

# Justice

## For the Common Good



1: Volunteers and staff at the For the Common Good event



2: Mae Quinn, Annette Appell, Reuben Shelton

3: Carrie Hermeling and Dan Glazier

4: John Ammann and Dan Glazier



Legal Services of Eastern Missouri (LSEM) hosted its annual *For the Common Good* awards program on August 30. More than 175 people came to the event to help us honor the award recipients for their outstanding achievements and dedication to our mission of providing equal access to justice.

*“It was a night to celebrate all those who help us make a difference in our clients’ lives. It was a wonderful affirmation of the support we have in the community”*,

said **Dan Glazier**, executive director & general counsel.

Thank you for supporting this event.

### Honorees at the event:

Robert Walston Chubb Award

*Carrie Hermeling*

Melton M. Lewis Equal Justice Award

*John J. Ammann*

Eddie Mae Binion Community Service Award

*St. Louis Mental Health Board*

Ashley Award

*Washington University Law School Civil Justice Clinic*

Edna M. Taylor Client Service Award

*Shannon Dodson (posthumous)*

Richard B. Teitelman Distinguished Service Award

*St. Charles County Bar Association*

John R. Essner Young Lawyer of the Year Award

*Ben Hodges  
Ashley Kemper*

F. Wm. McCalpin Pro Bono Award

*Debbie S. Champion*

Gerald R. Ortbals Outstanding Law Firm Award

*Lewis, Rice & Fingersh, L.C.*

Legislative Award

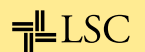
*State Senator Jack Goodman  
State Representative Stanley Cox*

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## News From the Volunteer Lawyers Program

The Volunteer Lawyers Program (VLP) continues to work closely with attorneys in our region to provide critical pro bono legal assistance to clients of Legal Services of Eastern Missouri.

On August 30th, we celebrated the amazing work done by these volunteers at our 4th annual *For the Common Good* awards reception. While several individuals and organizations were honored with awards, the real purpose of the night is to celebrate all the outstanding pro bono work being done in our community. Thanks to everyone who attended the event and to those contributing their time and talents to the VLP.

The VLP is also helping promote another important event, the 3rd annual *Pro Bono Celebration*. This year's celebration will be held the afternoon of October 27th at Washington University School of Law. As in past years, the celebration will feature a series of CLE-approved workshops focusing on legal issues involved in many pro bono referrals. These valuable training sessions will be followed by a reception at the School of Law Atrium featuring a prominent speaker discussing the impact of pro bono involvement.

The local *Pro Bono Celebration* is actually part of the nationwide week of pro bono activities promoted by the American Bar Association. The event here is hosted by the Pro Bono Committee of The Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis (BAMSL). If you are interested in attending the celebration, please contact **Jim Guest**, the director of the VLP, at [jhguest@lsem.org](mailto:jhguest@lsem.org) or register on BAMSL's website: [www.bamsl.org](http://www.bamsl.org). Space for the event is limited and it has sold out in past years, so please make plans early to attend.



John R. Essner Young Lawyer of the Year Award recipient Ben Hodges with Jim Guest at the *For the Common Good* reception

## Saint Louis University Students Perform Community Service



Dan Glazier with the Saint Louis University students

A group of students from Saint Louis University School of Law came to work at LSEM on August 19 to perform community service prior to starting the fall semester. They assisted with mailing projects, inventories, labeling boxes for storage and some maintenance tasks. LSEM is grateful for their willingness to help with these tasks.

## For the **Common Good** *continued from cover*



Ashley Kemper, John Kemper, Dan Glazier



Jim Guest and Sharon Cody



Debbie Champion and Jim Guest



State Senator Jack Goodman and Dan Glazier

## Update on the Bar Campaign

To date, LSEM has raised \$630,000 during its Second Annual Bar Campaign; this amount exceeds our goal of \$600,000 for this year.

For the first time in this campaign, LSEM traveled to some of the outlying areas we serve to meet attorneys practicing and/or living in those areas to better acquaint them with the legal needs of low-income individuals. One of our goals was to discuss roles they might play as LSEM endeavors to fill the growing justice gap.

**Todd Ahrens**, member of the LSEM Board of Directors, and **Judge Robert Clayton II** hosted a continuing legal education seminar on ethics at the Hannibal Country Club for attorneys in Hannibal and surrounding counties.



*Doug Brown in the foreground with other attorneys at the Hannibal ethics seminar*

*Adam M. Burkemper, Thomas Burkemper, Henry Vogelman of the Burkemper firm*

The seminar was presented by **Judge Stephen N. Limbaugh, Sr.** and was attended by about 40 attorneys. It was followed by a reception.

**Tom & Ellen Burkemper** hosted a fish fry sponsored by the Burkemper Law Firm for the attorneys in counties surrounding their home in Troy. This first-time LSEM fish fry was well attended by attorneys and their families. **Dan Glazier** made a short presentation at the event about the needs of LSEM clients.

LSEM also took the opportunity to get together with attorneys in St. Charles County. **Fred Drakesmith**, member of the LSEM Board of Directors, and **Eric Wulff**, member of The Missouri Bar Board of Governors, hosted a reception at the Grappa Grill, which was attended by almost 50 judges and attorneys.



*Fred Drakesmith, David Dalton, Sr., Judge Daniel Pelikan at Grappa Grill (photo by Josh Monken)*

## All About the Staff



**W. Patrick Mobley** joined LSEM as a staff attorney in the Children's Legal Alliance. He was selected for a two-year fellowship through the Skadden Fellowship Foundation. The Foundation was established in 1988 by the law firm Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP & Affiliates in recognition of the dire need for more funding for graduating individuals desiring to pursue a career providing legal services to the poor, elderly, homeless, disabled, and those deprived of civil or human rights.

Mobley received his J.D., *cum laude*, from the University of Michigan Law School and his B.A. in History and Political Science from the University of Michigan. He previously worked with LSEM as a legal intern during the summer of 2010, was a summer law clerk with the American Civil Liberties Union of Eastern Missouri, and a student attorney with a medical-legal collaborative

In his work with the Children's Legal Alliance, Mobley will provide direct representation to students who are not receiving the education services they deserve, including students with special education needs and those who have been removed from school for disciplinary reasons. He will also provide outreach activities to help students become more aware of their educational rights.



**Kim Allen Murray**, managing attorney of the Immigration Law Project, was named an "Up and Coming Attorney" by *Missouri Lawyers Weekly*. The awards are presented to young attorneys (under 40 years of age or in the first 10 years of their career) who are

making significant contributions to the legal profession and the community. A reception was held September 15 to honor the individuals.

In 2007, Murray joined LSEM as a staff attorney in the Immigration Law Project, and was named managing attorney in 2009. She manages the advocacy work of a team of attorneys and paralegals. She practices immigration law at various levels of adjudication, including initial applications and interviews before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and the U.S. Department of State, hearings before the Board of Immigration Appeals, appeals and motions before the Immigration Court, and federal court mandamus proceedings.

Murray is a member of The Missouri Bar, The Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis and its Immigration Committee, U Visa mentor for the American Immigration Lawyers Association (Missouri-Kansas Chapter) and is a member of the Eastern Missouri Human Trafficking Joint Task Force. She received her J.D. from City University of New York School of Law at Queens College in 1999. Prior to joining LSEM, Murray was a staff attorney with South Coastal Counties Legal Services in New Bedford, Massachusetts, and MFY Legal Services/Legal Services for New York (Manhattan) in New York City.



**Susan Alverson**, managing attorney of the Housing Unit, was on a panel discussion August 9 at an informational meeting, “Know Your Rights as a Renter”, hosted by St. Louis City Alderwoman **Kacie Starr Triplett**. More than 40 people attended the meeting to learn more about tenants’ rights.

**Kathleen DuBois**, managing attorney of the St. Louis County Family Court Project, appeared on KSDK-TV, Channel 5, news for an interview regarding Children’s Division practices. The report involved the division’s investigation of an abandoned child and legal issues that could arise should the agency leave the child in the care of a stranger.

**Rebecca Feldmann**, staff attorney with the Immigration Law Project, was featured on a KWMU radio panel discussion regarding human trafficking on August 24. She also conducted a training event on August 24 on human trafficking for the United Methodist Women’s Conference. **Feldmann** and **Kate Reid**, accredited representative with the Immigration Law Project, spoke on immigration issues and human trafficking on August 25 to representatives from OASIS International, a non-profit organization that helps new refugees settle in the St. Louis area.



**Joel Ferber**, director of advocacy and managing attorney of the Health & Welfare Unit, was a presenter at three sessions during the 2011 National Health Law Training program July 11-12 in Baltimore. The three sessions were: Affordable Care Act Implementation at the State Level, The Affordable Care Act and Consumer Involvement, Navigating Private Health Insurance Practices.



**Jamie Frost**, staff attorney with the Health & Welfare Unit, will be featured on the Governor’s Council on Disability web portal in October ([www.mo.gov/disability](http://www.mo.gov/disability)). A Missouri law designated October as Disability History and Awareness Month in Missouri’s public schools. The web portal will showcase Missourians with disabilities. Frost became the first deaf attorney in Missouri in October of 1999, and he has been with LSEM since that time. His practice currently focuses on issues relating to public benefits, such as Medicaid and Food Stamps.

**Dan Glazier**, executive director & general counsel, was interviewed July 22 on WGNU radio regarding LSEM and the services provided to the low-income community.

**Jim Guest**, director of the Volunteer Lawyers Program, was elected to The Missouri Bar Board of Governors as a City of St. Louis representative (District 11).



**Paul Hargadon** (pictured), public benefits specialist in the Public Benefits Project, and **Karen Warren**, managing attorney of the Public Benefits Project, were among the presenters in an August 31 Missouri Bar webinar “Mo HealthNet (Medicaid) for Adults other than Nursing Home Benefits: What Lawyers Need to Know”.



**Jacki Langum** (pictured), staff attorney, and **Dave Collier**, legal intern, in the Housing Unit, participated in a workshop hosted by the Missouri Public Service Commission on August 16. Workshop participants suggested clarifications and improvements to a chapter in the Code of State Regulations. **Langum** also made presentations regarding landlord-tenant relations and fair housing law at five conferences hosted by the Missouri Department of Mental Health. The conferences were primarily for consumers and case managers.

**LSEM staff** participated in the St. Louis Public School District’s “Back-to-School Fair” August 6 at Chaifetz Arena.



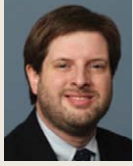
**Ruth Mullins**, paralegal in the Volunteer Lawyers Program, was featured in an “On the Job” column in the *Suburban Journal* on August 17.

**Rob Swearingen**, staff attorney in the Consumer Unit, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Consumer Council of Missouri. **Swearingen** was also interviewed by KMOV-TV, Channel 4, on how to protect yourself from fraudulent debt collectors; the segment aired August 31.



**Aruna Tailor**, volunteer with the Immigration Law Project, has been awarded full accreditation by the Board of Immigration Appeals. With the accreditation, she is now certified to

represent immigrants before the U.S. Immigration Courts and the Board of Immigration Appeals, as well as the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services.



**Dan Underwood**, managing attorney of the LSEM Children's Legal Alliance, was on KWMU radio's "St. Louis on the Air" program on August 3 discussing back-to-school issues.



**Karen Warren** (pictured), managing attorney of the Public Benefits Project, and **Jacki Langum**, staff attorney in the Housing Unit, each reviewed separate chapters of a Missouri Bar Continuing Legal Education publication released in June, the 4th edition of Missouri Administrative Law.

## All About the Board



**Ebony McCain** joined the LSEM Board of Directors in June for a two-year term. She is an associate with Littler Mendelson. Her practice focuses on the litigation of employment disputes and employer compliance with immigration law. McCain is a past president of the Mound City Bar Association, and serves on the Board of Directors of United 4 Children and the Rhodes College Alumni Association. She received her J.D. from Washington University School of Law and her B.A. in Political Science from Rhodes College. She received the Washington University School of Law Black Law Students Association Distinguished Young Alumni Award, and was a member of The Missouri Bar Leadership Academy.



**Brendan Roediger** was also selected in June to serve a two-year term on the LSEM Board of Directors. He is an assistant clinical professor of law at Saint Louis University School of Law. He is a faculty supervisor in the Civil Advocacy Clinic and concentrates on litigation. In addition, Roediger coordinates the SLU LAW Pro Bono Program. He previously worked with the Washington University Civil Justice Clinic and was an attorney with Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance in Illinois. Roediger received his J.D. from Washington University School of Law and his B.A. in Chicano Studies from the University of Minnesota.



## United Way of Greater St. Louis Campaign

LSEM and many other health and human services organizations in the greater metro area benefit from our partnership with **United Way of Greater St. Louis**. September 5 was the start of this year's United Way campaign. In 2010, you helped raise more than \$68 million for our community through the United Way campaign.

LSEM has been a United Way-funded agency for 42 years. In 2011, LSEM's allocation from United Way is \$629,783. These funds support the provision of legal services to the low-income community in a variety of areas, including services to the elderly and victims of domestic violence, and help to families in the areas of housing, education, immigration, health, and public benefits.

United Way funds reach 188 health and human services agencies throughout our metropolitan area and those agencies serve more than 1 million people each year. More than 90 cents of every dollar raised goes back into the community to help people access services through these agencies.

"United Way helps LSEM maintain a high level of service," said **Dan Glazier**, LSEM executive director. "With United Way support, we are able to help even more people. We're proud to be a United Way member agency, and I encourage you to support the campaign."

If you have questions about the United Way campaign or would like more information, please call United Way at 314-421-0700 or visit the website at [www.stl.unitedway.org](http://www.stl.unitedway.org).

## Update on the Young Friends of Legal Services

The **Young Friends of LSEM** continues to increase both its membership and the activities it is sponsoring. Unfortunately, a June event at a Grizzlies Game was rained out. However, the members are busily planning to expand their involvement in their work at the St. Louis County Courts by volunteering to provide assistance with dockets on a monthly basis.

**Armstrong Teasdale** will be hosting a cocktail reception for all members of the Young Friends on Thursday, November 3. If anyone is interested in attending, please contact **Louisa Gregory** at [lmgregory@lsem.org](mailto:lmgregory@lsem.org) or at 314-256-8736. There is no charge to join the Young Friends.

Mrs. J. had a broken foot, was unable to work and needed the use of a wheelchair. Her housing unit was not designed for wheelchair use and some damage occurred to the walls. The property manager charged her for the damages on top of the rent which she could not pay due to the limited amount of unemployment she was receiving at the time. When Mrs. J. came to us, she had a pending rent and possession lawsuit.

Ultimately, the property manager dismissed the lawsuit and then notified Mrs. J. that her lease would not be renewed when it expired in two months. At the same time, she received a notice of termination of her Section 8 voucher due to alleged unreported income. We represented her at the hearing regarding the termination of her Section 8 voucher. While waiting for the hearing decision, Mrs. J. vacated the unit when the lease expired and moved in with family members.

LSEM received a hearing decision in favor of Mrs. J., and shortly thereafter she received another notice of Section 8 termination for failing to timely report her move from the previous unit. We again represented her at the hearing and the hearing officer decided in her favor.

Mrs. J. then moved into a new unit with close access to public transportation. She receives Section 8 assistance at the new unit and a utility allowance. Due to our help in this case, Mrs. J. is excited once again about her future and hopes to go back to school. With her housing in serious jeopardy, she could have faced homelessness without the assistance of LSEM.



SAVE THE DATE:  
LEGAL SERVICES OF EASTERN MISSOURI'S 22ND ANNUAL  
JUSTICE FOR ALL BALL  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2012  
AT THE CHASE PARK PLAZA

INFO: 314.256.8736 - WWW.LSEM.ORG

## Honor Gifts

### In Honor of Melissa Bancroft

Barbee Bancroft

### In Honor of Lana Boyd on her retirement from LSEM

Jeanne Philips-Roth & Eddie Roth

### In Honor of Sandy Cox on her retirement from LSEM

Jeanne Philips-Roth & Eddie Roth

### In Honor of Jason Dodson for his mentorship

Ajay Athavale

### In Honor of Lily Schorr

The Family Court of St. Louis County

### In Honor of Judge Richard B. Teitelman on his appointment as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Missouri

Bob & Sue Appleton

Leonard & Julie Frankel

## United Way's 2-1-1 Phone Helpline

Every hour of every day someone is in need of essential services. With more than 10,000 health and human service organizations throughout Missouri and Southwestern Illinois, finding information to meet those needs can be no easy task.

Now it's easy to access the many services by dialing the 2-1-1 telephone helpline. The service is available throughout the state of Missouri and to Illinois residents in certain counties (St. Clair, Clinton, Randolph, Monroe, Madison, Jersey, Greene, Calhoun and Macoupin).

The 2-1-1 service is free, confidential, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and is staffed by trained specialists. Calling 2-1-1 provides a direct link to services like food banks, housing shelters, utility help, senior centers, child care, health care, support groups and more.

Individuals with true emergency situations need to dial 9-1-1 if in need of an ambulance, fire or police assistance. But 2-1-1 will help with many human service needs.

2-1-1 Missouri is managed by the **United Way of Greater St. Louis** and partially funded by the **Missouri Foundation for Health**. Other United Ways across Missouri are partnered in this effort:

At this time, 2-1-1 can only be reached from AT&T/Cingular cell phones, but other cell phone providers will be added. The service can still be reached from a cell phone by dialing 800-427-4626. You may also visit the website at [www.211missouri.org](http://www.211missouri.org) or [www.211il.org](http://www.211il.org).



## Memorial Gifts

### In Memory of Debra Brenningstall

Jon & Melissa Baris

Joseph & Gen Frank

Dan Glazier & Nancy Snow

### In Memory of Sue Brownlee

Goldstein & Pressman, P.C.

Louis & Mary Bonacorsi

Bill & Angie Bay

Edward A. Cohen

Suzanne Ehrhardt

David D. Farrell

Dan Glazier & Nancy Snow

Steve & Judy Gorin

William G. Guerri

Judith C. Miniace

Joe & Peggy Porter

W. Stanley Walch

### In Memory of Eileen M. Dickemper

Dan Glazier & Nancy Snow

Susan Hauser

June O'Brien

Jeanne Philips-Roth & Eddie Roth

DeAna S. Rowden

Carl & Jo Seltzer

Missy Waldman

### In Memory of Shannon Dodson

Violet Lohse

### In Memory of Carl M. Fricks

Jeanne Philips-Roth & Eddie Roth

### In Memory of Honorable Andrew Jackson Higgins

Joel Monson

### In Memory of Dan Horkheimer

Thomas & Marsha Feldmann

### In Memory of Richard E. Jaudes

Mary Beth Orbals

### In Memory of Melton M. Lewis, Sr.

Stan Platke

Thomas & Ruth Przybeck

### In Memory of Walter Petry

John & Elizabeth Ammann

### In Memory of Eileen Philips Montgomery

Judith C. Miniace

DeAna S. Rowden

Hon. Richard B. Teitelman

### In Memory of Louis E. Teitelman

Jeanne Philips-Roth & Eddie Roth

Susan Nell Rowe & Ross Briggs

## A Message from the Director



### Dear Friends:

When people ask me how things are going at Legal Services of Eastern Missouri (LSEM), I sometimes rather ironically answer, “the poverty business is booming.” The latest national census data more than bear this out. New U.S. Census Bureau data recently released showed that an additional 19,000 people in our region joined the ranks of the poor in 2010. There are nearly 49,000 new poor in our region since 2006. Nationally, 15.1% of all people in the U.S. now live in poverty, up almost a full percentage point from 2009 and the third consecutive annual increase in the poverty rate. The number of American now eligible for legal aid services is more than 60.4 million persons, up 3.6 million from 2009.

The numbers we are experiencing at LSEM mirror this increase. In 2010, we saw an 18% increase in the number of calls we received from folks needing our services. We closed 30% more cases in 2010 than we did the previous year. We are seeing increases in most of our substantive areas in which we focus, with particular increases in consumer, housing and family law due to domestic violence cases.

The good news is we are making a significant difference in the lives of those we are able to represent. Nearly 95% of our cases result in

successful outcomes for our clients. We are keeping our clients and their families safe from the horrors of domestic violence. We are providing educational opportunities to special needs children that never existed for them before. We are helping families get access to life-saving health care and critical public benefits that ensure our clients and their families will have food to eat and a place to stay.

Consider the recent case of our client, Ms. J., who was the victim of domestic violence. A horrible episode with her abuser caused her to suddenly flee with her minor children from her subsidized apartment. The local housing authority where she got her federally subsidized Section 8 certificate determined she had abandoned her apartment and moved to terminate her valued Section 8 assistance. Her Section 8 landlord sued her for unpaid rent after she had to abandon the unit. LSEM attorneys in our Housing Unit represented her in the eviction lawsuit, and through negotiation, we were able to get the lawsuit dismissed. We then advocated for Ms. J. with the local housing authority to get the Section 8 certificate reinstated because we proved she had not improperly vacated the dwelling but rather was a victim of domestic violence. We kept her and her family of 4 school-aged children from being victimized twice by both the abuser and the loss of affordable housing. Today, her family is safely living in subsidized housing and their future looks much brighter.

At our recent For the Common Good awards event, private attorney Debbie Champion, who received the F. Wm. McCalpin Pro Bono Award for her outstanding pro bono work, eloquently shared in her acceptance remarks that she had received a letter from our Lasting Solutions Program managing attorney, Jason Dodson, where he thanked her for the work she did representing a domestic violence victim in family court proceedings. “You gave her freedom”, Jason wrote to Debbie. “I had to think about that”, Debbie said, “and then realized Jason was right”. Debbie went on to explain the work LSEM staff and volunteer lawyers do on behalf of low-income persons does give them freedom — the freedom to have opportunities they wouldn’t otherwise have. This freedom, such as we were able to provide to Ms. J. and the 21, 178 people (clients and their family members) we were able to help in 2010, is empowering and effective.

The poverty business is booming, but I am proud that with your help, we are able to assist our clients in removing some of the obstacles of poverty and make a positive difference in their lives. That is freeing indeed.

Sincerely,

Daniel K. Glazier

Executive Director & General Counsel

*The mission of Legal Services of Eastern Missouri (LSEM) is to provide high-quality legal assistance and equal access to justice for low-income people.*

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Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, Inc.  
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St. Louis, MO 63108