

LEGAL AID SOCIETY

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PRINT EDITION

THE LEGAL AIDER



2021 LEADERSHIP CABINET

Thank you to the 2021 Leadership Cabinet. By making a contribution of at least \$250 per attorney, the following firms make it possible for Legal Aid Society to provide free civil legal help to ordinary Kentuckians and balance the scales of justice.

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SUPPORT YOUR LEGAL AID SOCIETY: GIVE OR VOLUNTEER!

The pandemic has forced Legal Aid to be nimble. Our attorneys have mobilized to address rapidly changing rules, rising numbers of clients seeking services, and emerging needs. With over sixty-percent of our revenue tied to government and foundation funding restrictions, a gift to Legal Aid Society provides us with the flexibility we need to meet the new and urgent needs of our clients.

To make a gift to
Legal Aid Society, visit
YourLegalAid.org/donate
or become a volunteer at
YourLegalAid.org/volunteer.



LEGAL AID SOCIETY

THIS IS WHAT EQUAL JUSTICE LOOKS LIKE.



SPRING 2022 | YOURLEGALAID.ORG | 502.584.1254

On a cold day in late November 2021, Mr. Martinez was suddenly served with a set-out order. To his great surprise, he was being evicted and had no idea why. Mr. Martinez had been paying his half of the rent, but suddenly all of his possessions were being thrown to the street.

Mr. Martinez was aggrieved. He was dealing with the sudden passing of his brother, who he had been living with for some time, and now, he feared homelessness. Earlier that fall, Mr. Martinez's brother, Gilberto, had been diagnosed with cancer and lost his job. Gilberto had hidden all of this from his brother. He also hid the fact that he had stopped paying the rent and that they had received an eviction notice and a court-date. Mr. Martinez was in the dark until the day they knocked on his door to set him out.

Mr. Martinez frantically contacted Legal Aid Society. Attorney Gwendolyn Horton immediately took action. She was able to stop the set-out and negotiated with the landlord to stop the eviction. "You guys really helped me," said Mr. Martinez. "I was crying and trying so hard to keep things going. I was desperate, trying everything, and I did not know what to do. I was thinking of staying at a bus stop or camping outside."

When paralegal Ashkan Rezai contacted Mr. Martinez for this story, Mr. Martinez was crying relaying his fears for what could have been. Now that the nightmare is over, his tears are of relief, joy, and gratitude. "I want to give back," said Mr. Martinez. By sharing his story, Mr. Martinez hopes that others will do what they can to support Legal Aid and our clients so that no one faces eviction alone.

Mr. Martinez, we thank you for your courage.

GIVE TWO HOURS. CHANGE A LIFE FOREVER.

Legal Aid's Volunteer Eviction Defense Program is looking for volunteers! In just a few hours of your time, you can help people like Mr. Martinez stay in their homes. For more information on how you can help, email Rebekah Cotton at rcotton@yourlegalaid.org.

"You guys really helped me...I didn't know what to do. I was thinking of staying at a bus stop or camping outside."

- Mr. Martinez

A BLAST FROM THE PAST

In honor of our 100th anniversary, let's take a look back at the Legal Aid Society of springs past!

March 2, 1928 Legal Aid Society's Executive Committee proposed the creation of a pro bono program. This program still stands today and, in the last decade alone, 8,100 Kentuckians have received assistance from volunteer attorneys.

March 5, 1937 Legal Aid Society's offices reopened after the 1937 Flood temporarily closed our doors. In fact, a company of militia aiding in the flood relief were stationed at Legal Aid during the disaster. It was reported that "all stamps, all fountain pens, and a large quantity of stationery and envelopes were appropriated by someone, presumably the soldiers" during the flood.

March 25, 1962 Legal Aid Society celebrated 40 years since opening of our first store-front office space. In March 1962, it was reported that Legal Aid had handled 225,000 cases since 1922.



Photo of LAS General Counsel Emmet R. Field (left) and Board President, John K. Stiles (right) in 1962.

If you missed our 100th Anniversary Kick Off celebration, you can still watch Tom Owen pull back the historical curtain on our foundation by visiting YourLegalAid.org/Centennial.



LEGAL AID SOCIETY'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY BOURBON ON SALE MAY 9TH!

We are excited to announce the sale of a limited-edition Woodford Reserve Personal Selection bourbon in honor of our 100th Anniversary. This commemorative single barrel bourbon makes the perfect client gift. Of each bottle sold, \$50 will benefit Legal Aid Society's Root to Rise Campaign.

Learn more about our Root to Rise Campaign by visiting YourLegalAid.org/Centennial.

Legal Aid Society helps people GET TO WORK

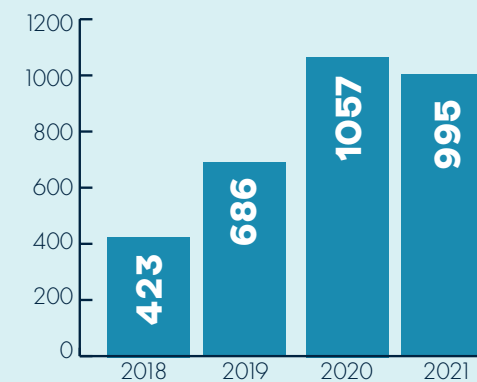
Legal Aid Society helps people get to work by removing barriers to gainful employment and career advancement.

Expungements can help business owners find more attractive candidates, allow for more employee advancement, help individuals gain admission into professional and trade organizations, and more!

Legal Aid Society partners with Goodwill Industries of Kentucky, Louisville Urban League, and Kentuckianaworks to hold regular expungement clinics.



How many expungements did Legal Aid Society help obtain annually?



The expungement work of the Legal Aid Society is vital to help those with non-violent convictions from decades earlier who may be unfairly limited in access to employment, housing and opportunities to volunteer. Expungement allows those individuals a clean slate and a chance to fully participate in the workforce, contribute to their local communities, and provide for their families. I believe that providing legal services at the Expungement Clinics organized by the Legal Aid Society is an easy and meaningful way for attorneys to fulfill their professional responsibility to provide pro bono services to those in need.

JOSEPH VENTURA
CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER, HUMANA, INC.

QUICK FACTS

1 in 3
adults have a criminal record

9 OF 10
employers use background checks to screen for criminal records and can disqualify those who have a record from employment

27%
of people who were formerly incarcerated do not have employment

SAVE THE DATE

Our in-person clinics are back!
Participants can register at GoodwillKY.org/Expungement.

FRIDAY, APRIL 29
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Part of Goodwill Second Chance Conference; KY International Convention Center

TUESDAY, JUNE 21
9 AM - 11 AM
Goodwill Industries; E. Broadway

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10
9 AM - 11 AM
Goodwill Industries; E. Broadway

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
9 AM to 12 PM
Part of National Expungement Week; Location TBD

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26
10 AM - 12 AM
Goodwill Industries; Elizabethtown Regional Office

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10
9 AM - 11 AM
Goodwill Industries; E. Broadway

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

With demand high, volunteer attorneys have never been more important. To learn how you can help or to volunteer at one of our in person clinics, contact Nick Maraman at NMaraman@YourLegalAid.org.