



JUST News

Connecting Minnesota's Justice Community

Vol. 132 - April 2014

Dear JUST News Readers,

This edition features a number of special event and CLE announcements, along with links to State Support's newly revised debt booklet on LawHelpMN.org. Congratulations to Ralonda Mason on receiving the MSBA's Bernard Becker Legal Services Staff Award!

If you would like your program announcements, news, case notes, press releases, and event info to appear in JUST News, send your submissions to Mary at mrea@mnlegalservices.org.

Ralonda Mason Receives 2014 Bernard P. Becker Legal Services Staff Award



Supervising Attorney for Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid Will Be Honored April 25th

The Minnesota State Bar Association (MSBA) has chosen Ralonda Mason, supervising attorney for Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid - St. Cloud, to receive its 2014 Bernard P. Becker Legal Services Staff Award. The award pays tribute to "dedicated service, outstanding achievements and a demonstrated commitment to provision of zealous and skilled legal representation to low-income and disadvantaged Minnesotans."

Weida Allen, social worker with Children's Law Center of Minnesota, will also be honored with a Legal Services Staff Award. Craig Downs, law student at Hamline University School of Law, and volunteer at Deinard Legal Clinic will receive the Law Student Award.

The awards will be presented at the MSBA Assembly meeting on April 25th at the offices of Dorsey & Whitney in Minneapolis.

Continuing to Give Back - Emeritus and Pro Bono Training May 16th

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2014 Indian Law Conference - May 2nd, Prior Lake

The Minnesota American Indian Bar Association (MAIBA) and Minnesota CLE present an outstanding program that shares the insider's view of American Indian Law on the Federal, State and Tribal levels. A special discount for legal aid attorneys and paralegals, in recognition of their

State Support's Day-Long CLE Provides Unique Opportunity for Retired Attorneys



Come learn how you can make a difference for someone who otherwise might not get the legal help they need. If you are a retired attorney, this training meets the requirements for you to obtain emeritus attorney status. This status allows a retired attorney to practice in order to provide pro bono services with a legal services provider.

Open to all pro bono attorneys, our emeritus attorney training will give attendees substantive training in one area of law where they can make an impact on a low-income Minnesotan's life. Come learn the basics of orders for protection, evictions, garnishments, or criminal expungements.

Attendees will receive three (3) hours of standard MN CLE credit, one (1) hour of ethics MN CLE credit, and one (1) hour of elimination of bias MN CLE credit.

Click [here](#) to register and for more information.

May 5th Marks The Fund for Legal Aid's Law Day Testimonial Dinner

Sharon Sayles Belton to be Honored at 33rd Annual Event

On Monday, May 5, 2014, The Fund for Legal Aid will host its 33rd annual Law Day Testimonial Dinner at the Hilton Minneapolis Hotel beginning at 5:00 p.m. The revenues generated by The Fund are essential to enabling Legal Aid to provide quality legal representation for people with very low incomes, people with disabilities, and seniors.



This year's Honoree is Sharon Sayles Belton, Vice President of Government Affairs and Community Relations for Thomson Reuters. Chief U.S. District Court Judge Michael Davis will deliver the Honoree's testimonial.

The keynote speaker for the evening's program is Professor Joe Soss, Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs. His research and teaching explore the interplay of democratic politics, societal inequalities, and public policy. Professor Soss will speak on "Racial Injustice and American Democracy."

Festivities also include the "Lunch with a General Counsel" silent auction featuring the opportunity to bid on lunch with a General Counsel from prominent Minneapolis companies. Lunch for three guests will be provided at the General Counsel's

outstanding work for Native American clients, is available. More [here](#).

Clinic Outreach to Hmong Clients in the Twin Cities - May 13th

The Volunteer Lawyers Network presents a free elimination of bias CLE for attorneys volunteering at the VLN/HAP/MNAPABA June clinic. Topics include Hmong American Partnership Services, the benefits of partnering with social services, cultural considerations, working with interpreters, and more. Click [here](#) to register.

2014 Attractive Nuisance Tour (ANT) - May 16th

The Minnesota Justice Foundation, in partnership with the Minnesota Music Coalition, is proud to present the ninth Attractive Nuisance Tour. ANT will be held at the Crooked Pint Ale House in Minneapolis, and feature performances by five Twin Cities bands. Each band contains at least one Minnesota lawyer or law student. Click [here](#) for more info and tickets. All proceeds will benefit MJF.

State Support Tech Tips

Write Clearly Plain Language Gadget

Click on the icon below to view this issue's recorded presentation.

expense. These generous supporters of Legal Aid offer you, or your firm, a chance to:

- learn about legal and business issues facing their companies
- present ways you or your firm could help their companies succeed
- provide a mentoring experience for an associate or in-house counsel.

Click [here](#) to register for the Law Day Dinner.

Revised "Dealing with Debt" Booklet Now Available

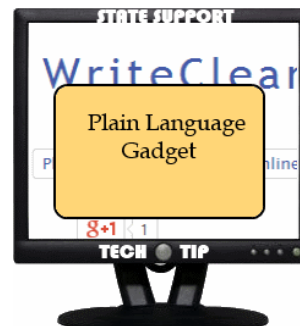


Helpful Community
Education Resource
Available in Print and
Online

State Support's 2014 revised fifth edition of the booklet [Dealing With Debt: Your Rights and Responsibilities in Minnesota](#) is now available on [LawHelpMN.org](#). The online booklet is available in both PDF and HTML formats, and a printed edition is also available. Copies of the new booklet will be mailed to statewide Legal Services Coalition and LSAC grantee offices. Others may order the printed booklet via State Support's [website](#).

As always, check with your IT department prior to software download.

Have tech ideas or questions? Submit them [here](#) for future tech tips.



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