



Foundation Brief

SUMMER 2008

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE SOUTH CAROLINA BAR FOUNDATION

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\$5.2 Million Invested to Make a Difference

IOLTA and SC Bar opt out dollars awarded for July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009

Administration of Justice:

Children's Law Center – \$133,627

The Center will continue traditional use of Foundation dollars to provide training, information, technical assistance and resource materials to volunteer Guardians *ad Litem*, appointed attorneys and public defenders. In addition, the Center will leverage support with a federal grant to conduct a comprehensive assessment regarding access to and effectiveness of representation in juvenile justice cases.

Community Mediation Center – \$30,000

CMC will use Foundation support to focus on truancy and divorce mediation services. To enhance these programs, CMC will concentrate on recruiting and training volunteer mediators.

Law in Action – \$30,000

LIA relieves the burden of overcrowding at the Greenville County Detention Center. Through the Jail Project, inmates detained for minor charges are assisted with obtaining pretrial release, addressing their bond situation and improving communication with the courts. Via a pilot Court Investigator Project, college students with an interest in criminal justice will provide support to court-appointed attorneys.

The National Judicial College – \$20,560

The National Judicial College uses Foundation funds to educate SC judges so that they may increase their skills to better serve their communities. Participating judges are selected by SC Court Administration.

Richland County CASA – \$25,620

CASA advocates for abused and neglected children in Richland County Family Court. In this cycle, CASA will host an inaugural nationwide volunteer training session on minority and male recruitment. In addition, CASA will send its staff to the 2009 National CASA conference in Colorado.

Grants continued on page 2

Foundation Grant Helps Protect the Public

A grant administered by the SC Bar Foundation led to the conviction of Sakima Bey on June 11, 2008. Bey was charged with the felony crime of the Unauthorized Practice of Law following a two-day trial in Richland County Circuit Court. The Defendant was charged with violation of SC Code Ann. § 40-5-310 following a series of events in which he interjected himself into Circuit Court Proceedings involving the entities known as the Three Hebrew Boys and Capital Consortium Group. Bey identified himself as an attorney for Capital Consortium Group to a process server and accepted service on their behalf, filed various motions with the Circuit Court seeking "removal" of the action from State court and appeared in Circuit Court identifying himself as an attorney.

Foundation continued on page 3

Grants continued from page 1

SC Access to Justice Commission – \$102,400

Created to expand access to civil legal representation for low income South Carolinians, the Commission will conclude its regional public hearings, draft a report regarding findings and determine appropriate courses of action based on those results.

SC Bar Ask-A-Lawyer & Clinics Program – \$117,800

Ask-A-Lawyer will continue to offer clinics throughout the state, provide Law School for Non-Lawyers courses, expand the Ombudsman's work and conduct periodic statewide telephone banks. The Program intends to increase the number of lawyers who participate in the clinical speaker pool as well as the phone bank sessions.

SC Center for Fathers & Families:

Alternatives to Incarceration – \$112,007

The Foundation makes it possible for non-violent, non-custodial fathers to obtain livable wage jobs so that they successfully can make child support payments. Job placement services are provided in tandem with legal assistance, money management training and fatherhood skill development. This year, funding supports full-time job recruiters in three counties, sustains the Marlboro ATI program and expands ATI into Horry County.

Upstate Community Mediation Center – \$90,000

UCMC has been meeting mandatory mediation needs in Greenville County family and circuit courts since 1999. With Foundation support, the Center will not only continue existing services, but also will offer mediation through the SC Probate Pilot Mediation Program.

Civil Legal Aid

Center for Heirs' Property Preservation – \$154,000

The Center delivers comprehensive legal services to low income persons in need of assistance with heirs' property issues; enhances the capacity of attorneys, legal professionals and students to handle property matters; and also increases the awareness and resolution of heirs' property issues in the Lowcountry.

Citizens Opposed to Domestic Abuse (CODA) – \$42,500

CODA aids victims of domestic abuse in Beaufort, Jasper, Colleton and Hampton counties. The Foundation supports an attorney and a court advocate who not only assist victims free of charge, but also work to educate court personnel and law enforcement on the dynamics and effects of domestic violence.

Crisis Ministries Homeless Justice Project – \$85,000

The Project will combine the provision of civil legal services and social services to more than 200 homeless men, women and families. Funding supports travel to assist the homeless in rural areas, work with other homeless providers and workshops for the community and legal professionals.

LowCountry Legal Aid – \$97,175

LCLA is a freestanding legal clinic that recruits retired attorneys under Rule 415. Foundation dollars promote provision of free legal services to the client community as well as a Law School for Non-Lawyers session, held in conjunction with the SC Bar Pro Bono Program.

SC Appleseed Legal Justice Center – \$281,052

Dedicated to advocacy for low income people through systemic change, Appleseed expands upon its traditional training role with legal services and the private Bar. This year, Appleseed will enhance the legal services "task force" system so that it is inclusive of all providers of direct legal services. In addition, Appleseed will help Foundation grantees work collaboratively in production of client materials.

SC Bar Pro Bono Program – \$138,000

Pro Bono uses Foundation support to recruit volunteer attorneys to accept pro bono cases. The Program will offer an extended scope of volunteer opportunities to lawyers with the intent that once an attorney volunteers in a specialized project, he or she will be inspired to return and take on a direct representation case.

SC Legal Services – \$2,930,504

Foundation funding permits the SCLS staff of more than 120 to protect the legal rights of low income South Carolinians. This year, SCLS attorneys will focus on limited substantive areas, place emphasis on services provided in the Pee Dee, increase mentoring/co-counseling for new attorneys and review county alignments as well as staffing patterns. SCLS also will create a litigation team for each substantive area, upgrade its telephone system to concentrate the majority of intakes in one office and begin to handle routine advice cases in one location.

Sistercare – \$41,977

Sistercare offers legal representation at no cost to Midlands' battered indigent women and their children. Foundation funding covers a portion of the personnel costs for the advocacy team and pays for litigation expenses and malpractice insurance.

Law Related Education

Foundation of the American Board of Trial Advocates – \$10,000

Support from the IOLTA program provides assistance for the ABOTA Foundation's Justice for the People Program. This Program is a free, Internet-based curriculum that aims to teach the history, process and value of trial by jury to middle school students.

Furman University Mock Trial Program – \$52,500

Furman has hosted the South Atlantic Regional Mock Trial Tournament since 1998. With recent participation rate increases, the tournament quickly has become the largest in the nation. This year, Foundation dollars will be used to host an opening round of the National Mock Trial Tournament.

Grants continued on page 3

TRIBUTE GIFTS

Honor a colleague ... remember a friend

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The Hon. J. Ernest Kinard Jr.

Law clerks and staff for
20 years on the bench

Gifts reflected through June 19, 2008

Grants continued from page 2

Kershaw County Youth Court – \$15,000

Kershaw County Youth Court is a community-based education and prevention program that exposes youth to elements of restorative justice and diverts juveniles from family court. This one-time grant will help the program in its goal to reduce recidivism.

Petigru Public Interest Law Society (PILS) – \$20,000

Foundation dollars place law students in public interest clerkships during the summer. A small stipend allows the students to work in organizations that otherwise might not have the ability to pay for a clerk. Students participate in invaluable experiences that can have a great impact on their future career choices.

SC Bar Law Related Education Division – \$609,800

The LRE Division continues to promote the goals of civic education and, at the same time, enhance relationships between the state's attorneys and students. Through varied programming including Mock Trial, We the People, LawForKids.org and Youth Court, the Division teaches students about the importance of citizenship and civic participation. In addition, the Division includes attorneys and judges in various opportunities.

USC Pro Bono Program – \$50,216

The Program fosters the ethic of service within the law student community through legal and non-legal volunteer opportunities. This year, the Program will also participate in the school's Supreme Court Lecture Series and Career Services week. During each of the initiatives, focus will be placed on public interest law.

YMCA Youth in Government – \$25,000

The Program provides civic education and leadership development programs to middle and high school students in SC. Foundation dollars provide general support as well as scholarship assistance to Title One schools. In addition, funds will support up to three YMCA trial teams' participation in the SC Bar LRE Division's Mock Trial program.

Foundation continued from page 1

During trial, the Jury heard details of Bey's actions from agents of the SC Law Enforcement Division as well as FBI investigators who encountered Bey numerous times as they investigated the Three Hebrew Boys. Bob Wells, Executive Director of the SC Bar, and Brad Cunningham, Chairman of the Bar's UPL Committee, testified regarding the stringent licensing process for SC lawyers and to the fact that Bey was not a licensed attorney. Mr. Wells stressed the Bar's goal to protect the public from the disastrous consequences of legal advice given by non-lawyers.

The Honorable Judge James E. Lockemy presided. At sentencing, Judge Lockemy stressed the need to protect the public. He gave Bey a two-year

sentence, suspended to five months' incarceration, with two years of probation, during which any future violations could result in his having to serve the remainder of his sentence.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant Attorney General Allen Myrick. Attorney General Henry McMaster stated, "I am pleased with the work the Office has done this week and our efforts so far to protect the public from being taken advantage of by those engaged in the unauthorized practice of law."

Since its formation, this new section of the Attorney General's Office successfully has resolved 13 UPL cases and has approximately 35 investigations ongoing. More trials are scheduled this summer.

YOUR SUPPORT. THE PROFESSION'S GAIN.

Each gift adds to the next, making our work possible.

If you would like to be more specific in your giving, you can designate your gift to one of several funds such as the Brewer Professionalism Fund (set up by Nexsen Pruet in memory of Wilburn Brewer), the Children's Fund or the Disabled Lawyers Fund. You can make your contribution in memory or honor of a colleague through a tribute gifts designation.

Are you a member of the Young Lawyers Division? If so, do not miss the opportunity to be a part of the newest giving category - the Young Lawyer Legacy.

To make your contribution, please use the form below or visit us at www.scbarfoundation.org.

WE MADE IT!

The SC Bar Foundation thanks these donors who helped us reach another milestone! We attracted another 100 new* donors at \$100 or more this year. Supporting your Foundation allows us to enhance the legal profession through our grantees and other programs.

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*A "new" donor is defined as someone who has never given to the Foundation or who has not given a gift of \$100 or more in the past fiscal year.

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SUMMER 2008

THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT, OUR WORK IS MADE POSSIBLE.

We thank our Justice Legacy benefactors, Liberty Legacy donors and Society of Justice supporters. Your generous contributions allow us to enhance the legal profession through initiatives that fall outside of the IOLTA grants program.



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These donors' gifts to permanent Foundation funds, over the course of their lifetime, meet or exceed \$10,000.

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These donors' gifts total \$1,000 to permanent Foundation funds over a one-year time period. Gifts generally are recognized for one calendar year after they are paid in full. The following list was updated June 2008.

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BRIEFS

New Officers and Directors



The Foundation is pleased to announce **Frank B.B. Knowlton** as President. A partner at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, LLP in Columbia, Frank practices in the areas of technology law and litigation, business litigation, product liability, bankruptcy and commercial litigation. Frank will continue to lead the Foundation in its strategic planning to encompass the areas of financial resources, grants, relationships, marketing and internal needs.



George M. Hearn Jr. was named President-Elect. A partner with Hearn Brittain and Martin, PA in Conway, George's areas of practice include domestic relations, personal injury, product liability and appellate law. He previously served as the Foundation's Secretary/Treasurer and is

leading efforts to develop a *cy pres* program that will increase revenues available for legal-related programs.



Toyya Brawley Gray was elected Secretary/Treasurer. A sole practitioner, Toyya's practice emphasizes serious personal injury, workers' compensation, criminal defense, and appeals, both civil and criminal. Toyya has served as the chair of the grants committee and, in her new position, will take the helm in working with the Foundation's investment committee.



Joining the Board this year is **Susan S. Rosen** with Rosen Law Firm, LLC in Charleston. Susan is an experienced trial attorney who has represented both plaintiffs and defendants. Her practice emphasizes medical malpractice and personal injury litigation.



Also serving is **Fred W. Suggs Jr.** with Ogletree Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart, PC in Greenville. Fred is a certified specialist in labor and employment law. He joins the Foundation through his role as President-Elect of the SC Bar.

Departing Directors



Lanny Lambert was a part of the Foundation Board through his service as President-Elect and President of the Bar Board of Governors. Lanny assisted the Foundation with IOLTA rate negotiations and was a strong supporter of the Gala and other Foundation events. His involvement enhanced the relationship between the Bar and the Foundation.



Cal Watson served on the Board since 2000, most recently as Immediate Past President, and was a visionary leader. Cal did a little bit of everything - fundraising, helping conceptualize the Gala, the banker appreciation event and the Past Presidents' luncheon. He was heavily involved with IOLTA negotiations and also served as one of the Foundation's appointees to the Access to Justice Commission.

The Foundation honors and thanks both Lanny and Cal for their dedication to the Foundation.

South Carolina
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