

The Connecticut Bar Foundation  
Annual Report  
2017



## 2017 Connecticut Bar Foundation Board of Directors and Staff



Front row (l-r): Anne Goico, Livia Barndollar, Timothy Diemand, Andrea Barton Reeves, Patricia Kaplan, Larry Fox, Liz Drummond, Katilyn Carling — Back row (l-r): Karen DeMeola, Krista Hess, Stephen Lewis, Vanessa Avery, Dean Timothy Fisher, Margaret Castinado, Hon. William Bright, Moy Ogilvie, Don Philips, Joseph D'Alesio

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## Annual Report of President James T. (Tim) Shearin and Executive Director Don Philips

We are pleased to present the 2017 Annual Report of the Connecticut Bar Foundation (CBF), a year in which the CBF James W. Cooper Fellows produced many successful programs and the CBF helped launch a new program that will benefit Connecticut civil legal aid organizations and the impoverished clients they serve.

On March 17, 2017, over 150 people attended the Tenth John A. Speziale Alternative Dispute Resolution Symposium titled "Finding Solid Ground: Environmental and Land Use Dispute Resolution in Connecticut" held at Quinnipiac School of Law. Over 100 attorneys, judges and law school students attended the Diversity Symposium co-sponsored by the CBF and the Connecticut Bar Association (CBA) at UCONN School of Law on April 20, 2017. UCONN

School of Law was also the site of the Third Judge Mark R. Kravitz Symposium, "Should We Praise Litigation", held on December 1, 2017, and approximately 100 people attended. In addition to the symposia, the Fellows sponsored eight Roundtables in which judges, lawyers and law students engaged in lively discussions on diverse legal and social topics of the day.

The 17th Annual Quintin Johnstone Essay Contest saw the highest participation of schools and participants in 2016-2017, with 163 students from 53 high schools submitting essays, and 146 Fellows serving as volunteer judges.

The CBF History of Connecticut Women in the Legal Profession project completed the final two video interviews in 2017, bringing to 25 the total number of new

video interviews of pioneer women. Also during the year, the Judges' Portrait Project completed its 42nd portrait of women judges appointed since 2007.

The CBF partnered with the Herbert and Nell Singer Foundation to create the Singer Connecticut Public Service Fellowship Program. Law school graduates chosen as Singer Fellows will be able to gain valuable experience in a variety of public service practice areas. The program is further expected to benefit Connecticut civil legal aid organizations by adding attorneys to their staff and increasing their capacity to provide legal services to Connecticut's low-income population. CBF Fellows played an integral role in organizing the program and will serve on the committee to select Singer Fellows.

We thank Doreen

Fundiller-Zweig, John R. Logan, Ralph J. Monaco, Dean Robert C. Post and Asker A. Saeed for their respective service on the board and welcome new board members Vanessa Roberts Avery, Dean Heather K. Gerken, Edward J. Heath, Stephen L. Lewis, and Calvin K. Woo. We also thank Asha Rangappa for her service on the board during 2017. We recognize with great appreciation Quinnipiac School of Law, UCONN School of Law, Yale Law School, and the CBA for their continuing support of the CBF and its mission. As this is his final report, Tim especially wishes to thank the officers and members of the Board, the Fellows and the staff - Liz Drummond, Anne Goico, Kati Carling, and Gina Casella - for their commitment, dedication and work on behalf of the CBF.

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**2017 Grants Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts/Interest on Trust Accounts (IOLTA/IOTA) Court Fees Grants-in-Aid (CFGIA), Judicial Branch Grants-in-Aid (JBGIA) Bank of America Settlement Grants (BOA)**

<b>Legal Services Providers</b>	<b>IOLTA/IOTA</b>	<b>CFGIA</b>	<b>JBGIA</b>	<b>BOA</b>	<b>GRANTS PAID</b>
<b>Center for Children's Advocacy</b> provides legal representation and systemic advocacy for poor children statewide.	\$ 53,871	\$ 365,663	\$ 40,713		\$ 460,247
<b>Children's Law Center</b> provides representation to poor children in Hartford, New Britain, New Haven, Tolland, Waterbury, and Windham Judicial Districts.	\$ 24,018	\$ 163,028	\$ 18,151		\$ 205,197
<b>Connecticut Fair Housing Center</b> represents those who have been victims of housing discrimination.	\$ 14,806	\$ 100,498	\$ 11,188	\$ 500,000	\$ 626,492
<b>Connecticut Legal Rights Project</b> represents low-income people in state psychiatric hospitals and after discharge.	\$ 70,952	\$ 481,609	\$ 53,621		\$ 606,182
<b>Connecticut Legal Services</b> provides general legal assistance in all areas of the state except Hartford and New Haven Counties.	\$ 981,345	\$ 6,661,161	\$ 741,645		\$ 8,384,151
<b>Connecticut Veterans Legal Center</b> provides legal assistance to veterans.	\$ 5,985	\$ 40,628	\$ 4,524		\$ 51,137
<b>Greater Hartford Legal Aid</b> provides general legal assistance in greater Hartford.	\$ 391,213	\$ 2,655,473	\$ 295,656		\$ 3,342,342
<b>Lawyers for Children America</b> provides representation to poor children in Bridgeport, Hartford, Middletown, New Haven, Rockville, Torrington, and Waterbury Juvenile Courts.	\$ 5,971	\$ 40,529	\$ 4,513		\$ 51,013
<b>New Haven Legal Assistance</b> provides general legal assistance in New Haven County.	\$ 306,914	\$ 2,083,264	\$ 231,946	\$ 698,807	\$ 3,320,931
<b>Statewide Legal Services of Connecticut</b> offers brief service and self help for low-income people as well as providing intake and referrals to the other legal service agencies in the state.	\$ 31,500	\$ 213,813	\$ 23,807		\$ 269,120
<b>Victims Rights Center of Connecticut</b> is dedicated to serving the needs of victims of violent crime.	\$ 2,500				\$ 2,500
<b>Technology Grant for CTLawHelp Website</b>	\$ 102,755				\$ 102,755
<b>Legal Services Funding Total</b>	\$ 1,991,830	\$ 12,805,666	\$ 1,425,764	\$ 1,198,807	\$ 17,422,067

**Law School Scholarships**

In 1989, The Connecticut General Assembly passed Public Act 89-196 which, among other things, authorized the administrator of the IOLTA program [the Connecticut Bar Foundation] to use IOLTA revenues for law school scholarships based on financial need. Later that year, the CBF began developing plans to implement a scholarship program and began funding scholarships in 1990. From 1990 to 2017, the CBF has made equal, annual grants totaling \$4,325,909 to Quinnipiac School of Law (as the successor to University of Bridgeport School of Law in 1992), UCONN School of Law, and Yale Law School. The CBF is proud of its role of providing financial assistance to hundreds of law school students and helping them to achieve their goals of getting a legal education and becoming attorneys.



“Technology grants from the Connecticut Bar Foundation have allowed New Haven Legal Assistance Association (LAA) to partner with local and national legal aid programs to engage in innovative technology projects that assist low-income residents with navigating the court system. The CBF has funded the development and continued support of our statewide website, CTLawHelp.org, which serves as an incredible portal to legal resources in Connecticut for self-represented litigants who can’t afford a lawyer. The website content manager, Kate Frank, who works out of LAA, is a recognized leader in her efforts on CTLawHelp.org.”

**Alexis H. Smith**, Executive Director  
New Haven Legal Assistance Association