Welcome to the autumn issue of Snapshot, the National Legal Aid & Defender Association’s (NLADA) Corporate Advisory Committee (CAC) newsletter.

**CAC 2020 Dues at Year-End**
This summer, we shared how the pandemic has increased the need for civil legal aid services, while at the same time overwhelmed public defender offices. In response to that unprecedented level of need, NLADA and CAC partners have been fighting to protect and increase funding for critical legal services. But the need for our help continues to grow and we need to do more to support civil legal aid offices and public defender programs as they respond to today’s ever-growing challenges. Currently, your annual CAC dues are $5,500, which we greatly appreciate! However, as we face the growing COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent economic fallout, while responding to longstanding and pervasive racial inequality, we need additional funds to effectively do this work. We are asking that you please consider a one-time fully tax-deductible addition to your dues of at least $4,500, bringing your unrestricted contribution to NLADA to $10,000. CAC members have been strong proponents of equity and justice; your increased support today will help the NLADA community as it responds to the challenges that lay before us.

Thank you for your consideration of this special request. Next week you will receive an invoice for your dues which we hope you will submit before the end of 2020. [Contribute today!](#)
CAC Membership Campaign

CAC members play a vital role in advocating for much needed financial and pro bono resources for the legal community across the US, help drive critical attention to key legal issues both in the civil and criminal justice systems, and provide an invaluable sounding board and advocate on access to justice policies. COVID-19 and persistent racial inequities bring new challenges to the equal access to justice community and are placing strains on already limited resources, which makes your role even more critical and timely. The impact CAC members can, and do, have on our mission-driven work is invaluable and we are deeply appreciative of your guidance and support, particularly during these unprecedented times.

But we know additional CAC members will generate an even greater impact, so we are asking you to help grow the CAC by recruiting one or more of your business colleagues to join you as a CAC member.

Information about the membership campaign will be sent to you next week. Please take a few minutes to send the already drafted email to others you think should join the CAC. Our goal is to double the CAC by end of 2020. You can help us make that happen.

Business Advancing Justice: The Goal 16 Working Group

NLADA is pleased to release a new toolkit Business Advancing Justice for CAC members and other corporate allies interested in engaging on access to justice policy and legal reform tied to our Goal 16 Working Group activity registered with the United Nations. The toolkit highlights some of the reasons why business cares about civil legal aid and public defense and includes case studies of successful corporate activity to advance access to justice policy reform. We know that showcasing examples of how corporate leadership can be leveraged to advance justice provides inspiration for other corporate leaders to do the same and creates opportunities for corporations to band together towards a common purpose. The toolkit spotlights the excellent work of the CAC, individual members, and other corporate leaders, while providing practical tips and advice for both the business and public interest communities on how to effectively partner with each other to advance access to justice policy. Learn more
2020 Beacon of Justice Awards
Publication
At this year’s annual gala, NLADA was proud to present the Beacon of Justice Award to firms providing life-changing and often lifesaving pro bono legal services to vulnerable people seeking asylum or hoping to immigrate to the United States. From challenging detrimental immigration policies in court to providing direct legal representation in family separation-related or removal proceedings, these law firms’ efforts are inspiring. Please enjoy examples of each of the awardees’ work and impact.
Learn more »

NLADA’s Annual Exemplar Gala
This year’s Exemplar Gala was our first major social event in cyberspace and by all reports it was well received. Guests mingled at a virtual cocktail party, caught up with friends and colleagues, bid on justice-themed art at the silent auction, and were inspired by the presentations and awardees during the evening’s formal program. To replay (or catch if you missed it!) the interview with 2020 Exemplar Award winner, Marcus Brown, Executive Vice President and General Counsel at Entergy Corporation, and CAC member click here.

CAC members may be interested in watching the business panel discussion held during the cocktail reception led by NLADA President & CEO Jo-Ann Wallace with chief legal officers and current and past Exemplar winners Marcus Brown of Entergy Corporation, John Schultz of Hewlett Packard Enterprise, and Frank Jimenez of Raytheon Technologies.

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