

CLIENT UPDATE

F A L L 2 0 0 3

Finance Committee Hears NLADA Budget Requests for FY 2005—Arrives at LSC Mark

The Legal Service Corporation's (LSC) Finance Committee met on Monday, September 15, to consider a number of items, including the adoption of an appropriations mark for FY 2005 to present to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Congress. The committee sought public comment as part of its deliberative process.

Don Saunders, NLADA director of civil legal services, represented NLADA in testifying before the committee. Teresa Cosby, Director of the South Carolina Centers for Justice, was also originally slated to testify, but she was unable to attend the meeting due to the funeral of South Carolina Centers for Justice Board Chair, Joseph Shine. He began his presentation by providing the committee with an overview of NLADA's grassroots lobbying campaign on behalf of the LSC appropriation, as well as its staffing effort, led by Senior Vice President for Government Relations and Support Julie Clark.

Saunders presented a request for a budget mark of \$510.8 million for FY 2005 on behalf of NLADA's board and Civil Policy Group. The request represents a restoration of the funding mark by Congress for LSC in 1995, adjusted for inflation. It is based upon a theory of funding at least to the level that existed prior to the implementation of a 30 percent cut in 1995 by the

104th Congress. (The letter presented by NLADA to the committee detailing its request is available on-line at www.nlada.org/Civil.)

The primary request was for a significant increase (to \$463.2 million) in the Direct Delivery line of the LSC budget. NLADA's traditional position has been to distribute most LSC funding through Direct Delivery, thus allowing local programs to decide how to allocate resources based on local priority needs.

However, the NLADA request also supported several national initiatives that would address priority needs cutting across all recipient programs. The request included support for national training, publications and other advocacy assistance (\$10 million), student debt and staff pensions (\$17 million, with a smaller, pilot allocation of \$1 million once the direct delivery line reaches a smaller level of \$322) and Technology Initiatives Grants (\$5.2 million at the level of NLADA's budget mark, \$3.4 million at current funding level).

Committee Chair Rob Dieter, from Colorado, and other committee and board members were particularly interested in the request for pensions and student debt relief. Dieter requested that NLADA work with LSC staff in developing demographic and statistical data regarding the status of pension plans within LSC's recipient community. The committee was also interested in what LSC could do specifically to help alleviate the burden of student debt on recent law graduates. The LSC staff was directed to gather such data and report back at the January meeting of the committee.

Sarah Singleton presented the request of the American Bar Association (ABA) Standing Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants (SCLAID). SCLAID has adopted a similar theory of restoration to the

1995 level of funding and presented an identical request of \$510.8 million. The ABA's request recognized the political difficulties that might accompany such an increase under current budgetary realities and suggested that a three-year approach might be indicated to arrive at such a mark. If this approach were to be taken by LSC, the FY 2005 total would be \$397 million. Singleton also recognized loan repayment assistance as a priority concern for LSC funding.

Mauricio Vivero, LSC's vice president for governmental relations and public affairs, next presented the LSC management's request for an FY 2005 mark. Vivero stressed the growing bipartisan support in the Congress for LSC. The management figure he asked the board to adopt was \$352.4 million a figure that he said meets the mandates of the Bush Administration and OMB with regard to requests from federal agencies.

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**NLADA
will be in
Seattle
Nov.
12-15
for the
2003 Annual Conference.**



NLADA Client Policy Group Officers 2003

Rosita Stanley
Chair
Macon, GA

Lucille Logan
Vice Chair
Oklahoma City, OK

Ben Obregon
Secretary
Madison, WI

Harry Johnson
Membership and Section Committee Chair
Indianapolis, IN

Lucille Logan
Communications Committee Chair
Oklahoma City, OK

Rosita Stanley
Training Committee Chair
Macon, GA

Policy Group Elections 2003

NLADA is happy to announce the following results of the policy groups 2003 elections:

Civil Policy Group

Lillian M. Moy – Chief Staff Officer (Region I)

Teresa N. Cosby – Chief Staff Officer (Region IV)

Harry Johnson – Client Representative (Regions III and IV)

Kelly Carmody – Civil Member (Non-CSO/Non-Client)

Defender Policy Group

Gerard A. Smyth – Chief Defender Representative

Federico Rentas Rodriguez – Chief Defender Representative

Jean Faria – Defender Staff Representative

LEADERSHIP CORNER

Message from Chair, NLADA Client Policy Group, Rosita Stanley

Greetings to each of you! I write to update you on the Annual Conference and our progress since the last edition of the Client Update.

In the spring we set the following goals for FY 2003:

- 1) To coordinate and continue to develop a quarterly newsletter, collaborating with the NOCA organization;
- 2) Continue to build on training; and
- 3) To educate and inform the client membership of the organizational resources of NLADA.

I am proud to report that we have exceeded our initial expectations. This is the second edition of the Client Update for 2003. Not only am I excited that we have a new look for the Client Update, but I am also proud of the content that we were able to bring to our community. We, the client members, are also so thankful for the assistance of Cynthia Works, Elizabeth Arledge and Stacy Mayuga in ensuring that the Client Update is produced in a timely and professional manner. Thank you!

We wanted to build upon training opportunities for clients at the Annual Conference. Look at page 5 of the Client Update and you will see the fabulous line up of training programs at the Annual Conference - leadership, communication skills, reentry, just to name a few. These sessions are not to be missed. For those of you who have difficulty using the Internet or navigating the Web, please attend the technology session presented by Howard University "Computer Doc" Professor Gregory Berry.

We are particularly excited that Divine Pryor, PhD will present the client leadership session. Dr. Pryor is currently the executive director of the Association for Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment, Inc., (ADAPT). He is a social justice advocate who came to his current position with a long history of community activism, professional and academic achievements and an undying commitment to the endless struggle for quality and excellence in the provision of services. Come listen and leave inspired!

There are a number of important client events at the conference. Review these dates before making your travel arrangements so that you won't miss any of the events. On Thursday, evening, we will have a reception for clients in the Cascade Suite at the Westin hotel. All members of the client community are welcome.

The NLADA Client Section will also meet at the Annual Conference on Saturday, November 15, from 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. NLADA recently held elections to the Civil Policy Group. Harry Johnson was elected the Client Representative for Regions III and IV, replacing Ben Obregon. I would like to congratulate Harry on his election and also thank Ben Obregon. Ben has provided the client community with years of service. We sincerely appreciate his efforts and look forward to his continued participation with the client community and NLADA.

Harry also chairs the Membership Committee. They have been working actively to identify and recruit at least 100 new members into NLADA. Please support our efforts either by purchasing a membership of \$15 for yourself, or for someone you know. If your membership is active, sponsor someone else. If your membership has expired, please renew it.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Georgia Client Council and its leadership in establishing the Veda McKnight Leadership Institute. Additionally, I want to commend Kentucky Legal Services and its client members for establishing a new state client council.

One bittersweet note: Many of you met Darlene Perry when she worked for NLADA. She was a huge help to the Client Policy Group and Client Section. Darlene left NLADA to pursue a job opportunity with AARP. We were sad to see her go, but we wish her the very best.

I look forward to seeing each of you in Seattle in November.

LEADERSHIP CORNER

Message from NOCA President Lucille Logan

I am looking forward to seeing old and new clients at the NLADA Annual Conference in Seattle, Washington. This year, we will have training on the NOCA structure instead of conducting our annual meeting. It is very important for us to look at our organizational structure—where it is now and what we expect in the future. With the merging of legal aid programs, we have been losing contact with quite a few of our old members. There is a greater need, now more than ever before to keep NOCA unified and strong. Some of the issues that need to be addressed are: 1) how board members are selected; 2) incorporating the help of our founders (NLADA and PAG); 3) state involvement versus regional; 4) how clients/client advocates fit into the structure; 5) setting up a national office and seeking an executive director and staff; 6) obtaining funding to establish a NOCA office; and 7) dues framework. These, and other concerns, must be our focus as we strengthen our organization.

The training session begins at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 15, 2003 at the close

of the NLADA Annual Conference. Please, whether you are sent by an agency or you sponsor yourself, attend this session. We need your input. This training needs to be inclusive as we have a stake in our organization. It should also include as many persons as possible to create organizational vitality. Let's make diversity our strength. Then, at the 2004 Annual Conference in Washington, DC we will have a stronger client organization.

In addition, 2004 is an election year. It is important that we have a better understanding of the organization's direction to ensure our leaders reflect that. We don't have time for backbiting. We have differences, but that can be a plus. Let's put negative power play aside and work on client and client advocate power. Come with our working hats on! I am sure we will go home with constructive ideas. For those who are lucky enough to join us, come to work! For those who do not attend, we will still need your input and help.

I hope to see the NOCA family at this exciting conference.

NOCA OFFICERS

Lucille Logan
President,
Oklahoma City, OK

Charlie Morris
1st Vice President,
Memphis, TN

Mollie Gomez
2nd Vice President,
Norwalk, CA

Yvette Long
Secretary,
Philadelphia, PA

Lucinda Henderson
Parliamentarian,
Santa Ana, CA

Secret Henderson
Membership
Committee Chair,
Houston, TX

Pearly Blunt
Issues Committee Chairperson,
Houston, TX

Harry Johnson
Treasurer,
Indianapolis, IN

CLIENT CORNER

JUST MY OPINION: CLIENTS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

By Mary Wilson, Legal Aid of North Texas

I am often asked by clients of legal aid programs, "Why get involved with a client council? What do they do?" Many clients say they simply do not have the time due to jobs and family responsibilities. Others question whether one person can really make a difference. My response is normally a series of questions: "Do you care about what goes on in your community? What schools are available? Will services will be provided? Whether your family will get the support they may need in the future?"

For over 25 years, I have been involved by serving in client council activities through my work on the boards of West Texas Legal Services, Texas Legal Services Center and NLADA. I have seen clients work in partner-

ship with legal aid programs in taking on important community issues - and all within LSC regulations. Like other client council members, I have worked to help make sure that programs see clients as a group, and not simply individuals on a waiting list with simple cases. The staff in legal aid programs could work all day and night and never get through the requests for help with family law matters. Programs must adopt priorities that include a fair mix of long-term advocacy while still responding to the most pressing of so-called emergency cases.

In client council and state planning meetings, clients have reminded legal aid directors and staff that permanent solutions to long-term problems are ignored and communities

suffer when the work of legal aid staff is solely focused on short term problems. In my state, increased emphasis is greatly needed in developing meaningful jobs, programs, improvements in health care coverage and the development of new affordable housing. Sadly though, few programs have earmarked staff who are focused on these community needs.

What difference can you make? Identify the staff and managers in your legal services program who understand the big picture. As client advisors, urge the adoption of community-based priorities with designated staff working with the client council and community organizations to implement

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TRAINING DIVISION NEWS

United in the Promise of Justice

Seattle is the Setting for NLADA's 2003 Annual Conference

November 12-15 the National Legal Aid & Defender Association (NLADA) will be in Seattle, Washington, for its 2003 Annual Conference. This will be the first time since 1975 that the Annual Conference has been held in Seattle... And a lot has changed. Bell-bottom pants were in and then they were out and now they are back in. Grunge music, Generation X and WTO protests brought a new generation of civil action to light. Technology has transformed the Seattle area from a sleepy port town to a world player. And, Starbucks fuels many of our daily lives.

From a legal prospective, significant changes have shaped local and national initiatives. Nationally, we are marking the 40th anniversary of *Gideon v. Wainwright*, the landmark Supreme Court decision granting the right to counsel for individuals facing criminal charges. While we celebrate the holding in *Gideon* and its undeniable value to people accused of crimes, we recognize that there is no similar right to counsel in civil legal matters. The goal of this year's conference is two-fold: 1) to bring defenders and legal aid advocates together to explore this crucial issue, and, 2) to encourage collaboration in other areas where the civil and criminal needs of our clients intersect. In keeping with this pursuit, the Honorable Gerry L. Alexander, chief justice of the Washington Supreme Court will provide the keynote address.

Seattle – A Unique and Fun Conference Setting

For those of you who have never visited Seattle, there is a wealth of things to see, do and enjoy. The Seattle area is a beautiful and stimulating place, alive with growth, energy and ideas. A lot is going on in the region, in technology, the arts, commerce, medicine, politics, outdoor life and culture. Located on Puget Sound and surrounded by magnificent mountain ranges, Seattle is one of the most beautiful urban centers in the country.

The area features thriving club, music, literary, movie and arts scenes; acclaimed symphony, opera, ballet and theater companies; exciting, professional sports teams; renowned restaurants; vibrant cultural and music festivals; and great outdoor adventures for hiking,

biking, boating, skiing and fishing. It offers distinct and livable neighborhoods, with great shopping, city parks, lakes, bike routes, gyms and cafes close by. And as for the weather, it rains much less than you might think. Truth is, it rains less in Seattle than it does in New York, Washington, DC, and a number of other East Coast cities. The temperature in Seattle is mild, which means pleasant summers and very little snow in the winter—except in the nearby mountains.

Information, Some Useful and Some Just Interesting

Population – The Seattle area makes up the 13th largest metropolitan area in the United States. Overall, King County, where Seattle is located, has a minority population of more than 20 percent, including Asian/Pacific Islander, African-American and Hispanic people. The region has a rich Native-American heritage and remains home to a significant number of tribes. There is a sizable Scandinavian presence and the fourth-largest International District in the country.

Transportation – Getting around Seattle proper isn't difficult without a car. Taxis and Metro buses can get you where you want to go without much ado or cost. Downtown services include free bus travel, a monorail between downtown and the Seattle Center and a waterfront trolley. Seattle is a haven for boats and boat lovers, whether your preference is kayaking, canoeing, sailing, motoring, fishing or simply riding the ferries. Seattle's proximity to the Puget Sound and Pacific Ocean has made it one of the leading maritime regions. The Ports of Seattle and neighboring Tacoma are major international trading centers and a gateway for business with the Pacific Rim. Many major cruise lines moor in Seattle, and Fisherman's Terminal is home to much of the Alaskan fishing fleet.

Nearby – Seattle is close to Mount Rainier, Olympic and Cascades National Parks. In the Northwest part of the state, you can visit lush rain forests and mountainous alpine country, taking in the views of snow-covered peaks of Mount Rainier, Mount Baker, Mount Adams and Mount St. Helens. You can visit the canyons and deserts of Central and Eastern Washington

or find year-round recreational activities along the Pacific coast. You can journey north to the cities of Vancouver and Victoria, in British Columbia, Canada, or travel east and south to the neighboring states of Idaho and Oregon.

Seattle has much to offer. We hope you join us November 12 - 15 at the Seattle Westin for the 2003 NLADA Annual Conference.

Who Should Attend NLADA's Annual Conference?

- Executive directors, managers, staff attorneys and other civil legal aid advocates;
- Chief defenders, managers, trial attorneys and other staff of federal, state and local defender offices;
- Pro bono program managers and staff;
- Executive directors, managers, staff of civil rights and other public interest legal organizations;
- Private attorneys who receive indigent defense appointments or who provide pro bono services in civil cases;
- Client board members of civil legal aid organizations;
- Community advocates and leaders;
- Bar association leaders and staff;
- Corporate counsel;
- Judges and other court representatives;
- Federal, state and local government officials and attorneys;
- Law school faculty and students; and
- Advocates who provide legal assistance to low-income members of the military.

Why Should You Attend?

- Gain exposure to the latest information and trends, and acquire new skills in your field;
- Learn from leading national experts and trainers;
- Network with colleagues from across the country;
- Check out the latest products and services; and
- Get inspired and energized, United in the Promise of Justice!

2003 NLADA ANNUAL CONFERENCE CLIENT TRACK

PREPARING FOR TOMORROW: DEVELOPING SKILLS TO TAKE US TO NEW HORIZONS

The NLADA Client Policy Group and the design committee for their training track are preparing a series of sessions designed to meet the needs the hundreds of conference participants who serve as client board members of civil legal aid programs, or who are advocates in their local communities. Participants in this daylong track will have an opportunity to choose among a number of sessions including:

Criminal Records Basics: The Collateral Consequences of Criminal Proceedings

Over 28 percent of all adults in the United States have a criminal record, which results in significant collateral consequences and disabilities. Certain convictions can lead to immediate eviction, termination of employment, loss of benefits or deportation. Conversely, complications such as a loss of benefits, a job, or a home often serve as the catalyst for entry into the criminal justice system. This workshop will outline the scope

of the problem and offer some suggestions for community action.

Working Smarter With Information Technology

This hands-on training session is designed to enable computer users with beginner and intermediate level skills to work more productively with existing computing and Internet technologies.

Tapping the Leader Within: Enhancing Client Board Member Leadership Skills

Interested in learning to how to tap your leadership potential? Want to learn team building and management skills? Interested in advancing within your program? Attend this session and return home energized and ready to propel to the next level of leadership.

A Client-Centered Process for Public Defense Reform

Panelists working to establish a client role in the oversight of public defense services will

discuss New York's ongoing campaign, including fact-finding hearings and town meetings in the client community, and client driven performance standards.

New Initiatives in Community Education & Client Empowerment

This workshop will provide an opportunity for clients, community group representatives and legal aid office staff to learn about a variety of new community education and empowerment initiatives.

Communications Skills for the Client Leader"

The session is designed to enhance communication skills and build confidence for the client representative. Through the use of role play and other small group exercises, participants will learn useful techniques for more effective participation on boards, committees, and other community forums.

**CLIENT REGISTRATION FEE
\$75.00 FOR FOUR DAYS OF TRAINING!**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR IMPORTANT CLIENT EVENTS—ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Thursday, November 14

Client Training Track	8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.	Westin Hotel, Rooms TBA
Client Reception	5:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.	Westin Hotel, Cascade Suite

Saturday, November 15

Client Section Meeting	8:30 a.m.—10:00 a.m.	Westin Hotel, TBA
NOCA Meeting	6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.	Westin Hotel, Room TBA

For more information on the Annual Conference, visit www.nlada.org.

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

VIRUS PROTECTION

By Professor Gregory Berry, "the HUSL Computer Doc"

Although computer viruses continue to be unleashed with astonishing frequency, computers users can escape their harmful effects by adopting the safety practices explained below and updating their virus definition or DAT files on a regular basis.

Anti-Virus Safety Practices

- *Do not open any files attached to an E-mail from an unknown, suspicious or untrustworthy source.*
- *Do not open any files attached to an E-mail unless you know what it is, even if it appears to come from a dear friend or someone you know.* Some viruses can replicate themselves and spread through E-mail. Better be safe than sorry and confirm that they really sent it.
- *Do not open any files attached to an E-mail if the subject line is questionable or unexpected.* If the need to do so is there always save the file to your hard drive before doing so.
- *Delete chain emails and junk E-mail.* Do not forward or reply to any to them. These types of E-mail are considered "spam," which is unsolicited, intrusive mail that clogs up the network.
- *Do not download any files from strangers.*
- *Exercise caution when downloading files from the Internet.* Ensure that the source is a legitimate and reputable one. Verify that an anti-virus program checks the files on the download site. If you're uncertain, don't download the file at all or download the file to a floppy and test it with your own anti-virus software.
- *Update your anti-virus software regularly.* Over 500 viruses are discovered each month, so you'll want to be protected. These updates should be at the least the products virus signature files. You may also need to update the product's scanning engine as well.
- *Back up your files on a regular basis.* If a virus destroys your files, at least you can replace them with your back-up copy. You should store your backup copy in a

separate location from your work files, one that is preferably not on your computer.

- *When in doubt, always err on the side of caution and do not open, download, or execute any files or E-mail attachments.* Not executing is the more important of these caveats. Check with your product vendors for updates which include those for your operating system Web browser, and E-mail. One example is the security site section of Microsoft located at: www.microsoft.com/security.
- If you are in doubt about any potential virus related situation you find yourself in, you can always consult the McAfee Anti-Virus Emergency Response Team at www.nai.com.

Updating Your Anti-Virus DAT Files

To protect your computer and data from viruses, you must make it a habit to update your anti-virus protection vaccine files on a regular basis. Since new viruses are discovered at the rate of about 2000 per month, a good rule of thumb is to update your anti-virus definition (DAT) files at least twice a month. There are at least two ways to update your DAT files: (1) use the automatic update feature included on your antivirus software program interface or (2) download the DAT file directly from the Web site of your anti-

virus software (i.e., Norton or McAfee). To download DAT files from the manufacturer's Web site, click the appropriate link below and follow the online prompts. McAfee's VirusScan is preferable to Norton AntiVirus because Anti-Virus DAT files are freely available; Norton charges for its DAT files.

Anti-Virus DAT File Download Sites

Norton Anti-Virus DAT Files:

www.norton.com/avcenter/defs.download.html

McAfee Anti-Virus DAT Files

www.nai.com/us/downloads/updates/default.asp

To install a downloaded file, double-click the saved file and follow the online instructions.

Gregory Berry is a member of the faculty of the Howard University School of Law in Washington, D.C. He also designed, created, and maintains the Law School's Web site (www.law.boward.edu). Berry received his J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, an M.A. from the University of Michigan, and a B.A. from the University of Washington. He writes and lectures frequently about computing for lawyers and using information technology to reach and teach outside the classroom and office.

Finance Committee

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The request would be broken down as follows:

Direct Delivery:	\$332,000,000	+3.9%
Technology Initiative Grants:	\$4,000,000	+17.6%
Management and Administration:	\$13,800,000	+3.8%
Office of Inspector General:	\$2,600,000	0%

The committee voted to adopt the management request and recommend that the LSC board adopt a figure of \$352.4 million. While this figure falls far below the NLADA and ABA requests, the committee's actions signals continuing support by the new board for increasing funding for LSC. This figure equates with the final appropriations request of the prior board.

DEFENDER DIVISION NEWS

“No Exceptions” Campaign Highlights Public Defense

NLADA has joined in launching a major national campaign to educate the public and the media about problems confronting public defense and the challenge of instituting reforms.

The “No Exceptions” campaign is designed around the *Ten Principles of a Public Defense Delivery System* adopted by the American Bar Association (ABA) in 2002. Its theme is that no state in the nation fully complies with all 10 principles, but all should.

The ABA’s Ten Principles are based on the Ten Commandments of Public Defense Delivery Systems, written by NLADA Past President Jim Neuhard and NLADA Defender Legal Services Director Scott Wallace and published in 2000 by the U.S. Department of Justice as an introduction to its *Compendium of Standards for Indigent Defense Systems* (available on the NLADA Web site at www.nlada.org, under “Defender Resources” and “Standards”).

Each month since May 2003, the “No Exceptions” campaign has highlighted one key element of the Ten Principles, with horror stories from individual jurisdictions. For

example, May focused on the problem of excessive delays in the appointment of counsel, illustrated by stories such as an innocent man in Texas who spent three months in jail waiting for counsel to be appointed and for counsel to figure out that police were looking for a different man with the same name. The May campaign pointed out that ABA Principle 3 states that counsel must be appointed promptly, and usually within 24 hours of arrest or request – with “no exceptions.” June examined the problem of excessive caseloads, and July/August focused on independence, including judicial interference and control over assigned counsel and arbitrary termination of politically appointed defender agency heads. The September piece highlights the need for parity between the resources available to the defense counsel and the prosecution so that public defense attorneys can fulfill their critical role in the justice system. Each month’s packet, professionally produced, is sent to hundreds of legal reporters all over the country, and posted on the campaign’s Web site, at www.noexceptions.org. Various strategies are

suggested for reporters to make use of the materials, including conducting an investigation into the public defense system in their own region, writing opinion pieces or editorials or as background for other breaking news stories implicating public defense.

Defenders around the country are encouraged to refer reporters to the No Exceptions Web site to provide information about major national problems with public defense and possible solutions.

The campaign is being conducted by Spitfire Strategies of Washington, DC, with funding from the Open Society Institute. NLADA, the ABA and the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers are the substantive campaign partners.

The campaign is one of a series of NLADA’s activities commemorating the 40th anniversary year of *Gideon v. Wainwright*. Other major initiatives, such as the Gideon’s Hero campaign (“Honoring Those Who Do Justice To Gideon’s Promise” – one individual hero every month of 2003), are posted on NLADA’s Web site www.nlada.org/Defender, in the “Marking Gideon’s 40th” box.

CLIENT SECTION

NLADA CLIENT SECTION TO HOLD THIRD ANNUAL MEETING

By Harry Johnson, Membership and Section Committee Chair, NLADA Client Policy Group

NLADA will hold its 2003 Annual Conference November 12–15, in Seattle, Washington at the Westin Hotel. The NLADA Client Section will hold its third annual meeting on Saturday, November 15 from 8:30 a.m.–10:00 a.m. More than 30 clients attended our first two section meetings. We plan to double that number this year! I want to thank all, both staff and client section members who attended. Those were events for all of us to remember.

We hope to move forward with the two committees we elected to have as part of the section - Issues and Future Conferences and to

have Clint Lyons, NLADA President and CEO to address the section. With his inspiration and confidence we can fulfill and promote the mission of NLADA. I also want to thank Cynthia Works for all of the technical assistance she has provided to the client section to give us visibility and to make us a viable part of the client and legal aid communities.

We have two committees of the section that will present reports to the section on Saturday. Both committees will meet before the section meeting with the chairperson of the issues committee, David Fraley and the chairperson of the committee to plan future meetings,

Ernest Henson. These committee recommendations will first be presented to the NLADA client policy group and then to the NLADA Board of Directors, before any action is taken. We will go forward much faster with our new client section, of which, we have been waiting for a very long time.

We are also trying to grow the NLADA client membership and are asking all current members to recruit inactive members to pay the \$15.00 membership fee. We hope to double the client membership before next year. United in the Promise of Justice—we are connected! I hope that everyone has a safe trip to Seattle.

Just My Opinion

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change. Tell your managing attorney that you want the client council legally represented when community issues arise.

Yes, one person when working with others can make a difference. Through your work with other client council and board members you can expand that vision to your legal aid program.

NLADA Client Section Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the NLADA Client Section is to promote the mission of NLADA by providing a forum for clients of legal aid and public defense programs to voice their interests and concerns as members of NLADA, as program board members, as customers of legal aid and as advocates for themselves.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

By Lucille Logan

The man who trims himself to suit everybody will soon whittle himself away.

RECIPES



BACARDI RUM CAKE

Submitted by Mary Wilson

Cake:

- 1 cup chopped pecans or walnuts
- 1 - 18 oz. pkg. yellow cake mix
- 1 - 3 oz pkg. JELLO instant vanilla pudding mix
- 4 eggs
- 1/2 cup cold water
- 1/2 cup Wesson oil
- 1/2 cup Bacardi dark rum (80 proof)

Glaze:

- 1/4 lb. Butter
- 1/4 cup water
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup Bacardi dark rum (80 proof)

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Grease and flower one 10-inch tube or 12-inch bundt pan. Sprinkle nuts over the bottom of the pan. Mix all cake ingredients together. Pour batter over nuts. Bake 1 hour. Cool cake. Invert on serving plate. Prick top. Drizzle and smooth glaze evenly over the top and sides of cake. Allow cake to absorb glaze. Repeat until glaze is used up. For glaze, melt butter in saucepan. Stir in water and sugar. Boil five minutes stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Stir in rum.



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