

# Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, Inc.

FIGHTING FOR FAIRNESS

PROMOTING JUSTICE

## 2017-2018 Campaign for Equal Justice

423 Fern Street - Suite 200 - West Palm Beach - FL - 33401 - 561-655-8944

LEGAL  
AID  
SOCIETY  
Palm Beach County



October 20, 2017

**"IF WE ARE TO KEEP DEMOCRACY, THERE MUST BE ONE  
COMMANDMENT: THOU SHALT NOT RATION JUSTICE"**

— Judge Learned Hand

### Executive Director

Robert A. Bertisch Esq.

### Administrator

Michael Spillane

### Director of Development

Harreen Bertisch

### Board of Trustees

David P. Ackerman, Esq.

Claire Arnold

F. Gregory Barnhart, Esq.

Bill Bone, Esq.

Patrick J. Casey, Esq.

Melinda P. Gamot, Esq.

Mariano Garcia, Esq.

David M. Gaspari, Esq.

Garry Glickman, Esq.

Carey Haughwout, Esq.

Thomas Kingcade, Esq.

Jane Kreuzler-Walsh, Esq.

Richard Lubin, Esq.

Rafael J. Roca, Esq.

Michael Salnick, Esq.

Victoria Vilchez, Esq.

### Board of Directors

#### President

Michelle R. Suskauer, Esq.

#### Immediate Past Pres.

Miriam Acosta-Castriz, Esq.

#### Vice-President

Lawrence P. Rochefort, Esq.

#### Second Vice-President

Robert H. Friedman, Esq.

#### Secretary

Scott C. Murray, Esq.

#### Treasurer

Jerald S. Beer, Esq.

#### Directors

Leslie Artsis Adams

Richard M. Benrubi, Esq.

Bridget A. Berry, Esq.

Robin Bresky, Esq.

Carla Tharp Brown

Sarah Cortvriend, Esq.

Cheryl K. Crowley

Vincent Cuomo

Jeffrey A. Devore, Esq.

Howard D. DuBosar, Esq.

Karis Engle, M.S.

Joseph G. Galardi, Esq.

Richard D. Greenfield

Jack P. Hill, Esq.

John Howe, Esq.

Denise Rappaport Isaacs, Esq.

Wilnar Julmiste, Esq.

W. Hampton Keen, Esq.

Nancy Lambrecht

Jason Lazarus, Esq.

Ellen S. Malasky, Esq.

J. Grier Pressly, III, Esq.

Devin S. Radkay, Esq.

Matthew Sackel, Esq.

Robert M.W. Shalhoub, Esq.

Grasford W. Smith, Esq.

Rebecca Mercier Vargas, Esq.

Gary Woodfield, Esq.

Dear Fellow Attorneys,

We hope you, your family and loved ones enjoyed a relaxing and healthy summer and successfully survived the effects of Hurricane Irma. At Legal Aid it is time for us to “kick off” Palm Beach County’s Annual Campaign for Equal Justice in order to ensure that our community’s most fragile and vulnerable residents are provided with those essential legal services to secure their most basic needs for safety, housing, healthcare and economic security. Due to the success of last year’s campaign we increased our revenue by \$20,000, enabling us to meet our goal to serve over 8,000 low income residents of our county.

To those new attorneys in our community as well as those who have not as yet participated in the campaign, it is our hope that you will join the over 3,000 attorneys in Palm Beach County who have made equal access to justice a priority by either accepting a pro bono referral and/or donating a minimum of \$350 to Legal Aid’s Pro Bono Project. In the 2016-2017 campaign over 45% of those individuals contributing funds to Legal Aid donated \$400 or more.

As most of you are aware the continuation of low interest rates on Lawyer’s Trust Accounts has significantly reduced the Florida Bar Foundation’s funding to legal aid organizations throughout the state. For the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County this has resulted in over a \$500,000 loss of revenue. Therefore your participation in this year’s campaign is crucial if we are to maintain our current level of services to the disadvantaged in our community. Palm Beach County is recognized throughout the state and nation as a premiere provider of pro bono services to the poor.

Please fill out the enclosed form TODAY to be assigned a pro bono case or make a tax deductible contribution of \$350, \$400, or more to ensure justice for all.

Most Sincerely,

Robert A. Bertisch, Esq.  
Executive Director

Michelle Suskauer, Esq.  
President, Board of Director

### PLEASE REPORT THIS ON YOUR 2018 BAR DUES STATEMENT

*\*\*Remember, by responding today you will not receive any more*

*Campaign for Equal Justice letters!*

THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, INC., IS A 501(c)(3) NOT FOR PROFIT, TAX EXEMPT ORGANIZATION. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY (CHI87) MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES AT WWW.800HELPFLA.COM OR BY CALLING TOLL-FREE 1-800-435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE OF FLORIDA. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER SERVICES REGISTRATION #SC-00187. LEGAL AID SOCIETY RECEIVES 100% OF EACH CONTRIBUTION WITH 0% GIVEN TO A PROFESSIONAL SOLICITOR.