin Johnstone.

Our thanks go to the James W. Cooper Fellows who continue their commitment to the Foundation’s mission through increased financial support and involvement in Fellows’ projects. We are grateful for the work of the 33 members of the Fellows and Education Program Committee (FEPC), and the leadership, enthusiasm, and dedication of Fellows Chair Dean Brad Saxton and FEPC Chair Bill Logue are an inspiration to all.

The number of people volunteering on Foundation activities continues to increase. Our special thanks go to Peter Arakas, Andrea Barton Reeves, William Clendenen, Professor Jeffrey Meyer, Judge Raymond Norko, Tim Shearin and Judge Jonathan Silbert for serving as chairs of these activities, and to the numerous participants who made these programs so successful. We also thank the Quinnipiac University School of Law for hosting our programs, and we express our gratitude to all Board members for their continuing commitment. We thank Hugh Macgill, Toni Smith-Rosario, Kate Stith, and Bill Trachsel for their service on the board and welcome new board members Larry Fox, Doreen Fundiller-Zweig, and Joe Santos. We also thank Chief Justice Chase Rogers, the Judicial Branch, and the leadership of the Connecticut Bar Association for their support of the Foundation and legal services.

And finally, we convey our sincere appreciation to the outstanding Foundation staff for their tireless efforts, valuable contributions, and dedication during this period of increased activity.
In light of the precipitous drop in funding from IOLTA revenues, which historically had been a cornerstone of funding for Connecticut’s legal services organizations, it has become increasingly important to fill in the gap from other funding sources. A cy près award can serve as such a source and can make an enormous difference in our state’s legal services organizations’ ability to advocate on behalf of Connecticut’s vulnerable and low-income residents.

Ingrid L. Moll, Chair
Grantmaking Committee
Greater Hartford Legal Aid, Inc. (GHLA)

After B’s wife gave birth to premature triplets, B asked his employer for time off to care for the babies when they came home from the hospital. The employer refused to allow B to take time off, and B was forced to leave his job in order to help care for his medically fragile infants. After B’s claim for unemployment benefits was denied, his GHLA attorney won benefits on appeal under the state’s new “quit to care for” law.

Lawyer’s for Children America, Inc. (LFCA)

When the police responded to a report of a street fight, they found 5-year-old Ty caught in middle of a violent dispute between his parents. More disturbing, however, was the discovery that Ty had a black eye. His mother claimed her uncle accidentally hit Ty, but she could not explain why she did not call the police when it happened or why she failed to take him to an emergency room. DCF took immediate temporary custody of Ty, and his LFCA volunteer attorney began working to find Ty the best possible placement.

Fortunately, Ty’s father agreed to care for him while his mother sought drug treatment. Due in large measure to the LFCA volunteer’s efforts, Ty is doing well in his father’s care, and the parents’ relationship is cordial enough to allow Ty regular visits with his mother.
Oral History of Connecticut Women in the Legal Profession Project

Thirty-three women have been interviewed since the inception of the Oral History Project in 1999. Karyl Evans, a documentarian, has completed 12 web-based videos of the interviewees of which 6 are on the Foundation’s website, www.ctbarfdn.org. Additional videos will be produced in the future.

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Truancy Intervention Project

The goal of the Truancy Intervention Project is to provide help to keep middle school-aged children in school through the intervention of attorney volunteers who serve as advocates and role models for the children. The Project is funded primarily through grants from the American Savings Foundation and Newman’s Own Foundation with supplemental support from the Connecticut Bar Foundation and the New Haven County Bar Foundation. Invaluable support to the Project has been provided by Connecticut Legal Services, New Haven Legal Assistance, The Children’s Law Center, and the Connecticut Bar Association. The Project continues to have a strong presence in the New Britain School System while it is seeking to establish a toe-hold in New Haven. The Truancy Intervention Project of Connecticut, Inc. is now incorporated as a non-stock corporation.

Committee Members
Livia D. Barndollar, Chair
Peter Arakas
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Howard Klebanoff

Mentoring Program

The program pairs seasoned attorneys with new lawyers for a one-year program during which the new admittees are mentored and counseled on the many issues and challenges confronting every lawyer during his or her first year in the profession. The program operates in Hartford, Tolland, New Haven, and Windham Counties.

Committee Members
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High School Essay Contest

The 2010-2011 statewide high school essay contest topic, “Is Out of School Out of Bounds?” dealt with the issue of bullying. The contest generated participation by thirty-eight schools. Over one-hundred-twenty Fellows judged the seventy-seven entries. The winner received a $3,000 savings bond and the two runners-up received $1,500 savings bonds for educational use.

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Limited Scope Representation Symposium

A symposium, co-sponsored by the Connecticut Bar Association, was held October 28, 2011. Discussion included rule changes to allow lawyers in Connecticut to undertake a limited representation with the assurance of the right to withdraw following conclusion of the scope of their agreed representation. Often referred to as “unbundled services,” this practice is allowed in most states. The keynote speaker was M. Sue Talia of the law offices of M. Sue Talia, Danville, CA.

Participants
Mark Dubois, Geraghty & Bonnano
Karen M. Duffy, Law Offices of Karen M. Duffy, Springfield, MA
Timothy S. Fisher, President, Connecticut Bar Foundation; McCarter & English LLP
Keith Bradoc Gallant, President, Connecticut Bar Association; Day Pitney LLP

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Keith Bradoc Gallant, President, Connecticut Bar Association; Day Pitney LLP
James W. Cooper Fellows Activities

In partnership with Community Partners in Action, the Foundation sponsors a program to provide short term financial assistance to newly released exonerees. A revolving fund has been created to make bridge loans to exonerees upon their release from prison after proof of innocence, pending their awards of compensation from the State. A reception to benefit the Fund was held by the CBA Paralegals Committee.

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Connecticut Innocence Fund

Judicial Independence Symposium
The symposium “Judicial Independence: A Crisis or Business as Usual?”, co-sponsored by the Connecticut Bar Association, took place on November 18, 2011 and explored the risks to impartial courts and the means to protect judges from unfair criticism after unpopular decisions. The keynote speaker was Dean Martin H. Belsky of the University of Akron Law School.

Co-Chairs
- William H. Clendenen, Jr.
- James T. Shearin

Participants
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- Clendenen & Shea, LLC
- Hon. Eric D. Coleman, Senate Co-Chair, Judiciary Committee
- Hon. Gerald M. Fox, III, House Co-Chair, Judiciary Committee
- Keith Bradoc Gallant, President, Connecticut Bar Association; Day Pitney LLP
- Wesley W. Horton, Horton Shields & Knox, P.C.
- Commissioner Joette Katz, Department of Children and Families
- Andrew J. McDonald, General Counsel to Governor Dannel Malloy
- Hon. Alan Nevas, United States District Court (Ret.)
- Hon. Chase T. Rogers, Chief Justice, Supreme Court
- David N. Rosen, David N. Rosen & Associates, P.C.
- James T. Shearin, Pullman & Comley, LLC
- Professor Jed Shugerman, Harvard Law School
- Hon. Alvin W. Thompson, United States District Court
- Hon. Peter T. Zarella, Associate Justice, Supreme Court
Annual Reception

Hon. Jonathan Lippman, Keynote speaker

James Bowers, Distinguished Service Award recipient

Prof. Hugh Macgill, Distinguished Service Award recipient

Prof. Kate Suth, Distinguished Service Award recipient

Michael Lawlor and Andrew McDonald, Legal Services Award recipients

Denise Zamore, Dean Robert Post, Prof. Robin Golden

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We wish to thank our supporters, including the James W. Cooper Fellows, whose generous contributions make the programs of the Foundation possible:

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Co-sponsored by the Connecticut Bar Association

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We wish to thank our supporters, including the James W. Cooper Fellows, whose generous contributions make the programs of the Foundation possible:

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**IOLTA LEADERSHIP BANKS**

(as of June 2012)

The Connecticut Bar Foundation recognizes the following banks for their continued support of the IOLTA program. During this time of historically low interest rates, these banks have volunteered to pay a net yield that is higher than the yield they are required to pay on IOLTA. In the current economic climate, low-income people need legal services more than ever. The Leadership Banks have maintained this community investment which helps legal aid lawyers provide legal services for low-income households in crisis throughout Connecticut.

**Leadership Banks**

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- Salisbury Bank & Trust Company
- Savings Bank of Danbury
- Sovereign Bank New England
- Start Community Bank
- TD Bank, N.A.
- Thomaston Savings Bank
- Torrington Savings Bank
- Washington Trust Company

If you bank at a Leadership Bank, we thank you; if not, we urge you to choose a Leadership Bank to improve access to justice in Connecticut.