

2016

Annual Report

The Connecticut Bar Foundation



2016 Connecticut Bar Foundation Board of Directors and Staff



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

We are pleased to present the 2016 Annual Report of the Connecticut Bar Foundation (CBF), a year highlighted by the accomplishments of the CBF James W. Cooper Fellows to promote a better understanding of the state's legal profession and judicial system through its programs and projects, and the passage of critically important state legislation backed by the CBF to help fund and support civil legal aid programs.

The Fellows produced several successful programs in 2016. Over 170 people attended the CBF James W. Cooper Fellows/Connecticut Public Interest Law Journal LGBTQ Youth Issues and the Law symposium at the UCONN School of Law. In addition, the Fellows held two well-attended Roundtables, one co-sponsored with the Connecticut Bar Association Diversity and Inclusion

Committee on immigration issues and another co-sponsored with the Quinnipiac University School of Law (QUSL) to explore the myth of the "happy lawyer".

An inaugural colloquium organized by the Fellows also was held at QUSL. The Pro Bono Colloquium brought 35 invited thought leaders together to discuss how to improve the delivery of pro bono legal help and to design an action plan for providers and other stakeholders.

The annual Quintin Johnstone Essay Contest continued to grow in 2015-2016, with 38 high schools participating and 98 students submitting essays. 146 Fellows served as volunteer judges.

The CBF contracted with the Connecticut Public Broadcasting Network to video tape 25 new interviews as part of the Fellow's History

of Connecticut Women in the Legal Profession project. By the end of 2016, 23 of the 25 interviews had been completed.

The CBF supported two key bills passed by the General Assembly during the 2016 legislative session. PA 16-26, An Act Concerning Funding of Legal Services for the Poor, is expected to generate from \$900,000 to \$1.2 million annually for legal aid to low income people. PA 16-19, An Act Creating a Task Force to Improve Access to Legal Counsel in Civil Matters, created a 30 member task force to examine and make recommendations on different mechanisms to increase legal representation in civil proceedings. The task force, which included 16 Fellows, issued a Final Report on December 15, 2016. Several of the task force's recommendations are expected to

be introduced in a legislative proposal during the 2017 regular legislative session.

We thank Joe D'Alesio and Fred Ury for their respective service on the board and welcome new board members Patricia Kaplan and Franklin Perry. We recognize with great appreciation Quinnipiac University School of Law, the UCONN School of Law, Yale Law School, and the Connecticut Bar Association for their continuing support of the CBF and its mission. We wish to thank the officers, Board of Directors, and the Fellows for their generous financial support and the time they devote to advancing the mission of the CBF. Last but not never least, we thank the CBF staff for their commitment, dedication and work on behalf of the CBF: Liz Drummond, Anne Goico, Kati Carling, Gina Casella and Megan Grant.

The Connecticut Bar Foundation, 31 Pratt Street, Hartford, CT 06103
860-722-2494 • Fax 860-722-2497 • Email ctbf@cbf-1.org • www.ctbarfdn.org

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2016 Grants

Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts/Interest on Trust Accounts (IOLTA/IOTA) Court Fees Grants-in-Aid (CFGIA), Judicial Branch Grants-in-Aid (JBGIA)

Legal Services Providers	IOLTA/IOTA	CFGIA	JBGIA	GRANTS PAID
Center for Children's Advocacy provides legal representation and systemic advocacy for poor children statewide.	\$ 57,510	\$ 312,780	\$ 40,349	\$ 410,639
Children's Law Center represents poor children statewide.	\$ 27,909	\$ 151,779	\$ 19,726	\$ 199,414
Connecticut Fair Housing Center represents those who have been victims of housing discrimination.	\$ 16,915	\$ 91,996	\$ 14,017	\$ 122,928
Connecticut Legal Rights Project represents low-income people in state psychiatric hospitals and after discharge.	\$ 82,712	\$ 449,840	\$ 56,528	\$ 589,080
Connecticut Legal Services provides general legal assistance in all areas of the state except Hartford and New Haven Counties.	\$ 1,145,069	\$ 6,227,631	\$ 775,017	\$ 8,147,717
Connecticut Veterans Legal Center provides legal assistance to veterans.	\$ 3,721	\$ 20,242	\$ 2,531	\$ 26,494
Greater Hartford Legal Aid provides general legal assistance in greater Hartford.	\$ 456,483	\$ 2,482,643	\$ 308,961	\$ 3,248,087
Lawyers for Children America provides representation to poor children in Bridgeport, Hartford, Middletown, New Haven, Rockville, Torrington, and Waterbury Juvenile Courts.	\$ 6,766	\$ 36,801	\$ 6,011	\$ 49,578
New Haven Legal Assistance provides general legal assistance in New Haven County.	\$ 358,119	\$ 1,947,675	\$ 242,384	\$ 2,548,178
Statewide Legal Services of Connecticut 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.	\$ 36,754	\$ 199,896	\$ 24,875	\$ 261,525
Technology Grant for CTLawHelp Website	\$ 107,933			\$ 107,933
Legal Services Funding Total	\$ 2,299,891	\$11,921,283	\$ 1,490,399	\$ 15,711,573

Law School Scholarships

Quinnipiac University School of Law, UCONN School of Law, and Yale Law School each received \$10,000 from the Connecticut Bar Foundation's IOLTA Law School Scholarship Program to provide scholarships to Connecticut law students demonstrating financial need.



The Children's Law Center (CLC) is sincerely grateful to the Connecticut Bar Foundation which has been our biggest source of funding for many years. The CBF makes it possible for CLC to represent hundreds of vulnerable children across the state every year. In addition, their supportive staff, board and outstanding symposia presented by the CBF Fellows help make the programs across Connecticut the best they can be.

Justine Rakich-Kelly, Executive Director,
The Children's Law Center of Connecticut

2016 Cy Prés Awards

The Foundation is pleased to report it was the recipient of two separate cy prés awards in 2016 totaling \$98,421. The awards directly benefited the civil legal aid organizations which receive grants from the Foundation.