



*Angela Schlingheyde Named
Executive Director of the
Connecticut Bar Foundation*



The Connecticut Bar Foundation announced today that Angela Schlingheyde, J.D. will become its next Executive Director as of October 30. A non-profit organization established in 1952, the Connecticut Bar Foundation (CBF) works to ensure that the state's legal system is available to all, regardless of power or resources. It is the primary funder of Connecticut's legal services

network, and a convener of attorneys across the state to address issues of access to civil justice and the future of law.

A search committee of CBF Board members led a rigorous, months-long search. Board President and search committee member Judge Victoria Woodin Chavey says, “We are thrilled to bring Angela on board as the CBF’s new leader. It is an exciting time for the organization, as we implement the organization’s strategic plan and continue to work toward our mission of facilitating systemic change, advancing civil justice for all. We are confident that Angela is the right leader to move us forward.”

Schlingheyde brings 25 years of experience in the legal justice space advocating for access to services for people in historically marginalized communities, and particularly for those impacted by domestic and sexual violence.

Most recently, Schlingheyde served as the Director of Civil Legal and Court Advocacy Services at The Center for Family Justice, a nonprofit that helps those affected by domestic violence, sexual violence, and child abuse. There, in her efforts to address the significant justice gap in Connecticut, she spearheaded the Justice Legal Center, Connecticut’s first legal incubator program to assist attorneys in building sustainable law practices dedicated to representing low to moderate income clients. The Justice Legal Center became operational in 2017 and increased access to justice for CFJ clients of low to moderate income, many of whom would have otherwise been forced to navigate the justice system without legal advice or counsel.

“I am incredibly honored to have been selected as the next Executive Director of CBF,” Schlingheyde said. “Access to justice helps to preserve human dignity and is essential to the administration of our legal system. I am excited to work with the CBF team, as well as collaborate with our legal service providers, legislators, judiciary and other government officials, the James W. Cooper Fellows and the entire legal community to continue and enhance this critical work.”

In 2019, Schlingheyde facilitated the creation of the Pro Bono Legal Center at The Center for Family Justice, a program dedicated to ensuring victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence have access to competent and trauma-informed legal assistance, regardless of their access to financial resources.

Schlingheyde’s background involves frequent partnership with charitable foundations, regional coalitions on legislative advocacy, and C-suite industry leaders on strategic, operational, and financial planning and implementation.

Schlingheyde began her career as an Assistant State Attorney in Miami-Dade County, Florida, focusing on cases involving domestic violence, sexual violence, and child abuse. Schlingheyde earned a Juris Doctor from Hofstra University School of Law. She received her undergraduate degree from Boston College.

About the Connecticut Bar Foundation

To promote equal access to civil justice in Connecticut, the Connecticut Bar Foundation administers grant funding to support access to legal aid services for those who cannot afford private counsel, funds scholarships based on financial need for Connecticut students attending law schools in the state, and develops and oversees programs to enhance the understanding and improvement of the law and legal institutions. The Foundation administers three major grant programs to fund legal services including the Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts and the Interest on Trust Accounts (IOLTA/IOTA), the Judicial Branch Grants-in-Aid grant program, and the Court Fees Grants-in-Aid program. In addition, CBF administers the funding to support the Right to Counsel in Eviction Defense and the Temporary Restraining Order programs. CBF also houses the James W. Cooper Fellows, who sponsor projects and programs that enhance understanding of the role of law in society and promote the highest ideals of the legal system. Visit CBF's website to learn more.



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