

CONNECTICUT BAR FOUNDATION

Serving the Bench, Bar, and Connecticut Citizens since 1952

Issue 11, Winter 2018



CBF Reception and James W. Cooper Fellows Annual Meeting



Clockwise from the top: Teresa C. Younger; Joseph D. D'Alesio; Hon. Chase T. Rogers; Peter Arakas.

Please join the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Bar Foundation at our Annual Reception to welcome the 2018 James W. Cooper Fellows

Thursday
May 10, 2018
The New Haven Lawn Club
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Keynote Speaker
Teresa C. Younger, CEO and President
Ms. Foundation

Distinguished Service Award
Hon. Chase T. Rogers

Legal Services Leadership Award
Peter Arakas

Special Recognition Award
Joseph D. D'Alesio

Invitations will be sent shortly. For information about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Don Philips at don@cbf-1.org or at 860-722-2494.

Upcoming Fellows Programs

JAMES W. COOPER FELLOWS SYMPOSIA

Exploring Unsupervised Probate Symposium
Co-sponsored with Quinnipiac Probate Law Journal

Friday, April 20, 2018

8:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

Quinnipiac University
School of Law

Ceremonial Courtroom

4.5 CT CLE hours

(4.0 Professional Practice,
0.5 Ethics)

Modest Means Representation and Unbundled Legal Services Symposium

Co-sponsored with the Connecticut Bar Association

Friday, May 4, 2018

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

UCONN School of Law

Disabilities, Diversity and Inclusion Symposium
Co-sponsored with the Connecticut Bar Association

Friday, September 7, 2018
(Time TBD)

UCONN School of Law

Trauma-Informed Justice Symposium

Friday, October 26, 2018
(Time TBD)

Quinnipiac University
School of Law

**Symposia are free to attend.
Registration is required.**

Building a Foundation for the Future

The Oral History of Connecticut Women in the Legal Profession Reception

SAVE THE DATE

Connecticut Bar Foundation James W. Cooper Fellows

Reception and Exhibit to Celebrate

The Oral History of Connecticut Women in the

Legal Profession Project

and the

Photographic Portrait Exhibit of Connecticut Women Judges

“Women in Black, 2nd Edition”

June 7, 2018

5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Legislative Office Building Atrium

Hartford, CT

Tickets for this event will be available for purchase soon. Future announcements and additional information about the program will be posted on the [CBF website](#) and emailed to all CBF James W. Cooper Fellows.

Leadership Banks

The CBF extends its appreciation to its Leadership Banks for paying the highest rate on IOLTA balances and generously waiving service fees. The CBF is also grateful for the many attorneys and law firms who place their IOLTA accounts with a Leadership Bank. Such patronage results in greater funding to civil legal aid providers and helps to increase legal representation and provide legal services to low-income Connecticut residents. Thank you!

Bank of New York Mellon • Start Community Bank • Sterling Bank

Thomaston Savings Bank • Torrington Savings Bank

Washington Trust Company • Westfield Bank

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Update on CBF James W. Cooper Fellows Programs and Projects

The **Singer Connecticut Public Service Fellowship Program (SCPCF)** was launched by the Herbert and Nell Singer Foundation and Connecticut Bar Foundation in September, 2017. The SCPCF Selection Committee, led by Singer Foundation President Jay Sandak and CBF President-Elect Andrea Barton Reeves, has selected three Connecticut law school students as recipients of the first SCPCF Fellowships. **Angelique Torres** and **Amanda Smallhorn** from Quinnipiac University School of Law and **Christina Gill** from the University of Connecticut School of Law, all who will graduate in May, 2018, have been awarded SCPCF Fellowships. Ms. Torres' Fellowship project with **Connecticut Legal Services** involves assisting low income domestic violence victims, victims of crime and immigrant children in the Danbury and Bridgeport areas. Ms. Smallhorn will be employed by **New Haven Legal Assistance** on a Fellowship project to serve as an expert and as a statewide resource on many collateral civil consequences that result from criminal conviction and on ways to remedy or mitigate those negative effects. Ms. Gill's Fellowship project for **Greater Hartford Legal Aid** will include supporting the launch of its new Legal Initiative for Immigrant Victims, providing direct representation in a range of immigration proceedings and working with community outreach partners to increase immigrant communities' access to legal information and guidance.

According to Mr. Sandak, "The first year of the Singer Connecticut Public Service Fellowship Program has been very successful and I want to thank the CBF Fellows who volunteered to help organize the program and serve on the Selection Committee." Those CBF Fellows are: Andrea Barton Reeves, Hon. Jane Grossman, Anthony Minchella, Susan Nofi, Franklin Perry, and Cherie Phoenix.

The Eighteenth **Annual James W. Cooper Fellows Quintin Johnstone Statewide High School Essay Contest** is currently in the judging stage. This year's topic involves a student who believes she is experiencing reverse discrimination as a result of being denied a no-cost "diversity slot" for a school trip. The topic, rules, judging criteria, and procedures are posted on the CBF website and were sent to Connecticut high schools last fall. The deadline for essay submissions was February 23, 2018. Requests for judges were sent to Fellows on January 29, 2018.

The Fellows Education and Program Committee (FEPC) is working with **The Hartford Promise**, an organization providing significant scholarships to Hartford students if they meet certain criteria, to recruit and train Fellows to serve as mentors to Hartford area students. The Hartford Promise is designed to assist students who may be at risk of failing to meet attendance requirements and other thresholds. Peter Arakas and Denise Zamore are co-chairing the FEPC project. The response to requests for volunteer Fellows was overwhelming. Mentoring has begun and the co-chairs hope to engage more Fellows in future training sessions for this project.

In partnership with Community Partners in Action, the CBF sponsors the **Connecticut Innocence Fund**, a program that provides 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. Since 2012, seven exonerees qualified for loans from the fund. As of January 31, 2018, five exonerees have paid back loans totaling \$57,700. There is one loan currently payable in the amount of \$11,200. The unencumbered balance of the fund is approximately \$50,420.

Did You Know?

Since 1990, the **CBF Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts Law School Scholarship Program** has been making annual scholarships to the University of Bridgeport School of Law, the University of Connecticut School of Law, and Yale Law School to assist Connecticut law students with demonstrable financial need. Scholarships to Quinnipiac University School of Law began after the American Bar Association approved the transfer of the University of Bridgeport law school to Quinnipiac College in 1992. Through the years, the CBF has made scholarship donations in equal amounts to each of the State's law schools, although the total scholarship amount given annually has varied depending on IOLTA revenues. Through 2018, the CBF has donated a total of **\$4,325,939** to help Connecticut law students obtain their law degrees.

Building a Foundation for the Future