

CONNECTICUT JUDICIAL BRANCH ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION JUSTICE FAIR

SEPTEMBER 16, 2015

Partnering Together to Provide
Equal Access to Justice



Identify the Issues • Define the Need • Close the Gap

Membership of Connecticut Judicial Branch Access to Justice Commission

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/Committees/access/>

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| Atty. Steven D. Eppler-Epstein | Atty. Herman Woodard, Jr. |

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| Ms. Krista Hess, Chair | Ms. Curleen Elliott |
| Ms. Dawn La Valle, Chair | Atty. Cheryl Halford |
| Atty. Jamey Bell | Atty. Jocelyn Kennedy |
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State of Connecticut
Judicial Branch
Access to Justice Commission

The Honorable Elliot N. Solomon, Co-Chair
Deputy Chief Court Administrator

The Honorable Maria A. Kahn, Co-Chair
Superior Court Judge

September 16, 2015

Good morning, and welcome,

As Co-Chairs of the Connecticut Judicial Branch's Access to Justice Commission, and on behalf of the Commission members, we would like to thank you for your participation in today's inaugural Justice Fair.

The Judicial Branch annually records more than 7 million in and out visits to its facilities, including courthouses, law libraries, support enforcement offices, victim's services, and probation offices. Increasingly, people with civil cases, such as foreclosures, debt collections, child support actions, divorce and other family matters are forced to try to navigate the system without the assistance of legal counsel. As our legal aid stakeholders report, only about 1 in 8 Connecticut residents who qualify to receive free legal assistance are actually served, as there are far more qualified people than there are legal aid attorneys.

Recognizing the potential to reach out to our communities, in 2014, the Access to Justice Commission established four workgroups to research and develop ideas to help close the justice gap, including the Workgroup on Libraries & Access to Justice. Ms. Dawn La Valle, Director of the Division of Library Development at the Connecticut State Library, graciously accepted our invitation to serve as a Co-Chair of the Workgroup, which began meeting in February 2014. Along with Co-Chairs Ms. Krista Hess, a Court Operations Program Manager, and Attorney Jeff Dowd, a Judicial Branch Law Librarian, the Workgroup includes representatives from legal aid providers, community colleges, the University of Connecticut, and law librarians.

Today's event is the culmination of the collaboration between the Commission and Workgroup members and the work of the Co-Chairs, including Ms. La Valle, who surveyed dozens of public librarians about the types of legal information requests that they receive from patrons. We hope that today's program will be the first of many collaborative efforts that will help to educate the public, as we work together under the broad umbrella of justice access.

Sincerely,

Judge Elliot N. Solomon

Judge Maria A. Kahn

MISSION / VISION STATEMENT – WHY A JUSTICE FAIR?

As part of the charge of the Access to Justice Commission, the Workgroup on Libraries & Access to Justice was tasked with coordinating a “Justice Fair” focusing on access to justice issues that Connecticut’s self-represented population face. In furtherance of this goal, the Workgroup is focusing on increasing access to justice and meaningful access to our courts through education and outreach to our public and law library community by increasing resources and fostering collaborative relationships.

Many people are aware that attorneys are appointed, at state expense, to defendants in criminal cases, thanks to a 1963 U.S. Supreme Court case, *Gideon v. Wainwright*. However, there is no law that requires attorney appointments to most people with civil court cases, such as divorce, foreclosure, wage theft, and so on. Connecticut’s courthouses are filled with people who simply do not have the means to hire an attorney, and those who qualify for free legal aid but are not being served because there are not enough legal aid attorneys.

The Judicial Branch, under Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers, has, over the last eight years, made tremendous advances in trying to help level the legal playing field. Thanks to the Branch’s Strategic Plan, which was released by the Chief Justice in 2008, hundreds of changes have been made that are aimed at increasing access to justice for all people. For example, thousands of people have been helped at Volunteer Attorney Programs held in courthouses across the state every week. The Branch partnered with state and local bar associations to establish these very important programs that give people with family, foreclosure, or small claims cases access to free legal advice.

Other innovations implemented under the Chief Justice include the adoption of plain language to make forms and guides easier for people to understand; the creation of videos and slidecasts that instruct self-represented parties on court proceedings, including the filing of necessary documents; and expanded evening hours for our jury call center, which handles about 10,000 calls per month, and for our child support enforcement unit. However, we know that more can be done. And that is why the Judicial Branch is eager to work with the public library community to help bring information and resources to work to increase access to justice for all people.

There are 165 principal public libraries across Connecticut, and they often find themselves on the front lines when self-represented parties are seeking information about the law and about Connecticut courts. It is our goal and the goal of the Access to Justice Commission not only to educate public librarians about the courts and the many services and resources available to the libraries and their patrons, but also to form a lasting and sustainable partnership between the public libraries and the Connecticut Judicial Branch, so that true access to justice can be realized for all of Connecticut’s citizens.

The Justice Fair joins together Connecticut’s public libraries, academic, and courthouse law libraries, Court Service Centers, the legal aid community, and appropriate Judicial Branch representatives to engage in a dialogue about how we can *all* work together to help narrow the justice gap.





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University of Connecticut School of Law, Thomas J. Meskill Law Library



State of Connecticut Judicial Branch
Access to Justice Commission
Workgroup on Libraries & Access to Justice

AGENDA

September 16, 2015
8:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

University of Connecticut School of Law
Reading Room, William F. Starr Hall
55 Elizabeth Street
Hartford, CT 06105

8:15a.m –
8:45a.m.

Registration/Breakfast/Resource Booths

8:45a.m –
9:10a.m.

Welcome & Introductions – Hon. William H. Bright, Jr.
Opening Remarks – Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers
Award Presentation to Hon. Raymond R. Norko – Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers

9:15a.m –
9:55a.m.

Panel Discussion – *Gaps in Access to Justice*

Moderator:

Atty. Joseph D. D'Alesio, Executive Director, Court Operations, Judicial Branch

Panelists:

Atty. Steven D. Eppler-Epstein, Executive Director, Connecticut Legal Services (CLS)

Atty. Tais C. Ericson, Director, Court Operations, Judicial Branch
Elizabeth Joseph, Coordinator of Information & Adult Services, Ferguson Library, Stamford

Dawn La Valle, Director of Library Development, Connecticut State Library

Atty. Valerie Wood, LawyerCorps Connecticut Fellow, CLS

10:00a.m –
10:40a.m.

Panel Discussion – *Bridging the Justice Gap: A Look at Where We Are Today*

Moderator:

Atty. Patricia Kaplan, former Executive Director of New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Retired

Panelists:

J. Drusilla Carter, Library Director, Willimantic Public Library

Atty. Jeffrey J. Dowd, Supervising Law Librarian, Judicial Branch

Krista Hess, Program Manager, Court Service Centers, Judicial Branch

Atty. Jocelyn Kennedy, Director for Library Services, University of Connecticut School of Law

Atty. Susan Garcia Nofi, Executive Director, New Haven Legal Assistance Association

10:40a.m –
10:50a.m.

Break

10:55a.m –
11:40a.m.

Panel Discussion – *Building the Future: Going Forward*

Moderator:

Hon. Maria Araujo Kahn, Co-Chair, Access to Justice Commission

Panelists:

Hon. Elliot N. Solomon, Co-Chair, Access to Justice Commission

Atty. Jamey Bell, Executive Director, Greater Hartford Legal Aid

Prof. Timothy Everett, Clinical Professor of Law & Pro Bono Coordinator, University of Connecticut School of Law

Atty. Emily Graner Sexton, Chair, Connecticut Bar Association Young Lawyers Section (YLS)

Dawn La Valle, Director of Library Development, Connecticut State Library

11:40a.m.

Wrap-Up – Hon. William H. Bright, Jr.

11:45a.m.

Closing Remarks – Dean Timothy Fisher, Dean & Professor of Law, University of Connecticut School of Law

12:00p.m.

Tour of Thomas J. Meskill Law Library (Optional)

The Honorable Raymond R. Norko

Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers and the Connecticut Judicial Branch today honor Judge Raymond R. Norko for his contributions to furthering meaningful access to justice for all people throughout his distinguished 45-year legal career.

Judge Norko is a graduate of both the University of Connecticut and the University of Toledo School of Law, and is a United States Air Force veteran.

In 1970, Judge Norko was selected as a Reginald Heber Smith Community Lawyer Fellow, a program that placed talented young attorneys with burgeoning legal aid providers across the country. Judge Norko, a Connecticut native, was hired to practice with the Tolland-Windham Legal Assistance Project in Windham County. His talent and passion for justice led Judge Norko to a long career in the legal aid community, fighting for civil justice for the state's poorest residents.

In 1975, Judge Norko was named Director of the Legal Aid Society of Hartford County, where, for a decade, he led a team of passionate lawyers advocating for impoverished clients with housing and employment and wage

In 1985, Governor Judge Norko to the Bench, confirmed by the state

Judge Norko's early primarily spent in assigned to Family court. experiences on the his innate sense of cultivated by his days as a to an interest in the criminal justice.

On Nov. 10, 1998 Presiding Judge as opened its doors on 80

Capitol city. The first of its kind in Connecticut, Community Court serves residents of Hartford, West Hartford, Avon, Farmington, Canton, and Bloomfield, who are charged with certain "quality-of-life" crimes that negatively impact neighborhoods. These minor-level, non-violent misdemeanors and infractions, such as loud noise, loitering, and public drinking, are often referred to as a community's broken windows: Allowed to fester, they disrupt communities and denigrate the quality of life for residents. The Community Court approach to justice includes addressing the needs of defendants, such as drug or alcohol addiction or mental health issues, with community service as punishment. To date, Community Court has handled nearly 130,000 cases, and its service crews have performed more than 501,000 hours of community service throughout Hartford, with a value of more than \$3.7 million.

Judge Norko has been a tireless champion of the Community Court approach, and its success has earned it national recognition from the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance, and the Center for Court Innovation. In 2008 and again, earlier this year, Community Court was selected to serve as a Mentor Court for other jurisdictions contemplating the restorative justice approach.

Given his longtime approach to improving access to justice for all people, Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers selected Judge Norko to Chair the Access to Justice Commission when she established it in late 2010. He led the Commission through January 2013, when he stepped down after becoming a Judge Trial Referee in September 2012. Under Judge Norko's guidance, the Commission's expanded partnerships with legal aid providers, and other stakeholders sowed the seeds for today's event and for the Commission's collaboration with public libraries, community college libraries, university law libraries, bar associations, and legal aid providers.

Chief Justice Rogers, Chief Court Administrator Judge Patrick L. Carroll III, and the Commission's Co-Chairs, Judge Elliot N. Solomon and Judge Maria A. Kahn, extend their deepest appreciation to Judge Norko for his compassionate approach to justice, and his exemplary leadership as the first Chair of the Commission.



cases, among others.

William O'Neill nominated and he was unanimously legislature.

days on the Bench were Criminal court, before being Judge Norko's early Criminal side, combined with fairness and understanding legal aid champion, led him restorative justice approach to

Judge Norko was the Hartford Community Court Washington Street in the

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Justice Fair Participants



Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers

Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers is a Connecticut native. After graduating from Stanford University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1979, she earned a Juris Doctor from Boston University School of Law in 1983.

Chief Justice Rogers spent her career as an attorney at the law firm of Cummings & Lockwood, where she specialized in commercial and employment litigation. In 1991, she was elected as a partner of the firm. Her various assignments included overseeing the pro bono program and acting as the partner-in-charge for hiring associates.

In January of 1998, former Governor John Rowland nominated Chief Justice Rogers for the Superior Court. Her assignments as a Superior Court Judge included serving as the presiding judge for juvenile matters in Bridgeport and being assigned to the regional Child Protection Session in Middletown. Between 2001 and 2005, she was assigned to the Complex Litigation Docket in Stamford, and from 2005 to 2006 she served as the presiding judge for civil matters in the Stamford-Norwalk Judicial District.

In February of 2006, Chief Justice Rogers was nominated by Governor M. Jodi Rell for the Appellate Court, and on March 15, 2006, Chief Justice Rogers was sworn in as an Appellate Court judge. In February of 2007, Governor M. Jodi Rell nominated her to be Chief Justice of the Connecticut Supreme Court. Former Chief Justice Ellen Ash Peters, Connecticut's first female Chief Justice, swore in Chief Justice Rogers on April 25, 2007.

Chief Justice Rogers currently serves on the State Justice Institute's Board of Directors. She was appointed to this position in December of 2010 by President Barack Obama, with the advice and consent of the Senate. In October of 2012, Chief Justice Rogers was appointed a member of the Committee on Federal-State Jurisdiction of the Judicial Conference of the United States. She was appointed by Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. of the United States Supreme Court, and will serve a three year term. She is currently a

member of the National Center for State Courts Expanding Court Access to Justice Project Advisory Committee, the Conference of Chief Justices Civil Justice Initiative Committee, and the Connecticut Bar Foundation Fellows Nominating Committee, an ex officio member of the Commission on Official Legal Publications, an ex officio member of the American Law Institute, and an ex-officio Director of the Connecticut Bar Foundation. Chief Justice Rogers previously served as a member of the Board of Directors for the Conference of Chief Justices.

In May of 2010, Chief Justice Rogers received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the Quinnipiac University School of Law, and in December of 2011, Chief Justice Rogers received an honorary degree from the University of Hartford. Additionally, Chief Justice Rogers became an Adjunct Professor at the University of Connecticut School of Law in January 2012.



Hon. Patrick L. Carroll, III, Chief Court Administrator

A native of Fairfield, Connecticut, Judge Carroll practiced law in his hometown for seventeen years prior to his appointment as a Judge of the Superior Court in 1996.

Since his appointment, Judge Carroll has served in Norwalk, Danbury, Waterbury, Milford, Derby, and Bridgeport handling civil, family, housing, and criminal matters. He served for five years as the Administrative Judge for the Judicial District of Danbury, and his most recent assignment on the bench was as the Presiding Judge for criminal matters in the Bridgeport G.A.

Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers appointed Judge Carroll as the Chief Court Administrator on October 1, 2013, after serving as the Deputy Chief Court Administrator for the prior six years. The Chief Court Administrator is responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the Judicial Branch, which has approximately 4,000 employees, a budget of \$570 million, and more than 40 courthouses throughout the state; assigning judges; and working with Chief Administrative Judges and Administrative Judges to address issues that may arise within their particular areas.

Among other responsibilities, Judge Carroll chairs the Judicial Branch's Advisory Board on the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Judges' Advisory Committee on E-Filing. He serves as co-chair of the Criminal Justice Information Sharing Governing Board. Judge Carroll is a member of the Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission, the Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Commission, the Permanent Sentencing Commission, and the Civil Commission. In addition to his other duties, the Chief Justice has charged Judge Carroll with the management and supervision of all matters relating to Judicial Marshal Services.



***Hon. Elliot N. Solomon, Deputy Chief Court Administrator
Co-Chair, Access to Justice Commission***

A co-chair of the Access to Justice Commission, the Honorable Elliot N. Solomon graduated from Gettysburg College with a Bachelor of Arts in 1971 and earned his Juris Doctor from Temple University School of Law in 1974. He has been admitted to the bar in the State of Connecticut, the State of New Jersey, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut, the United States Tax Court, and the United States Court of Military Appeals.

Judge Solomon became a judge of the Superior Court on March 8, 1996. He has served as the Deputy Chief Court Administrator since October 1, 2013, and has previously served as the Administrative Judge of the Tolland Judicial District, the Assistant Administrative Judge for the Hartford Judicial District, the Presiding Judge for the Family Division in the New London, Hartford, and Tolland Judicial Districts, and the Presiding Judge for the Criminal Division in the Hartford Judicial District.

In addition to co-chairing the Access to Justice Commission, Judge Solomon serves on a number of commissions and committees, including as chair of the Attorney Assistance Advisory Committee and the chair of the Standing Committee on Video and Teleconferencing.

Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Solomon was engaged in the private practice of law with the Hartford firm of Hebb & Gitlin where he practiced in the litigation department representing financial institutions, corporations, and individuals in federal and state courts. He previously worked in the homicide and special investigations unit and the career criminal unit for the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office in New Jersey and served as a member of the Judge Advocate General's Corps for the United States Army.



Hon. Maria Araujo Kahn
Co-Chair, Access to Justice Commission

A co-chair of the Access to Justice Commission, the Honorable Maria Araujo Kahn is currently assigned to the Fairfield Judicial District in Bridgeport, Connecticut where she hears criminal matters. Prior to her appointment to the Superior Court in 2006, she was an Assistant U.S. Attorney in New Haven, Connecticut. As a federal prosecutor, Judge Kahn was responsible for complex white collar investigations and prosecutions, both civil and criminal, in the areas of health care fraud, bank fraud, bankruptcy fraud, and trade secrets. Over the years, Judge Kahn has been honored on several occasions with awards including: Department of Justice Special Achievement Awards each year from 1998 to 2005 and Department of Health and Human Services, OIG, Integrity Awards.

Judge Kahn was born and raised in Angola, Africa. She emigrated to the United States at ten years of age and is fluent in Portuguese and Spanish. She is a graduate of New York University and received her Juris Doctor from Fordham University School of Law in 1989. Following law school, she served as law clerk to the Honorable Peter C. Dorsey, United States District Court Judge for the District of Connecticut.

Judge Kahn was a member of the Judges' Education Committee and the Curriculum Subcommittee and has taught several courses at the Connecticut Judges' Institute. She is an adjunct professor at Quinnipiac Law School. Judge Kahn currently serves as co-chair of the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Committee, which was implemented by Chief Justice Rogers as part of the Public Service and Trust Commission. The charge of the LEP Committee is to eliminate barriers to facilities, processes, and information that are faced by individuals with Limited English Proficiency.



Hon. William H. Bright, Jr.
Administrative Judge, Tolland Judicial District

The Honorable William H. Bright, Jr. is the Administrative and Presiding Judge for the Tolland/Rockville Judicial District, hearing civil, criminal, and habeas corpus matters. Previously, Judge Bright was assigned to the Hartford Judicial District Courthouse for complex litigation matters and to the Rockville and Manchester Courthouses, where he heard criminal, civil, juvenile, and habeas corpus matters.

Judge Bright serves on a number of Judicial Branch committees, including the Civil Jury Instruction Committee, the Rules Committee, the Access to Justice Commission, and the Pro Bono Committee, which he chairs. He is also a member of the board of the Connecticut Bar Foundation.

He was appointed as a Superior Court Judge by Governor M. Jodi Rell in January 2008. After unanimous confirmation from the General Assembly, he commenced his judicial career in March 2008.

Judge Bright had a distinguished career as a trial lawyer before becoming a judge. The Columbia resident was the managing partner of McCarter & English's Hartford law office and co-chair of the firm's Business Litigation practice group. Prior to joining McCarter & English, Judge Bright was a shareholder in Cummings & Lockwood, a member of the firm's Board of Directors, and chair of the firm's Litigation practice group. He was selected one of the Best Lawyers in the United States by Chambers USA and was twice named one of the top 50 lawyers in the state by Connecticut Magazine. His practice focused on complex commercial litigation matters, including business torts, fraud, intellectual property, franchise disputes, and environmental law.

Judge Bright is a graduate of Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and received his Juris Doctor from the University of Chicago Law School in 1987.

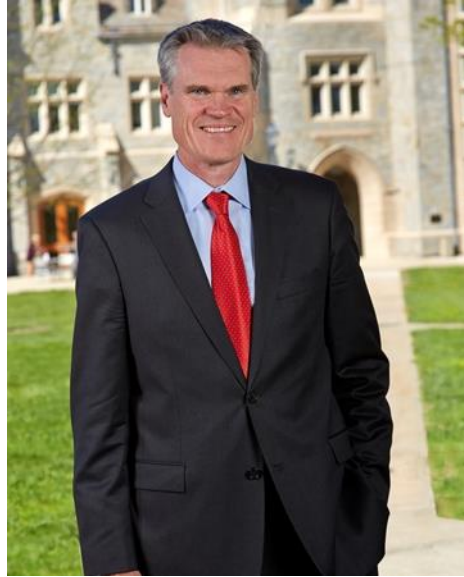


Atty. Joseph D. D'Alesio
Executive Director, Superior Court Operations

Attorney Joseph D. D'Alesio has worked for the Judicial Branch for over 33 years. As Executive Director of Superior Court Operations, Attorney D'Alesio manages the various clerks' offices throughout the state, the Support Enforcement Unit, the Office of Victim Services, Judge Support Services, Law Libraries, Judicial Performance Evaluation Program, Legal Services, Statewide Grievance Committee, Bar Examining Committee, the Centralized Infractions Bureau, Jury Administration, Court Reporters and Monitors, Court Interpreters, Seized Property, courthouse maintenance, and the Judicial Branch's Records Center. In addition, he serves as Executive Secretary of the Judicial Branch.

Attorney D'Alesio is a member of the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Bar Foundation, where he is a James W. Cooper Fellow, and is a past recipient of the Governor's Service Award.

Attorney D'Alesio is a graduate of Fairfield University and, in 1975, of The John Marshall Law School where he received his Juris Doctor. Attorney D'Alesio was admitted to the Connecticut Bar on May 4, 1976.



*Timothy Fisher, Dean and Professor of Law
University of Connecticut School of Law*

Timothy Fisher became the 17th dean of the UConn School of Law on July 1, 2013 following thirty-five years in private practice. Prior to becoming dean, he was a partner at a major regional law firm with a long history of public service. During his career prior to becoming dean, he taught at the UConn Law School as an adjunct instructor and participated in the life of the Law School through moot court judging, a faculty workshop presentation, and numerous activities with students and faculty.

Dean Fisher's practice and publications have focused on the fields of ethics, alternate dispute resolution, commercial transactions, construction law, family wealth disputes, and municipal law. He also has led pro bono engagements in such fields as marriage equality, prison conditions, speedy criminal appeal rights, and strategic relationships of non-profit organizations. In private practice, he served on the executive and compensation committees of his firm, held the position of office managing partner, and co-led its strategic planning process.

A graduate of Yale University and Columbia Law School, Dean Fisher has served in numerous public service and private sector leadership roles. He currently chairs the State's Commission on Judicial Compensation, and he previously served on the Governor's Commission on Judicial Reform, as well as various commissions of the Connecticut Judicial Branch, and was recently president of the Connecticut Bar Foundation. He served as president of a social service agency and has held leadership positions in Greater Hartford Legal Aid and the Connecticut Bar Association. Dean Fisher conceived of and undertook the organizational and fundraising effort to create the Connecticut Innocence Fund, a first-in-the-nation program to assist exonerees re-enter society when released from prison after proof of their innocence. He brings a deep belief in public service to his new role as dean of the UConn Law School.



***Timothy Everett, Clinical Professor of Law & Pro Bono Coordinator
University of Connecticut School of Law***

Timothy Everett teaches in the Trial and Appellate Divisions of the Criminal Clinic at UConn Law, where he has been a member of the clinical staff since 1987. He also regularly teaches Criminal Procedure. The holder of an MA in English linguistics from Clark University, Professor Everett's special interests include appellate brief writing, use of lexicographic authority in the law, and linguistic perspectives on the practice of law.

A tireless advocate for the rights of prisoners, Professor Everett has served, since 1998, on the board of directors of Community Partners in Action (CPA), a criminal justice organization whose work includes operating re-entry programs for prisoners, detention and residential facilities for juveniles, and pretrial alternative incarceration programs for adults. Since 2003, he also has served on the Institutional Review Board at the University of Connecticut Health Center where, in his role as prisoner representative, he helps ensure that research projects involving human subjects comply with federal, state, and local medico-legal and ethical standards. In addition, Professor Everett, a pro bono coordinator at the Law School and a 1984 graduate, is on the founding committee for the Connecticut Innocence Fund (a joint venture of the Connecticut Bar Foundation and CPA), which will provide support to exonerated inmates upon their release from prison.



Atty. Jamey Bell, Executive Director, Greater Hartford Legal Aid

Jamey Bell is the Executive Director of Greater Hartford Legal Aid. She has more than 30 years' experience as an attorney and policy advocate representing the interests of children and families in the areas of health care access, education, child welfare, and family economic security.

Previously, she was appointed by Governor Dannel Malloy to be the Child Advocate for the state of Connecticut in November 2012. From 2008 to 2012, she was the Executive Director of Connecticut Voices for Children, where she worked on health, education, child welfare, and tax and budget issues, and led the organization's legislative advocacy.

She was an attorney at Greater Hartford Legal Aid for 26 years, concentrating on legal issues affecting the well-being of low-income children and families, including health care policy and access, education, and child welfare. She was lead counsel in successful class action litigation to require the Connecticut Department of Social Services to provide adequate dental care to children in the Medicaid program.

Jamey Bell has a B.A. in Comparative Literature from the University of Michigan and a J.D. degree from Northeastern University School of Law.



J. Drusilla Carter, Library Director, Willimantic Public Library

Drusilla Carter is the Director of the Willimantic Public Library. A member of the Bibliomation board of directors and the CLA Membership Committee, and the Windham County representative to the CLA Public Libraries Section, she also serves on the American Library Association's joint committee on Archives, Libraries, and Museums. She has worked in public, special, school, and academic libraries and archives in six states, and was recognized in 2009 as one of Library Journal's "Movers and Shakers" and in 2010 as an American Library Association "Emerging Leader."



Atty. Jeffrey J. Dowd, Supervising Law Librarian, Judicial Branch

Jeff Dowd is a law librarian with 19 years of experience with the Connecticut Judicial Branch. He supervises the law libraries at the Middletown, New Haven, New London, Putnam, Rockville, and Waterbury courthouses. Prior to assuming the duties of Supervising Law Librarian, Jeff staffed and managed the Middletown Law Library. Jeff co-chairs the Workgroup on Libraries and Access to Justice. He serves on the Judicial Branch's Web Board, and chairs the Law Libraries' Web Page committee. He has served on the Self-Represented Parties Committee and its Subcommittee on Technology.

Jeff holds a Juris Doctor from UConn School of Law and a Masters in Library Science from Southern Connecticut State University. He is a member of the American Association of Law Libraries and the Southern New England Law Librarians Association (past president), where he is editor of their newsletter *Obiter Dicta*. Before joining the Judicial Branch, Jeff practiced for 6 years as an attorney for Legal Assistance to Prisoners.



[*Atty. Steven D. Eppler-Epstein, Executive Director, CT Legal Services*](#)

Steve Eppler-Epstein is the Executive Director of Connecticut Legal Services (CLS). CLS provides comprehensive civil legal help to low-income people throughout most of Connecticut, partnering with other members of the legal aid network to cover the state. CLS' lawyers work to achieve justice for low-income people, protecting and improving their lives.

Steve joined CLS as a staff attorney in 1984. His work has included individual and class-action client service on domestic violence and public benefit issues; legislative advocacy; and community legal education and writing. In 1995 Steve was hired to be the Deputy Director of Connecticut Legal Services, and in 2007 he was selected to be the Executive Director.

As a leader in legal services, Steve's priorities are keeping program priorities fresh and relevant in light of changes in the client population; empowering staff to explore change and to pursue client service through the most effective means available; and enhancing the public understanding of CLS' mission of justice so as to maximize the funding resources available to serve low-income people in crisis.

Steve is the vice-Chair of the Board of the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, member of the Board of the National Legal Aid and Defender Association, and member of the Board of the Legal Assistance Resource Center of Connecticut. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and is the former co-Chair of the Advisory Council to the Judicial Branch Office of Victim Services. His recognitions include the Governor's Victim Services Award, the Connecticut Bar Foundation's Legal Services Leadership Award, and the Connecticut Bar Association's Charles J. Parker Legal Services award.



[*Atty. Tais C. Ericson, Director, Court Operations, Judicial Branch*](#)

Tais Ericson is the Director of Court Operations and is responsible for directing the staff and operations of the Superior Courts statewide. She assists the Executive Director of Superior Court Operations in the development and implementation of programs and initiatives for the Superior Court Operations Division.

Prior to her current position, Ms. Ericson held several other positions within the Judicial Branch. She was Deputy Director of the Civil Matters unit, responsible for developing and implementing policies and programs for the Superior Court's Civil Division. For several years prior to that position, she was Program Manager of the Court Service Center Program, expanding and supervising the daily operations of centers and public information desks, which are located in courthouse facilities and provide court-related resources and services for court patrons.

Ms. Ericson began her Judicial Branch career in 1993 as a Housing Mediator for the Superior Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Program, mediating summary process landlord/tenant cases, and conducting civil pre-trials for housing matters.

Ms. Ericson earned her Juris Doctor at Western New England College, School of Law and has been a member of the Connecticut Bar since 1998.



Krista Hess, Program Manager, Court Service Centers, Judicial Branch

Krista Hess is a Program Manager in the Civil Unit at Court Operations, and is responsible for overseeing a staff of 23 employees in the day-to-day oversight and management of the Court Service Centers and Public Information Desks statewide. In addition to the Court Service Centers, Ms. Hess also manages and administers ten Judicial Branch Volunteer Attorney Programs in family and foreclosure and works in conjunction with the Connecticut Bar Association to administer their three Small Claim Emeritus Volunteer Attorney Programs.

She is also the Superior Court Operations Central Office manager for the civil caseflow coordinators and is part of the Civil Unit team responsible for the statewide implementation and oversight of individual calendaring and general civil case management best practices and procedures. Ms. Hess is a member of the Judicial Branch's Family Business Process Analysis Team responsible for the implementation of electronic filing for family matters.

Krista is a member of the Judicial Branch's Access to Justice Commission and serves as co-chair of the Workgroup on Libraries & Access to Justice. She also co-chairs the Commission's Workgroup on Video Conferencing & Access to Justice and is a member of the Workgroup on Online Pro Bono Legal Assistance. In addition, Ms. Hess acts as support staff for the Judicial Branch's Pro Bono Committee.

Krista was one of two recipients of the 2011 Connecticut Legal Services Pro Bono Award.

Prior to her current position, Ms. Hess worked as the civil and family caseflow coordinator at Hartford Superior Court.

Ms. Hess holds a Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice and Correctional Counseling from the University of New Haven and a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from New England College in New Hampshire.



Elizabeth Joseph, Coordinator of Information & Adult Services, Ferguson Library, Stamford

Elizabeth is currently the coordinator of information and adult services at the Ferguson Library. Elizabeth's professional career began at the New York Public Library, and she has worked at various public libraries in New York State. She received her undergraduate degree in comparative literature from City College of New York and her Master's in Library and Information Science at Queens College. Elizabeth has been recognized for her commitment to fostering partnerships between The Ferguson Library and the small business community, and she is active in Stamford's Young Professional Network. Elizabeth was named a Library Journal 2015 Mover and Shaker.



Atty. Patricia Kaplan, former Executive Director of New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Retired

Upon graduation from the University of Connecticut School of Law in 1978, Patricia Kaplan joined New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Inc. (LAA) as a staff attorney, working in family and child law. She was Executive Director from 1991 to 2012. This, however, was her third career. Her college degree was in early childhood education, and she taught first and second grade in Eastchester, New York and Wayland, Massachusetts. Her second was as a stay-at-home mom, but even while at home, she did substitute teaching in the local school system and was one of the founders of a state-funded day care center in Branford. She is the mother of two and grandmother of four.

As a legal aid lawyer, she has focused on family and child law. She has extensive experience in these areas and has served as a trainer for legal services lawyers, members of the private bar, and staff of social service agencies. She has been an active member of the CBA Family Law Section, Elder Law Section, and the Pro Bono section. She has recently taken the GAL/AMC certification course.

Because of her expertise and experience over the past 37 years, Attorney Kaplan has been appointed to several task forces and advisory committees. In the 90s, she was an active member of the child custody task force and two child protection task forces. She was on the Federal Court ADR task force and, in 2011, on the state Judicial Branch task force on ADR programs. In 2011-2012, she served on the Probate Court Practice Book Task Force. Attorney Kaplan currently co-chairs the Access to Justice Commission's Workgroup on Modest/Moderate Means Programs.

In addition to her legal services work, Attorney Kaplan has been involved in many legal and community boards and associations. She is a member of the Connecticut Law Tribune Editorial Board. She has been a member of the board of the United Way of Greater New Haven. She is actively involved in the Connecticut Bar Association (CBA) and has been a member of the CBA Nominating, Awards, and Pro Bono Committees. She has been a member of the New Haven County Bar Association Executive Committee and a past President of both the New Haven County Bar Association and the Foundation of the New Haven County Bar Association.

In June of 2003, she received the Community Mediation award for her role in the creation of the Child and Family Mediation Program. In May of 2005, she was the recipient of the Connecticut Law Tribune Service to the Profession Award. Connecticut Women's Educational and Legal Fund gave her the Maria Miller Stewart Award in 2006. In June of 2008, she was given the Charles Parker Award by the Connecticut Bar Association at its annual meeting. She received an Honorary Law Degree from the Quinnipiac School of Law in 2008. In 2012, the Connecticut Bar Foundation gave her its Legal Services Leadership Award.



Atty. Jocelyn Kennedy, Director for Library Services, University of Connecticut School of Law

Jocelyn oversees the day-to-day operations of the reference, access, acquisitions, and cataloging departments in the law library. She also teaches Advanced Legal Research at the Law School. She received her J.D. from the University of New Hampshire School of Law (formerly Franklin Pierce Law Center) and an M.L.I.S. from the University of Washington. A member of the New Hampshire Bar, she clerked with the NH Superior Court for two years. Prior to law school, Jocelyn served as a Congressional staffer for several years. She is a member of the American Association of Law Libraries and Law Librarians of New England.



Dawn La Valle, Director of Library Development, Connecticut State Library

Dawn La Valle is the Director of the Division of Library Development for the Connecticut State Library. Under her leadership, the Division provides consulting, funding, professional development training, and statewide services that enhance Connecticut libraries' abilities to deliver high-quality library service to their communities. Most recently, Dawn served as 2014/15 President of the Connecticut Library Association. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy with a Certificate in Paralegal Studies from Adelphi University; a Master of Arts in Political Science, a Master of Science in Secondary Education, and Master of Science in Library and Information Science with a Certificate in Archives and Records Management from Long Island University, Brookville NY.

Prior to taking her current position at the CT State Library, she was the Assistant Director for Administrative Services at the Fairfield Public Library and, before that, was an adult reference librarian, adult literacy liaison, and periodicals department supervisor at the White Plains Public Library.

An unconventional career path led Dawn from her service as a United States Marine, through corporate America, education, and ultimately back to public service as a librarian. Her background as a United States Marine affords her a unique skill set. A sense of honor, duty, and public service has readily translated to her career as a librarian and ultimately her rapid rise to her current position.



Atty. Susan Garcia Nofi, Executive Director, New Haven Legal Assistance Association

Susan has been Executive Director at LAA since September, 2012. Previously, she was Deputy Director (2009 – 2012) and a staff attorney (1996 – 2002) at LAA. From 2002-2009, Susan worked for the Connecticut Department of Labor's Employment Security Appeals Division, first as Appeals Referee and, later, as Principal Attorney to the Board of Review, which decided unemployment compensation appeals. She received her J.D. from the Quinnipiac University School of Law and a B.S. from Southern Connecticut State University. Susan speaks Spanish and is a member of the bar in the State of Connecticut and the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut. Susan serves on the Boards of Directors of the Community Fund for Women and Girls, the Lower Naugatuck Valley Parent-Child Resource Center, the Legal Assistance Resource Center of Connecticut, and the New Haven County Bar Association. She is a member of the Connecticut Judicial Branch Access to Justice Commission, the Connecticut Judicial Branch Pro Bono Committee, the Connecticut Bar Association, and the Connecticut Hispanic Bar Association. She has been a presenter at trainings and conferences of the National Employment Law Project, the National Legal Aid & Defender Association, the National Association of Unemployment Insurance Appellate Boards, and the Legal Services TIG (Technology Initiative Grants).



Atty. Emily Graner Sexton, Chair, Connecticut Bar Association Young Lawyers Section

Emily Graner Sexton is an appellate prosecutor for the Office of the Chief State's Attorney where she represents the State in criminal appeals before the Connecticut Supreme and Appellate Courts. Attorney Graner Sexton is also extremely active in the Connecticut Bar Association where she most recently was chair of the CBA's Young Lawyers Section for the 2014-2015 bar year and now serves as the Assistant Secretary-Treasurer of the CBA at large for the current bar year.

Prior to joining the Chief State's Attorney's Office, Attorney Graner Sexton served as a judicial law clerk for two terms to the judges of the Connecticut Superior Court. Following her clerkship, she became an associate at a law firm in West Hartford where she worked primarily in federal court representing municipalities until she transitioned to the Appellate Bureau in 2010.

Attorney Graner Sexton graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Connecticut in 2003 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Spanish, and from Quinnipiac University School of Law in 2007 with a Juris Doctor degree.



Atty. Valerie Wood, LawyerCorps Connecticut fellow, Connecticut Legal Services

Valerie is currently serving as the LawyerCorps Connecticut Fellow at Connecticut Legal Services. Working out of CLS's Waterbury office, Valerie focuses on representing tenants in housing matters in Litchfield County. In addition to individual advocacy, Valerie also dedicates her time to participating in various community outreach opportunities in Litchfield County, including planning and presenting tenants' rights workshops for members of the community and for employees and volunteers of local human services organizations. Valerie is also in the planning stages of initiating a bi-monthly legal clinic in Torrington where low-income members of the community will be able to discuss legal issues with CLS attorneys. After receiving a J.D. from the University of Connecticut School of Law in 2014, Valerie worked in private practice for a year prior to joining CLS. During law school, Valerie pursued her passion for public interest law by interning at the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities and the Hartford Immigration Court and by participating in UCONN's Asylum and Human Rights Clinic. While in law school, Valerie also had the opportunity to work as a law clerk at two of Connecticut's top plaintiff-side employment law firms advocating for workers' rights.

PLACEHOLDER

Accent (Divider) Page

***Identify the Issues: Why a
Justice Gap?***



Statewide
Legal Services
of Connecticut

Who does legal aid serve?

Legal aid helps people with non-criminal legal matters, where there is no right to a free lawyer provided by the government. Legal aid generally serves people living at or below 125% of the poverty level (\$30,313/year for a family of 4), including some of Connecticut's most vulnerable populations. Legal aid's clients include:



17% children



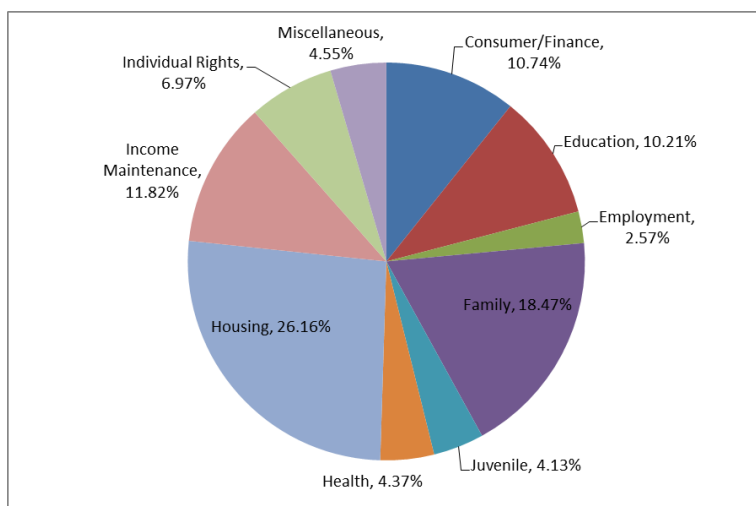
27% seniors



47% people with disabilities

What types of cases does legal aid handle?

Legal aid handles matters that help Connecticut's poorest residents meet their basic human needs, obtain health care and education, and achieve safety, stability, and protection from violence.



In 2014, CLS, GHLA, NHLAA, and SLS:

- Closed 3,804 cases for which legal aid either represented the client or provided ongoing legal assistance regarding a matter in dispute
- Provided legal advice to another 9,057 individuals
- Referred 278 cases to pro bono attorneys, who donated a total of 10,405 hours of pro bono service

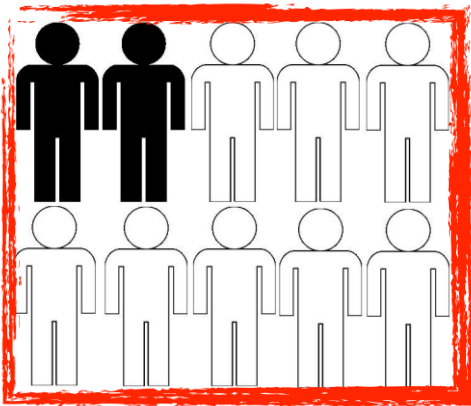


CTLawHelp.org, which offers legal information in plain language, gets about 160,000 visits each month

The Justice Gap

Most low-income households experience one or more civil legal problems each year.

- A 2008 survey by the UCONN Center for Research and Analysis found that more than 7 in 10 Connecticut households in poverty had at least one legal problem during the past year; and four in ten households (43%) experienced three or more legal problems in the past year.
- Since that survey was taken, poverty in the state has increased from 9.3% in 2008 to 10.2% in 2013.



Many self-represented parties face additional barriers to successfully accessing the legal system, such as limited English proficiency, limited education, or disability.

- As of 2011, one in five Connecticut residents speaks a language other than English at home.
- More than 38% of Connecticut residents have an education level of twelfth-grade or lower.
- An estimated 8.3% of adults under age 65 are disabled.



Most individuals who qualify for free civil legal services do not get them.

- Connecticut has 1.85 civil legal aid attorneys for every 10,000 people living in poverty. *The Justice Index, a project of the National Center for Access to Justice at Cardozo Law School*
- Due to this lack of staff resources, Connecticut's Legal Aid programs are only able to help approximately 2 out of every 10 people who apply for assistance with a civil legal problem.



State of Connecticut - Judicial Branch

Self-Represented Party (SRP) Information - State Fiscal Year 2005/2006 through 2013/2014 (Total Cases by SRP status)

| Civil Cases | At least 1 SRP | Plaintiff SRP | Defendant SRP | Both Plaintiff and Defendant are Self-Represented |
|--------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---|
| FY 13/14 | 14929 | 1979 | 13691 | 741 |
| FY 12/13 | 15022 | 1625 | 13931 | 534 |
| FY 11/12 | 16046 | 1728 | 14834 | 516 |
| FY 10/11 | 18410 | 1774 | 17118 | 482 |
| FY 09/10 | 22934 | 2085 | 21435 | 586 |
| FY 08/09 | 19790 | 2249 | 18169 | 628 |
| FY 07/08 | 15376 | 2537 | 13603 | 764 |
| FY 06/07 | 11530 | 2420 | 9835 | 725 |
| FY 05/06 | 10104 | 2114 | 8604 | 614 |

| Family Cases | At least 1 SRP | Plaintiff SRP | Defendant SRP | Both Plaintiff and Defendant are Self-Represented |
|---------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---|
| FY 13/14 | 27807 | 25285 | 14206 | 11684 |
| FY 12/13 | 28010 | 25395 | 14330 | 11714 |
| FY 11/12 | 29121 | 26238 | 15305 | 12422 |
| FY 10/11 | 29889 | 26875 | 16012 | 12998 |
| FY 09/10 | 29646 | 26548 | 15944 | 12846 |
| FY 08/09 | 28414 | 25310 | 15604 | 12500 |
| FY 07/08 | 27219 | 23901 | 15125 | 11807 |
| FY 06/07 | 27366 | 23775 | 15246 | 11655 |
| FY 05/06 | 26535 | 23012 | 14704 | 11181 |

Notes:

Information included on this document does not include Non-Appearing Parties

Civil case counts include Complex Litigation cases

Family case counts include Family Support Magistrate cases

Fiscal Year assignment was based on Return Date

FY 13/14 data drawn on 09/05/14

State of Connecticut - Judicial Branch

Self-Represented Plaintiffs and Defendants in All Civil Case Types, By State Fiscal Year

| | % of Cases with at least One Appearing Self-Represented Plaintiff | % of Cases with at least One Appearing Self-Represented Defendant | % of Cases with both an Appearing Self-Represented Plaintiff and an Appearing Self-Represented Defendant | % of Cases with at least One Self-Represented Party |
|----------|---|---|--|---|
| FY 13/14 | 3.4% | 23.2% | 1.3% | 25.3% |
| FY 12/13 | 2.6% | 22.7% | 0.9% | 24.4% |
| FY 11/12 | 2.7% | 22.8% | 0.8% | 24.7% |
| FY 10/11 | 2.6% | 25.0% | 0.7% | 26.9% |
| FY 09/10 | 2.7% | 27.4% | 0.7% | 29.3% |
| FY 08/09 | 2.9% | 23.6% | 0.8% | 25.8% |
| FY 07/08 | 3.7% | 19.9% | 1.1% | 22.4% |
| FY 06/07 | 4.3% | 17.4% | 1.3% | 20.4% |
| FY 05/06 | 4.0% | 16.5% | 1.2% | 19.3% |

Notes:

Information included on this document does not include Non-Appearing Parties

Civil case counts include Complex Litigation cases

Fiscal Year assignment was based on Return Date

Based on data in the Civil/Family system as of 10/23/2013

FY 13/14 based on data in the Civil/Family system as of 09/05/14

State of Connecticut - Judicial Branch

Self-Represented Plaintiffs and Defendants in All Family Case Types, By State Fiscal Year

| | % of Cases with at least One Appearing Self-Represented Plaintiff | % of Cases with at least One Appearing Self-Represented Defendant | % of Cases with both an Appearing Self-Represented Plaintiff and an Appearing Self-Represented Defendant | % of Cases with at least One Self-Represented Party |
|----------|---|---|--|---|
| FY 13/14 | 77.2% | 43.4% | 35.7% | 84.9% |
| FY 12/13 | 77.4% | 43.7% | 35.7% | 85.3% |
| FY 11/12 | 77.5% | 45.2% | 36.7% | 86.0% |
| FY 10/11 | 76.0% | 44.0% | 37.5% | 82.0% |
| FY 09/10 | 76.0% | 45.0% | 37.4% | 82.7% |
| FY 08/09 | 75.0% | 46.0% | 37.5% | 83.2% |
| FY 07/08 | 73.0% | 46.0% | 36.4% | 84.6% |
| FY 06/07 | 72.0% | 46.0% | 35.4% | 85.3% |
| FY 05/06 | 71.0% | 45.0% | 34.7% | 84.9% |

Notes:

Information included on this document does not include Non-Appearing Parties

Family case counts include Family Support Magistrate cases

Fiscal Year assignment was based on Return Date

Based on data in the Civil/Family system as of 10/23/2013

FY 13/14 based on data in the Civil/Family system as of 09/05/14

Court Service Centers & Public Information Desks Percentage Increases^{*}

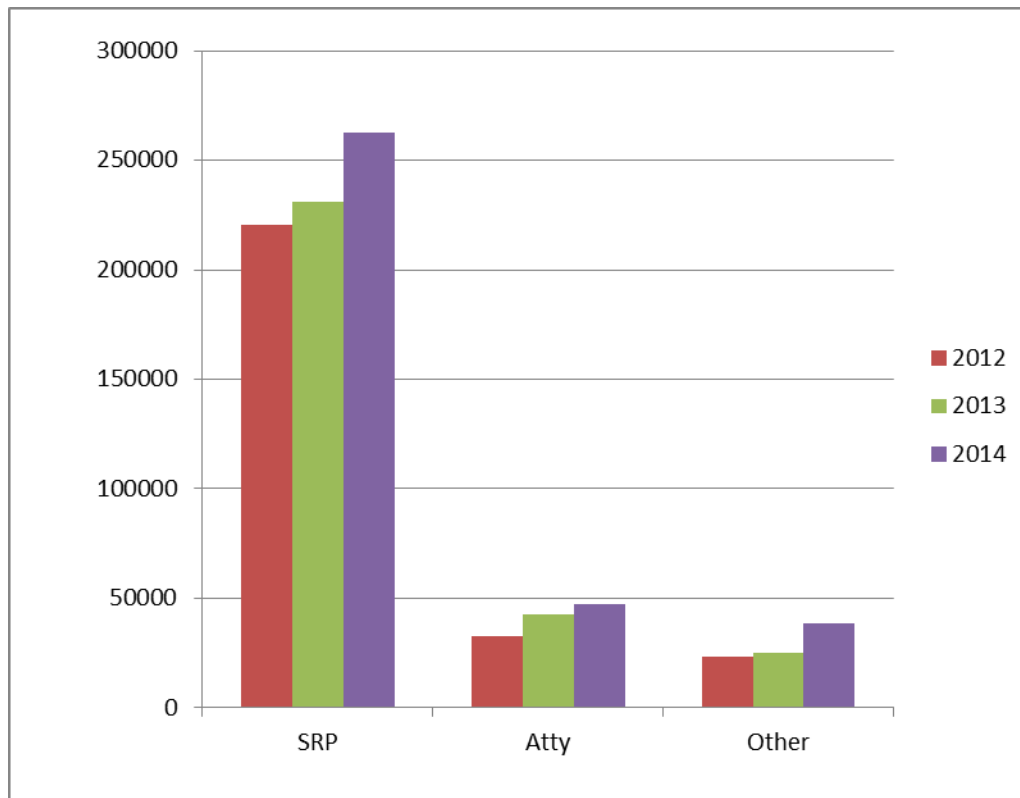
| Patron Type | SRP | Atty | Other | Total Patrons |
|-------------|--------|-------|-------|---------------|
| 2012 | 220467 | 32951 | 23489 | 276907 |
| 2013 | 231054 | 42898 | 25051 | 299003 |
| 2014 | 262527 | 47126 | 38529 | 348182 |

Other: Marshals, witnesses, jurors, members of the public

Overall Increase 2012-2013 = 8%

Overall Increase 2013-2014 = 16%

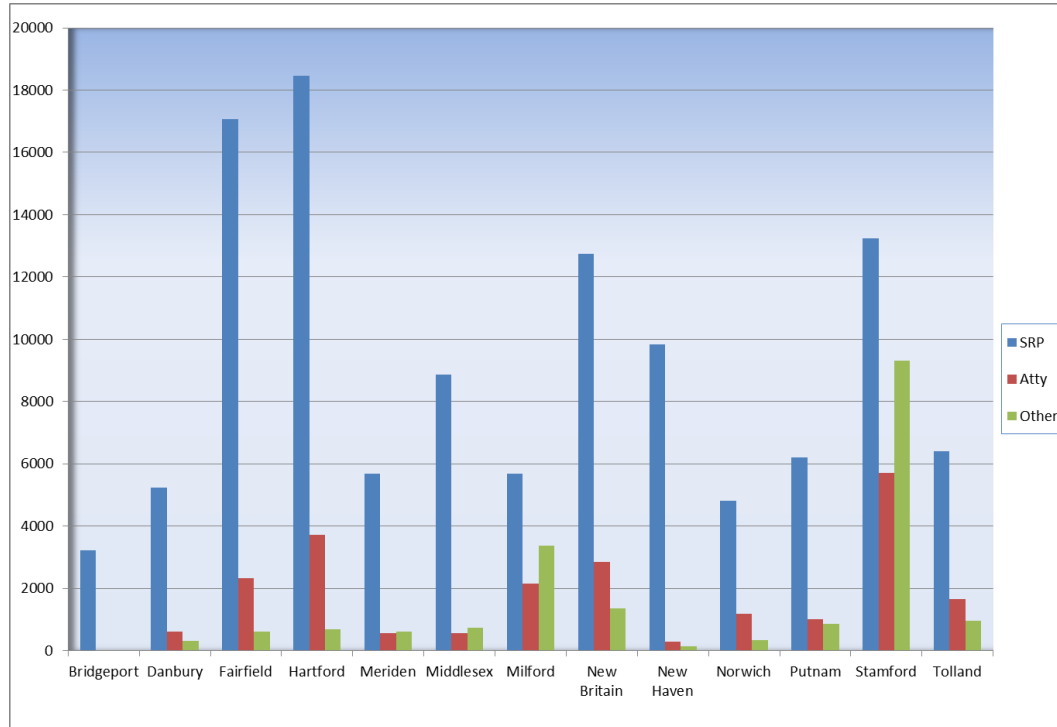
Two year increase = 24%^{*}



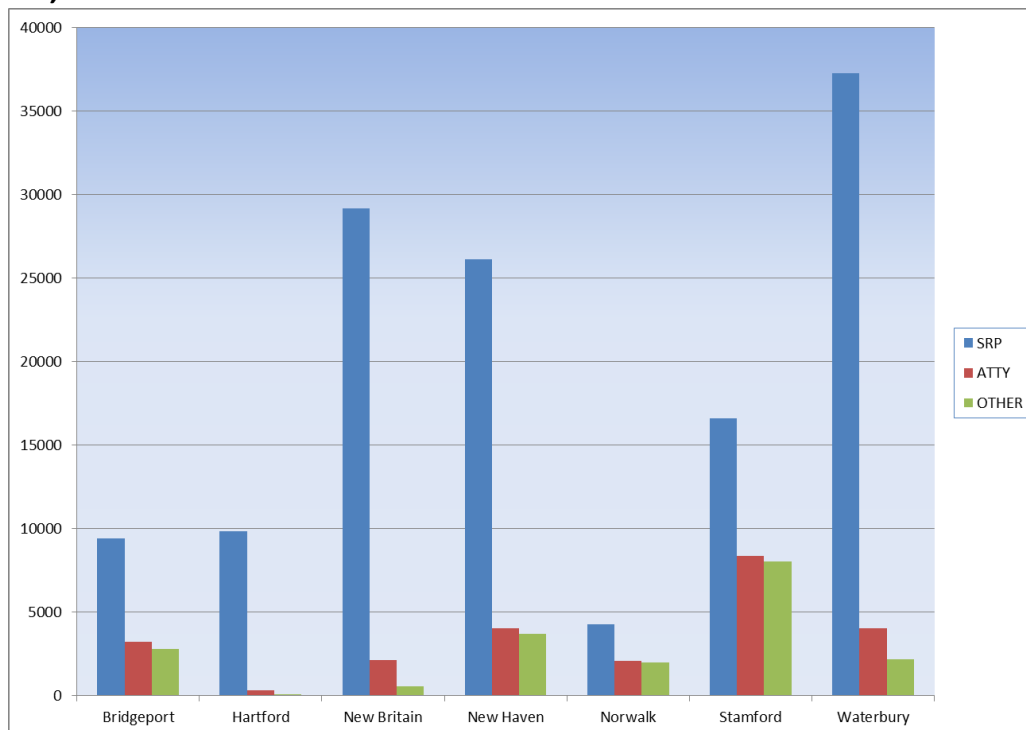
^{*} The increase in patrons can be partly attributed to staffing in locations that were previously not staffed. The increase in the number of patrons assisted, however, supports the need for the services and resources provided by the Centers and Desks.

Patrons Assisted – 2014

2014 COURT SERVICE CENTERS- PATRON TYPES BY LOCATION – SELF-REPRESENTED PARTIES, ATTORNEYS, OTHER



2014 PUBLIC INFORMATION DESKS- PATRON TYPES BY LOCATION – SELF-REPRESENTED PARTIES, ATTORNEYS, OTHER

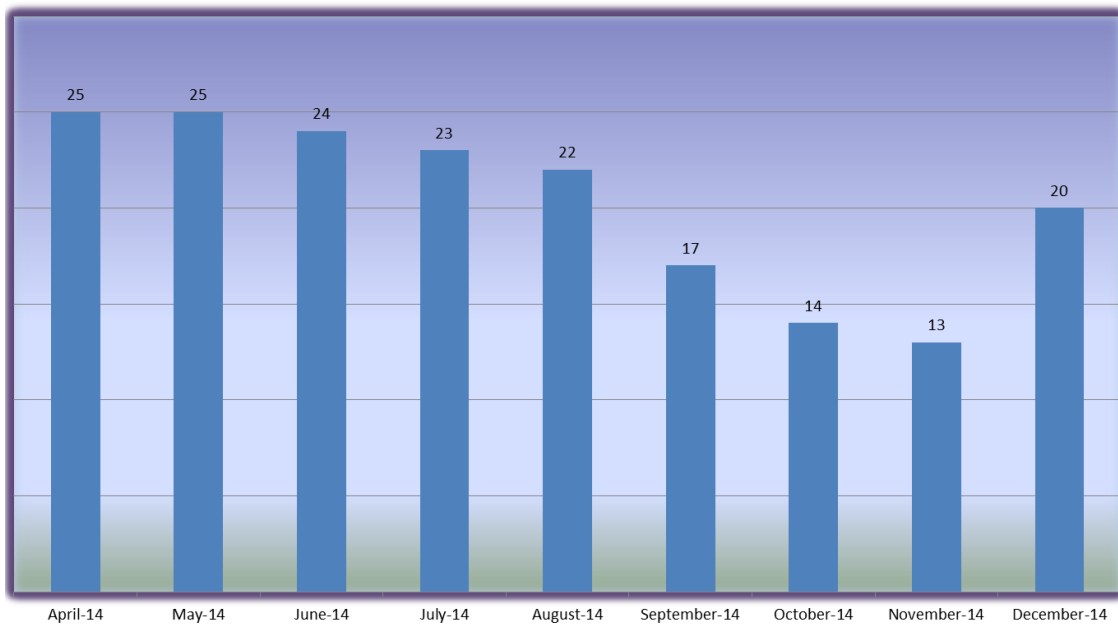


Telephonic Bilingual Services

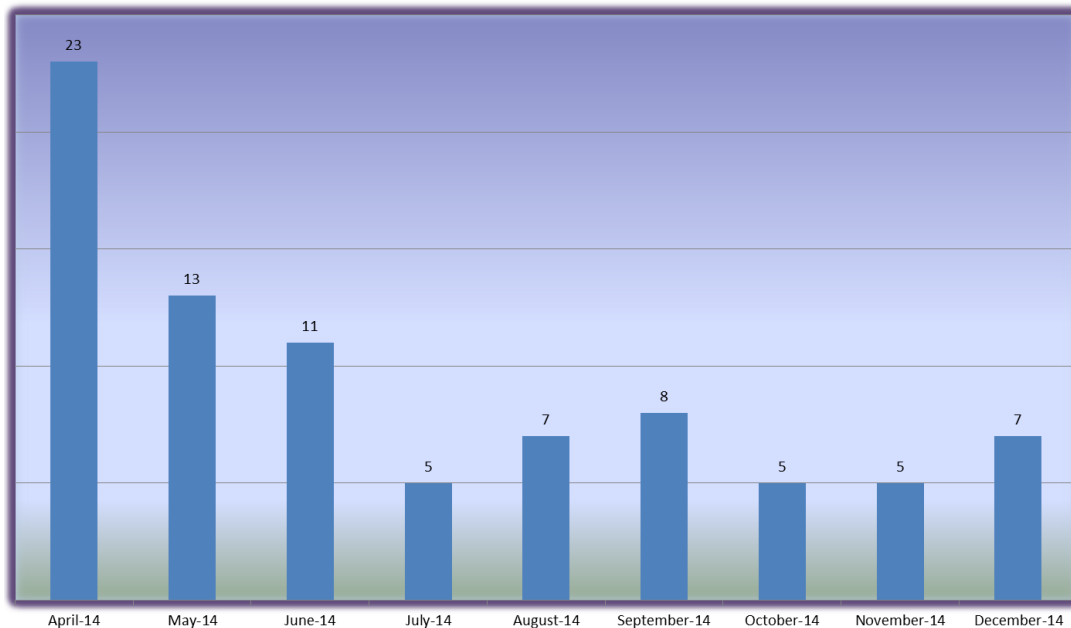
Telephonic Bilingual Services (TBS)

The Connecticut Judicial Branch has contracted for TBS that enable Judicial Branch staff and individuals who are limited English proficient to communicate with the use of a telephone. This language assistance is available in more than 170 languages, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is available in all court locations and other Judicial Branch facilities including, but not limited to, adult probation offices, support enforcement offices, and the centralized infractions bureau.

2014 – NUMBER OF TIMES TBS WAS UTILIZED AT THE COURT SERVICE CENTERS

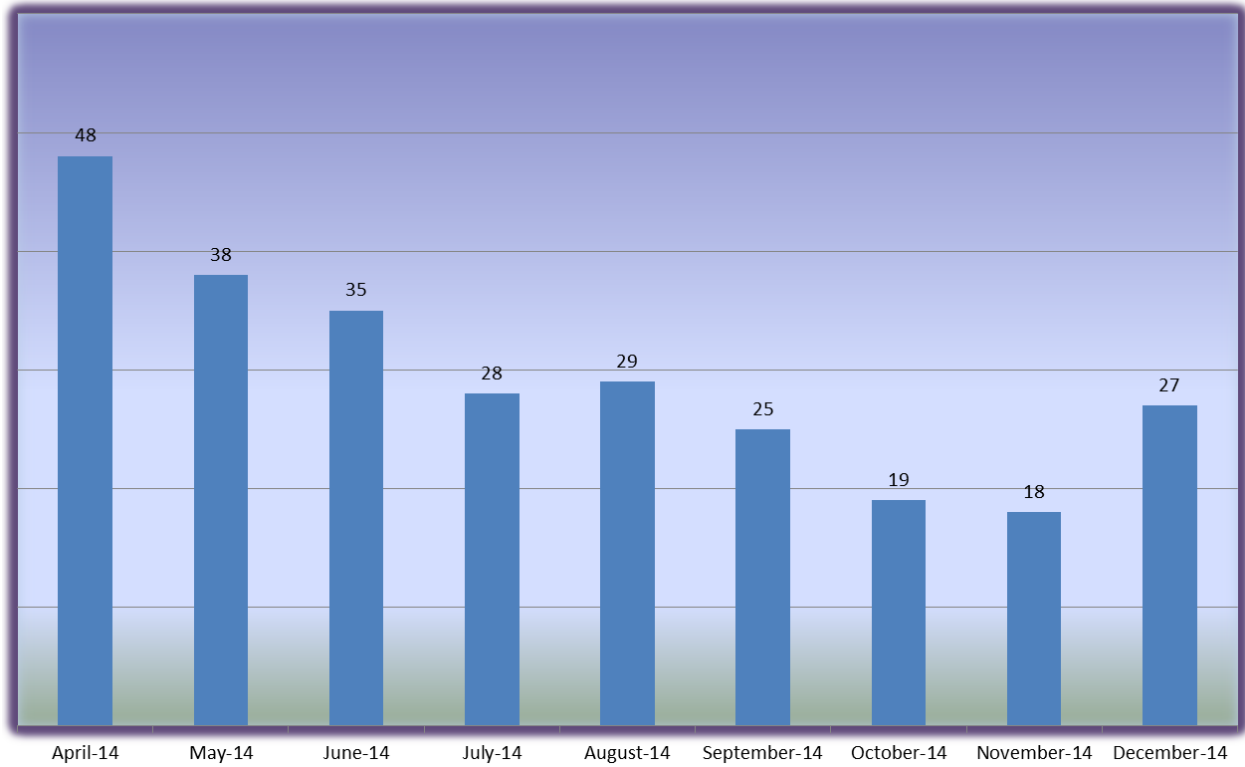


2014 – NUMBER OF TIMES TBS WAS UTILIZED AT THE PUBLIC INFORMATION DESKS



Telephonic Bilingual Services, Cont.

2014 – NUMBER OF TIMES TBS WAS UTILIZED AT THE COURT SERVICE CENTERS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION DESKS, COMBINED

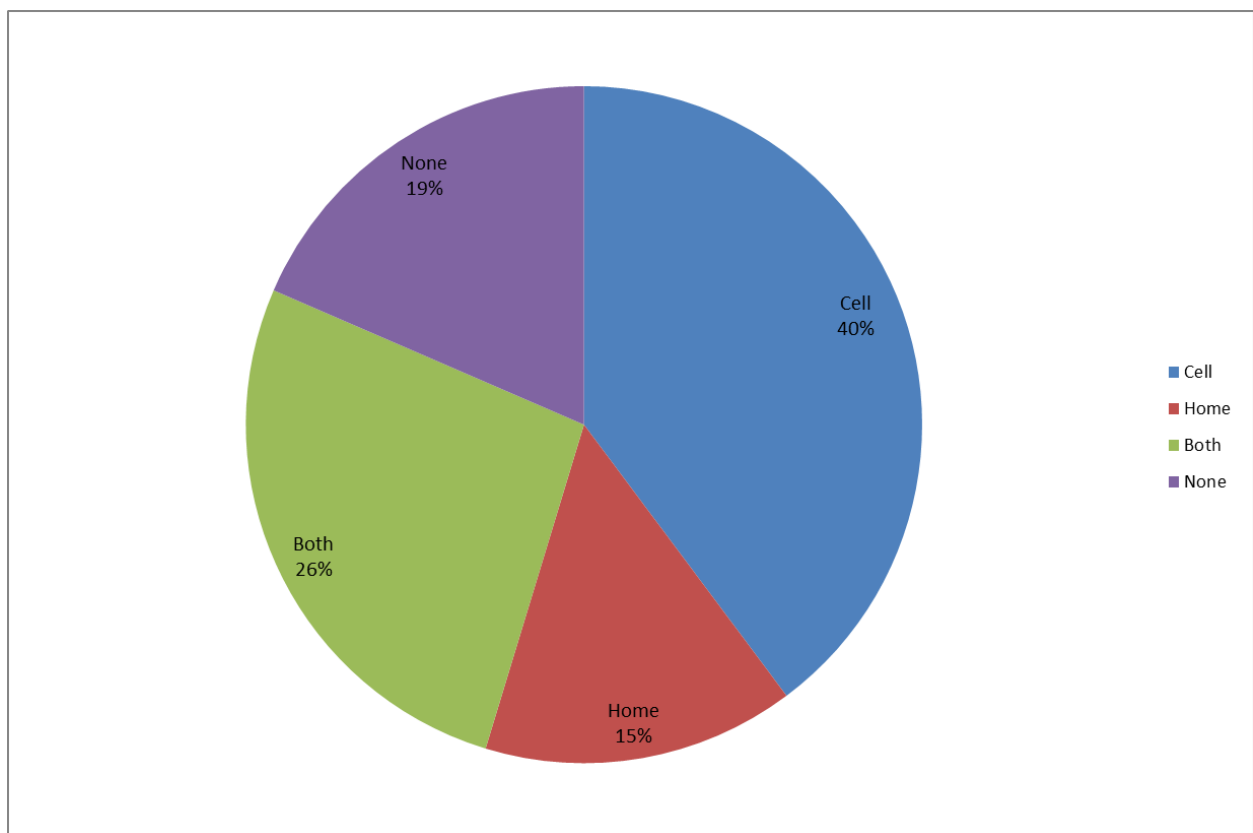


Internet Accessibility

Patron Responses – Centers and Desks (Combined)

All self-represented parties who come into a Court Service Center or visit a Public Information Desk for assistance are asked about their primary source of internet access: home (desktop) computer, smart phone/tablet, both or neither.

This question was added to our data collection as the Judicial Branch moved closer to electronic filing and access for self-represented parties in civil and now limited family cases.



SUMMARY OF CONNECTICUT JUDICIAL BRANCH LAW LIBRARY SERVICES
STATISTICS AND NUMBERS
FY2014-2015

| | | |
|--|---------|--|
| Patron Statistics | | |
| By the numbers | | |
| Door Count | 178,775 | |
| Telephone reference responses | 7,463 | |
| Email reference responses | 4,641 | |
| By the in-library users* | | |
| Court | 1,801 | |
| Judicial Branch personnel | 4,795 | |
| Attorneys/legal professionals | 12,738 | |
| Self-represented parties | 7,845 | |
| General public | 5,221 | |
| In-Library Computer Use* | | |
| General | 6,688 | |
| Case look-up/E-services | 2,115 | |
| Legal research databases | 2,792 | |
| Email Reference Services | | |
| Ask-A-Librarian | | |
| Reponses to Attorneys | 69 | |
| Responses to Self-Represented/General Public | 492 | |
| JB Feedback | | |
| Reponses to Attorneys | 119 | |
| Responses to Self-Represented/General Public | 2,253 | |
| E-Notification Services | | |
| Advance Release Decisions | 522 | |
| BNA U.S. Law Week | 13 | |
| BNA Family Law Reporter | 362 | |
| BNA Criminal Law Reporter | 53 | |
| Inmate Correspondence Service** | | |
| Written requests received | 74 | |
| Responses mailed | 65 | |
| Interlibrary Loan Service | | |
| Requests initiated | 33 | |
| Requests filled | 18 | |
| Requests cancelled | 4 | |
| Requests unfilled | 11 | |

* Information tracked starting September 29, 2014.

** Service began September 2, 2014.

SUMMARY OF CONNECTICUT JUDICIAL BRANCH LAW LIBRARY SERVICES
STATISTICS AND NUMBERS
FY2014-2015
PAGE 2

| | | |
|---|--|--------|
| New Attorney Program | | |
| Total presentations | | 2 |
| Total attendees | | 23 |
| New Attorney Program - Online Legal Research | | |
| Total presentations | | 1 |
| Total attendees | | 26 |
| Self-Represented Parties' Information | | |
| Slidecasts updated | | 1 |
| Education and Training | | |
| Hours of training attended | | 554.75 |
| Hours staff training provided | | 90.75 |
| Group training sessions conducted | | 13 |
| One-on-one training sessions conducted | | 30 |
| Marketing Committee | | |
| Calendars distributed | | 4,329 |
| Palm cards distributed | | 900 |
| Joint Services Brochures distributed | | 1,000 |
| Law Day posters distributed | | 43 |
| Bookmarks distributed | | 7,000 |
| Law Library Services featured on JB homepage | | 2 |
| Research Guides | | |
| Published research guides | | 76 |
| Updated research guides | | 47 |
| New research guides published | | 5 |
| Law by Subject Web Pages | | |
| Total pages | | 112 |
| New pages created | | 5 |
| Law Library Services Web Page | | |
| Periodic link checks | | 7 |
| Total number of links checked | | 40,138 |

| TOTALS SUMMARY - CT PUBLIC LIBRARIES, FY2009 TO FY2014 | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | FY2009 | FY2010 | FY2011 | FY2012 | FY2013 | FY2014 |
| Number of libraries reporting | 182 | 181 | 179 | 182 | 181 | 180 |
| Total hours open per week, reporting libraries only | 8,743 | 8,654 | 8,517 | 8,616 | 8,642 | 8,675 |
| Avg. Weekly Hours per library | 48.0 | 47.8 | 47.6 | 47.3 | 47.7 | 48.2 |
| Total FTE's staff (40 hour week) | 2,324 | 2,241 | 2,148 | 2,181 | 2,152 | 2,187 |
| FTE's staff per 1000 served | 0.66 | 0.64 | 0.62 | 0.61 | 0.60 | 0.61 |
| Total registered borrowers* | 1,839,991 | 1,691,502 | 1,654,147 | 1,623,182 | 1,588,546 | 1,546,895 |
| Registrations per capita* | 0.53 | 0.49 | 0.48 | 0.46 | 0.45 | 0.43 |
| Total library visits | 23,232,945 | 23,296,692 | 21,931,311 | 22,479,860 | 21,272,694 | 20,918,018 |
| Library visits per capita | 6.63 | 6.70 | 6.32 | 6.33 | 5.97 | 5.82 |
| Total reference transactions* | 4,146,689 | 3,730,801 | 3,621,848 | 3,724,188 | 3,466,592 | 3,424,549 |
| Reference transactions per cap* | 1.18 | 1.07 | 1.04 | 1.05 | 0.97 | 0.95 |
| Total circulation | 32,488,431 | 33,157,602 | 31,469,192 | 31,735,669 | 30,511,973 | 29,591,535 |
| Circulation per capita | 9.28 | 9.54 | 9.07 | 8.94 | 8.56 | 8.23 |
| Total Connecticard circ. | 4,740,954 | 4,990,468 | 4,933,035 | 4,916,021 | 4,840,426 | 4,513,369 |
| Per cent of all circulation | 14.59% | 14.88% | 15.68% | 15.49% | 15.86% | 15.25% |
| Total book/serial circulation | 20,578,859 | 20,907,992 | 19,942,299 | 20,176,360 | 19,372,757 | 19,192,875 |
| Per cent of all circulation | 63.3% | 63.1% | 63.4% | 63.6% | 63.5% | 64.9% |
| E-content (e-bks, etc) circulation | | | 207,767 | 379,215 | 696,606 | 1,013,778 |
| Print Collections | 14,242,814 | 14,181,549 | 13,884,089 | 14,002,408 | 13,841,554 | 13,785,164 |
| DVDs/Videos | 927,214 | 946,546 | 999,741 | 1,013,717 | 1,044,916 | 1,073,919 |
| Physical Collection per capita | 4.60 | 4.61 | 4.51 | 4.48 | 4.43 | 4.38 |
| E-content (e-bks, etc.)(not shared) | | | 42,592 | 222,209 | 237,651 | 238,458 |
| Library Programs | 77,725 | 81,562 | 81,356 | 86,132 | 87,504 | 91,698 |
| Library Program Attendance | 1,677,706 | 1,742,360 | 1,704,920 | 1,845,548 | 1,802,356 | 1,929,780 |
| Program Attendance per capita | 0.48 | 0.50 | 0.49 | 0.52 | 0.51 | 0.54 |
| Total Internet Workstations | 3,600 | 3,751 | 3,814 | 4,060 | 4,079 | 4,152 |
| Use of Internet Workstations* | 5,313,513 | 5,188,055 | 4,473,815 | 4,812,632 | 4,587,656 | 4,195,450 |
| Interlibrary Loans Filled | 566,627 | 657,431 | 729,404 | 773,682 | 785,514 | 789,069 |
| Building Square Feet Per Capita | 1.090 | 1.100 | 1.085 | 1.073 | 1.081 | 1.086 |
| Local Tax Appropriation Income | \$153,734,565 | \$151,358,588 | \$150,826,388 | \$154,674,529 | \$158,475,428 | \$161,446,914 |
| Total Operating Income | \$177,185,824 | \$174,624,684 | \$174,556,974 | \$178,648,981 | \$182,817,996 | \$187,456,254 |
| Operating income per capita | \$50.59 | \$50.22 | \$50.33 | \$50.33 | \$51.28 | \$52.13 |
| Operating expenditure per capita | \$52.38 | \$51.42 | \$51.84 | \$51.46 | \$52.24 | \$53.48 |
| Materials expenditures per capita | \$5.43 | \$5.27 | \$5.20 | \$5.09 | \$5.05 | \$5.09 |
| Salaries expenditures per capita | \$29.80 | \$29.76 | \$29.42 | \$29.77 | \$29.85 | \$30.57 |
| Program expenditures per capita | \$0.50 | \$0.52 | \$0.53 | \$0.57 | \$0.55 | \$0.59 |

* recent changes in how these items are counted has reduced these usage counts in recent years

PLACEHOLDER

Accent (Divider) Page

***Define the Needs: A Look at
Where We Are Today***

Connecticut Legal Rights Project

Connecticut Legal Rights Projects provides legal representation to low income adults with psychiatric disabilities, primarily legal problems related to their treatment and civil rights.

860-262-5030

One Vance Drive, Middletown, CT 06457

www.clrp.org

Lawyers for Children America

Lawyers for Children America provides training and support for volunteer attorneys who represent children in child protection matters in Juvenile Court.

860-273-0441

151 Farmington Avenue, RW61, Hartford, CT 06156

www.lawyersforchildrenamerica.org

Consumer Law Project for Elders (CLPE)

Are you 60 or over? The Consumer Law Project for Elders (CLPE) provides free legal assistance to people age 60 or over. If you have a debt collection or other consumer problem, please call Consumer Law Project for Elders.

1-800-296-1467

<http://ctlawhelp.org>

Connecticut Veterans Legal Center

Connecticut Veterans Legal Center exists to help military veterans recovering from homelessness and mental illness overcome legal barriers to stable housing and income.

203-903-2852

<http://ctveteranslegal.org>

Areas of Legal Assistance from

Statewide Legal Services (SLS)
Connecticut Legal Services (CLS)
Greater Hartford Legal Aid (GHLA)
New Haven Legal Assistance Association (LAA)

We offer help in the following areas:

Benefits & Health Care: public assistance, SSI, food stamps, child care, medical assistance

Immigration: representation and advice in immigration matters including deportation proceedings, naturalization, victims of domestic violence and other crimes

Employment: discrimination, unemployment compensation, economic development, wages and work hours

Children & Family: divorce, child support, custody, visitation, restraining orders, guardianship, representing children, domestic violence issues, education

Consumer: bankruptcy, debt collection, small claims actions, repossession

Elderly: nursing home problems, right to home care, medical assistance, social security, consumer issues and more

Housing: discrimination, evictions, lockouts, rent increases, utility shutoffs, homelessness, unsafe conditions, landlord/tenant disputes, public housing

Persons with Disabilities: accessibility, discrimination, independent living, special education, vocational rehabilitation, transportation



Legal Services Programs in Connecticut

A Guide for Finding Free Legal Assistance in Connecticut



The Network:

The legal services programs in Connecticut are a group of nonprofit organizations which provide legal assistance in civil matters to low-income persons. Services are free. Eligibility depends upon income, family size, assets and legal issues.

Working Together:

The programs work together to advocate for (and with) people who are low income, on a variety of issues. In addition to individual legal advice and representation, the legal services programs help clients, community groups, and providers through free trainings, pamphlets and other information.

Visit www.ctlawhelp.org

Connecticut’s Legal Aid programs created this web site to help people with very low income find help for their legal problems. This web site will give you legal information and tools to help you represent yourself.

www.ctlawhelp.org

Statewide Legal Services

Statewide Legal Services (**SLS**) is available by phone to clients throughout Connecticut. Generally SLS is the entry point for accessing legal assistance. SLS may provide advice over the phone, mail information, or refer clients to a legal services office or private attorney at no cost to the client.

1-800-453-3320 (toll free) 860-344-0380 (central CT)
www.slsct.org

*If you are undocumented OR if you are over 60,
call your local legal services office.*

Connecticut Legal Services

Connecticut Legal Services (**CLS**) provides legal representation to low-income persons throughout the state, except those living in the greater Hartford or New Haven areas. Call SLS to apply for legal help at 1-800-453-3320 (toll free) or 860-344-0380 (central CT). CLS has service offices in the following cities:

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Bridgeport | 211 State Street | 203-336-3851 |
| New Britain | 16 Main Street | 860-225-8678 |
| New London | 153 Williams Street | 860-447-0323 |
| Stamford | 20 Summer Street | 203-348-9216 |
| Waterbury | 85 Central Avenue | 203-756-8074 |
| Willimantic | 872 Main Street | 860-456-1761 |

CLS Administrative Office
860-344-0447
www.connlegalservices.org

Greater Hartford Legal Aid

Greater Hartford Legal Aid (**GHLA**) provides legal representation to low-income persons who live in the greater Hartford area. Call SLS to apply for legal help at 1-800-453-3320 (toll free) or 860-344-0380 (central CT).

860-541-5000 TDD: 860-541-5069
999 Asylum Avenue, 3rd Floor, Hartford, CT 06105
www.ghla.org

New Haven Legal Assistance Association

New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Inc. (**LAA**) provides legal representation to low-income persons in the greater New Haven and lower Naugatuck Valley areas. Call SLS to apply for legal help at 1-800-453-3320 (toll free) or 860-344-0380 (central CT).

203-946-4811 TDD: 203-946-4811
426 State Street, New Haven, CT 06510
www.nhlegal.org

Legal Assistance Resource Center

The Legal Assistance Resource Center of Connecticut (LARCC) coordinates publications, policy advocacy and staff training for the legal services programs. LARCC also sponsors the Connecticut Alliance for Basic Human Needs (CABHN), a statewide advocacy network. CABHN publishes a free monthly newsletter, CABHN Fever, and conducts community outreach and education.

860-278-5688
363 Main Street, Flr. 3-1
Hartford, CT 06106
www.larcc.org

Center for Children’s Advocacy

The Center for Children’s Advocacy focuses on rights and interests of poor children involved in judicial, welfare, health, mental health, education, and juvenile justice systems.

860-570-5327
65 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, CT 06105
www.kidscounsel.org

The Children’s Law Center of Connecticut

The Children’s Law Center of Connecticut represents children whose families are involved in divorce and custody matters in court. The *Law Line* provides legal information on family issues such as custody, visitation and child support.

860-232-9993 Law Line: 1-888-529-3667 (toll free)
30 Arbor Street, South, Hartford, CT 06106
www.clcct.org

Connecticut Fair Housing Center

Connecticut Fair Housing Center provides legal representation for people claiming discrimination in housing matters and foreclosures.

860-247-4400
221 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06106
www.ctfairhousing.org

Connecticut Legal Rights Project

Connecticut Legal Rights Project provee representación legal a los adultos de bajos ingresos con discapacidad siquiátrica, cuyos problemas legales principales estén relacionados con su tratamiento y derechos civiles.

860-262-5030

One Vance Drive, Middletown, CT 06457

www.clrp.org

Lawyers for Children America

Lawyers for Children America provee capacitación y soporte a los abogados voluntarios que representan a niños en asuntos de protección infantil en el Tribunal Juvenil.

860-273-0441

151 Farmington Avenue, RW61, Hartford, CT 06156

www.lawyersforchildrenamerica.org

Consumer Law Project for Elders (CLPE)

El Consumer Law Project for Elders (CLPE) provee asistencia legal gratis para personas de 60 años en adelante con problemas de consumo.

1-800-296-1467

www.ctlawhelp.org

Connecticut Veterans Legal Center

El Centro Legal de Connecticut para Veteranos existe para ayudar a los veteranos militares a recuperarse luego de haber estado sin hogar y con enfermedad mental, a superar las barreras legales para obtener ingresos y vivienda estable.

203-903-2852 <http://ctveteranslegal.org>

Áreas de Legal Assistance de

Statewide Legal Services (SLS)
Connecticut Legal Services (CLS)
Greater Hartford Legal Aid (GHLA)
New Haven Legal Assistance Association (LAA)

Ofrecemos ayuda en las siguientes áreas:

Cuidado de la Salud y Beneficios: asistencia pública, ingresos de seguro social (SSI), cupones de alimentos (beneficios de "SNAP"), cuidado infantil, asistencia médica

Inmigración: representación y asesoría en asuntos de inmigración incluyendo procesos de deportación, naturalización, víctimas de violencia doméstica y otros delitos

Empleo: discriminación, beneficios de desempleo, desarrollo económico, salario y horas de trabajo

Niños y Familia: divorcio, manutención de menores, custodia, visitación, órdenes de restricción, tutela legal, representación de menores, asuntos de violencia doméstica, educación

Consumidor: bancarrota, colección de deudas, acciones de menor cuantía, embargos por impago

Ancianos: problemas con hogares de ancianos, derechos a hogares de convalecencia, asistencia médica, seguro social, asuntos del consumidor y otros

Vivienda: discriminación, desalojamientos, cierres, aumentos de arriendos, corte de servicios públicos, personas sin hogar, condiciones precarias, disputas entre arrendador/arrendatarios, vivienda pública

Personas con Discapacidades: accesibilidad, discriminación, vivir en forma independiente, educación especial, rehabilitación vocacional, transporte



Programas de Servicios Legales en Connecticut

Una guía para encontrar asesoría legal gratuita en Connecticut



La Red:

Los programas de servicios legales de Connecticut son un grupo de organizaciones sin fines de lucro que proveen asesoría legal en asuntos civiles a las personas de bajos ingresos. Los servicios son gratuitos. La elegibilidad depende de los ingresos, el tamaño de la familia, los bienes y los problemas legales.

Trabajando en Colaboración:

Los programas trabajan en colaboración para abogar por (y con) las personas de bajos ingresos, en una variedad de asuntos. Además de representación y asesoría legal individual, los programas de servicios legales ayudan a los clientes, grupos comunitarios y a los proveedores mediante la capacitación gratuita, panfletos y otra información.

Busque *www.CtLawHelp.org*

Las Organizaciones de Ayuda Legal en Connecticut trabajaron juntas y crearon esta página de web para ayudar a las personas con bajos ingresos a encontrar ayuda para sus problemas legales. Este sitio tratará de contestar sus preguntas y darle información y las herramientas para ayudarlo a representarse usted mismo.

www.CtLawHelp.org

Statewide Legal Services

Statewide Legal Services (**SLS**) se encuentra disponible por teléfono a los clientes por todo Connecticut. Por lo general, SLS es el punto de partida para acceder a la ayuda legal. SLS puede ofrecer asesoría por teléfono, enviar información por correo o referir a los clientes a una oficina de servicios legales o abogado privado, sin costo alguno para el cliente.

1-800-453-3320 (llamadas gratuitas)
www.slsc.org

Connecticut Legal Services

Connecticut Legal Services (**CLS**) provee representación legal a las personas de bajos ingresos por todo el Estado, excepto aquellos que viven en las áreas de Greater Hartford o New Haven. Llame para solicitar ayuda SLS 1-800-453-3320 (llamadas gratuitas). CLS tiene oficinas de servicio en:

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Bridgeport</i> | <i>211 State Street</i> | <i>203-336-3851</i> |
| <i>New Britain</i> | <i>16 Main Street</i> | <i>860-225-8678</i> |
| <i>New London</i> | <i>153 Williams Street</i> | <i>860-447-0323</i> |
| <i>Stamford</i> | <i>20 Summer Street</i> | <i>203-348-9216</i> |
| <i>Waterbury</i> | <i>85 Central Avenue</i> | <i>203-756-8074</i> |
| <i>Willimantic</i> | <i>872 Main Street</i> | <i>860-456-1761</i> |

CLS Administrative Office 860-344-0447
www.connlegalservices.org

Greater Hartford Legal Aid

Greater Hartford Legal Aid (**GHLA**) provee representación legal a las personas de bajos ingresos que viven en el área de Greater Hartford. Llame para solicitar ayuda SLS 1-800-453-3320 (llamadas gratuitas).

860-541-5000 TDD: 860-541-5069
999 Asylum Avenue, 3rd Floor, Hartford, CT 06105
www.ghla.org

New Haven Legal Assistance Association

New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Inc. (**LAA**) provee representación legal a las personas de bajos ingresos en las áreas de New Haven y Lower Naugatuck Valley. Llame para solicitar ayuda SLS 1-800-453-3320 (llamadas gratuitas).

203-946-4811 TDD: 203-946-4811
426 State Street, New Haven, CT 06510
www.nhlegal.org

**Si usted es indocumentado o si usted tiene 60 años o más, llame a su oficina local de ayuda legal*

Legal Assistance Resource Center

El Legal Assistance Resource Center of Connecticut (**LARCC**) coordina publicaciones, defensa de políticas y capacitación de personal para los programas de servicios legales. Además, LARCC patrocina a la Connecticut Alliance for Basic Human Needs [Alianza para las Necesidades Humanas Básicas de Connecticut (CABHN)], una red de abogacía por todo el Estado. CABHN publica un boletín informativo mensual gratuito, *CABHN Fever*, y realiza actividades de alcance comunitario y educación.

860-278-5688
363 Main Street, Flr. 3-1, Hartford, CT 06106
www.larcc.org

Center for Children's Advocacy

El Center for Children's Advocacy se centra en los derechos e intereses de los niños pobres involucrados en sistemas judiciales, bienestar, salud, salud mental, educación y justicia juvenil.

860-570-5327
65 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, CT 06105
www.kidscounsel.org

The Children's Law Center of Connecticut

El Children's Law Center of Connecticut provee representación a los niños cuyas familias están involucradas en un divorcio y asuntos de custodia en los tribunales. El *Law Line* provee información sobre a custodia, visitación y manutención de los hijos.

860-232-9993 *Law Line: 1-888-529-3667 (llamadas gratuitas)*
30 Arbor Street, South, Hartford, CT 06106
www.clcct.org

Connecticut Fair Housing Center

Connecticut Fair Housing Center provee representación legal a las personas que alegan discriminación en asuntos de vivienda y las ejecuciones hipotecarias.

860-247-4400
221 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06106
www.ctfairhousing.org



Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries

Find a Lawyer

One web page to find information about advocacy groups, attorney directories, attorney referral services, public defenders, lawyer associations, legal aid, and legal clinics



- [Advocacy Groups](#)
- [Attorney Directory](#)
- [Attorney Referral Services](#)
- [Connecticut Public Defender Offices](#)
- [Lawyer Associations](#)
- [Legal Aid](#)
- [Legal Clinics](#)
- [Limited Scope Representation Pilot Program](#)

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib/referral.htm>

Advocacy Groups

AIDS Legal Network for Connecticut

999 Asylum Ave., 3rd Floor, Hartford, CT 06105 - (860) 541-5000

- **Mission:** Provides statewide referrals to pro bono attorneys for people with legal problems related to HIV status. No fee.
- **Service Area:** Statewide

Center for Children's Advocacy, University of Connecticut School of Law

65 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, CT 06105 - (860) 570-5327 - Fax: (860) 570-5256

- **Mission:** To provide legal representation of poor children and improve the quality of legal representation of children.
- **Target Population:** Children.
- **Service Area:** State of Connecticut
- **Services Provided:** A full range of legal representation to individual clients.

Center for Medicare Advocacy Inc.

P.O. Box 350, Willimantic, CT 06226 - (860) 456-7790 - Fax: (860) 456-2614

E-mail: <http://www.medicareadvocacy.org/about/contact-us-2/>

- **Mission:** To provide legal assistance and education on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries.
- **Target Population:** Includes those with long-term and chronic conditions and those eligible for Connecticut Medicare Assignment Program.
- **Service Area:** State of Connecticut
- **Services Provided:** A full range of legal representation to individual clients. Advice/counseling/referral for individual clients. Policy advocacy, class action litigation, training seminars, written materials.

The Children's Law Center

30 Lafayette Square, Suite 103, Vernon, CT 06066 - (860) 232-9993

- **Mission:** To provide quality representation to children in Family Court. Information and referral to the general public regarding children's issues.
- **Target Population:** Children who meet criteria (indigence and certain risk factors).
- **Service Area:** 1. Hartford, Rockville, Putnam. 2. Statewide
- **Services Provided:** Representation to children in Family Court. Advice/counseling/referral for individual clients. Policy advocacy.

Connecticut Appleseed Center for Law and Justice

25 Dudley Road, Wilton, CT 06897 (203) 210-5356

- **Mission:** Legal Advocacy organization working on systemic reform to promote justice and social responsibility. We work on a variety of public interest issues. We are one of 14 such centers nationwide and are associated with the Appleseed Foundation.
- **Target Population:** No.
- **Service Area:** Statewide
- **Services Provided:** Policy advocacy. Legislative initiatives. Litigation, negotiation, mediation. Available to community organizations that wish to organize systemic policy work.

American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut

330 Main St., 1st Floor, Hartford, CT 06106 - (860) 523-9146 - Fax: (860) 728-0287

- **Mission:** The American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut (ACLU-CT) is a nonpartisan, non-profit membership organization whose mission is to assure that the Bill of Rights and the rights guaranteed by the Connecticut Constitution are preserved for each new generation. The ACLU-CT accomplishes these goals through legislative advocacy, litigation, grassroots organizing, and public education on a broad array of issues affecting our liberties. The ACLU-CT is one of 53 affiliates of the American Civil Liberties Union nationwide.

Connecticut Council of Family Service Agencies (CCFSA)

1310 Silas Deane Highway, Suite 219, Wethersfield, CT 06109 - Phone: 860-571-0093 Fax: 860-571-0118

- **Mission:** Our mission is to be the premier resource to strengthen CT's diverse individuals and families, and the communities in which they live. To accomplish this mission, we will build member agencies' capacity for collaboration and innovation; advocate for the development of State and Federal policies and programs that will foster the well-being of CT's children, adults, and families; develop and provide services that empower them to move toward self-reliance and healthy inter-dependence; and be relevant and responsive to CT's diverse populations.
- **Target Population:** CCFSA is a statewide network of independent, non-profit, family service agencies that deliver services from over 90 offices located throughout the state of Connecticut. Member Agencies provide professional services to Connecticut's children, youth, adults, and their families.
- **Services Provided:** Member agencies serve as a statewide provider network for the following CCFSA programs: The welfare-to-work Empowering People for Success Program (EPS), Focus on K.I.D.S., Parenting Education Program (PEP), and On the Road Again.

Connecticut Fair Housing Center

221 Main Street, Suite 401, Hartford, CT 06106 - (860) 247-4400 - Fax: (860) 247-4236
171 Orange Street, New Haven, CT 06510 Phone: (203) 772-3247, Fax (203) 562-7107
Email: info@ctfairhousing.org Phone: (888) 247-4401

- **Mission:** The primary mission of Connecticut Fair Housing Center is to ensure that all people have equal access to housing opportunities in Connecticut.
- **Target Population:** The Connecticut Fair Housing Center's services are limited to cases involving housing discrimination.
- **Service Area:** Statewide
- **Services Provided:** A full range of legal representation to individual clients through Pro Bono network of attorneys. Advice/counseling/referral for individual clients. Policy advocacy.

Connecticut Legal Rights Project

P.O. Box 351, Silver Street, Middletown, CT 06457 - (860) 667-0460 - Fax: (860) 667-2240

- **Mission:** To provide legal assistance and advocacy services primarily with issues that involve, services, due-process procedures, and discrimination related to psychiatric disabilities.
- **Target Population:** Low income adults who have, or are perceived to have, a psychiatric disability.
- **Service Area:** Statewide
- **Services Provided:** A full range of legal representation to individual clients. Advice/counseling/referral for individual clients. Community education/training.

Lawyers for Children America

151 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, CT 06156 - (860) 273-0441 - Fax: (860) 273-8340

- **Mission:** Lawyers for Children America mobilizes legal and other resources to address the issue of youth and violence through pro bono representation of abused and neglected children and through implementation and support of peer-based mediation programs.
- **Target Population:** Advocacy component: appointments as child counsel made from Juvenile Court only. Mediation component: partner with schools currently implementing or in process of implementing peer mediation programs.
- **Service Area:** Hartford and Fairfield County
- **Services Provided:** LFCA recruits, trains, and supports pro bono attorneys to represent children in abuse and neglect matters. LFCA attorneys are appointed through the Juvenile Court.

Office of the Child Advocate

999 Asylum Avenue, 1st Floor, Hartford, CT 06105, 860-566-2106, Toll Free: 800-994-0939

Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities

60B Weston Street, Hartford, CT 06120, (860) 297-4300 - Fax: (860) 566-8714 - TTD: (860) 566-2102

- **Mission:** The Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities provides information, referral, and advocacy assistance to persons with disabilities in the state of Connecticut who have been discriminated against or who are experiencing difficulty securing relevant supports and service. The office also investigates allegations of abuse and neglect of adults with mental retardation and psychiatric disabilities.
- **Target Population:** Persons with disabilities.
- **Service Area:** Statewide
- **Services Provided:** Advice/counseling/referral for individual clients. Policy advocacy. Advocacy and representation are provided consistently with agency and priority areas.

CT Elder Law

62 Washington Street, Middletown, CT 06457, (860) 344-0447 - Fax: (860) 346-2938

E-mail: ElderLaw@ConnLegalServices.Org

- **Mission:** The mission of CT Elder Law is to provide comprehensive and current information on elder law, government programs, and sources of legal assistance. This web site includes plain language explanations of law and government programs, copies of the laws and information, and advice on obtaining legal information.
- **Services Provided:** Legal Assistance for Elders; Public Benefit Programs for Elders; Health Care programs for Elders; Nursing Home Residents' Rights; Patients' Rights; Managed Care; and Living Wills and Advance Directives.

Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund (CWEALF)

One Hartford Square West, Suite 1-300, Hartford, CT 06106-1903 (860) 247-6090 Fax: (860) 524-0804, Email: mailto:cwealf@snet.net

Information & Referral Line: 1-800-479-2949 (Toll free)

- **Mission:** CWEALF is a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to empowering women, girls, and their families to achieve equal opportunities in their personal and professional lives.
- **Services Provided:** We educate individuals through direct contact to navigate the legal and social service systems by: explaining the law in easy-to-understand terms, developing and disseminating booklets on specific legal rights, and making referrals to attorneys and other

service providers. We provide training, technical assistance, and resources to employers, schools, and community organizations by: educating individuals and organizations about legal rights and responsibilities, increasing awareness of gender inequities, and offering practical applications and solutions. We work to improve laws and policies that affect women, girls, and their families by: identifying crucial issues through research and client contact, focusing public attention on those issues, and recommending, advocating, and implementing reforms. We are guided by our commitment to feminism, diversity, empowerment, personal responsibility, and self-sufficiency, compassion, collaboration, professionalism, and self-assessment in all of our associations and programs.

National Center on Poverty Law

205 West Monroe Street, Chicago, IL 60606 (312) 263-3830

- **Mission:** The National Center on Poverty Law promotes equal justice through policy, advocacy, and legal resources. Our work is unique in that our agenda derives from what we learn from our low-income clients.
- **Services Provided:** Legislative and administrative advocacy, impact litigation, and information and dissemination. Our legal resources include publications, the most extensive poverty law library in the country, and the Poverty Law Research Center. Our work is designed not only for clients but for legal services attorneys, pro bono attorneys, social service providers, social policy administrators, policy makers, and others committed to improving the lives of persons in poverty.

Attorney Directories Online

- **Connecticut Judicial Branch - Attorney/Firm Look-up**
<http://www.jud2.ct.gov/attorneyfirming/AttorneyFirmInquiry.aspx>
- **FindLaw Lawyer Directory**
<http://lawyers.findlaw.com/>
- **Lawyers.com (Lawyer Locator)**
<http://www.lawyers.com/find-a-lawyer.html>
- **Licensed Attorneys by State**
<http://www.llrx.com/features/lawyerlicenses.htm>
- **Martindale.com (Lawyer Locator)**
<http://www.martindale.com/>

Attorney Referral Services

- **Hartford, Litchfield, Middlesex, Tolland, and Windham Counties** 860-525-6052
- **Fairfield County** 203-335-4116
- **New Haven County** 203-562-5750
- **New London County (Monday, Wednesday, Friday)** 860-889-9384
- **CT Women's Educational and Legal Fund Attorney Referral Service** 1-800-479-2949

Division of Public Defender Services

| Office | Phone Number | Fax |
|--|--------------|----------|
| Office of Chief Public Defender (Hartford) | 860-509-6400 | 509-6495 |
| Capital Defense and Trial Services Unit | 860-509-6418 | 509-6497 |
| Habeas Corpus Unit | 860-509-6436 | 509-6498 |
| Psychiatric Defense Unit (CVH) | 860-262-5910 | 262-5915 |
| Office of the Chief Public Defender (Hamden) | 203-867-6150 | 867-6157 |
| Bantam: GA #18 | 860-567-3946 | 567-4402 |
| Bridgeport: Fairfield JD | 203-579-6501 | 579-6974 |
| Bridgeport GA #2 | 203-579-6551 | 382-8470 |
| Bridgeport Juvenile Matters | 203-579-6599 | 382-8459 |
| Bristol GA #17 | 860-589-5976 | 589-2365 |
| Danbury JD/GA #3 | 203-207-8650 | 207-8660 |
| Danielson: GA #11 | 860-774-7738 | None |
| Derby: GA #5 | 203-735-8616 | 735-8618 |
| Enfield: GA #13 | 860-741-3741 | 741-7235 |
| Hartford JD | 860-566-4284 | 566-1619 |
| Hartford: GA #14 | 860-566-5090 | 566-1619 |
| Hartford Community Court | 860-756-7840 | 756-7845 |
| Hartford: Juvenile Matters | 860-566-7566 | 566-4143 |
| Litchfield JD | 860-567-3101 | 567-0004 |
| Manchester: GA #12 | 860-649-6484 | 645-6092 |
| Meriden: GA #7 | 203-238-6135 | 238-6319 |
| Middletown JD/GA #9 | 860-343-6480 | 343-6496 |
| Milford: Ans/Mil JD/GA #22 | 203-874-8857 | 874-8089 |
| New Britain JD | 860-515-5366 | 515-5366 |
| New Britain GA #15 | 860-515-5353 | 515-5366 |
| New Britain Juvenile | 860-515-5222 | 515-5226 |
| New Haven JD | 203-789-7891 | 789-6863 |
| New Haven: GA #6 | 203-789-7458 | 789-7542 |
| New Haven: GA #8 | 203-789-7857 | 789-6870 |
| New Haven: Juvenile Matters | 203-786-0330 | 786-0378 |
| New London JD | 860-443-0490 | 444-1941 |
| New London: GA #10 | 860-443-5356 | 443-8512 |
| Norwalk: GA #20 | 203-840-8463 | 840-8465 |
| Norwich: GA #21 | 860-889-3838 | 889-9943 |
| Putnam: GA #11 | 860-928-7679 | None |
| Rockville: Tolland JD/GA #19 | 860-870-3280 | 870-3297 |
| Stamford/Norwalk JD | 203-965-5245 | 325-9399 |
| Stamford: GA #1 | 203-965-5241 | 325-9399 |
| Uncasville: Juvenile Matters | 860-848-4754 | 848-1344 |
| Waterbury JD | 203-236-8188 | 236-8191 |
| Waterbury: GA #4 | 203-236-8170 | 236-8180 |
| Waterbury: Juvenile Matters | 203-596-4179 | 596-4180 |
| West Hartford: GA #16 | 860-232-9684 | 233-3659 |
| Willimantic JD/GA #11 | 860-423-6038 | 423-4094 |

Legal Aid

Connecticut Network for Legal Aid

Website: <http://ctlawhelp.org/> - 1-800-453-3320

- **Mission:** Improve the lives of Connecticut's poorest citizens by providing free legal services to people with very low income.
- **Target Population:** Low income people.
- Created by several nonprofit legal services organizations

Connecticut Legal Services Administrative Office

62 Washington Street, Middletown, CT 06457 - (860) 344-0447 - Fax: (860) 346-2938

E-Mail: cls@connlegalservices.org

- **Mission:** Connecticut Legal Services (CLS) provides legal representation to low-income persons. With 12 offices located around the state, CLS is able to serve those located outside of the Hartford and New Haven Areas.
- **Target Population:** Low income people.
- **Service Area:** All of Connecticut except Hartford and New Haven Counties.
- **Services Provided:** A full range of legal representation to individual clients. Advice/counseling/referral for individual clients. Policy advocacy.

Greater Hartford Legal Aid, Inc.

999 Asylum Avenue, 3rd Floor, Hartford, CT 06105 - (860) 541-5000 - Fax: (860) 541-5050,

TTD: (860) 541-5069

E-Mail: ghla@ghla.org

- **Mission:** Greater Hartford Legal Aid (GHLA) provides legal representation to low-income persons who live in the greater Hartford area.
- **Target Population:** Low income people.
- **Service Area:** Greater Hartford
- **Services Provided:** A full range of legal representation to individual clients. Advice/counseling/referral for individual clients. Policy advocacy.

Inmates' Legal Assistance Program

78 Oak Street, P.O. Box 2600237, Hartford, CT 06126-0237, (860) 246-1118 - Fax: (860) 246-1119

- **Mission:** To offer legal assistance, primarily through advice, to persons incarcerated in Connecticut's prisons.
- **Target Population:** Persons imprisoned in state prisons in Connecticut.
- **Service Area:** Statewide
- **Services Provided:** Advice/counseling/referral for individual clients.

International Institute

670 Clinton Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06605-1704 - (203) 336-0141 - Fax: (203) 339-4400,

E-Mail: iiconn@aol.com

- **Hartford Satellite** - 487 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06103 - (860) 520-4050 - Fax: (860) 520-4191
- **Stamford Satellite** - 22 Grove Street, Stamford, CT 06904 - (203) 965-7190 - Fax: (203) 425-8927

- **Mission:** The International Institute of Connecticut Inc. is a nonprofit, nonsectarian, social service agency dedicated to the needs of immigrants, refugees, and their families. Support is provided through direct professional services, counseling, advocacy, and the advancement of fair and humane public policy. The International Institute of Connecticut is dedicated to promoting full participation in the state's culturally diverse communities.
- **Target Population:** Refugees, immigrants, and U.S. citizens and the undocumented.
- **Service Area:** State of Connecticut
- **Services Provided:** Full range of legal representation regarding immigration, citizenship, and INS.

Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization

P.O. Box 209090, New Haven, CT 06520-9090 - (203) 432-4992

- **Mission:** The Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization (LSO) links law students with individuals in need of legal help who cannot afford private attorneys.
- **Target Population:** Our main work is with the poor and near poor.
- **Service Area:** Greater New Haven Community
- **Services Provided:** A full range of legal representation to individual clients. Policy advocacy.

Legal Assistance Resource Center of Connecticut

44 Capitol Ave., Suite 301, Hartford, CT 06106 - (860) 278-5688 - Fax: (860) 278-2957

- **Mission:** Advocacy, training, publications, and support services for legal services programs in Connecticut.
- **Target Population:** Legal Services organizations provide legal assistance to low-income people in civil cases. LARCC assists legal service organizations by providing material for client education, legislative and administrative advocacy on issues of concern to clients, and training for staff. Recent emphasis has been on federal and state welfare changes.
- **Services Provided:** Policy advocacy. Public education. Written materials. Training programs.

New Haven Legal Assistance Association

426 State Street, New Haven, CT 06510, (203) 946-4811 - Fax: (203) 498-9271 TTD: (203) 946-4811

- **Mission:** New Haven Legal Assistance Association (LAA) provides legal service to individuals and groups in the greater New Haven and lower Naugatuck valley areas.
- **Target Population:** Low income people.
- **Service Area:** Greater New Haven and Lower Naugatuck valley areas
- **Services Provided:** A full range of legal representation to individual clients. Advocacy/counseling/referral for individual clients.

Division of Public Defender Services

30 Trinity Street, Hartford, CT 06106 - (860) 509-6400 - Fax: (860) 509-6495

- **Mission:** To provide legal representation to indigent accused persons in adult criminal matters, juvenile delinquency matters, appeals, habeas corpus proceedings arising from criminal matters, extradition proceedings, and psychiatry security review board proceedings.
- **Target Population:** Accused or convicted persons who are indigent in accordance with Section 51-297 of the Connecticut General Statutes.
- **Services Provided:** A full range of legal representation to individual clients.

Quinnipiac University School of Law - Legal Clinic

275 Mt. Carmel Avenue, Hamden, CT - (203) 582-3238 - Fax: (203) 582-3237

- **Mission:** Education of law students and service to low or middle income individuals.
- **Target Population:** Clients with tax law, health law (disability and access issues, rights of mentally ill), civil, family, and bankruptcy issues.
- **Service Area:** Mostly New Haven, Milford, and Bridgeport. Tax is statewide.
- **Services Provided:** A full range of legal representation to individual clients.

Statewide Legal Services - Legal Clinic

1290 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT 06109

Toll free: 1-800-453-3320 - For Hartford and Middletown (860) 344-0380 Fax: (860) 344-1918

Call-In hours: 9 am - 12 noon and 1 - 2 pm Monday through Friday

- **Mission:** Statewide Legal Services (SLS) is available to clients throughout Connecticut by phone. Generally SLS is the entry point for accessing legal assistance. SLS may provide advice over the phone, mail information, or refer clients to a legal services office or private attorney at no cost to the client.
- **Target Population:** Low income people throughout Connecticut.
- **Service Area:** Mostly New Haven, Milford, Meriden, Waterbury, and Bridgeport. Tax is statewide.
- **Services Provided:** Legal advice/counseling/referral for individual clients.

Legal Clinics and Help


Divorce / Custody Help

Talk to a lawyer about divorce, custody, visitation, or other family questions.

- [Volunteer Attorney Program Schedule](#) — Call the Court Operations Unit at 860-263-2734 to confirm that there is no change to the clinic schedule.
Hartford: Every Wednesday
Stamford: Every Thursday
Waterbury: Two Fridays a month


Foreclosure Help

Get help with foreclosure and mediation, and find out about resources.

- [Volunteer Attorney Program Schedule](#) — Call the Court Operations Unit at 860-263-2734 to confirm that there is no change to the clinic schedule.
Bridgeport: Every Wednesday
Hartford: Every Tuesday
New Britain: Every Wednesday
New Haven: Every Wednesday
New London: Every Wednesday
Stamford: Every Wednesday
Waterbury: Every Wednesday
- [Foreclosure Prevention Clinics](#)  — Call the Connecticut Fair Housing Center at 860-247-4400 for more information.
Fairfield County
Hartford


General Help

Talk to a lawyer about any legal question.

- [Ask a Lawyer Calendar](#)  — Call the New Haven County Bar Association at 203-562-5750 to confirm that there is no change to the clinic schedule.
New Haven: Every 1st Wednesday
Branford: Every 3rd Thursday
Cheshire: Every 1st Thursday
East Haven: Every 3rd Wednesday
Northford and North Branford: Every 4th Wednesday (alternating between locations)
Yale University: One Monday per month


Homeless Individuals (Project H.E.L.P.)

Homeless individuals can talk to a lawyer about legal matters.

- [Project H.E.L.P. Schedule](#)  — Visit the Project H.E.L.P. website (<http://homelesslegalprotection.com/>) for more information.
Hartford: Every Tuesday

Security Deposits

Talk to a lawyer about getting back your security deposit.

- [Security Deposit Clinic](#)  — Call Statewide Legal Services at 1-800-453-3320 for an appointment.
Wethersfield: Every 3rd Tuesday

Small Claims Help

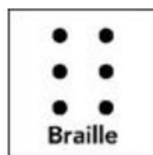
Talk to a lawyer about starting a case, defending a case, or other small claims questions.

- **Hartford:** Tuesdays, twice a month. Call the Hartford Court Service Center at 860-706-5064 for current information.
- **Middletown:** Mondays, twice a month. Call the Middletown Court Service Center at 860-343-6499 for current information.
- **New Haven:** Every 1st Thursday. Call the New Haven Court Service Center at 203-503-6819 for current information.



Connecticut Judicial Branch

The Judicial Branch complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)



For your assistance, the Judicial Branch has auxiliary aids on-site. This may include pocket-talkers, which amplify sound, and magnifying glasses for viewing documents. Other accommodations may require additional time to fulfill. Please note that the Judicial Branch does not provide aids or services of a personal nature, such as wheelchairs or assistance with personal tasks.

If you need further information or assistance, please ask to see the ADA contact person at this facility.

A Guide to Understanding The Americans With Disabilities Act

Questions and Answers for Members of the Public



The [Connecticut Judicial Branch](#) is committed to carrying out the objectives of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). [Title II of the ADA](#) requires public entities, such as the Connecticut Judicial Branch, to accommodate individuals with disabilities by providing equal access to their services, programs, and activities. This brochure is designed to assist members of the public with reliable, easy to find ADA information. *Please note that words that are underlined are "hyperlinked" to online versions of forms and other available information.*

Under the ADA, one has a disability if one has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity, if one has a history of such an impairment, or is perceived to have an impairment. Major life activities include, but are not limited to, caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, lifting, bending, speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, and working.

In this brochure, you will find answers to common questions about the ADA and the courts. If you have other questions, you may speak to your local ADA contact person.

1: I will be visiting a Judicial Branch building. Will there be an accessible entrance?

A: Yes. Every Judicial Branch facility has an accessible entrance. Please visit the court [Directions page](#) on the Branch's website, jud.ct.gov, to find out where it is located. If you don't have Internet access, please contact the Clerk's office.

2: May I request an accommodation before I come to court?

A: Yes. While a request for an accommodation can be made at any time, it is best to make the request as far in advance as one can. If possible, you should give a minimum of 10 days' notice.

3: I will be visiting a courthouse, but I do not have a court case. Can I still make a request for an accommodation?

A: Yes. Anyone with a disability can make a request, whether that person is an attorney, a party to a case, a juror, or a member of the public who simply wants to observe court proceedings.

4: How do I make a request for accommodation?

A: A request can be made in many different ways. You can fill out the [Request for Accommodation By Persons With Disabilities](#) form that is on the Judicial Branch website, or you can call the court Clerk's office or [Court Service Center](#) in the facility that you will be visiting. In addition, you may call or write a contact person at each facility who can assist you by answering specific questions about access to services and by processing requests for accommodations. [The list of Contact people and their email addresses](#) is on the Judicial Branch website.

5: Are ADA-related forms and information available in alternative formats?

A: Yes. The information can be made available in other formats such as Braille, large print, and audio. However, this is done by request only and may take some time. Ask your local Contact person.

6: Can I get help filling out the form?

A: Yes. Feel free to ask the local contact person or any other court personnel to help you fill out the form. However, they are unable to provide you legal advice.

7: What is the role of the ADA Contact person?

A: An ADA Contact Person is available at each Judicial Branch facility to ensure that members of the public have an individual at each location who can provide specific information about accommodations available at that location. The Contact person is not qualified, nor authorized, to act as an ADA attorney, expert, advocate, or ADA compliance officer.

8: What information should I include on my Request for Accommodation form?

A: The accommodation request must include the full name, address and contact information of the person making the request. If known, the request should state the date of the proceeding, the docket number, and whether it is a civil or criminal matter.

9: Do I have to tell you the nature of my disability?

A: Yes, the request should state the nature of the disability that makes an accommodation necessary and include a suggestion as to what would be a reasonable accommodation for the disability. Providing this information will allow the person reviewing your request to better understand the limitation or limitations you are facing, and provide you the most appropriate reasonable accommodation.



10: Do I need to prove that I have a disability?

A: Most requests for an accommodation do not require proof. In some cases, however, it may be necessary to provide additional information for the Judicial Branch to determine whether you are a “qualified” person with a disability under the ADA and/or to help identify the most appropriate reasonable accommodation.

11: If I provide information about my disability, is it confidential?

A: Yes. The Judicial Branch is committed to preserving confidentiality. The information will only be used to determine if an accommodation is needed and identify the most appropriate reasonable accommodation.

12: Can I request specific equipment or services to assist me?

A: Yes. The Judicial Branch can make assistive listening devices, sign language interpreters, printed material in alternate formats, and real time transcription services available *when appropriate*. For [a list of some available equipment and services](#), please visit the Judicial Branch’s website, or contact a person at the facility that you will be visiting.

13: Can I request that an attorney be provided for my court case?

A: No. The ADA does *not* require the Judicial Branch to provide a lawyer as an accommodation. However, we invite you to visit or call any of our Court Service Centers or a Public Information Desk for information on more resources. Additionally, you can find resources on the [Judicial Branch Law Libraries website](#).

14: Can I request services or devices of a personal nature?

A: No. The ADA does not require the Judicial Branch to provide services or devices of a personal nature, such as wheelchairs or other mobility devices, or legal representation, secretarial services, and transportation.

15: How long will it take for my request to be reviewed?

A: All requests are reviewed immediately. However, in some instances, a request will require further consideration. You will be notified of the decision *as soon as possible*.

16: Can my request be denied?

A: Yes. Although the Judicial Branch is committed to ensuring that persons with disabilities have equal access to the courts, some requests may be denied.

17: Why would my request be denied?

A: The ADA does not require that an accommodation be provided to someone who is not a “qualified” person with a disability. In addition, the ADA does not require actions that would cause a “fundamental alteration of a program or service” or would present an “undue financial or administrative burden.” Additionally, the individual’s physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity must be directly related to the accommodation being sought.

18: If my request is denied, can I appeal the denial?

A: Yes. If your request for an accommodation is denied, or if you do not agree with the accommodation offered, you can file a grievance/complaint. The grievance must be filed no later than 10 days after the denial has been made on your request. For additional information about

[the grievance process](#) and to find [the grievance/complaint form](#), please visit the Judicial Branch website or ask for assistance at the courthouse.

19: I don’t like the Judge’s ruling in my case. Can I file an ADA complaint?

A: No. The ADA Complaint process is used only when a request for accommodation has been denied. It is not the correct way to challenge a Judge’s decision.

20: Is there a cost for any of these services?

A: No. It is the Judicial Branch’s responsibility to provide a reasonable accommodation at no cost to all qualified individuals.

21: If I receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), does that guarantee that my request for an accommodation will be granted?

A: No. The definition of disability under the Social Security Administration is *not* the same as the definition of disability under the ADA. The Social Security Administration defines disability in terms of “inability to perform substantial gainful activity,” by which it means “work paying minimum wage or better.” The ADA defines it as having a record of or being perceived as having a “physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.”

22: I have a disability and have been summoned for jury service. How do I make a request for an accommodation?

A: If you have been summoned for jury service and need a reasonable accommodation, you may call Jury Administration at 1-800-842-8175, or 711 if you have a hearing or speech disability, or you may complete the [Juror Accommodation Form](#), JD-JA-030.

23: What is the Judicial Branch doing to improve access for people with disabilities?

A: The Judicial Branch recognizes the importance access plays in our court system and the ADA initiative is always ongoing. An [Advisory Board on the Americans with Disabilities Act](#) was created in 2011 to oversee the ongoing implementation of the recommendations approved by the Office of the Chief Court Administrator and to offer new recommendations as appropriate.

24: Who do I contact if I have any suggestions for improvement?

A: You may call the Superior Court Operations Division Coordinator at 860-706-5310 or you may email your suggestions to ADA.Program@jud.ct.gov. Please limit suggestions to general observations about programs or processes. Suggestions relating to specific cases will not be considered.



www.jud.ct.gov

23: ¿Qué iniciativas ha adoptado la Rama Judicial para facilitar mejor accesibilidad para personas con discapacidades?

R: La Rama Judicial reconoce la importancia de la accesibilidad a nuestro sistema judicial por lo que de manera constante está a la iniciativa para cumplir con los requisitos de la ley ADA. La Junta Asesora de la Ley de estadounidenses con Discapacidades fue creada en el año 2011 con el fin de supervisar la implementación en curso de recomendaciones ya aprobadas por la Oficina del Jefe Administrativo del Tribunal y ofrecer otras recomendaciones según corresponda.

24: ¿Con quién me comunico si tengo alguna sugerencia de mejoras en la accesibilidad?

R: Puede comunicarse con el Coordinador de la Unidad Administrativa de los Tribunales de Primera Instancia llamando al 860-706-5310, o enviar sus sugerencias por correo electrónico a: ADA.Program@jud.ct.gov. Se ruega que todas las sugerencias se limiten a comentarios de carácter general relativos a procedimientos o programas. No se considerarán sugerencias relativas a causas específicas.



www.jud.ct.gov

Guía para entender la ley de estadounidenses con discapacidades (ADA, por sus siglas en inglés).

Preguntas y respuestas para el público en general



La Rama Judicial del Estado de Connecticut se ha comprometido a cumplir con los objetivos de la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades. Según el Título II de la ley ADA, se le exige a toda entidad pública, entre ellas a la Rama Judicial del Estado de Connecticut, facilitar la accesibilidad a individuos con discapacidades proporcionándoles igualdad de acceso a sus servicios, programas y actividades. Este folleto está destinado a facilitar al público en general información fiable y de acceso fácil sobre la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades. *Tenga presente que las palabras que aparecen subrayadas están <<hiperenzadas>> a formularios disponibles en Internet e información adicional.*

Según lo dispone la ley ADA, se entenderá como discapacitado todo aquel que tenga algún impedimento físico o mental que impida sustancialmente alguna actividad primordial de la vida diaria, si dicha persona tiene constancia de tal impedimento o se percibe que tiene tal impedimento. Entre las actividades primordiales se incluyen, el cuidado personal, realizar trabajo manual, ver, escuchar, comer, dormir, caminar, mantenerse de pie, levantar cosas, doblarse, hablar, respirar, aprender, leer, concentrarse, pensar, comunicarse y trabajar.

En este folleto encontrará respuestas a las preguntas más comunes relativas a la ley ADA y a los tribunales. De tener más preguntas, puede comunicarse con el delegado de la ADA asignado a su zona.

1: Tengo que presentarme en una de las instalaciones de la Rama Judicial. ¿Habrá alguna entrada con accesibilidad para discapacitados?

R: Sí. Cada una de las instalaciones de la Rama Judicial cuenta con una entrada con accesibilidad para discapacitados. Visite la página de la red de la Rama Judicial llamada *Directions* (indicaciones de cómo llegar a los tribunales), para averiguar

dónde están ubicadas dichas entradas. Si no tiene acceso a Internet, comuníquese con la Secretaría.

2: ¿Puedo solicitar algún ajuste antes de presentarme en el tribunal?

R: Sí. Si bien puede solicitar algún ajuste razonable en cualquier momento, se recomienda que lo haga con la mayor antelación posible. Si es posible, nos debe avisar, a más tardar, diez días antes de su comparecencia.

3: Me presentaré en el tribunal, pero no tengo un caso pendiente. ¿Podría, de todas maneras, solicitar algún ajuste razonable?

R: Sí. Toda persona discapacitada puede presentar una solicitud, ya sea un abogado, una de las partes en una causa, un miembro del jurado o del público en general o simplemente alguien que quiera presenciar un procedimiento judicial.

4: ¿Cómo solicito algún ajuste razonable?

R: Hay varias maneras de solicitarlo. Puede llenar el formulario *Solicitud de Ajustes Razonables para Personas con Discapacidades* que está disponible en la página de la red de la Rama Judicial, o llamar a la Secretaría o Centro de Atención del Tribunal que visite. Además, cada una de las instalaciones cuenta con un delegado al que puede llamar o escribir para que le ayude a responder preguntas específicas relativas a la accesibilidad y a tramitar su solicitud para un ajuste razonable. En la página de la red de la Rama Judicial encontrará la lista de delegados de la ADA y la dirección de correo electrónico de los mismos.

5: ¿Se encuentran disponibles los formularios e información relativa a la ley ADA en otros formatos?

R: Sí. La información está disponible en otros formatos como en Braille, tamaño de letra grande, y audio. Sin embargo, dichos formatos solo se proporcionarán cuando se soliciten, y podrían demorar. Infórmese con el delegado de contacto asignado a su zona.

6: ¿Puedo recibir ayuda para llenar el formulario?

R: Sí. No dude en pedirle al delegado asignado a su zona o a alguno de los funcionarios del tribunal que le ayuden a llenar el formulario. Sin embargo, éstos no pueden prestarle asesoría jurídica.

7: ¿Cuál es la función del delegado de la ADA?

R: Cada una de las instalaciones de la Rama Judicial cuenta con un delegado de la ADA para garantizar que el público en general de cada localidad pueda consultar con un individuo que pueda suministrar información específica relativa a los ajustes razonables que se ofrezcan en dicha zona. Dicho delegado no está cualificado, ni autorizado para actuar en calidad de abogado, perito, defensor de la ADA o encargado del cumplimiento de dicha ley.

8: ¿Qué información debo incluir en mi Solicitud de Ajustes Razonables?

R: La solicitud deberá incluir el nombre completo, dirección e información de contacto del solicitante. También deberá indicarse en el pedimento, si se conoce, la fecha de comparecencia, el número de expediente, y si es un asunto de índole civil o penal.

9: ¿Tendré que indicar la naturaleza de mi discapacidad?

R: Sí, en el pedimento deberá indicar el tipo de discapacidad por la cual precisa algún ajuste razonable e incluir alguna sugerencia en cuanto a qué tipo de adaptaciones o adecuaciones serían razonables para hacer posible el acceso. Esta información ayudará a la persona que revise su solicitud a entender mejor cuáles son las limitaciones a las que se enfrenta, y a facilitarle los ajustes razonables más adecuados.

10: ¿Tengo que verificar que tengo alguna discapacidad?

R: No, en la mayoría de los casos no se requiere que presente prueba de la discapacidad. Sin embargo, en algunos casos, podría ser necesario que proporcione más información para que el personal de la Rama Judicial pueda determinar si "reúne los requisitos" para que se le reconozca como discapacitado conforme a la ley ADA o

pueda identificar el ajuste razonable más adecuado en su caso.

11: ¿Se considerará de carácter confidencial la información que yo proporcione sobre mi discapacidad?

R: Sí. La Rama Judicial se ha comprometido a garantizar la confidencialidad. Se recurrirá a esta información solamente con el fin de determinar si se requieren ajustes razonables y para identificar las adecuaciones más adecuadas.

12: ¿Podría solicitar algún equipo específico o servicios que me puedan servir de ayuda?

R: Sí. La Rama Judicial podría proporcionarle dispositivos de ayuda auditiva, intérpretes de lenguaje de señas, material impreso en diferentes formatos y transcripciones en directo o en tiempo real de ser necesarios. Para obtener una lista de algunos de los equipos y servicios disponibles, sírvase visitar la página de la red de la Rama Judicial, o comuníquese con alguno de los empleados de la instalación a la que se va a presentar.

13. ¿Puedo solicitar que se me asigne un abogado para que me represente en mi causa en el tribunal?

R: No. La ley ADA no le requiere a la Rama Judicial asignar a un abogado como parte de los ajustes razonables. Sin embargo, le sugerimos que visite o llame a alguno de nuestros Centros de atención del tribunal o las Mesas de información al público para información sobre otros recursos. Además, podrá encontrar más recursos en la página de la red de las Bibliotecas de Derecho de la Rama Judicial.

14: ¿Puedo solicitar servicios de índole personal?

R: No. La ley ADA no obliga a la Rama Judicial a proporcionar servicios de índole personal, tales como, representación legal, servicios de secretario ni de transporte.

15: ¿Cuánto tardará en considerarse mi solicitud?

R: Todas las solicitudes serán revisadas inmediatamente. Sin embargo, en algunos casos,

la solicitud deberá revisarse con más detenimiento. Se notificará la decisión *lo más pronto posible*.

16: ¿Podrían denegar mi solicitud?

R: Sí. Aunque la Rama Judicial se ha comprometido a garantizar que las personas con discapacidades gocen de igualdad de acceso al sistema judicial de Connecticut, en algunos casos, algunas solicitudes podrían ser denegadas.

17: ¿Por qué podría ser denegada mi solicitud?

R: La ley ADA no requiere que se apruebe una solicitud de ajustes razonables a un individuo no "reúna los requisitos" por discapacidad. Además, la ley ADA no requiere que se tomen medidas que puedan "alterar, de manera fundamental, un programa o servicio" o que supongan "una carga financiera excesiva o carga administrativa indebida". Además, los impedimentos físicos o mentales que en buena medida limiten alguna actividad de la vida diaria de un individuo deberán estar directamente vinculados al ajuste solicitado.

18: Si mi solicitud ha sido denegada, ¿puedo apelar?

R: Sí. Si se deniega su solicitud de ajustes razonables, o si no está de acuerdo con el ajuste que se le haya proporcionado, puede presentar una queja. Deberá presentar dicha queja, a más tardar, 10 días después de haberse denegado su solicitud. Para más información acerca del proceso de queja y para conseguir el formulario de queja, sírvase visitar la página de la red de la Rama Judicial o pídale ayuda a algún empleado del tribunal.

19: No estoy conforme con la decisión del juez en mi caso. ¿Puedo presentar una queja contra la ADA?

R: No, solo podrá presentar una queja contra la ADA cuando la solicitud de ajustes razonables ha sido denegada. Así que ésa no es la manera apropiada para apelar la decisión del juez.

20: ¿Hay que pagar por alguno de estos servicios?

R: No. La Rama Judicial tiene la obligación de proporcionar ajustes razonables sin costo alguno a todos aquellos individuos que reúnan los requisitos.

21: Si recibo subsidios del programa de Seguridad de Ingresos Suplementarios (SSI, por sus siglas en inglés), ¿garantiza el mismo que se me conceda la solicitud de ajustes razonables?

R: No. La manera en que la Administración del Seguro Social define el término "discapacidad" difiere de la definición bajo la ley ADA. La Administración del Seguro Social define el término discapacidad como la "incapacidad para realizar actividades laborales que en buena medida resulten ser remuneradoras" por lo que se entiende "trabajo que ofrece una remuneración de la paga mínima o mayor". La ley ADA lo define así: existir constancia de un impedimento físico o mental que limita, de manera considerable, la realización de una actividad vital importante", o la mera percepción de que se tiene dicho impedimento.

22. Soy discapacitado y me citaron para prestar servicio de jurado. ¿Cómo solicito los ajustes razonables ?

R: Si le citaron para prestar servicio de jurado y necesita algún ajuste razonable, puede comunicarse con la Administración de Jurados llamando al 1-800-842-8175, o al 711 si tiene alguna discapacidad auditiva o del habla. También puede llenar el Formulario: Ajustes Razonables para miembros del jurado, JD-JA-030.



COURT SERVICE CENTERS

"Making a difference in Connecticut Communities"

The mission of the Court Service Centers is to increase public access to court services and information through technology, user-friendly products, and personable staff.

The Court Service Center program was created to provide resources and assistance to court patrons, including the self-represented, attorneys, and other members of the public. Currently, there are 14 Court Service Centers (*Centers*) and 11 Public Information Desks (*Desks*) located in courthouses throughout the state.

The Centers are located in Judicial District courthouses, and are staffed by Judicial Branch employees, several of whom are multi-lingual. Staff provide procedural information, docket and case information, notary services, and can also assist with proper completion of court forms. Information on local and statewide social service providers and community-based programs is also available.

The resources available at the Court Service Centers include work space, access to personal computers, scanners, court forms and judicial publications, as well as phones, fax, and copy machines.

Public Information Desks are an additional component of the Court Service Center program. These Desks are staffed and located in courthouse lobbies, and provide resources such as daily calendar and docket information, court forms, and community outreach materials.

In the calendar year 2014, the Centers and Desks provided assistance and services to 348,182 court patrons – 262,527 self-represented parties, 47,126 attorneys, and 38,529 other individuals, such as social service providers, witnesses, jurors, and marshals.

The Court Service Center program is committed to providing quality services and improved access to the courts and court information, as part of the continuing effort by the State of Connecticut Judicial Branch to provide the best possible service to our court patrons.



Connecticut Judicial Branch Court Service Centers

Email Questions – Court.ServiceCenter@jud.ct.gov

"Making a difference in Connecticut communities"

There are currently 14 Court Service Centers located in the Superior Courthouses listed below, open from 8:30am – 5:00pm weekdays in most locations, except legal holidays.

| Superior Courthouses | Telephone | Location |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| Ansonia-Milford Judicial District, 14 West River St, Milford, CT 06460 | (203) 283-8260 | 1st floor |
| Danbury Judicial District, 146 White St, Danbury, CT 06810 | (203) 207-8766 | Lower Level |
| Fairfield Judicial District, 1061 Main St, Bridgeport, CT 06604 | (203) 579-7210 | 1st floor |
| Fairfield Judicial District, 1 Lafayette Circle, Bridgeport, CT 06604 | (203) 576-3602 | 1st Floor |
| Hartford Judicial District, 90 Washington St, Hartford, CT 06106 | (860) 706-5064 | 2nd floor |
| Meriden Judicial District, 54 W Main St, Meriden, CT 06451 | (203) 238-6499 | 2nd floor |
| Middlesex Judicial District, 1 Court St, Middletown, CT 06457 | (860) 343-6499 | 1st floor |
| New Britain Judicial District, 20 Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 | (860) 515-5151 | 2nd floor |
| New Haven Judicial District, 235 Church St, New Haven, CT 06510 | (203) 503-6819 | 1st floor |
| Norwich Judicial District, 1 Courthouse Square, Norwich, CT 06360 | (860) 823-0857 | 2nd floor |
| Stamford-Norwalk Judicial District, 123 Hoyt St, Stamford, CT 06905 | (203) 965-5328 | 4th floor |
| Tolland Judicial District, 69 Brooklyn St, Rockville, CT 06066 | (860) 896-4945 | 1st floor |
| Waterbury Judicial District, 300 Grand St, Waterbury, CT 06702 | (203) 591-3308 | 1st floor |
| Windham Judicial District, 155 Church St, Putnam, CT 06260 | (860) 928-7749 | 1st floor |



Connecticut Judicial Branch Court Service Centers

Email Questions – Court.ServiceCenter@jud.ct.gov

What are Court Service Centers?

Court Service Centers provide services for self-represented parties, members of the bar, and the community at large. They are located within Judicial District Courthouses, and are staffed by Judicial Branch employees trained to assist all court patrons. Several Court Service Centers have bilingual staff.

Court Service Centers Resources and Services

- Statewide Calendar and Docket Information (Civil and Family cases)
- Court Forms and Judicial Publications
- Public Use Computers and Printers with Internet Access and Word Processing
- Electronic Filing
- Printers
- Copier
- Fax Machine
- Scanner
- Phone
- Work Space
- Staff Assistance
- Notary Public Services



Connecticut Judicial Branch Court Service Centers

Email Questions – Court.ServiceCenter@jud.ct.gov

This is a list of some things the Court Service Center staff *CAN* do for you:

- explain and answer questions about how the court works.
- give you contact information for local legal services and programs, and other services where you can get legal information.
- give you general information about court rules, procedures, and practices.
- give you court schedules and information on how to get a case heard by the court.
- give you information about your case file.
- give you work space, where available, to prepare your forms and documents.
- usually answer questions about court deadlines and how to figure them out.

This is a list of some things we are *UNABLE* to do for you:

- tell you whether or not you should bring your case to court.
- tell you what words to use in your court papers. (However, we can check your papers for completeness. For example, we can check for signatures, notarization, correct Judicial District, correct case number, and presence of attachments.)
- tell you what to say in court.
- give you an opinion about what will happen if you bring your case to court.
- talk to the judge for you.
- let you talk to the judge outside of court.
- change an order signed by a judge.



Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries

Vision Statement - The Law Library Services Unit of the Connecticut Judicial Branch will provide prompt and professional guidance and access to reliable and comprehensive information to individuals who are researching or pursuing legal rights and remedies. This will be accomplished by using the latest technology, by maintaining an up-to-date collection of appropriate materials, and by collaborating with Judicial Branch units and other organizations to offer services sufficient to meet the current and emerging needs of its patrons.

Mission Statement - The mission of the Law Library Services Unit is to provide the courts and the public with access to comprehensive and current legal materials and resources in an efficient and timely manner and to provide bibliographic assistance, educational programs, legal reference and research guidance to all patrons.

Visit our website at

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib>



Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries

Email Reference Questions – LawLibrarians@jud.ct.gov

Bridgeport Law Library
1061 Main Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604
(203) 579-7244

New Haven Law Library
235 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510
(203) 503-6928

Danbury Law Library
148 White Street
Danbury, CT 06810
(203) 207-8625

New London Law Library
70 Huntington Street
New London, CT 06320
(860) 442-7561

Hartford Law Library
95 Washington Street
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 548-2866

Putnam Law Library
155 Church Street
Putnam, CT 06260
(860) 928-3716

Litchfield Law Library
15 West Street
Litchfield, CT 06759
(860) 567-0598

Rockville Law Library
69 Brooklyn Street
Rockville, CT 06066
(860) 896-4955

Middletown Law Library
One Court Street
Middletown, CT 06457
(860) 343-6560

Stamford Law Library
123 Hoyt Street
Stamford, CT 06905
(203) 965-5250

New Britain Law Library
20 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051
(860) 515-5110

Waterbury Law Library
300 Grand Street
Waterbury, CT 06702
(203) 591-3338

CT Judicial Branch Court Service Centers & Public Information Desks - Information

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/csc/default.htm>

| ORGANIZATION | LOCATION | DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION | CONTACT: EMAIL/PHONE | PUBLIC COMPUTERS | ON-SITE ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH | Wi-Fi |
|----------------|------------------------|--|--|------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| Bridgeport CSC | 1061 Main Street | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Joyce Pellegrino (T)) | robert.kochiss@jud.ct.gov 203-579-7210 | ✓ | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Bridgeport CSC | 1 Lafayette Circle | TH & F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | joyce.pellegrino@jud.ct.gov 203-573-3602 | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Bridgeport PID | 1061 Main Street | M-F 8:30a.m.-5:00p.m. | robert.kochiss@jud.ct.gov 203-579-7210 | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Bridgeport PID | 172 Golden Hill Street | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Joyce Pellegrino (Thurs/Fri-FSM Court) | candice.loughman@jud.ct.gov joyce.pellegrino@jud.ct.gov 203-362-3940 x3079 | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Danbury CSC | 146 White Street | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | kristina.macphail@jud.ct.gov 203-207-8766 | ✓ | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Hartford CSC | 90 Washington Street | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | desiree.biggs@jud.ct.gov norma.moriconi@jud.ct.gov 860-706-5064 | ✓ | | |

Revised 2/18/15. Workgroup on Libraries and Access to Justice.

CT Judicial Branch Court Service Centers & Public Information Desks - Information

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/csc/default.htm>

| ORGANIZATION | LOCATION | DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION | CONTACT: EMAIL/PHONE | PUBLIC COMPUTERS | ON-SITE ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH | Wi-Fi |
|-----------------|----------------------|---|---|------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| Hartford PID | 101 Lafayette Street | M-F a.m. only M, T, TH p.m. (95 Washington) W, F p.m. (90 Washington) | janice.bilbraut@jud.ct.gov 860-566-1630, x3032 | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Meriden CSC | 54 West Main Street | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | joshua.hillman@jud.ct.gov 203-238-6499 | ✓ | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Middletown CSC | 1 Court Street | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | michele.krob@jud.ct.gov 860-343-6499 | ✓ | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Middletown PID | 1 Court Street | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | michele.krob@jud.ct.gov 860-343-6499 | ✓ | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Milford CSC | 14 West River Street | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | lori.semrau@jud.ct.gov 203-283-8260 | ✓ | | |
| | | | | | | |
| New Britain CSC | 20 Franklin Square | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | priscilla.arroyo@jud.ct.gov 860-515-5153 | ✓ | | |

Revised 2/18/15. Workgroup on Libraries and Access to Justice.

CT Judicial Branch Court Service Centers & Public Information Desks - Information

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/csc/default.htm>

| ORGANIZATION | LOCATION | DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION | CONTACT: EMAIL/PHONE | PUBLIC COMPUTERS | ON-SITE ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH | Wi-Fi |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|--|------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| New Britain PID | 20 Franklin Square | M-F 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. | vicky.rivas@jud.ct.gov ewa.wojewodzki@jud.ct.gov 860-515-5201 | ✓ | | |
| | | | | | | |
| New Haven CSC | 235 Church Street | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | caitlin.canney@jud.ct.gov victoria.markova@jud.ct.gov 203-503-6819 | ✓ | | |
| | | | | | | |
| New Haven PID | 121 Elm Street | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | taralee.delvecchio@jud.ct.gov 203-773-6814 | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Norwalk PID | 17 Belden Avenue | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | deon.mccoy@jud.ct.gov 203-849-3580, x4057 | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Norwich CSC | 1 Courthouse Square | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | theresa.kaiser@jud.ct.gov 860-823-0857 | ✓ | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Putnam CSC | 155 Church Street | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | shannadee.bokoff@jud.ct.gov 860-928-7749, x4022 | ✓ | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Rockville CSC | 69 Brooklyn Street | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | peter.dwornik@jud.ct.gov 860-896-4945 | ✓ | | |

Revised 2/18/15. Workgroup on Libraries and Access to Justice.

CT Judicial Branch Court Service Centers & Public Information Desks - Information

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/csc/default.htm>

| ORGANIZATION | LOCATION | DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION | CONTACT: EMAIL/PHONE | PUBLIC COMPUTERS | ON-SITE ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH | Wi-Fi |
|---------------|------------------|---|--|------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| Rockville PID | 20 Park Street | Friday afternoons – times vary | peter.dwornik@jud.ct.gov 860-870-3288 | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Stamford CSC | 123 Hoyt Street | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | paul.liguori@jud.ct.gov 203-965-5328 | ✓ | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Stamford PID | 123 Hoyt Street | M-F 8:30a.m.-10:00a.m. | paul.liguori@jud.ct.gov 203-965-5350 | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Waterbury CSC | 300 Grand Street | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Joyce Pellegrino (M & W) | gary.allard@jud.ct.gov joyce.pellegrino@jud.ct.gov 203-591-3308 | ✓ | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Waterbury PID | 300 Grand Street | M-F 8:30a.m.-5:00p.m. | gary.allard@jud.ct.gov 203-591-3308 | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Waterbury PID | 400 Grand Street | M-F 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | barbara.clark@jud.ct.gov 203-236-8270 | | | |

Revised 2/18/15. Workgroup on Libraries and Access to Justice.

CT Judicial Branch Court Service Centers & Public Information Desks - Information

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/csc/default.htm>

Comments: The Court Service Center program was created to provide resources and assistance to court patrons, including the self-represented, attorneys, and other members of the public. Currently, there are 14 Court Service Centers (*Centers*) and 11 Public Information Desks (*Desks*) located in courthouses throughout the state. Most Centers are staffed Monday – Friday from 8:30a.m to 5:00pm. <http://www.jud.ct.gov/csc/loc.htm>

The Centers are located in Judicial District courthouses, and are staffed by Judicial Branch employees, several of whom are multi-lingual. Staff provide procedural information, docket and case information, notary services, and can also assist with proper completion of court forms. Information on local and statewide social service providers and community-based programs is also available. The resources available at the Court Service Centers include work space, access to personal computers, court forms and judicial publications, as well as phones, fax and copy machines. Visit our webpage for more information: <http://www.jud.ct.gov/csc/services.htm>

The Public Information Desks are staffed and located in courthouse lobbies, and provide resources such as daily calendar and docket information, court forms, and community outreach materials.

Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries - Library Information

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib>

| ORGANIZATION | LOCATION | DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION | CONTACT: EMAIL/PHONE | PUBLIC COMPUTERS | ON-SITE ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH | Wi-Fi | LENDS |
|--------------|--|-----------------------------|--|------------------|---|-------|----------------------------|
| Bridgeport | 1061 Main Street Directions | M-F, 9:00-5:00 | maryann.krivicky@jud.ct.gov karen.townsend@jud.ct.gov 203-579-7244 | ✓ | WestlawNext, Lexis, Loislaw, Shepard's, HeinOnline, LegalTrac | | Check with local librarian |
| | | | | | | | |
| Danbury | 146 White Street Directions | M-F, 9:00-5:00 | george.booth@jud.ct.gov 203-207-8625 | ✓ | WestlawNext, Lexis, Loislaw, Shepard's, HeinOnline, LegalTrac | | Check with local librarian |
| | | | | | | | |
| Hartford | 95 Washington Street Directions | M-TH, 9:00-5:00 | catherine.mazur@jud.ct.gov 860-548-2866 | ✓ | WestlawNext, Lexis, Loislaw, Shepard's, HeinOnline, LegalTrac | | Check with local librarian |
| | | | | | | | |
| Litchfield | 15 West Street Directions | M,T,W,F 9:00-5:00 | taryn.agati@jud.ct.gov 860-567-0598 | ✓ | WestlawNext, Lexis, Loislaw, Shepard's, HeinOnline, LegalTrac | | Check with local librarian |
| | | | | | | | |

Revised 2/10/15. Workgroup on Libraries and Access to Justice.

Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries - Library Information

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib>

| ORGANIZATION | LOCATION | DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION | CONTACT: EMAIL/PHONE | PUBLIC COMPUTERS | ON-SITE ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH | Wi-Fi | LENDS |
|--------------|--|-----------------------------|--|------------------|---|-------|----------------------------|
| Middletown | 1 Court Street Directions | M-TH, 9:00-5:00 | bonnie.gallagher@jud.ct.gov lori.sulmasy@jud.ct.gov 860-343-6560 | ✓ | WestlawNext, Lexis, Loislaw, Shepard's, HeinOnline, LegalTrac | | Check with local librarian |
| | | | | | | | |
| New Britain | 20 Franklin Square Directions | M-F, 9:00-5:00 | christopher.roy@jud.ct.gov 860-515-5110 | ✓ | WestlawNext, Lexis, Loislaw, Shepard's, HeinOnline LegalTrac | | Check with local librarian |
| | | | | | | | |
| New Haven | 235 Church Street Directions | M-F, 9:00-5:00 | astoria.ridely@jud.ct.gov michele.penn@jud.ct.gov 203-503-6828 | ✓ | WestlawNext, Lexis, Loislaw, Shepard's, HeinOnline, LegalTrac | | Check with local librarian |
| | | | | | | | |
| New London | 70 Huntington Street Directions | M-F, 9:00-5:00 | peter.jenkins@jud.ct.gov 860-442-7562 | ✓ | WestlawNext, Lexis, Loislaw, Shepard's, HeinOnline, LegalTrac | | Check with local librarian |

Revised 2/10/15. Workgroup on Libraries and Access to Justice.

Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries - Library Information

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib>

| ORGANIZATION | LOCATION | DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION | CONTACT: EMAIL/PHONE | PUBLIC COMPUTERS | ON-SITE ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH | Wi-Fi | LENDS |
|--------------|--|-----------------------------|--|------------------|---|-------|----------------------------|
| | | | | | | | |
| Putnam | 155 Church Street Directions | M-F, 9:00-5:00 | donna.izbicki@jud.ct.gov 860-928-3716 | ✓ | WestlawNext, Lexis, Loislaw, Shepard's, HeinOnline, LegalTrac | | Check with local librarian |
| | | | | | | | |
| Rockville | 69 Brooklyn Street Directions | M-F, 9:00-5:00 | roseann.canny@jud.ct.gov 860-896-4955 | ✓ | WestlawNext, Lexis, Loislaw, Shepard's, HeinOnline, LegalTrac | | Check with local librarian |
| | | | | | | | |
| Stamford | 123 Hoyt Street Directions | M-TH, 9:00-5:00 | pam.kaufman@jud.ct.gov michael.beetham@jud.ct.gov 203-965-5250 | ✓ | WestlawNext, Lexis, Loislaw, Shepard's, HeinOnline, LegalTrac | | Check with local librarian |
| | | | | | | | |

Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries - Library Information

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib>

| ORGANIZATION | LOCATION | DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION | CONTACT: EMAIL/PHONE | PUBLIC COMPUTERS | ON-SITE ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH | Wi-Fi | LENDS |
|--------------|--|-----------------------------|--|------------------|---|-------|----------------------------|
| Waterbury | 300 Grand Street Directions | M,T,TH,F, 9:00-5:00 | janet.zigadto@jud.ct.gov 203-591-3338 | ✓ | WestlawNext, Lexis, Loislaw, Shepard's, HeinOnline, LegalTrac | | Check with local librarian |

Comments: We have a comprehensive collection of treatises concerning Connecticut law and access to primary materials (cases, statutes, and regulations for all states). Our computers are available for the public to conduct legal research and to e-file pleadings. Patrons are welcome to use flash drives after they have been scanned for viruses. We also have a remote reference service available at <http://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib/askus.htm>, which is staffed Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. A list of contacts for our library staff is kept up-to-date at <http://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib/staff.htm> Our url is <http://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib>

Connecticut State Library – Library Information

<http://www.ctstatelibrary.org/>

| ORGAN- IZATION | LOCA- TION | DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION | CONTACT: EMAIL/PHONE | PUBLIC COMPUTERS | ON-SITE ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH | Wi- Fi | LENDS |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|---------------------|--|-----------|-------|
| Connecticut State Library | 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106 | T-F 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. SA 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. | 860-757-6500 Email: csl.lawref@ct.gov | ✓ | CCH Intelliconnect, WestlawNext | ✓ | No |

Comments: A reference librarian is on duty during all hours that we are open to the public. We can answer questions through email, chat, by phone, or in person. We have a digital scanner available at the library for patron use.

We offer the following databases **available remotely with a State library card.**

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <u>General Legal Databases</u> Accounting & Tax with Standards HeinOnline Index to Legal Periodicals Legal Information Resource Center Legal Source LegalTrac LoislawConnect | <u>Legislative History and Bill Tracking</u> LexisNexis State Capital ProQuest Congressional Congressional Research Digital Collection CQ Congress Collection | <u>Other Databases</u> Hartford Courant 1764 - 1988, 1992 - present New York Times 1851 - 2009 1980 - present iConn.org |
|---|---|--|

Connecticut Academic Law Libraries – Library Information

| ORGANIZATION | LOCATION | DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION | CONTACT: EMAIL/PHONE | PUBLIC COMPUTERS | ON-SITE ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH | Wi-Fi | LENDS |
|---|---|---|--|------------------|--|-------|-------|
| Quinnipiac School of Law Lynne L. Pantalena Law Library | 370 Bassett Road, North Haven, CT 06473 | <p>Regular Hours:</p> <p>M-TH 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. F 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. SA 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. SU 1:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.</p> <p>The circulation/reserve desk is staffed during regular library hours.</p> <p>Research/Reference Desk Hours</p> <p>M-TH 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. F 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. SA 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. SU 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.</p> | <p>203-582-3312</p> <p>Email:</p> <p>christina.delucia@quinnipiac.edu</p> <p>mary.tartaglia@quinnipiac.edu</p> <p>URL:</p> <p>http://www.quinnipiac.edu/school-of-law/about-us/school-of-law-center/lynne-l-pantalena-law-library/</p> | ✓ | <p>HeinOnline,</p> <p>LexisNexis Academic,</p> <p>Index to Legal Periodicals,</p> <p>LegalTrac</p> | ✓ | |
| <p>Comments: We have library (staffed) hours during which outside patrons can use our library. There is also reference/desk hours posted if a patron wants to come when a librarian is scheduled on the desk. Our reference hours are fewer than those at the circulation desk. Law students are able to be here longer hours, and those we do not post on our web site. We have 4 public kiosks that are communication devices to a server although they function like a PC. They are adjacent to the circulation desk and across from the reference desk. There are thumb drive ports, so we encourage outside patrons to bring one when they come since our system for making copies or printing is a bit clunky although doable.</p> | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

Connecticut Academic Law Libraries – Library Information

| ORGANIZATION | LOCATION | DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION | CONTACT: EMAIL/PHONE | PUBLIC COMPUTERS | ON-SITE ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH | Wi-Fi | LENDS |
|---|--|--|--|------------------|--|-------|-------|
| UConn School of Law Thomas J. Meskill Law Library | 39 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, CT 06105 | Regular Semester Hours M-TH 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. F 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. SA 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. SU 1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. | Reference desk phone: 860-570-5068 Email: refdesk.lawlib@uconn.edu URL: https://library.law.uconn.edu/node | ✓ | BNA Premier, CCH Intelliconnect, FastCase, Loislaw, LexisNexis Academic, HeinOnline (available at standalone kiosks) | ✓ | |
| Comments: We offer service to the public at least 40 hours/week, including Saturdays during the academic year and until 7 p.m. weeknights during the academic year. We also offer a chat service during reference hours, which is open to anyone. We welcome questions from public librarians. It is accessed on our website. In addition to the databases above, we have an extensive collection of Connecticut specific legal material and an extensive collection of primary and secondary law. We also have a scanner available for patron use. If patrons have access to a computer to view their scans at home, this eliminates the cost of photocopying. We also have a photocopier and printer (\$.15/page). | | | | | | | |

Connecticut Community Colleges – Library Information

| ORGANIZA-TION | LOCATION | DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION | CONTACT: PHONE | PUBLIC COMPU-TERS | ON-SITE ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH | Wi-Fi | LENDS |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|-------------------|--|---------|--------------------|
| Asnuntuck Community College Library | 170 Elm Street Enfield, CT 06082 | M-TH 8:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m. F 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. SA 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. | 860-906-5020 http://www.asnuntuck.edu/library | ✓ | LexisNexis | | ✓ |
| | | | | | | | |
| Capital Community College Library | 950 Main Street Hartford, CT 06103-1207 | M-TH 8:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m. F 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. SA 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. | 860-906-5020 http://ccc.commnet.libguides.com/library | | | | ✓ |
| | | | | | | | |
| Gateway Community College Library | 20 Church Street New Haven, CT 06510 | M-TH 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. F 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. SA 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. | 203-285-2057 http://www.gatewayct.edu/library | | LexisNexis | limited | ✓ |
| | | | | | | | |
| Housatonic Community College Library | 900 Lafayette Blvd Bridgeport, CT 06604 | M-TH 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. F 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. SA 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. SU 1:00 -5:00 p.m. | 203 332-5070 http://www.housatonic.edu/Library/index.asp | | | | ✓ |
| | | | | | | | |
| Manchester Community College Library | Great Path, Manchester, CT 06040 | M-TH 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. F 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. SA 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. | 860-512-2880 http://www.manchestercc.edu/library | ✓ | WestlawNext, Proquest -Criminal Justice | ✓ | Residen ts only |
| | | | | | | | |

Revised 2/10/15. Workgroup on Libraries and Access to Justice.

Connecticut Community Colleges – Library Information

| ORGANIZA-TION | LOCATION | DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION | CONTACT: PHONE | PUBLIC COMPU-TERS | ON-SITE ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH | Wi-Fi | LENDS |
|--|---|--|---|-------------------|---|-------|-------|
| Middlesex Community College Library | Chapman Hall 100 Training Hill Road, Middletown, CT 06457 | M-TH 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. F 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. SA 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. SU 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. | 860-343-5830 http://mxcc.edu/library/ | ✓ | Criminal Justice- Periodicals Legal Information- Reference Center LegalTrac | ✓ | ✓ |
| | | | | | | | |
| Naugatuck Valley Community College Library | 750 Chase Parkway Waterbury, CT 06708 | M-TH 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. F 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. SA & SU 10:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m. | 203-575-8024 http://www.nv.edu/Academics/Library | ✓ | WestlawNext | ✓ | ✓ |
| | | | | | | | |
| Norwalk Community College Library | 188 Richards Avenue Norwalk, CT | M-TH 8:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m. F 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. SA 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. | 203-857-7379 http://norwalkcc.libguides.com/Homepage | ✓ | LexisNexis, Westlaw Next | | ✓ |
| | | | | | | | |
| Quinebaug Valley Community College Library | 742 Upper Maple Street Danielson, CT 06239 | M-TH 9:00 a.m.-8:30 p.m. F 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. | 860-932-4007 http://www.qvcc.edu/library/ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| | | | | | | | |

Revised 2/10/15. Workgroup on Libraries and Access to Justice.

Connecticut Community Colleges – Library Information

| ORGANIZATION | LOCATION | DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION | CONTACT: PHONE | PUBLIC COMPUTERS | ON-SITE ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH | Wi-Fi | LENDS |
|--|--|--|---|------------------|-------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Three Rivers Community College Library | 574 New London Turnpike Norwich, CT 06360 | M-TH 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. F 8:00 a.m. –3:00 p.m. | 860-215-9052 http://www.trcc.commnet.edu/div_it/library/library.shtml | ✓ | LexisNexis | | ✓ |
| | | | | | | | |
| Tunxis Community College Library | 271 Scott Swamp Road Farmington, CT 06032 | M-TH 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. F 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. | 860-773-1556 http://www.tunxis.edu/ | ✓ | LexisNexis | ✓ | ✓ |

Connecticut Judicial Branch Legal Clinics and Help Page



State of Connecticut
Judicial Branch



[ESPAÑOL](#) | [POLSKI](#) | [PORTUGUÊS](#)

Search

The mission of the Connecticut Judicial Branch is to serve the interests of justice and the public by resolving matters brought before it in a fair, timely, efficient and open manner.

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
Americans with Disabilities (ADA)
Case Look-up
Court Service Centers
Courts
Directories
E-Services
FAQs
Forms
Law Libraries
Limited English Proficiency
Opinions
Opportunities
Self-Help
Statistics / Reports
Traffic Tickets
Home



Legal Clinics and Help

Divorce / Custody Help

Talk to a lawyer about divorce, custody, visitation, or other family questions.

[Volunteer Attorney Program Schedule](#) — Call the Court Operations Unit at 860-263-2734 to confirm that there is no change to the clinic schedule.

Hartford: Every Wednesday (**NOTICE:** The Hartford program does not run in July and August, but it will return in the last week of September.)

Stamford: Every Thursday (**NOTICE:** The Stamford program does not run from July through September, but it will return in October.)

Waterbury: Two Fridays a month (**NOTICE:** The Waterbury program does not run from July through September, but it will return in October.)

Foreclosure Help

Get help with foreclosure and mediation, and find out about resources.

[Volunteer Attorney Program Schedule](#) — Call the Court Operations Unit at 860-263-2734 to confirm that there is no change to the clinic schedule.

Bridgeport: Every Wednesday

Hartford: Every Tuesday

New Britain: Every Wednesday

New Haven: Every Wednesday

New London: Every Wednesday

Stamford: Every Wednesday

Waterbury: Every Wednesday

Quick Links

[Access to Justice Commission](#)

[Court Service Centers](#)

[Law Libraries](#)

[Páginas web en español](#)

[Self-Help](#)

Please Note

There is an [application](#) available to request that a free legal clinic or program be included on this web page.

Updates about legal clinics already listed on this page should be emailed to [Christopher Roy](#).

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/clinics/>



Free legal information for people with very low income

CTLawHelp.org was created by several non-profit legal services organizations in Connecticut whose shared mission is to improve the lives of Connecticut's poorest citizens by providing free legal services to low-income individuals. CTLawHelp.org seeks to further the goal of equal access to justice by providing information and self-help materials on a variety of legal issues.

✓ **Self-Help Guides**

www.ctlawhelp.org/self-help-guides

Read legal information articles on any electronic device.

Watch how-to videos on legal topics.

Get help filling out forms.

Find useful links and resources.

Topics include: Family, domestic violence, housing, employment, elder law, consumer law, immigration, disabilities, special education, and more.

Get help in Spanish: www.ayudalegalct.org

✓ **Legal Help Finder**

www.ctlawhelp.org/legal-help-finder

Answer simple questions about yourself and your legal problem.

Find out if you should apply for legal aid.

Learn about agencies and organizations that may be able to help you.

Get quick links to self-help information.

✓ **Find a Legal Clinic**

www.ctlawhelp.org/clinics

Find clinics around the state on family, small claims, security deposits, and more.

If you are under 60, get help from legal aid by calling **Statewide Legal Services toll-free hotline** at 1-800-453-3320 (from Middletown and Hartford, call 860-344-0380).



Legal Help for People Over 60

For consumer problems such as **debt issues**, **identity theft**, and **contract problems**, call the Consumer Law Project for Elders at 1-800-296-1467.

For all other elder law problems such as **nursing home issues**, **home care**, and **living wills**, call your local legal aid office:

Eastern Connecticut

Connecticut Legal Services, Inc. (CLS)
872 Main Street
Willimantic, Connecticut 06226
Telephone: 800-413-7796 or 860-456-1761

Southwestern Connecticut, Bridgeport

Connecticut Legal Services, Inc. (CLS)
211 State Street
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604
Telephone: 800-809-4434 or 203-336-3851

Northcentral Connecticut

Greater Hartford Legal Aid (GHCLA)
999 Asylum Avenue - 3rd floor
Hartford, Connecticut 06105
Telephone: 860-541-5000

Western Connecticut

Connecticut Legal Services, Inc. (CLS)
85 Central Avenue
Waterbury, Connecticut 06702
Telephone: 800-413-7797 or 203-756-8074

Southwestern Connecticut, Stamford

Connecticut Legal Services, Inc. (CLS)
20 Summer Street
Stamford, Connecticut 06901
Telephone: 203-348-9216

Southcentral Connecticut

New Haven Legal Assistance Association
426 State Street
New Haven, Connecticut 06112
Telephone: 203-946-4811

If you are under 60, get help from legal aid by calling **Statewide Legal Services toll-free hotline** at 1-800-453-3320 (from Middletown and Hartford, call 860-344-0380).

Get free legal information online at www.ctelderlaw.org.



Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries

Self-Represented Parties



The Connecticut Judicial Branch law librarians are dedicated to providing quality legal resources and assistance, not only to the legal community, but also to the general public.

Publications & Videos

- [Self-Represented Parties Information Series](#) **NEW!** - Slidecasts and print materials intended to provide general information regarding Connecticut court procedures.
- [Getting Ready for Court](#) **NEW!** - Video produced by the Connecticut Network for Legal Aid.
- [Publications and Videos](#) - Booklets, videos, and other official publications that cover civil, criminal, family, housing, juvenile, and probate law topics.
- [Putting Children First: Minimizing Conflict in Custody Disputes](#) - Video to help families involved in custody disputes.
- [Judicial Forms](#) - Official forms, including [civil](#), criminal, [family](#), housing, juvenile, probate, small claims, victims services, and other forms.

Research Starting Points



- [Law by Subject](#) - Self-help legal information by topic. Over one-hundred subject pages are now available.
- [Research Guides](#) - In-depth legal research guides by topic, including civil, family, juvenile, and property law topics.
- [Self-Help](#) - Publications, answers to frequently asked questions, forms and other information provided by the Connecticut Judicial Branch.
- [Common Legal Words](#) - Glossary created by the Connecticut Judicial Branch.
- [Ask a Law Librarian](#) - Send an email, call, or visit a law library.

Finding Legal Help

- [Advocacy Groups](#)
- [Attorney Directories](#)
- [Attorney Referral Services](#)
- [Connecticut Public Defender Offices](#)
- [Legal Aid](#)
- [Legal Clinics and Help](#)
- [Limited Scope Representation - Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Volunteer Attorney Program](#)



Useful Websites

- [CTLawHelp.org](#)  - Connecticut's Legal Aid programs created this web site to help people with very low income find help for their legal problems. This web site will give you legal information and tools to help you represent yourself.
 - [Self-Help Guides](#)
 - [Legal Clinics](#)
 - [Online Classes](#)
- [CT Elder Law](#)  - Elder law information and forms for powers of attorney, living wills, nursing homes, government benefits, health care, funeral contracts, and much more.

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib/SRP/default.htm>

Law by Subject

Save valuable research time with these subject-specific web pages.

Each Law by Subject page is a collection of links to Internet resources that provide information on a specific legal subject. Pages may include statutes, regulations, court rules, Office of Legislative Research reports, informative agency material, and research guides.

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Abandoned Property | Elderly Tax Credits | Motion to Reargue |
| Adoption | Election Law NEW! | Motion to Strike |
| Adverse Possession | Emancipation | Motion to Transfer |
| Alimony | Encroachment by an | Name Changes |
| Annulment | Adjoining Landowner | Notice of Intent to Argue |
| Assumed or Fictitious Name | Enforcing Money | Pardons and Paroles |
| Audita Querela | Judgments | Parental Kidnapping |
| Bankruptcy | Family Matters Motion | Paternity |
| Birth and Conception | Practice and Discovery | Pedestrians (Crosswalk) |
| Burial At Sea | Family Medical Leave | Powers of Attorneys |
| Buying, Building or | Firearms Law | Premarital Agreements |
| Selling a Home | Foreclosure | Probate Appeals |
| Cell Phones | Foreclosure Mediation | Probate Law |
| Child Abuse and Neglect | Foreign and | Property Tax Appeals |
| Child Abuse and Neglect | International Law | Recusal |
| Registry | Funerals and Cremation | Rental Security Deposits |
| Child Custody and | Gambling | Replevin |
| Visitation | Grandparents' Rights | Repossession |
| Child Support | Guardianship | Representing Minors |
| Civil Unions | Health Care | Return of Engagement Rings |
| Cohabitation | Identity Theft | and Courtship Gifts |
| Consumer Law | Jury Duty | Rights of Minors |
| Commitment | Labor Law | Safe Havens |
| Computer Crimes | Landlord / Tenant | School Law |
| Condominiums | Lawyers | Service Animals and the ADA NEW! |
| Criminal Penalties | Legal Separation | Service of Process Abroad |
| Criminal Records | Lemon Law | Small Claims |
| Debt Collection | Liquor | Smoking |
| Defaults and Default | Living Wills | Statutory Rape |
| Judgments | Marriage | Surface Water |
| Divorce | Mechanic's Liens | Tattoos |
| Dogs | Medical Malpractice | Termination of Parental Rights |
| Domestic Torts | Medical Marijuana | Three Day Right of Rescission |
| Domestic Violence | Military Affidavits | Unemployment |
| Driving Too Fast | Motion for Articulation | Vexatious Litigation |
| Drug Crimes | Motion for Clarification | Victims' Rights |
| Elder Abuse | Motion for Review | Workers' Compensation |
| | Motion to Dismiss | Wrongful Discharge |

Find these pages at <http://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib/law>

Research Guides

**Save valuable research time with our
subject-specific research guides.**

These in-depth research guides quote extensively from and link to statutes, court rules, and case law. Also included are citations to treatises and encyclopedias.

CIVIL PRACTICE

Answer to Complaint
Assumed or Fictitious Names
Audita Querela
Default Judgments
Enforcing Money Judgments
Frivolous Lawsuits
Injunctions and Restraining Orders
Medical Malpractice
Motion for Articulation
Motion for Clarification
Motion to Dismiss
Motion to Reargue
Motion to Strike
Motion for Review
Motion to Transfer – Small Claims
Oral Argument in Civil Matters
Recusal (Disqualification of Judicial Authority)
Request to Revise
Vexatious Litigation

JUVENILE LAW

Child Abuse And Neglect
Guardianship
Representing Minors
Rights of Minors
Termination of Parental Rights

FAMILY LAW

Adoption
Alienation of Affection
Alimony
Annulment
Antenuptial Agreements
Best Interest of the Child Standard
Birth and Conception
Child Custody
Child Support
Child Visitation
Civil Unions
Cohabitation Agreements
Cohabitation
Discovery (Financial)
Divorce in Connecticut
Domestic Violence
Enforcement of Family Judgments
Grandparents' Rights
Labor Law and the Family
Legal Separation
Marriage
Motion Practice (Family)
Name Changes
Parental Kidnapping
Parental Relocation
Paternity Actions
Spousal Immunity
Torts of Minors

PROPERTY LAW

Abandoned, Lost and Unclaimed Property
Collection of Municipal Taxes
Dog Law
Encroachment by an Adjoining Landowner
Equitable Distribution of Marital Property
Foreclosure of Mortgages
Foreclosure of Condominium Liens
Glossary of Connecticut Property Law Terms
Mechanics' Liens
Municipal Tax Sales (Extra-Judicial)
Property of Spouses
Property Tax Appeals (Municipal)
Replevin
Repossession
Return of Engagement Ring and Courtship Gifts
Rights of Surviving Spouse
Surface Water (Drainage)
Wedding Presents as Between Spouses

Find these research guides at

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib/selfguides.htm>



Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries Recommended Titles for Public Libraries

Connecticut Publications

- *Connecticut Law Enforcement Handbook Field Manual* (LexisNexis, Annual Edition) - \$31.00
- *Connecticut Rules of Court – State* (Thomson West, Annual Edition) - \$140.00
- Renee Bauer, *Divorce in Connecticut: The Legal Process, Your Rights, and What to Expect* (Addicus Books, 2014) - \$21.95
- Thomas B. Mooney, *A Practical Guide to Connecticut School Law* (CABE, 8th Edition, 2014) - \$79.99
- Wesley Horton, *The Connecticut State Constitution* (Oxford University Press, 2d ed., 2012) - \$135.99

Nolo Self-Help Publications

(Also available electronically through iCONN's Legal Information Reference Center)

- *101 Law Forms for Personal Use* (9th ed., 2013) - \$23.99
- *Chapter 13 Bankruptcy* (12th ed., 2014) - \$31.99
- *The Criminal Law Handbook* (13th ed., 2013) - \$31.99
- *Every Dog's Legal Guide* (7th ed., 2012) - \$15.99
- *Every Tenant's Legal Guide* (7th ed., 2012) - \$27.99
- *Everybody's Guide to Small Claims Court* (15th ed., 2014) - \$ 23.99
- *Nolo's Essential Guide to Divorce* (5th ed., 2014) - \$19.99
- *How to File for Chapter 7 Bankruptcy* (13th ed., 2013) - \$29.99
- *The Legal Answer Book for Families* (2d ed., 2014) - \$19.99
- *Legal Research: How to Find and Understand the Law* (16th ed., 2012) - \$39.99
- *Neighbor Law* (8th ed., 2014) - \$23.99
- *Patent, Copyright & Trademark* (13th ed., 2014) - \$35.99
- *Plan Your Estate* (12th ed., 2014) - \$36.99
- *Represent Yourself in Court* (8th ed., 2013) - \$34.99
- *Your Rights in the Workplace* (10th ed., 2014) - \$23.99

Reference Publications

- *Black's Law Dictionary* (Thomson West, 10th ed., 2014) - \$81.95
- *The Bluebook* (Harvard Law Review Association, 19th ed., 2010) - \$34.00
- Paul D. Healey, *Legal Reference for Librarians: How and Where to Find the Answers* (ALA Editions, 2014) - \$77.00

The prices are for general information only. Contact the publisher for current pricing.



Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries

Electronic Resources in our Libraries



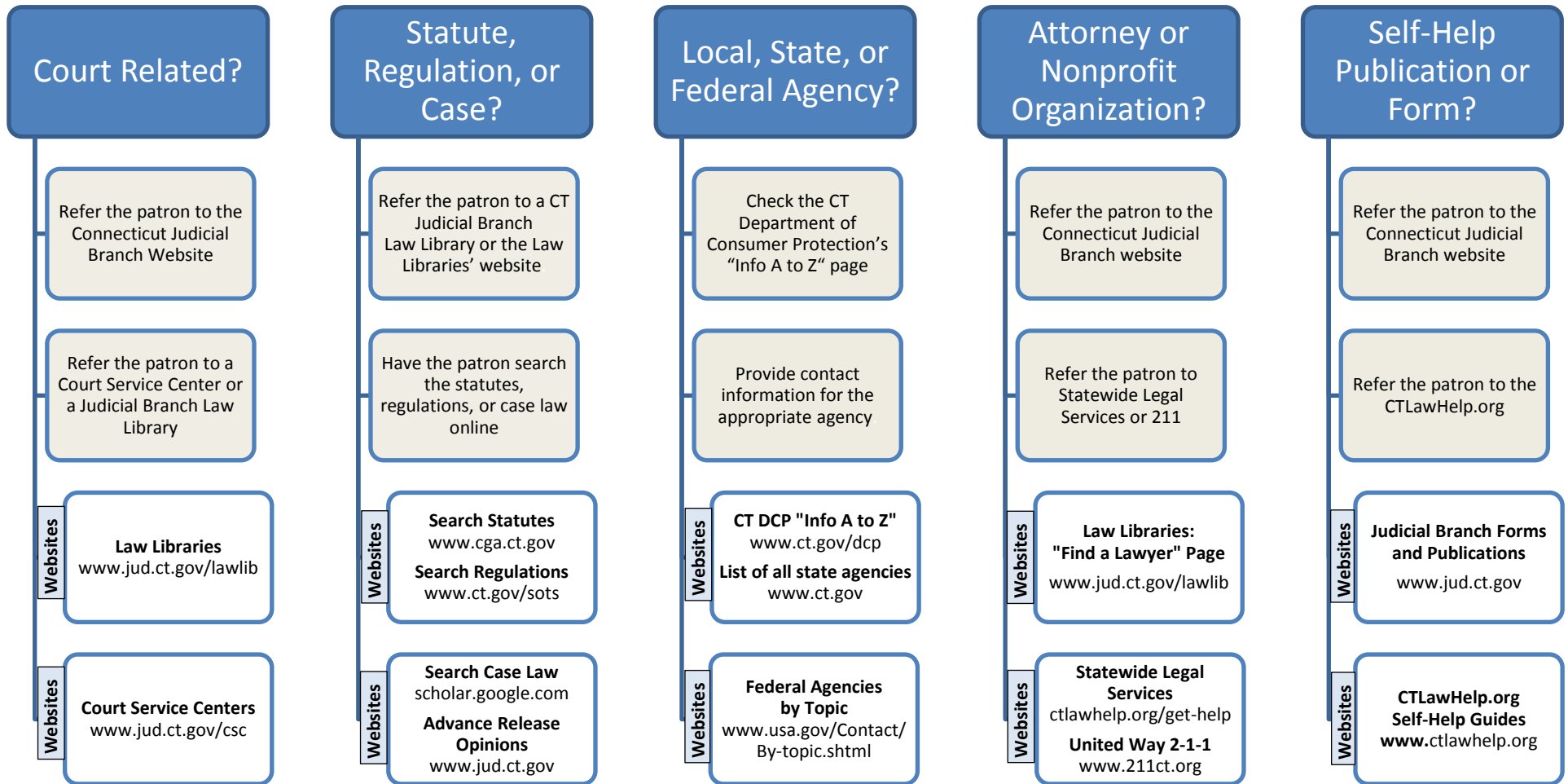
Public access to the electronic resources listed on this page is available **on-site** at each of our [law libraries](#).

| Resource | Available in the Library | Which databases do I have access to? |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Case Law | Connecticut All Fifty States Federal | Westlaw LoislawConnect HeinOnline |
| Statutes and Codes | Connecticut (annotated) All Fifty States Federal (annotated) | Westlaw LoislawConnect Lexis HeinOnline |
| Citators | Connecticut All Fifty States Federal | Shepard's KeyCite - Westlaw |
| Law Reviews / Journals | Full text of a wide variety of law review and journal articles | HeinOnline LegalTrac Westlaw |
| Treatises | Full text of a wide variety of treatises, including <i>Restatements of the Law</i> | Westlaw Lexis |

Please note that this is *not* an exhaustive list of the electronic resources that we make available to library users. Please contact your local law library to determine if there are any practitioner specific resources available to meet your needs.

<http://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib/electronic.htm>

Legal Reference Referrals



PLACEHOLDER

Accent (Divider) Page

***Close the Justice Gap:
Building the Future***

Promoting Access to Justice with Your Local Public Library

Collaborating with the public library system on legal resource programs for public librarians

By Joseph D. Lawson

Deep in the heart of Texas, the access to justice movement is finding a home. From court-approved self-help divorce forms to clinics hosted by local legal aid organizations, much is being done to help underserved populations. One of the best ways law librarians can get involved is to connect patrons with legal resources. While I regularly provide information at the reference desk, those efforts stretch only so far. To promote access to justice in Fort Bend County, I knew I needed to extend my reach. But how?

As a starting point, I looked to the experiences of other law librarians as reported in *Spectrum* and the State, Court, and County Law Libraries Special Interest Section's newsletter, *SCCLL News*. I found intriguing those programs involving legal research training for public librarians. I decided this was a good option to develop at the local level for several reasons. First, those in need of access to justice programs are increasingly served by public libraries. The Online Computer Library Center, in its survey *Perceptions of Libraries, 2010: Context and Community*, reports that use of public libraries by individuals who are economically disadvantaged has steadily risen in recent years. Second, a local program lets you talk about local resources, which are often overlooked in programs intended for broader audiences. Finally, Fort Bend County Libraries (FBCL) and the Fort Bend County Law Library have a unique relationship.

Based on these reasons, I planned and delivered legal resources training sessions for FBCL librarians, and I would encourage anyone looking for a way to promote access to justice locally to consider collaborating with a public library system.

A Unique System with Built-In Collaboration Opportunities

The law library is a county agency that is managed by a committee selected by the county bar association. Shortly after the law library was established, this committee contracted with the public library system to administer the law library's daily operations. As a result, the law librarian has always received administrative and technical support

complete 20 hours of training annually. Staff may select from in-house sessions, webinars, and community programs. Knowing this, I approached the trainer about serving as a guest lecturer for an in-house session.

Time, Place, and Manner Matter

Anyone who has presented a program knows there are plenty of things to consider before jumping in front of an



from the public library system. Also, despite being the sole librarian at the law library, the law librarian is part of a collegial group of information professionals.

Our public library system is strongly committed to professional development. A staff training coordinator (trainer) oversees a program in which librarians are encouraged to

audience, many of which have little to do with content. However, working with the trainer allowed me to focus on content because she could make room reservations and advertise my program, just as she does for the 100+ sessions she conducts each year. She also helped me brainstorm the program title, Legal Resources for FBCL Patrons, to appeal to my target audience.

I began the presentation with a condensed 15-minute introduction to “the law” that included a discussion of jurisdiction, legal citation, and primary and secondary legal resources. I also briefly discussed the need for access to legal information, the goals of the access to justice movement, and the role of public libraries in this important activity. This served to give participants an idea of the complexity of the law and legal resources and why patrons need their help.

.....
“Thank you so much for your fabulous legal resources training. It really helped clarify what we can and cannot do, and I loved learning about Google Scholar.”
.....

—Katrinya, librarian

Next, I discussed print and electronic resources available in branch libraries as well as community resources. The session covered self-help books from Nolo and Sphinx Publishing as well as TexasLawHelp.org. For community resources, I focused on local legal aid, including legal lines and clinics, and lawyer referral services. One of the best ways public librarians help underserved groups is by being aware of community resources and sharing that information, so this was an important topic to cover. Additionally, I reminded attendees that the law library is available to the public and encouraged them to contact me.

Finally, we covered the unauthorized practice of law. Each branch library has a sign that indicates three actions staff cannot take: (1) interpret legal materials, (2) select forms, and (3) assist with filling out forms. We discussed each action and the corresponding Texas statute. We also discussed distinctions between legal information and legal advice. At the same time, I fielded questions and presented hypotheticals using a modified Socratic method (i.e., I answered questions with questions, but much more nicely than my first-year law professors) to help participants work through the uncertainty that accompanies the unauthorized practice of law. I concluded by encouraging participants to refer difficult questions to supervisors and the law library.

A Chance to Win a Prize

At the end of the presentation, I gave an optional “homework” question asking participants to retrieve a case by citation and send me an email to report the type of animal referenced in the case. The

cases were available in Google Scholar, so everyone could participate. Those who submitted a correct answer were entered to win a prize. The goal of the exercise was to help attendees practice newly learned skills and to serve as an icebreaker for contacting the law library.

The Results— an Overwhelming Success!

The first session drew about 40 participants ranging from branch managers to part-time library assistants. Although originally scheduled for one hour, the program lasted an additional 30 minutes because there were so many questions. Popular demand required the scheduling of a second session at another branch. This session was equally well received.

The program met my primary goal of helping patrons connect with legal information. Shortly after the first session, I began hearing from reference staff who had helped patrons locate legal reference materials or access legal information online. I have also received an increased number of phone calls from staff on behalf of patrons in need of assistance with legal resources. Additionally, patrons who have complex issues or would like additional resources have been referred to the law library.

.....
“Thanks very much for a wonderfully relevant session. You did a great job of passing on good guidelines to use while we address our patrons’ legal questions. Hope I get a chance to put some of the new tools into practice.”
.....

—Kim, paraprofessional

These results suggest that sharing information about legal research tools with public librarians broadens the reach of law library services. Based on reference interviews with referred patrons, I am confident that the information is reaching individuals whose needs are at the heart of access to justice efforts.

Some DIY Tips

Any law librarian interested in promoting access to justice should consider collaborating with public librarians. Public libraries help individuals whose legal needs are likely to be underserved, and public librarians are adept at connecting diverse patrons with information and community resources. By sharing information about

legal resources and their use, law librarians broaden the reach of their efforts dramatically. Collaborating with public libraries directs efforts to where they are needed most.

Even though your library may not enjoy the unique relationship with a public library system that we have in Fort Bend County, there are a few lessons that can be applied to any situation. First, work within the public library’s professional development paradigm. In my case, I was able to focus more on my content because I relied on the trainer’s expertise in organizing programs. If you know who handles staff development for your local public library, contact him or her directly. If not, contact library administration or the adult services reference desk at the main branch. Either way, you are likely to find friendly people who will consider your proposal and who are great collaborators.

.....
“Today’s instruction was undeniably valuable to all of us library staff; definitely one of the more useful training sessions I’ve attended.”
.....

—Stephen, librarian

Second, think local. Conducting a program in your community allows you to discuss local legal resources. Additionally, you can serve as a face for your law library within your community. When my program participants refer patrons, they tell them to see “Joe at the law library.” Giving them a local face to remember increases the chance that they will recall your law library at the reference desk. It also makes the process of contacting you and asking for help less daunting if you have encouraged them to do so face to face.

Finally, keep some perspective. Every day, public libraries are attempting to provide a sample of the bibliographic universe to all members of their communities. It’s a tall order, and they do it well. However, if the training coordinator does not schedule your session for a few months, hang in there. If no one can retrieve cases by citation a week after your presentation, you have not failed. In fact, if the only lasting result of your program is that attendees remember to refer patrons to you, you have made strides for access to justice. ■

Joseph D. Lawson (jlawson@fortbend.lib.tx.us) is the law librarian at the Fort Bend County Law Library in Richmond, Texas.

**The Connecticut Judicial
Branch Access to Justice
Commission**

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LawyerCorps Connecticut
Fight Poverty. Invest In Justice.

*The Honorable Elliot N.
Solomon The Honorable
Maria A. Kahn July 2014*

*Report To
The American Bar
Association The Kresge
Foundation*

&

*The Public Welfare Foundation
2013 ATJC Innovation Grant Recipient*

Connecticut Judicial Branch Access to Justice Commission
Report to the American Bar Association On
LawyerCorps Connecticut
July 2014

Background

The civil legal needs of Connecticut's poorest residents are fairly staggering in what is considered by most to be a wealthy state: In a July 2008 survey commissioned by the Connecticut Bar Foundation, more than 7 in 10 low-income households said that they experienced a civil legal problem within the previous year — and this before the effects of the Great Recession were fully felt.

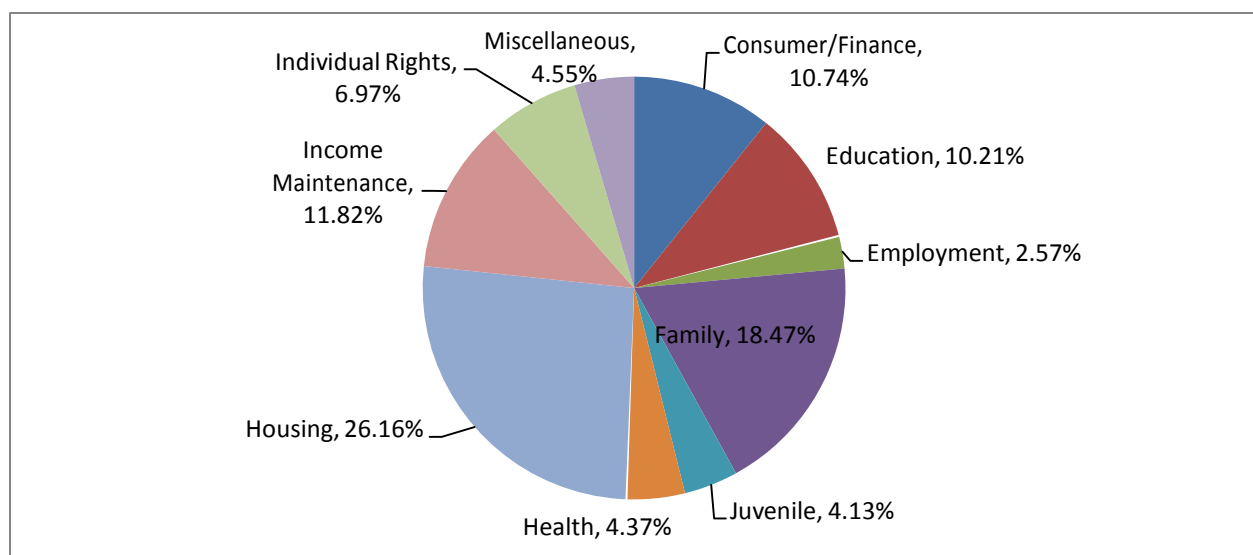
The Bar Foundation's survey showed that only 1 in 4 low-income people with a civil legal problem successfully sought and obtained legal assistance. Of those who received assistance, two-thirds of that help came from Legal Aid programs. Put another way, only about 18 percent of poor residents in need of a lawyer were able to obtain free help.

The most common legal problems identified by people with low incomes related to basic human needs: Half of those surveyed reported legal issues with housing, such as neglected repairs, utilities that were shut off, and obtaining or keeping Section 8 HUD assistance. Consider too that one-third of Connecticut residents are renters.

Another 30 percent of respondents had legal needs related to consumer issues, such as difficulties with creditors; and 29 percent of people reported needing legal assistance with employment issues, such as pay and benefits, and discrimination.

In Connecticut, 17 percent of legal aid clients are children; 27 percent are seniors; and 47 percent are people with disabilities.

In 2013, Connecticut's three full-service legal aid providers handled 11,642 cases addressing vital human needs: protection from domestic violence, disability rights, recovery of unpaid wages and overtime, and access to housing, education and health care. The chart below illustrates the breakdown by case type:



What is LawyerCorps Connecticut?

[LawyerCorps Connecticut](#) is an innovative partnership between Connecticut legal aid providers and major corporations with significant business operations in Connecticut intended to fund three Attorney Fellows for two to three years each to provide legal services to income-qualified people with civil legal needs.

- LawyerCorps Connecticut attorney Fellows will provide comprehensive legal services to clients in civil cases, in accordance with the participating legal aid programs' missions and standards. These attorneys will be trained and mentored by more experienced lawyers within each office, and share experiences within the LawyerCorps Connecticut community of legal aid service providers and the program's financial supporters.
- The principals of LawyerCorps Connecticut are the New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Connecticut Legal Services, Greater Hartford Legal Aid, the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, United Technologies Corporation (UTC), and General Electric (GE) and each is represented on the program's [Advisory Working Group](#).
- The Advisory Group includes Connecticut Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers, and the Honorable William H. Bright, Jr., who also serves as Chair of the Judicial Branch's [Pro Bono Committee](#) and as a member of the Branch's Access to Justice Commission.
- The Judges are joined on the Advisory Group by the executive directors of the three legal aid providers: Attorneys Susan Garcia Nofi of [New Haven Legal Assistance Association](#), Steven Eppler-Epstein of [Connecticut Legal Services](#), and Jamey Bell of [Greater Hartford Legal Aid](#).
- Advisory Group members from UTC are Charlie Gill, Senior Vice President and General Counsel; Charlsa (Sandy) Broadus, Assistant General Counsel; and Danielle Smith, a specialist in Public Relations & Community Affairs outreach. Representing GE are Senior Vice President and General Counsel Brackett Denniston, Senior Labor and Employment Counsel Mark Nordstrom, who is also a member of the [Judicial Branch's Access to Justice Commission](#) and the Pro Bono Committee, and Corporate Labor Counsel Paul Lalli.
- Other members of the Advisory Group are Day Pitney partner Peter Chadwick, who specializes in Tax-Exempt Organizations and Charitable Giving; Eugene Sheehan, a private Public Relations firm executive; and Lori Rabb, Vice President for Philanthropic Services at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.
- [The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving](#) manages a \$923 million endowment and provides millions of dollars in grants every year. They are the fiscal managers of all funding received for LawyerCorps Connecticut, including [the \\$10,000 grant awarded by the Kresge and Public Welfare foundations](#) through the [ABA's Access to Justice Expansion Grant program](#) in 2013.

The Goals of LawyerCorps Connecticut

- Establish a sustainable fund for purposes of increasing the availability of valuable, high-quality legal services to Connecticut's neediest residents free of charge;
- Help raise awareness of the need to close the justice gap in our courts;
- Provide attorney Fellows with hands-on courtroom experience, client relations, advocacy and policy skills necessary to help solve real-time problems in Connecticut's legal system;
- Spark a lifelong commitment among the Fellows for providing legal services to the less fortunate in our communities; and
- Enlist new partners to invest in justice, thereby increasing the number of Fellows available to the legal aid community, because we all benefit when the court system works.

The parameters for the qualifications for LCC Fellows were developed by the legal aid partners, who know what they need to help close the justice gap, and what resources their organizations would be able to commit to training new or inexperienced lawyers. Further, the Fellows will not simply be lawyers for the poor; they will be ambassadors for the core values of the program, and strongly advocate for LawyerCorps Connecticut.

How Did LawyerCorps Connecticut Come to Exist?

LawyerCorps Connecticut is the brainchild of Connecticut Supreme Court Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers. She was inspired by the *Teach for America* program concept of placing new teachers in schools where they can have an immediate impact, and learn from experienced mentors. In turn, the Chief Justice has said that she hopes the chosen Fellows will be inspired to a lifetime of public service, if not in the form of a career in legal aid, then a lifetime of commitment to do pro bono work and support legal aid programs.

Increasing access to justice and addressing the challenges resulting from a stark increase in self-represented parties has been the Chief Justice's focus since she ascended from Superior Court to lead the Supreme Court in 2007. Within her first months, she began addressing the growing foreclosure docket, which had grown about 30 percent over the previous year from 15,000 cases annually, to 20,000. That was the proverbial canary warning of the coming economic downturn in Connecticut, and the Chief Justice was instrumental in helping to develop and implement the country's first mandatory foreclosure mediation program.

The 2008 collapse of the economy, and subsequent low interest rates (approaching zero) have had a devastating effect on legal aid funding in Connecticut because of the loss of IOLTA funds. In 2007, IOLTA revenues were \$20.7 million. In 2013, IOLTA revenues were down by almost **90%**, to \$2.2 million. Revenues have continued to drop: January 2014 was the lowest revenue month since mandatory IOLTA was created, and February came in \$20,000 *below* January.

Under Chief Justice Rogers' leadership, the Judicial Branch has supported increases in certain filing fees to support funding for legal aid in the wake of the IOLTA crash. In April 2014, state lawmakers passed legislation making permanent certain filing fees established in 2012; legal aid programs are expected to receive in the neighborhood of \$13-14 million annually through the [Connecticut Bar Foundation](#).

Ensuring a steady and permanent funding stream for legal aid allows those providers to at least plan with some degree of assurance regarding their staffing levels, but more can, and in fact, must be done.

The Chief Justice shared her idea for a legal Fellows program with Judge Bright a few months after the Judicial Branch's first [Pro Bono Summit in late 2011](#). Judge Bright and the Pro Bono Committee [organized the summit \(and a second in May 2014\)](#), bringing together legal aid providers, Judges, attorneys in private practice, and general counsel that saw the launch of the pro bono portal for attorneys, <http://probono.ctlawhelp.org/> and the Pro Bono Catalog, which lists dozens of opportunities for lawyers.

Judge Bright and Chief Justice Rogers conducted extensive, post-summit outreach to Connecticut's large firms and corporations, local bar associations and law schools. They met personally with the managing partners and in-house counsel from many of Connecticut's large firms and corporations. They convened with local bar leaders, attended regional pro bono summits, and reached out to Connecticut's law school deans to establish an on-going dialogue about how law students can make a difference through their contributions to pro bono service.

Throughout 2012 and into 2013, Chief Justice Rogers and Judge Bright continued their outreach to large law firms and corporations to determine whether there were signature projects that might be of interest and to discuss how the Judicial Branch could help to facilitate the successful implementation of these initiatives. The goal of the outreach was to ask the firms and corporations what areas of the law they are interested in, and not be bound by the restrictions of their respective practice areas. Instead, Chief Justice Rogers and Judge Bright offered assistance with training the pro bono attorneys if the subject area was one that was unfamiliar to the firm or corporation.

That outreach to major corporations also helped to sow the seeds of bringing together legal aid stakeholders with corporate entities to discuss the possibility of creating something on a much larger, more permanent scale to help close the justice gap.

In February 2013, Chief Justice Rogers and Judge Bright met with the corporate attorneys — Denniston, Gill, and Broadus — and the legal aid executive directors — Eppler-Epstein, Garcia Nofi, and the then-Executive Director of Greater Hartford Legal Aid — to talk about creating a legal fellowship program. The Chief Justice and Judge Bright, along with the legal aid executive directors, made a convincing case to the corporate leaders about the need to help close the civil legal justice gap.

GE and UTC both signed on to be founding corporate partners of LawyerCorps Connecticut and have been incredibly generous, not only in their anticipated financial donations but with the donation of the valuable time of their general counsel and support staff.

For example, Attorney Broadus is the Executive Director of the Advisory Group, based on UTC's willingness to offer the high-level attorney time to lead the project. Sandy graciously accepted the role and has been an absolute tireless advocate for LawyerCorps Connecticut, working across a variety of lines and encouraging corporate competitors to work together to increase justice access for Connecticut's neediest residents. Additionally, UTC has involved one of its vendors with an expertise in communications, which, again, is so critical to advancing the concept and engaging corporate partners.



FELLOWS

- **Kelly Heuser Bonafé**

Atty. Kelly Heuser Bonafé joins Greater Hartford Legal Aid (GHLA) after finishing an appellate clerkship with Judge Beach in Hartford. She graduated cum laude from Western New England University School of Law in 2014, is admitted to the Connecticut and Massachusetts Bars, and is fluent in Spanish and proficient in Russian.

- **Oluwafunmilayo Ladeinde**

New Haven Legal Assistance Association (LAA) has hired Oluwafunmilayo Ladeinde, who received her J.D. in May, 2015 from the Howard University School of Law. In addition to completing the Family Law Certificate Program, she participated in an externship with the family law unit at Washington DC's Neighborhood Legal Services Program. She spent her summers during law school interning at the Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia and at Legal Services of Northern California.

- **Valerie Letendre Wood**

Atty. Valerie Letendre Wood joined Connecticut Legal Services' (CLS) Waterbury office in April, 2015. Her work focuses on housing matters in Litchfield County. Valerie graduated from the University of Connecticut School of Law in 2014, speaks Spanish, and is admitted to the Connecticut Bar.

Future Presentations and Workshops

Listed below are the presentations and workshops that we hope to offer in the near future.

Overview of Court Service Centers, Law Libraries, and Legal Reference for Librarians

This presentation will provide an overview of the services provided by the Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries and Court Service Centers. We will include a brief description of the organization of the courts and the special sessions of the Superior Court. Available forms, publications, and videos on the Judicial Branch website will be covered as well as the Judicial Branch's Volunteer Attorney Program and other free legal clinics. Strategies for conducting a legal reference interview will be discussed along with the differences between legal information and legal advice. Included in the discussion of the legal reference interview will be a brief overview of online legal resources.

Introduction to Legal Research for Librarians

This workshop will concentrate on using the Internet in conjunction with the resources in your own library to gain a better understanding of how to access the law. We will look at the Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries' website where hundreds of research guides and "Law by Subject" pages have been created to facilitate access to the law. You will learn how to locate case law, statutes, regulations, court rules, and administrative decisions. We will also address how to effectively search the Connecticut General Assembly website, Google Scholar, and other useful websites that offer legal resources freely available to you and your patrons online.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

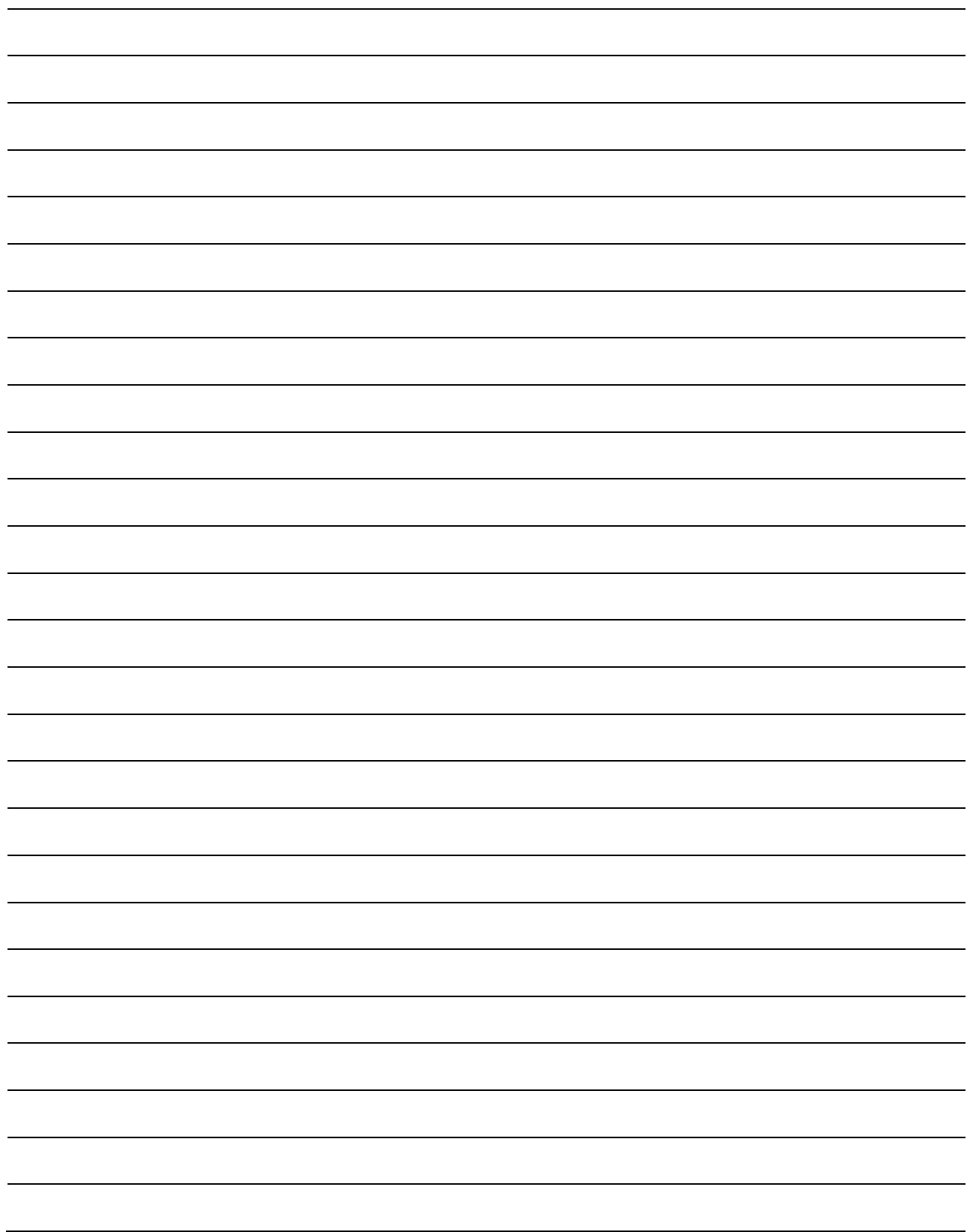
This workshop will provide an overview of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the responsibilities of public entities. Title II of the ADA requires public entities, such as the Connecticut Judicial Branch and public libraries, to accommodate individuals with disabilities by providing equal access to their services, programs, and activities. Under the ADA, one has a disability if one has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity, if one has a history of such an impairment, or is perceived to have an impairment. Bring your questions and find out more about the ADA and the responsibilities of public entities under the law.

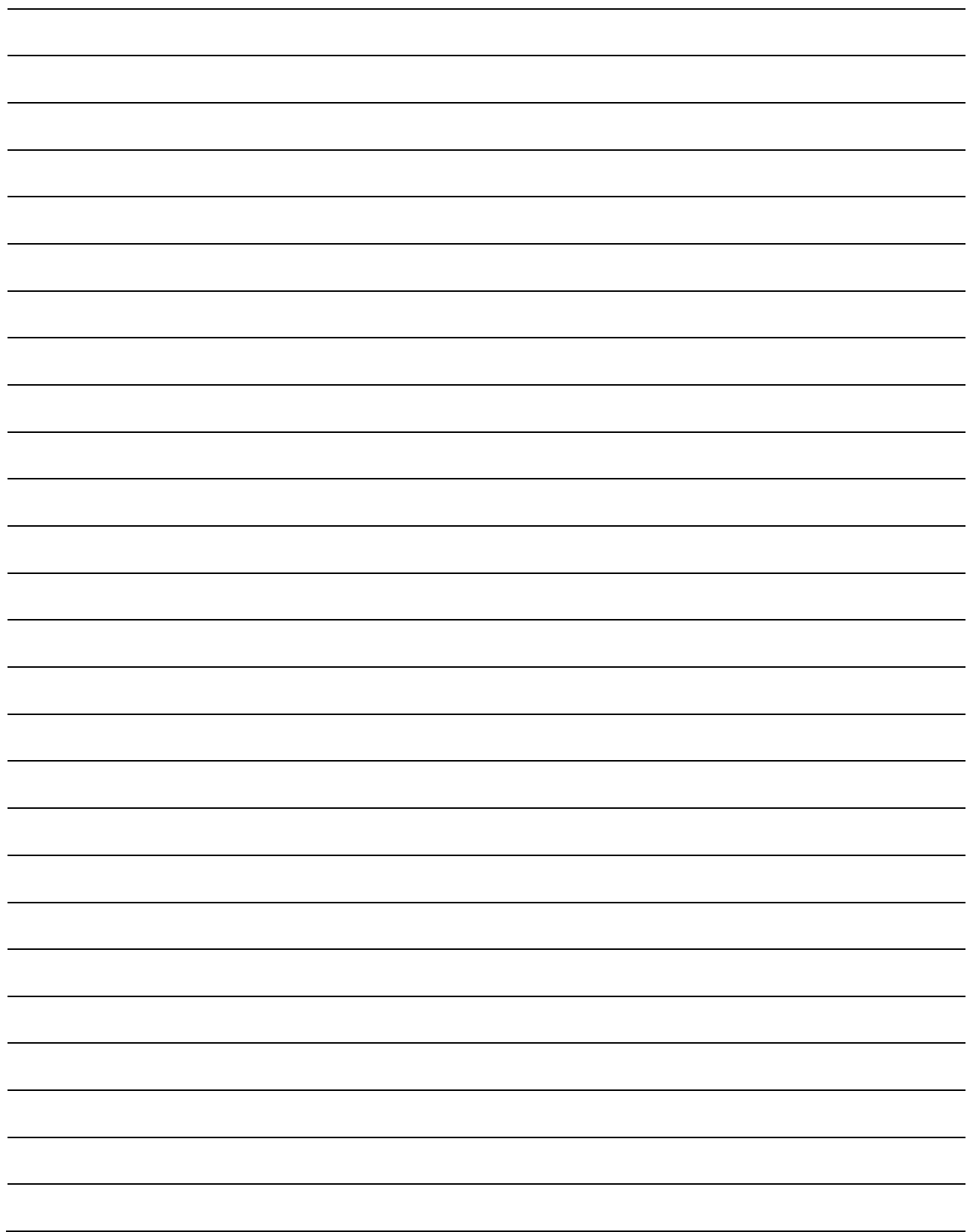
Questions? Contact Christopher Roy at Christopher.Roy@jud.ct.gov.

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***University of Connecticut
School of Law
Thomas J. Meskill
Law Library***



UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT SCHOOL OF LAW'S THOMAS J. MESKILL LAW LIBRARY

The University of Connecticut School of Law's *Thomas J. Meskill Law Library* is one of the largest law libraries in the country and one of the most attractive. The Law Library curates a strong collection of current and historical research and practice based material in print and electronic formats. Library staff provides research and reference assistance in and out of the classroom to faculty, law students, and administrative offices. As one of two public law libraries in the area, the Law Library supports our broader community, providing access to legal materials and reference assistance to the bench, bar, and general public.

The library is open seven days a week during the academic year and Monday through Friday during the summer months. More information about library services, collections and hours are available at our website, <https://library.law.uconn.edu/>.



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