A New Look, The Same Professional Services

You will notice a new logo on this month’s newsletter. As we hit the halfway point of our 5-year strategic plan and move towards an updated website to be launched before the end of the year, we knew it was time to have a logo which represented the “brand” we want people to imagine when they hear the name “Legal Aid Society”. The logo represents our staff working with others – our clients and other professionals with whom we work – to provide access to justice.

You will notice that our new logo has the tagline “Working Together. Doing Justice. Restoring Hope.” We know we cannot do our work without our partners – attorneys, social service organizations, governments, donors – and we believe we all have the desire to restore hope to those who often cannot find justice or hope by themselves.

Our core values:

- Respect – We value people
- Compassion – We care
- Fairness – We stand for justice
- Excellence – We provide the highest quality service
Our promises to our constituents:

- **Donor Promise** - We will value your commitment to Legal Aid Society by dedicating ourselves to providing the highest quality of service to our clients in the pursuit of justice.
- **Client Promise** – We will be respectful and compassionate towards you while providing the highest quality of legal services.
- **Legal Community Promise** – We will best utilize our resources to provide civil legal representation, advocacy and education for the members of our community to protect their livelihoods, their health, and their families.

We hope you like the new logo and will enjoy and use the updated website once it's launched. If you’d like to comment on the logo, our core values and/or our constituent promises, feel free to email us at feedback@las.org.

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**Julie Watson Lampley Named 2017 Campaign Chair**

We are pleased to announce that Julie Watson Lampley of Butler Snow LLP will serve as our 2017 Campaign Chair.

Julie is an attorney and assistant practice group leader for the health care regulatory and transactions group at Butler Snow in Nashville. She also serves on Butler Snow’s Executive Committee. Her practice is focused on health care law, commercial contracting, and mergers and acquisitions. She represents pharmaceutical companies, medical device companies and institutional health care providers, both nationally and internationally. Julie has been included in the “Best Lawyers in America” list for health care law, and also named “Best of the Bar” by the *Nashville Business Journal*.

She graduated first in her class at the University of Tennessee College of Law where she was a member of the Order of the Coif. She received her B.M.Ed. with honors from the University of Southern Mississippi.

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**Waller Honored for its Work with our CLA Program**

Congratulations to the Nashville law firm **Waller** for being chosen as Outstanding Business of the Year by the Nashville Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Waller was honored for its work with our Civil Legal Aid (CLA) program, a partnership between Legal Aid Society and Metro Nashville's
Office of Family Safety, as well as its “Shine the Light Series”. The award was presented at the "Meet Us at the Bridge" event on Oct. 1, and Ruth Freeland (pictured below), Business Development Liaison for Waller, accepted the award on its behalf.

Through the CLA program, survivors of domestic violence can submit a petition for an order of protection through the Jean Crow Advocacy Center (JCAC), a division of the Office of Family Safety. JCAC staff members then refer petitioners to Legal Aid Society, which pairs the petitioner with an attorney from Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, LLP or Legal Aid Society. Since its inception, the number of Nashville order of protection petitioners with an attorney has risen from 5 percent to 18 percent.

Waller attorneys must first go through a training program and a background check— and education is ongoing. This ensures that a program representative is not only well-equipped to handle domestic violence cases, but is also a good fit to represent survivors.

Picture courtesy of the NCADV

Two New Brochures

Thanks to Zac Oswald [Housing Attorney, Nashville], we have an updated version of “No lawyer? You can defend yourself in General Sessions Court.” Please note that this new version is only about what one can do if they are sued. It advises the person to get a lawyer if they want to sue someone.

It can be downloaded for free from our website here.

Thanks to Emma Sholl [Health & Benefits attorney, Nashville], we also have an updated version of “What things help decide if you can get SNAP Food Stamps and how much?” Income limits changed October 1. The new version can also be downloaded for free from our website here.
Staff Updates

Andrae Crismo, managing attorney of our Murfreesboro office, has joined the Board of Directors of Doors of Hope. Doors of Hope, Inc. is a mentoring and training program, founded by Maridel Williams, for men and women who are nearing release from the Rutherford County Correctional facility.

Valerie Hansen, HR Administrator, has been elected Vice President of the church council for Grace Lutheran Church in Oak Ridge.

Dean Hinton has joined our Gallatin office as a new staff attorney. Dean graduated from the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law. Since, 2010, Dean has been in private practice handling a vast array of legal issues for clients across Middle Tennessee in both local and federal courts. Additionally, he has been a contract paralegal for the
United States Attorney’s Office for the Middle District of Tennessee Financial Litigation Unit. Dean is a former investigative journalist. Of great significance, Dean served in the United States Air Force.

Gary Housepian, Executive Director, has been named one of the Nashville Business Journal’s Most Admired CEOs. This is the fifth-annual Most Admired CEO and Their Companies awards event. This award recognizes the leaders who inspire those around them, hold their employees, products and services in the highest regard, run their companies with integrity and are shining examples of how all companies should be run and managed. Gary has been our executive director since 2007.

Make a Gift in Thanksgiving of Someone

It’s that time of year when we are thankful for the many blessings in our lives. Is there someone special you want to thank but you’re not sure how? You can make a gift to Legal Aid Society in their honor or memory and we will notify them of your generosity.

As of October 26, we have raised $702,773 towards our $827,000 goal for the 2016 campaign. This leaves a funding gap of $124,227 to reach our goal. Your gift in someone’s honor or memory will help provide unrestricted support for our civil legal advocacy, representation and community education.

To make a tax-deductible donation to Legal Aid Society, you can go online to www.las.org or send a check payable to Legal Aid Society to 300 Deaderick Street, Nashville, TN 37201. If you need additional information, please contact Cindy Durham, director of development, at 615-780-7125 or cdurham@las.org.

Upcoming Clinics

We are pleased to host many clinics across Middle Tennessee and the Cumberland Plateau. These clinics are staffed by both Legal Aid Society and pro bono attorneys. If you would like to volunteer at one of the clinics, please contact Jarod Word at jword@las.org (or 615-780-7131) or call your local Legal Aid Society office.

Please note that many of our clinics are cancelled during the holidays. Check the list if you’re not sure. You can see the list of upcoming clinics, hosted by Legal Aid Society and offered by partners, here.
Shop with Amazon or Kroger? Support Legal Aid Society!

Looking for an easy way to support our work? When you shop at Amazon or Kroger, a portion of your purchases can go to support Legal Aid Society. To participate, sign up for Amazon Smile or Kroger Rewards (NPO # 98149), select Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands as your charity of choice and start shopping. A percentage of your eligible purchases will be donated to the organization at no extra cost to you!

Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands
1-800-238-1443 | 300 Deaderick Street | Nashville, TN 37201

Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands advocates for fairness and justice under the law. The non-profit law firm offers free civil legal representation and educational programs to help people in its region receive justice, protect their well-being and support opportunities to overcome poverty. We serve 48 Tennessee counties from offices in Clarksville, Columbia, Cookeville, Gallatin, Nashville, Murfreesboro, Oak Ridge and Tullahoma. We are funded by Legal Services Corporation, the Tennessee Bar Foundation, United Way in 16 counties, the State of Tennessee, foundations and donors. For more information about our services or how to donate and to download information about common legal issues, visit us online at www.las.org.