



INVESTING IN JUSTICE IS OUR TRUE NORTH

JOIN THE MOVEMENT: Partner with the Connecticut Bar Foundation and become a Leadership Bank!

View our Leadership Banks: ctbarfdn.org/ioltaiota/leadership-banks.html

Advancing Justice in Connecticut

Connecticut Bar Foundation (CBF) invites banks to take a leading role in advancing justice and strengthening communities through our **Leadership Bank Program**.

As the primary funder of civil legal aid in Connecticut, **CBF channels interest from IOLTA/IOTA accounts into life-changing legal services for low-income residents.** These services address urgent civil legal issues - from domestic violence and housing disputes to veterans' benefits and access to life-sustaining services.

Civil legal aid is not just about legal representation—it's about stabilizing communities, preventing homelessness, and empowering individuals to live with dignity and security. **We all have a role to play in achieving a more just and equitable society!**

Program Eligibility Criteria



To qualify as a Leadership Bank, institutions must:

- Pay the higher of 1% or 60% of the Federal Funds Target Rate (meeting the Safe Harbor Requirement)
- Pledge not to deduct fees from IOLTA interest

Becoming a Leadership Bank is more than a financial decision... it's a commitment to justice, equity, and community well-being. Participation helps ensure that every Connecticut resident has access to the legal support they need, regardless of income.



Your Bank – Your Community

As a Leadership Bank, your institution directly supports civil legal aid, a vital service that helps Connecticut residents navigate life-altering legal challenges. Your investment helps:

- Children and families** secure safe housing, access education, and escape domestic violence
- People with disabilities** advocate for fair treatment, secure benefits, and challenge discrimination
- Veterans** obtain rightful benefits, correct discharge status, and access healthcare
- Elderly residents** protect against financial exploitation, maintain housing, and access life-sustaining services
- Low-income workers and tenants** resolve wage theft, unsafe housing conditions, and unjust evictions

Benefits of Leadership Status



Annual CRA Certification

- Receive annual letter recognizing status and quantifying community development service



Recognition within the Connecticut Legal Community

- Featured in CBF emails (1,000+ attorneys and judges)
- Promoted on CBF's webpage
- Publicized on CBF social media channels
- Recognized at CBF and bar association events



Business Development Opportunities

Participation at exclusive networking events enhances visibility and credibility, potentially expanding client bases. Events include:

- The Connecticut Bar Association Legal Conference with opportunities for in-person networking, introductions, and co-branded visibility
- CBF Annual Reception offering direct engagement with decision makers at CT law firms