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Every day, in every city in Florida, we help Legal Aid help those least able to afford a lawyer. We are The Florida Bar Foundation, and we believe the system works best when it works for everyone.

The Florida Bar Foundation

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GOVERNANCE

The Florida Bar Foundation is a not-for-profit Florida corporation established in 1956 by the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar to foster law-related public interest programs on behalf of Florida's legal profession. Membership is open to all individuals interested in supporting the mission of the Foundation. Members are eligible to hold office and serve as directors of the Foundation.

Participants in Florida's interest on Trust Accounts ("IOTA") program, administered by the Foundation, are automatically entitled to membership. Membership also is available through annual Foundation dues or through the Foundation's Fellows program. Both annual dues and Fellows payments are charitable contributions to the Foundation. The Foundation is governed by a 33-member board of directors, which meets quarterly. The board conducts its work through standing and ad hoc committees. The board comprises the officers of the Foundation, six directors

by designation (two judicial officers appointed by the Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court, the president, president-elect, and immediate past president of The Florida Bar, and the president of Florida Legal Services, which provides coordination, training and other support services to legal aid programs across the state), at least two but not more than four public members and 18 at-large directors. At-large directors serve a maximum of two, three-year terms, with one-third selected by the board of governors of The Florida Bar, one-third by the board of directors of the Foundation, and one-third by the Florida Supreme Court. Committees are appointed annually by the board of directors at the request of the president, and include Foundation directors, members of the bar generally, and the lay public. An executive committee appointed annually by the board meets between meetings of the board.



The Florida Bar Foundation

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Leadership and Funding for Justice in Florida



Leadership and Funding for Justice in Florida

Investing in Access to Justice



Annual Report 2006-2008



# The President's Message



HON. JOHN W. THORNTON, JR.  
*President  
The Florida Bar Foundation  
2006-07*

As a lawyer and a judge, I have seen many examples of the vital importance of The Florida Bar Foundation in ensuring that the state's justice system is accessible to all. So it was a thrill for me to have the opportunity to lead the dedicated volunteers on the Foundation's board and work with the truly remarkable staff.

It is a testament to their careful stewardship that the Foundation earned this year the highest possible ranking from Charity Navigator, which evaluates the financial efficiency and effectiveness of nonprofits nationwide. I think all of us in Florida's legal community owe the Foundation's staff and board members our sincerest gratitude.

In particular, I'd like to thank John Patterson, whose contributions to the board were exceptional. Through his example and commitment, John strengthened support for the work of our grantees among our colleagues in the legal profession, and through his work on the board, he provided a sound platform for direction and oversight of our programs and operations through the countless hours spent on a complete rewrite of our articles of incorporation and bylaws.

Above all, I offer my heartfelt appreciation to Jane Curran, whose leadership and experience has made The Florida Bar Foundation and Florida's IOTA Program into a national model and who was recognized by the Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court with

the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2007 for 25 years of service to the Foundation. It was my distinct pleasure to present both John Patterson and Jane Curran with the Foundation's 2007 President's Award for Excellence.

Perhaps the hardest fought victory of 2007 was the restoration of funding for the Florida Access to Civil Legal Assistance Act (FACLA), the only direct support provided by the Florida Legislature for legal aid. Following a year during which legislative funding for FACLA had been vetoed, several individuals worked diligently during the 2007 legislative session to secure \$2.6 million in FACLA funding. Many thanks to former Bar and Foundation President Terry Russell, without whose vision and tenacity FACLA wouldn't exist; Bruce Blackwell, then Foundation president-elect; Kent Spuhler, executive director of Florida Legal Services; and Paul Doyle of the Foundation staff, who established effective use of the funds under the FACLA grant program.

The Foundation not only provides funding for legal aid offices in every Florida county, but it also makes smaller grants to help support the public interest projects of minority and other voluntary bar associations under the Administration of Justice (AOJ) Voluntary Bar Association Community Service grant program. For example, a Foundation grant helped the F. Malcolm Cunningham Sr. Bar Association in West Palm Beach address the needs of senior citizens in

Belle Glade, Riviera Beach and West Palm Beach who lacked access to legal representation to make end-of-life decisions. The Foundation also provides annual matching funds for the community service projects of Young Lawyers groups around the state as a way to foster and support their public service.

One Florida attorney who has worked tirelessly in his community is A. Hamilton Cooke, the lawyer recipient of the Foundation's 2007 Medal of Honor Award, who championed the legal needs of the poor during his years on The Florida Bar Board of Governors and as president and a member of the Foundation board. Cooke has also shown tremendous devotion of his time and legal talent to his local Habitat for Humanity affiliate, HabiJax. I also applaud Dr. Walter F. Lambert, whose significant volunteer work for South Florida children in foster care led to his selection as the non-lawyer recipient of the Medal of Honor Award in 2007.

Through such great role models, we can all see the potential we possess to make a difference in our society for those less fortunate. Our support of The Florida Bar Foundation allows us to do just that.

JOHN W. THORNTON, JR.  
*President, 2006-07*

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BRUCE B. BLACKWELL  
*President  
The Florida Bar Foundation  
2007-08*

Spotting the injustices suffered by Florida's most vulnerable residents, addressing them effectively, and trying to make sure they don't happen again. That's a tall order. And it's a fitting description for the work done by the legal aid organizations supported by The Florida Bar Foundation.

It was one of the absolute highlights of my legal career to serve as president of the Foundation and to be able to see and support the good work being done all over Florida by dedicated attorneys who, whether legal aid staff or pro bono volunteers, advocate for the poor in accord with their obligation under the Oath of Admission.

I can't describe the satisfaction of being in a position to join forces with my fellow Foundation board members

and direct resources to a project as profound as one whose goal is to stamp out modern-day slavery in our state. Or as fundamental as shoring up the woefully inadequate salaries of legal aid attorneys, whose law school debt is often so onerous as to force them to seek better paying work elsewhere. Or as important as ensuring that legal aid offices around the state have the funds and infrastructure needed to carry out their work efficiently and effectively.

During my tenure as president, The Florida Bar Foundation addressed these issues and many others through more than \$33 million in grants.

We were able to direct \$60,000 to support the work of Florida State University's Center for the Advancement of Human Rights to create a Florida strategic plan to combat human trafficking. The plan involves various levels of federal and state law enforcement, affected state executive branch agencies and non-governmental agency service providers tasked with serving the needs of Florida trafficking victims.

When a Foundation survey found that the median starting salary of a Florida legal aid attorney was only \$38,500 and yet most recent graduates were facing more than \$100,000 in law school debt, the Foundation made a commitment to supplement the salaries of legal aid attorneys statewide, while also insisting that they be offered professional development opportunities.

Meanwhile, the Foundation funded and began implementing a statewide case management system for legal aid offices that will improve the process from intake to case closure and make the Foundation's evaluation of grantee performance more efficient for both the Foundation and the grantee.

These are just a few examples of the Foundation's initiatives in 2007 in addition to general support for legal aid programs throughout Florida.

I would like to thank all of my fellow board members, as well as the highly professional staff of the Foundation for their commitment to the organization's mission of providing greater access to justice. Among those who demonstrated extraordinary service were Judge Emerson Thompson, our longest-serving current board member, and Maria Henderson, a public member, both of whom were recognized for their service with the President's Award for Excellence.

I would also like to express my deepest gratitude to all the Florida attorneys who give of their time and expertise to provide pro bono services. They and our grantees have worked diligently to provide a broad spectrum of legal services to the neediest Floridians.

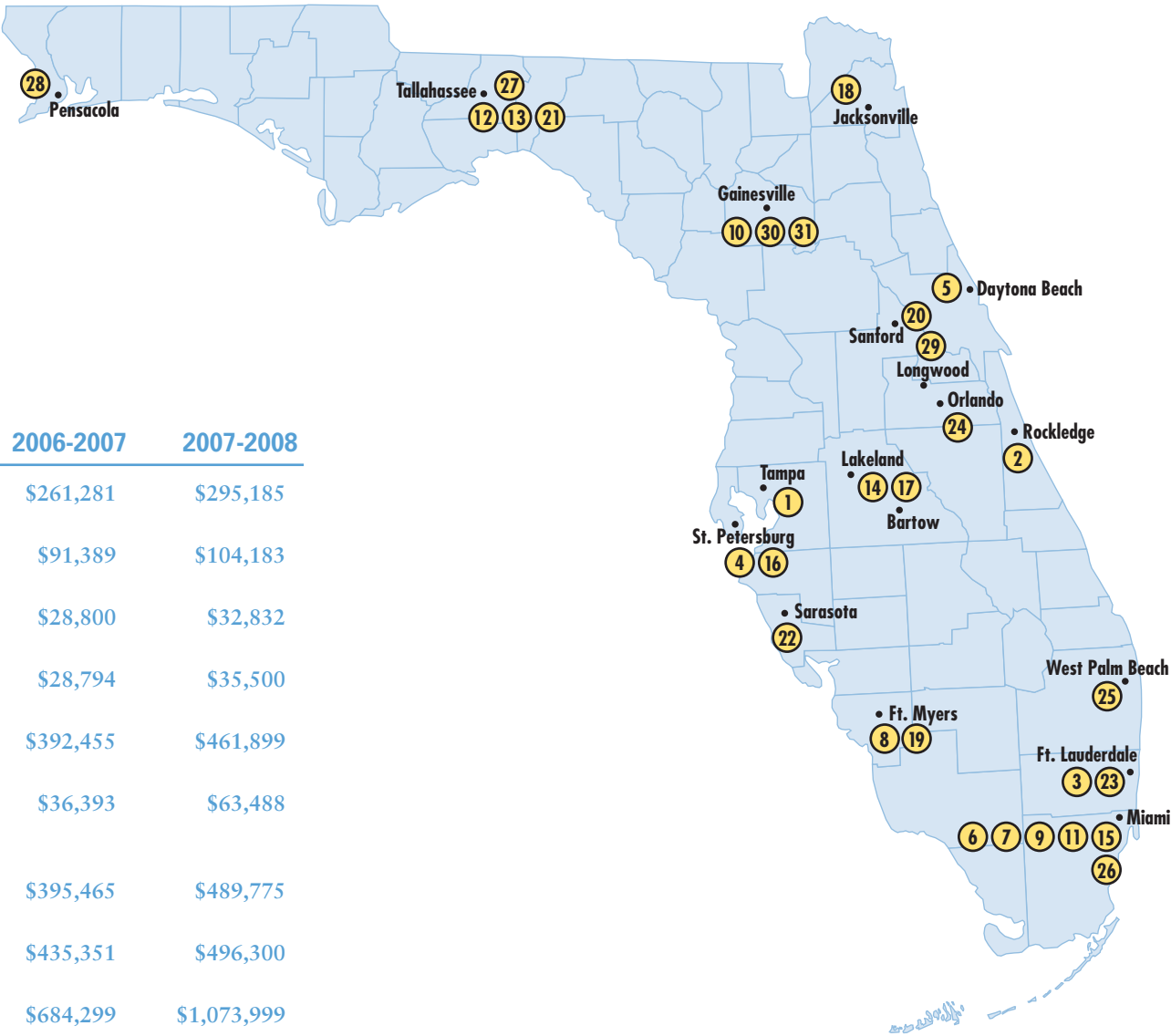
BRUCE B. BLACKWELL  
*President, 2007-08*

# Legal Assistance for the Poor Grant Program

*The Foundation’s Legal Assistance for the Poor (LAP)* grant program, supported primarily by IOTA funds, provides general support and special purpose grants to a network of organizations providing free civil legal services to the poor. Together, this network provides at least basic access to the justice system for low-income individuals and families residing in every county in Florida. LAP grants also support legal assistance for specific client services and to serve specific client groups.

## General Support Grants

Grantee	2006-2007	2007-2008
1 Bay Area Legal Services <i>Tampa</i>	\$261,281	\$295,185
2 Brevard County Legal Aid <i>Rockledge</i>	\$91,389	\$104,183
3 Coast to Coast Legal Aid of South Florida <i>Ft. Lauderdale</i>	\$28,800	\$32,832
4 Community Law Program <i>St. Petersburg</i>	\$28,794	\$35,500
5 Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida <i>Daytona Beach</i>	\$392,455	\$461,899
6 Cuban American Bar Association Pro Bono Project <i>Miami</i>	\$36,393	\$63,488
7 Dade County Bar Association Legal Aid Society <i>Miami</i>	\$395,465	\$489,775
8 Florida Equal Justice Center <i>Ft. Myers</i>	\$435,351	\$496,300
9 Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center <i>Miami</i>	\$684,299	\$1,073,999
10 Florida Institutional Legal Services <i>Gainesville</i>	\$485,463	\$730,128
11 Florida Justice Institute <i>Miami</i>	\$299,731	\$484,193
12 Florida Legal Services <i>Tallahassee</i>	\$2,087,766	\$2,670,753
13 Florida Legal Services Migrant Farmworker Justice Project <i>Tallahassee</i>	\$668,415	\$761,993
14 Florida Rural Legal Services <i>Lakeland</i>	\$422,193	\$555,400
15 Guardianship Program of Dade County <i>Miami</i>	\$72,786	\$81,922
16 Gulfcoast Legal Services <i>St. Petersburg</i>	\$1,182,915	\$1,345,848
17 Heart of Florida Legal Aid Society <i>Bartow</i>	\$124,694	\$142,151
18 Jacksonville Area Legal Aid <i>Jacksonville</i>	\$926,452	\$1,056,155
19 Lee County Legal Aid Society <i>Ft. Myers</i>	\$62,453	\$71,196
20 Legal Advocacy Center of Central Florida <i>Sanford</i>	\$682,155	\$763,157
21 Legal Aid Foundation of the Tallahassee Bar Association <i>Tallahassee</i>	\$38,879	\$54,322



Grantee	2006-2007	2007-2008
22 Legal Aid of Manasota <i>Sarasota</i>	\$28,794	\$35,500
23 Legal Aid Service of Broward County <i>Ft. Lauderdale – Naples</i>	\$998,014	\$1,137,736
24 Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association <i>Orlando</i>	\$592,528	\$675,482
25 Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County <i>West Palm Beach</i>	\$392,286	\$447,206
26 Legal Services of Greater Miami <i>Miami</i>	\$711,673	\$810,252
27 Legal Services of North Florida <i>Tallahassee</i>	\$283,348	\$318,017
28 Northwest Florida Legal Services <i>Pensacola</i>	\$493,593	\$557,696
29 Seminole County Bar Association Legal Aid Society <i>Longwood</i>	\$68,594	\$78,197
30 Southern Legal Counsel <i>Gainesville</i>	\$258,232	\$396,984
31 Three Rivers Legal Services <i>Gainesville</i>	\$72,442	\$82,584
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,307,633</b>	<b>\$16,310,033</b>

## One-Time Grants

In addition to general support grants, the Foundation provided one-time grants to assist grantees in addressing needs that are not ongoing or recurring as a part of their operations, such as technology upgrades, improved telephone systems, office furniture and other improvements. In 2007, the Foundation issued one-time grants totaling \$861,500 to 29 legal aid organizations, and in 2008, it issued grants totaling \$583,084 to 32 legal aid organizations.

## Foundation Support for Pro Bono Services by Members of The Florida Bar

Members of The Florida Bar donated their time through organized pro bono programs in 2007 to handle more than 15,000 cases, which represented 14 percent of all cases closed by Foundation legal aid grantees. Foundation funds support the intake and referral of cases to pro bono volunteer attorneys and provide such volunteers with backup support and training. There is a wide variety of pro bono service opportunities for Florida attorneys, including:

- Handling cases in family law, housing matters, immigration, etc.
- Transactional attorneys helping community groups develop affordable housing

- Providing advice and counsel through clinics
- Representing children in dependency proceedings
- Co-counseling cases with legal aid attorneys in housing and consumer law
- Assisting particularly vulnerable clients, such as the elderly, the disabled and the mentally ill

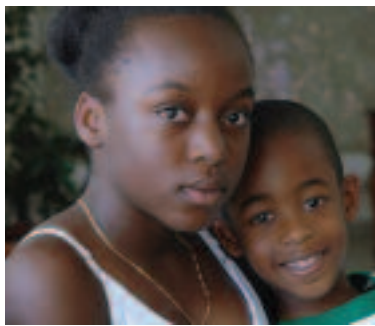
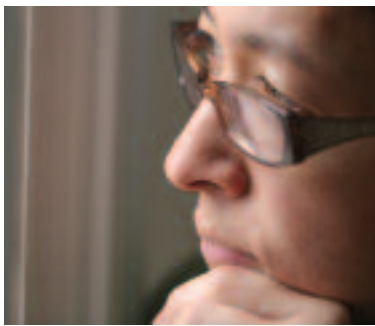
Not all pro bono work has to involve direct representation of clients. For example, pro bono attorneys can also:

- Provide substantive law and skills training to legal aid attorneys
- Serve as mentors to less experienced legal aid attorneys
- Do client intake
- Participate in community legal education programs such as being a panelist at a seminar on domestic violence or speaking to the elderly about protection of their homesteads

The benefits of involving members of The Florida Bar in serving the legal needs of the poor extend well beyond the positive outcomes for individual clients because attorneys make things happen. When talent and commitment are applied to removing the legal barriers poor people face in stabilizing their lives, entire communities benefit.



# How Legal Assistance Grantees Have Helped This Year



## Family Matters

35,041 (34%)

“Maria,” a 19-year-old mother, had been battered by her husband, who then abandoned her and took the couple’s 5-month-old baby girl. A domestic violence shelter referred Maria, a nursing mother who had been separated from her baby for three weeks, to Legal Aid.

A pro bono attorney stepped in to represent Maria in a hearing to get a protection injunction against her husband. At a hearing held three days before Christmas, the judge ordered that the infant be returned to Maria at the sheriff’s department at 3 p.m. that day.

Maria and her daughter were reunited in time for the child’s first Christmas. The pro bono attorney went on to represent Maria at a child support hearing, where she was able to obtain temporary support for herself and her daughter.

— Legal Aid of Manasota, Sarasota

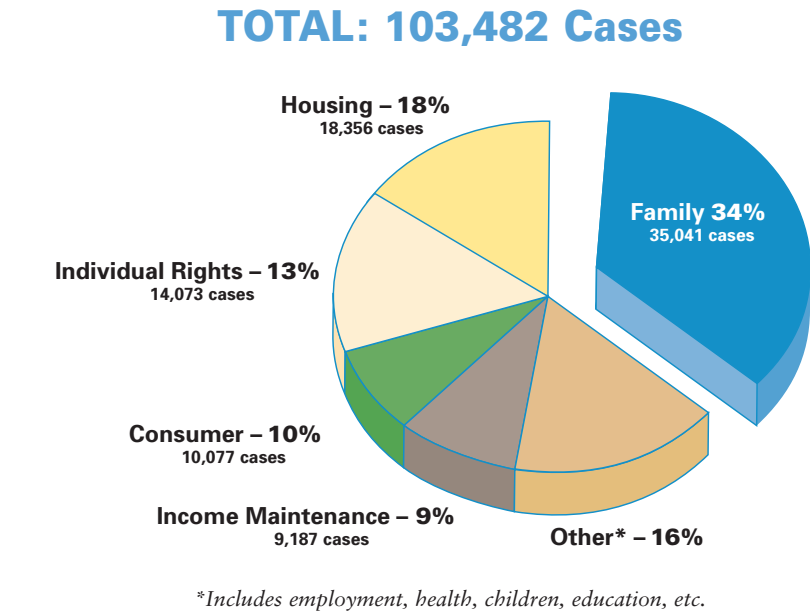
## Housing Matters

18,356 (18%)

“James,” an elderly and disabled man, was living in a downtown apartment complex when he got a letter from management that the apartments would be converted to condominiums.

The landlord said James had to vacate his home in December, rather than in February of the following year when his lease ended. Legal Aid found the landlord’s notice was improper and premature, and threatened to take the landlord to court if James wasn’t allowed to remain at the apartment while he sought alternative housing.

Meanwhile, James had applied for public housing with the Jacksonville Housing Authority, but was soon denied after the housing authority determined he had a poor rental history.



Legal Aid investigated the housing authority’s findings and discovered that the man with the poor rental history was not James, but another man with the same name.

The housing authority reversed the denial for public housing, but there was one more obstacle in James’ way. With the end of his apartment lease drawing near, James was on a long waiting list to receive housing.

Legal Aid communicated with the head of the housing authority about James’ disabilities, and he was then moved into a senior citizen public housing unit where his permanent housing needs were finally met.

— Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, Jacksonville

## Individual Rights Matters

14,073 (13%)

Born in Haiti, “Jimmy” became an orphan at age 12 after his mother died and his father abandoned him. To support himself and his grandmother, Jimmy worked 18-hour days as a fisher boy, but his meager earnings made him a target for the Haitian

National Police, who demanded money from him and other fisher boys to “use the ocean” to fish.

The police burned Jimmy’s boat and even shot at him and the other fisher boys. The harassment worsened after the boys banded together and publicized the police harassment on a local radio station.

Jimmy escaped to the United States, knowing he would be forced to be a “restavek,” a street child worker, if he stayed in Haiti. His legal aid attorney represented him in a 2004 asylum case that was initially denied. But Jimmy was granted asylum in January 2007 after an expert witness testified on the perils faced by street child workers in Haiti.

— Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center, Miami

## Consumer Matters

10,077 (10%)

A Manatee County lawyer took a pro bono case representing “Charles,” a 94-year-old man who had been swindled out of his home and more than \$20,000, leaving him with almost nothing.

A 63-year-old woman had signed Charles out of a nursing home and transferred thousands of dollars from his bank account to her own. She also took him to an attorney’s office to sign over ownership of his home.

The woman was arrested and convicted by a jury, and Charles’ pro bono attorney won a civil suit to cancel the property transfer that Charles had signed. He then continued working to recoup the money that was stolen.

— Legal Aid of Manasota, Bradenton

## Income Maintenance Matters

9,187 (9%)

“Phyllis,” a middle-aged housewife who had terminal breast cancer and whose husband was disabled, was denied Social Security benefits because of an insufficient earnings record.

Her next best hope was to file a claim for Supplemental Security Income that would have provided reduced cash benefits. However, she was denied again after the Social Security Administration deemed that her condition was not severe enough to qualify. Her legal aid attorney appealed the denial, and her case was sent for reconsideration.

Realizing that Phyllis didn’t have time to wait while her case languished in the Division of Disability Determination, her attorney showed relentless effort and was able to obtain for her an award of \$603 a month, plus a lump sum retroactive benefit of more than \$9,000.

Phyllis credited her legal aid attorney with helping her secure the resources to put her final days in order so that she and her husband would not have to face extreme financial strain along with their physical and emotional suffering.

— Legal Services of North Florida, Tallahassee

# Improved Technology for Legal Aid Programs

The Foundation undertook an assessment of the technology resources and needs of legal aid programs in Florida in 2006-2007. This assessment confirmed that the efficiency and effectiveness of many legal aid programs could be enhanced considerably by better law firm technology. Working closely with its legal aid grantees, the Foundation set aside \$2.3 million in IOTA funds to purchase and implement a uniform Internet-based case management system for each program. Once the two-year project is complete in mid-2009, programs will be able to incorporate more accountability tools, improve the capacity and quality of their advocacy services, respond more accurately to information requests from their funding organizations, and communicate better among each other.





# Disaster Legal Assistance Grant Program



After a record-breaking hurricane season in 2004, Foundation leadership began a comprehensive plan to address the needs of grantees in the event of natural disasters. The Foundation began providing annual training for grantees to improve their disaster plans and published a Legal Assistance Disaster Manual for grantee use. The Foundation also awards Disaster Legal Assistance Grants to Foundation-funded legal aid programs to restore and expand service capacity and to respond to increased legal needs of clients due to disasters.

Grantee	2006-2007	2007-2008
Florida Equal Justice Center <i>Ft. Myers</i>	\$120,000	\$30,000
Florida Legal Services <i>Tallahassee</i>	\$10,000	
Legal Aid Service of Broward County <i>Ft. Lauderdale</i>	\$50,000	
Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County <i>West Palm Beach</i>	\$10,000	
Legal Services of Greater Miami <i>Miami</i>	\$26,000	
Legal Services of North Florida <i>Tallahassee</i>	\$62,000	\$27,000
Total	\$278,000	\$57,000

## Statewide Legal Assistance Special Needs Grants

These grants are designed to strengthen the services provided by statewide legal assistance programs under Florida’s Legal Services State Plan. Under the State Plan, these programs provide critical assistance to local legal aid programs and their clients, particularly in the areas of legislative and administrative advocacy. They also provide mentoring to local legal aid program advocates, undertake important impact litigation, and provide leadership and advocacy in assisting special needs populations, such as institutionalized persons, farmworkers, children and immigrants.

Grantee	2007 Grant Award*
Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center <i>Miami</i>	\$170,000
Florida Institutional Legal Services <i>Gainesville</i>	\$155,000
Florida Justice Institute <i>Miami</i>	\$125,000
Florida Legal Services <i>Tallahassee</i>	\$255,000
Florida Rural Legal Services <i>Lakeland</i>	\$65,000
Southern Legal Counsel <i>Gainesville</i>	\$90,000
Total	\$860,000

\* In 2008, these grants were included in Legal Assistance for the Poor general support.

## Statewide Special Project Grants to Florida Legal Services

The following grants were made to support initiatives developed by Florida Legal Services on behalf of the legal aid community.

Project	2007	2008
The Statewide Web Site	\$150,000	\$150,000
Internet-based resources provided to Foundation-funded legal aid and legal services advocates, volunteer attorneys who provide pro bono assistance to the poor, and members of the client community who need access to self-help legal information and referrals to Foundation grantee organizations.		
The Statewide Litigation Fund	\$140,000	\$140,000
A fund created to provide supplementary litigation expenses for impact cases to statewide grantees and local legal aid programs.		
The Statewide Pro Bono Project	\$75,000	\$100,000
Provides staff support for the work of Florida’s Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Services. Half of these grant funds come from The Florida Bar.		
The Statewide Language Line Project	\$75,000	\$50,000
Provides financial support for Foundation general support grantees’ usage of language translation services in serving non-English speaking clients.		

## REGIONAL GRANTS

The Foundation helps its Legal Aid grantees address significant unmet client needs on a regional level through grants that support collaborative efforts by Foundation grantees. These special regional projects address issues such as employment benefits, access to health care, pro bono support, housing and immigration. In 2006-07, these regional grants totaled \$786,340; in 2007-08, they totaled \$1,028,000.

## Small Program Special Needs Grants

The purpose of this competitive grant program is to recognize and support small legal assistance programs with a long history of the provision of legal representation to special needs clients. In 2006-07, the Colombian American Service Association and the HIV, Education and Law Project (HELP) Inc. received a total of \$120,000, and in 2007-08 they received \$132,000.

## Affordable Housing Grants

The Foundation has sought to make an impact on the affordable housing crisis for low-income individuals and families through the implementation of a statewide-regional affordable housing project. The goal of the project is to undertake systemic advocacy to prevent the loss of affordable housing units and to facilitate the development of new affordable housing units. Grants support multi-form legal advocacy, including legislative advocacy, administrative advocacy, public policy advocacy and litigation on a statewide and local level. In 2006-07, the Foundation provided \$606,000 in affordable housing grants to four regional projects, as well as a \$88,750 grant to Florida Legal Services for its work on affordable housing. In 2007-08, six regional grantees received a total of \$1,019,000 in affordable housing grants, and Florida Legal Services was awarded \$295,000.



# Children’s Legal Services Grant Awards

Grantee	2006-2007	2007-2008	Grantee	2006-2007	2007-2008
<b>Bay Area Legal Services</b> <i>Tampa</i> L. David Shear Children’s Law Center	\$120,000	\$160,000	<b>Gulfcoast Legal Services</b> <i>St.Petersburg</i> Children’s Special Immigrant Juvenile Status Project/Juvenile Detention Project	\$35,000	\$70,000
<b>Brevard County Legal Aid</b> <i>Rockledge</i> Children’s Advocacy Project (2006-2007) Independent Living Project (2007-2008)	\$40,000	\$50,000	<b>Jacksonville Area Legal Aid</b> <i>Jacksonville</i> Crisis in Duval Foster Care Education Systems Project	\$60,000	\$80,000
<b>Community Law Program</b> <i>St. Petersburg</i> Transitioning Dependent Youth Project	\$35,000	\$37,500	<b>Lawyers for Children America</b> <i>Miami</i> Teen Legal Collaborative (Joint project with Dade County Bar Association Legal Aid Society)	\$75,000	\$100,000
<b>Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida</b> <i>Daytona Beach</i> Special Education Advocacy Project (2006-2007) The Child Advocacy Project (2007-2008)	\$120,000	\$170,000	<b>Lawyers for Children America</b> <i>Miami</i> Miami Youth S.H.I.N.E.* Project <i>*Striving High for Independence and Empowerment</i>	\$35,000	\$70,000
<b>Dade County Bar Association Legal Aid Society</b> <i>Miami</i> Teen Legal Collaborative (Joint project with Lawyers for Children America)	\$75,000	\$100,000	<b>Legal Aid Service of Broward County</b> <i>Ft. Lauderdale</i> Children’s Advocacy Program – Education Legal Rights Project, Broward and Collier	\$100,000	\$135,000
<b>Florida’s Children First</b> <i>Coral Springs</i> Children’s Rights Project (2006-2007) Florida’s Children First Children’s Systemic Initiatives (2007-2008)	\$240,000	\$252,000	<b>Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association</b> <i>Orlando</i> Guardian Ad Litem Project	\$105,000	\$134,000
<b>Florida Equal Justice Center</b> <i>Ft. Myers</i> Education Access Project (2006-2007) Education Services Project (2007-2008)	\$100,000	\$110,000	<b>Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County</b> <i>West Palm Beach</i> Children’s Educational Advocacy Law Project	\$78,000	\$140,000
<b>Florida Institutional Legal Services</b> <i>Gainesville</i> Children in Custody Project	\$45,000	\$95,000	<b>Legal Services of Greater Miami</b> <i>Miami</i> Special Education Advocacy Project	\$53,000	\$56,600
<b>Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center</b> <i>Miami</i> FIAC’s Children’s Legal Project	\$75,000	\$120,000	<b>Legal Services of North Florida</b> <i>Tallahassee</i> Children’s Legal Representation Project	\$90,000	\$116,000
<b>Florida Legal Services</b> <i>Tallahassee</i> Children’s Statewide Litigation and Policy Advocacy Project	\$125,000	\$155,000	<b>Southern Legal Counsel</b> <i>Gainesville</i> Education Advocacy Project	\$130,000	\$150,000
<b>Florida International University College of Law</b> <i>Miami</i> Children’s Education Advocacy Clinic	\$75,000	\$110,000	<b>University of Miami School of Law</b> <i>Miami</i> Statewide Foster Children’s Advocacy Project	\$115,000	\$133,000
<b>Florida State University College of Law</b> <b>Children’s Advocacy Center</b> <i>Tallahassee</i> Health Care Access/Special Education Project	\$120,000	\$155,000	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,046,000</b>	<b>\$2,699,100</b>

## Success Stories

“Devon” was on the brink of dropping out of high school. The 20-year-old student failed the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test and was unable to bring up his grade point average to graduate.

Upon investigation, a legal aid attorney found the Orange County Public Schools dismissed Devon from speech and language services years ago. The attorney requested the school district pay for an independent educational evaluation, which resulted in Devon going to language therapy three times a week.

Thanks to the intervention of his legal aid attorney, Devon is now a high school graduate.

*Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida, Orlando*



A 1998 border dispute between Eritrea and Ethiopia started a war and caused 17-year-old “Tsige” and her family, Eritrean emigrants, to be kicked out of Ethiopia.

Tsige’s father tried to hide his family, particularly his sons who would be forced to join the Eritrean military, but the father was kidnapped, jailed, tortured and died shortly after his release.

Eventually, the Eritrean military found Tsige and her brothers. Two of her brothers died in the military’s training camp, and Tsige was raped by a military supervisor.

She eventually escaped by camelback through the Sudan and made a journey to the United States with church members.

Legal Aid successfully represented Tsige in her claim for asylum.

*Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center, Miami*

## Children’s Legal Services Grant Program

Since 1999, The Florida Bar Foundation has funded special annual grants for legal assistance to children. Gifts from attorneys to the Foundation from the Lawyers’ Challenge for Children on the annual Florida Bar Fee Statement help support these grants, along with proceeds from the Kids Deserve Justice license plate initiative. The Foundation’s priorities for its Children’s Legal Services Grant Program include representation of foster care children and access to special education, as well as medical, developmental and mental health services that are required under law. Another goal is to create and energize a statewide network of children’s legal services providers who can support the thousands of Florida attorneys involved in guardian ad litem and other children’s legal services projects.



# Fostering Public Service Careers

The Florida Bar Foundation offers a number of programs through its Legal Assistance to the Poor Grant Program to encourage law school graduates to choose and remain in public interest careers. This includes providing matching funds for Equal Justice Works Fellows who spend two years working on public service projects, as well as providing loan repayment assistance and salary supplementation to Florida’s dedicated legal aid attorneys.

## Equal Justice Works Fellowship Program



Since 1999, the Foundation and its Florida funding partners have provided matching funds for 54 Florida Equal Justice Works Fellows. Fellows have designed and led legal assistance projects in affordable housing, welfare to work, domestic violence, special education for disabled children, homelessness, immigration, prisoner rights, environmental practice and family preservation. These two-year public interest fellowships are sponsored by the Washington, D.C.-based Equal Justice Works. The Fellows are hosted by Foundation-funded legal assistance organizations. In addition to addressing the civil legal needs of the poor in Florida, the Equal Justice Works Fellowship Program enriches Florida’s legal assistance community through the enthusiasm of individual Fellows who renew and enliven a host program’s legal advocacy. In 2007-2008, the Foundation approved matching funds for three Fellows in the Class of 2008-2010 and was joined by its funding partners: the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; the law firm of Greenberg Traurig; and The Florida Bar. The previous year, three Fellows were funded also.

Equal Justice Works Fellowships Class of 2008-2010		
Host Legal Aid Program	Fellow	Project
Coast to Coast Legal Aid Society of South Florida	Lisa Morrill-Wintz	Provide mobile education, outreach and legal representation to teens in the areas of family law (child support, custody, visitation, benefits, etc.) and dating, domestic, repeat and sexual violence.
Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center	Laura Chilcutt	Provide holistic legal representation to victims of human trafficking throughout Florida via agency training and direct representation.
Florida Institutional Legal Services	Katherine DeBriere	Prevent the unnecessary incarceration and institutionalization of individuals with mental retardation and developmental disabilities through education, resources and direct advocacy.

Equal Justice Works Fellowships Class of 2007-2009		
Host Legal Aid Program	Fellow	Project
Florida Institutional Legal Services	Steckley Lee	Advocate and litigate on behalf of ex-offenders re-entering society by challenging complicated state and local rules placing restrictions on where they may live, work and travel.
Gulfcoast Legal Services	Mariam Ahmedani	Provide specialized legal services, education and advocacy on behalf of undocumented immigrant children who are victims of abuse.
Jacksonville Area Legal Aid	Ariel Patterson	Provide comprehensive credit counseling to low-income consumers in the greater Jacksonville area.

## Legal Aid Attorney Salary Supplement

In 2007, the Foundation released the results of an in-depth study titled, “The Quest for the Best: Attorney Recruitment and Retention Challenges for Florida Civil Legal Aid.” Eighty-eight percent of the state’s legal aid attorneys participated in the study through Web-based surveys, personal and telephone interviews and focus groups. The study found that the median starting salary for a licensed attorney in a Florida legal aid program was \$38,500 and that staff attorneys do not reach a median salary of \$50,000 until nine years after law school graduation. Common measures of a middle class lifestyle, such as home ownership, proved beyond the reach of legal aid attorneys in spite of their highly specialized and marketable skills. The study also found that “financial pressure due to low salary” was the number one reason legal aid attorneys left their jobs. In accordance with the



recommendations of the study, The Florida Bar Foundation developed a salary supplementation grant program to increase staff attorneys’ starting salaries beginning Jan. 1, 2008 to a minimum of \$43,500, and to a minimum of \$46,000 by Jan. 1, 2010. It also established goals that attorneys with three years, six years and 10 years of experience would be earning a minimum of \$50,000, \$60,000 and \$70,000, respectively, by 2010. To enable legal aid programs to implement these salary improvements, along with other professional development enhancements recommended by the study, the Foundation initiated a Salary Supplementation Grant Program. In 2007-2008, the program made grants totaling just under \$4 million to 29 legal aid programs. These grants also provided some matching funds to enable legal aid programs to start or improve retirement benefit plans for all of their employees.

## Law School Loan Repayment Assistance Program

The majority of law students today graduate with educational debt of more than \$100,000. The Foundation’s 2007 “Quest for the Best” study found that one of the top three reasons attorneys were leaving public service careers was “financial pressure due to student loans.” The study noted that salary increases alone will not be enough to deal adequately with the burden of debt payments on legal aid attorneys. In response, the Foundation strengthened its Law School Loan Repayment Assistance Program, which now pays legal aid attorneys up to 80 percent of their annual need-based law school debt for up to eight years. Annual payments are capped at \$7,500 and are in the form of one-year loans forgiven annually for attorneys who remain employed full-time at a Foundation legal assistance grantee for the full 12-month period. In 2007-08, the Foundation committed \$877,564 to the program for benefits to 175 staff legal aid attorneys.



# Law Student Assistance Grant Program

**F**oundation Law Student Assistance grant programs promote the concept of public service through financial assistance to eligible students at accredited law schools.

## Summer Fellows Grant Program

In cooperation with accredited law schools, the Foundation administers an 11-week summer fellowship program for first- and second-year law students at Foundation-funded legal assistance programs in Florida. The Foundation awarded \$230,000 in 2007 and \$300,000 in 2008 to support the legal services Summer Fellows.

Forty law students from all 10 of Florida's law schools and seven out-of-state schools participated as 2008 summer fellows, having been selected from 266 applicants. The previous year, 34 Summer Fellows participated. During both years, the Florida Legal Aid Project Directors' Association sponsored a Terry Russell Summer Fellow to honor Terry Russell, who has made significant pro bono contributions to the delivery of legal services for the poor in Florida. In 2007, the Florida Lawyers' Legal Insurance Corporation also sponsored a Summer Fellow.

## Law School Civil Clinic Grant Program

The Florida Bar Foundation helps support law school civil clinics in an effort to:

- Involve law students in the provision of civil legal assistance to the poor;
- Provide an in-depth experience in representing the poor and working with individual clients and client groups in civil matters;
- Encourage law students to pursue public interest careers representing the poor; and
- Promote a commitment to pro bono representation of the poor.

Cases handled through the clinics are predominantly in the areas of family law, children's legal services, homeless advocacy, public benefits (food stamps, Medicaid), immigration, community outreach and education. The Foundation generally awards \$25,000 a year to support civil law clinics at the following law schools: Barry University, Florida A&M University, Florida International University, Florida State University, Nova Southeastern University, St. Thomas University, Stetson University, the University of Florida and the University of Miami.



## Comments of 2008 Summer Fellows

“Oftentimes, public interest professionals and pro bono advocates do not recognize or understand the difference they are making in someone's life. I experienced first-hand the difference that I was making through this fellowship opportunity. My efforts will not cease simply because this fellowship has.”

“I still want to be a public interest attorney, but now more than ever. This summer made me really realize that I want to dedicate my career to serving the indigent population.”

“After seeing how rewarding this work really is, I am looking forward to the chance to use my law degree to help those who need it the most.”

## Public Service Fellows Program

**T**hrough the Public Service Fellows Program, students at accredited Florida law schools complete internships at legal aid offices, guardian ad litem programs and public defender offices, as well as human rights and other public service agencies. The program seeks to promote pro bono legal services by members of the legal profession, to provide law students with direct involvement in public service activities and to promote the concept of public service legal work on law school campuses. The grants are awarded to law schools, which distribute the funds to students. Nearly 90 students participated in the 2007-2008 Public Service Fellows Program and contributed an estimated 23,300 hours of direct public service. The previous year, 80 students contributed more than 17,100 hours. Foundation funding for the program was \$299,900 in 2007 and \$321,370 in 2008.

## Foundation Ranks Among State's Top Three Charities

**F**or the second year in a row, The Florida Bar Foundation ranked among the top three charities in Florida, according to Charity Navigator, an organization that evaluates nonprofits across the nation.

“We are committed to being good stewards of the funds we receive,” said Florida Bar Foundation President Kathleen McLeroy. “We feel this recognition is added reassurance to our donors.”



The Foundation, the only organization in Florida that funds civil legal services for the poor statewide, received its second consecutive four-star rating, the highest rating possible, for the 2007 fiscal year.

The Foundation also tied for No. 1 in the nation among charities in the advocacy category for nonprofits, according to Charity Navigator. The top rating is a seal

of approval that ensures donors that their donations are being used effectively.

“Receiving four out of a possible four stars indicates that your organization excels, as compared to other charities in America, in successfully managing the finances of your organization in an efficient and effective manner,” said Kaitlin Woolf, program analyst with Charity Navigator.

Charity Navigator issues ratings from zero to four stars based on reviews of the financial health of nonprofit organizations, including their efficiency and long-term stability.

“This consistency in your rating is an exceptional feat, especially given the economic challenges many charities have had to face in the last year,” Woolf said.



# Improvements in the Administration of Justice Grant Program

## Grantmaking Philosophy

A goal of The Florida Bar Foundation is to focus grants in areas where the funding can have a measurable impact. Toward that end, the Foundation concentrates grants for improvements in the administration of justice in five areas, with emphasis on how the courts can operate more effectively and expeditiously.

## Areas of Funding

- Improvement in the operation and management of the court system;
- Improvement and reform of the criminal, civil and juvenile justice systems;
- Public education and understanding about the law, including law-related education;
- Promotion and support for public interest legal representation; and
- Promotion and support for voluntary bar association-sponsored community-service initiatives.

The Foundation occasionally considers and seeks out projects in other subject areas related to improving the administration of justice in Florida.

## Funding Criteria

Preference generally will be given to:

- Applicants seeking start-up funds or seed money over a one- or two-year period;
- Programs with demonstration value or replication potential; and
- Requests for matching funds.

AOJ typically does not fund direct service programs (e.g., drug treatment or counseling), replicas of established programs, local community groups, or programs for which there is a governmental responsibility to provide funding and continuing program support.

## 2006-2007 Grant Awards

Grantee	Award
<b>American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Florida</b> PATH Project <i>Miami</i> To provide funds to train attorneys to represent teens under Florida’s parental involvement law.	\$40,000
<b>Bay Area Legal Services Inc.</b> Bankruptcy Pro Se Assistance Project <i>Tampa</i> To provide up-to-date legal information and assistance to pro se consumer bankruptcy filers who cannot afford to hire an attorney and do not qualify for legal aid or pro bono assistance with the goal of reducing the number of pro se cases dismissed due to filing deficiencies.	\$14,500
<b>Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law</b> <i>New York</i> To fund planning grant for proposed initiative on the issue of criminal fees and fines in Florida.	\$7,500
<b>Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law</b> Legal Financial Obligations Project <i>New York</i> To provide funding to investigate fees and fines policies in the criminal justice system in Florida and to develop a work plan to raise the profile of Legal Financial Obligation policies, and to advocate for reform.	\$155,216
<b>Children’s Campaign Inc.</b> Justice for Girls: Florida’s Juvenile Justice Reform Initiative <i>Tallahassee</i> To strengthen the outreach and public education efforts of a previously funded two-year project spearheading systemic reform in the care and treatment of girls in Florida’s Juvenile Justice System.	\$98,250
<b>Disability Independence Group</b> Court House Accessibility Project <i>Coral Gables</i> To provide information and technical assistance consulting services to the Office of the State Courts Administrator’s Courthouse Accessibility Initiative.	\$20,000
<b>The Florida Bar</b> Committee on Fairness and Diversity <i>Tallahassee</i> To provide funds to be used to help the committee develop a report for delivery to the Supreme Court.	\$10,000
<b>The Florida Bar</b> Joint Conference: Access to Appellate Justice Institute <i>Tallahassee</i> To provide funds for consulting support to establish the policies and procedures to institutionalize this collaborative forum as an annual event.	\$24,000
<b>The Florida Bar</b> Justice Teaching <i>Tallahassee</i> To provide funding for a statewide initiative that seeks to pair a legal professional with every school in Florida in order to provide continuous law-related education to Florida's youth.	\$127,000

<b>The Florida Bar</b> Reporting on the Courts and the Law: A Workshop for Journalists <i>Tallahassee</i> To educate journalists in the basics of reporting on the law and the court system, including The Florida Bar attorney disciplinary process, and to increase their awareness of the importance of the judiciary as a co-equal branch of government with the legislative and executive branches.	\$7,500
<b>The Florida Bar Criminal Law Section</b> Gerald Bennett Prosecutor/Public Defender Trial Training Seminar <i>Tallahassee</i> Contribution to the endowment established at the University of Florida Foundation to support the annual Gerald Bennett Prosecutor/Public Defender Trial Training Seminar. Support includes an outright grant of \$150,000 plus an additional \$100,000 if matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis.	\$250,000
<b>The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division</b> Matching Funds for Affiliate Public Service Project Awards <i>Tallahassee</i> To provide matching funds for the 2007 (\$15,000) and 2008 (\$25,000) Young Lawyers Affiliate Public Service Project Awards.	\$40,000
<b>Florida Education Fund</b> Florida Minority Bar Preparation Project <i>Tampa</i> To help develop a program to pay tuition for the Bar review course for minority law school graduates with demonstrated financial need who have registered to take The Florida Bar examination.	\$99,737
<b>Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center</b> On Their Own: Second Annual Conference on Unaccompanied Immigrant Children <i>Miami</i> To provide partial support for FIAC to host the second national conference on unaccompanied immigrant children in Miami on May 17-19, 2007.	\$4,950
<b>Florida Law Related Education Association Inc.</b> Advancing the Cause and Administration of Justice <i>Tallahassee</i> To support a broad range of public education programs and activities to advance the cause of the administration of justice.	\$204,000
<b>Florida Law Related Education Association Inc.</b> The Justice Teaching Institute <i>Tallahassee</i> To provide funds to continue and expand the training of 30 teachers by judges and attorneys, as part of the Florida Supreme Court’s Justice Teaching Institute.	\$40,000
<b>Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights</b> Human Rights/Immigration Law Project <i>Tallahassee</i> As partial support for the establishment of a Human Rights Immigration Law Project clinic.	\$85,000
<b>Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights and the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Florida</b> Rethinking the Restoration of Civil Rights in Florida <i>Tallahassee/Miami</i> Third-year funding to identify and minimize barriers to voting and other aspects of citizenship for non-incarcerated citizens with a prior felony conviction through research, public policy advocacy, individual case advocacy, and development of training materials.	\$218,750
<b>Florida Supreme Court Historical Society</b> <i>Tallahassee</i> To provide general support of the Society’s administrative expenses (\$25,000) and a matching grant to secure a private donation (\$10,000).	\$35,000
<b>Foundation of the American Board of Trial Advocates</b> Justice by the People Project <i>Jacksonville</i> To fund Florida activities in a Web-based, four-lesson curriculum that teaches young people the history, the process and the value of trial by jury.	\$50,000
<b>Innocence Project of Florida Inc.</b> <i>Tallahassee</i> To identify and free innocent inmates from Florida’s prisons through DNA testing.	\$275,825
<b>Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County Inc.</b> Evaluation of the Foster Care Project of the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County <i>West Palm Beach</i> To provide partial support for an evaluation by the Chapin Hall Center for Children at the University of Chicago of the impact of the legal services provided by Legal Aid’s Foster Children’s Project on achieving permanency for foster children; to develop an understanding of the program elements most instrumental to the Foster Care Project’s services in order to replicate the program in other jurisdictions, including other legal aid programs in Florida; and to provide needed documentation of impact of the Foster Children's Project to potential replication funders.	\$30,000

# Improvements in the Administration of Justice Grant Program

**Office of the State Courts Administrator** \$39,000  
Criminal Justice and Mental Health Special Project  
*Tallahassee*

To implement a Special Order of the Florida Supreme Court assigning a Miami-Dade Circuit Judge to act as a Special Advisor to the Supreme Court dealing with mental health issues of criminal defendants. The Project is a collaboration between the Courts and the Secretary of the Department of Children and Families.

**Orange County Bar Association** \$5,000  
Modest Means Program  
*Orlando*

To conduct additional marketing and outreach in the community for the Modest Means Project.

**The Sixth Judicial Circuit** \$5,000  
Juror Appreciation Billboards  
*St. Petersburg*

To improve the image of jury service by thanking those who have served and raising the awareness of the importance of jury service with a message appearing on approximately 50 billboards throughout Pasco and Pinellas counties.

**University of West Florida** \$1,000  
Mock Trial Courtroom  
*Pensacola*

To assist in turning an existing classroom into a state-of-the-art courtroom for use by the University of West Florida and area high school mock trial teams, UWF and high school classes and debate teams, criminal justice practitioners, the legal community, and area human service agencies.

**YWCA of Greater Miami-Dade Inc.** \$60,000  
Court Care: A Better Place to Be  
*Miami*

To expand their child-care program into the Miami-Dade Criminal Courts. The program would serve children brought into the criminal court as victims or witnesses or because their parents or caregivers do not have child-care options.

**Total** **\$1,947,228**

## 2007-2008 Grant Awards

Grantee	Award
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<b>Barry University School of Law</b> \$5,000 Juvenile Justice Center's Trial Skills Training Program for Florida Juvenile Defenders <i>Orlando</i>	
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For partial scholarships of up to 50 percent of the cost of juvenile public defenders to attend a two-day trial skills training.

<b>Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law</b> \$175,000 Continuation of Florida Criminal Justice System Legal Financial Obligations Project <i>New York</i>	
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To support the Brennan Center's Legal Financial Obligations Project in Florida, including investigation and reform of the fees and fines policies in the criminal justice system in Florida.

<b>Brevard County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division</b> \$1,000 Provision of Basic Needs Items for Serene Harbor Domestic Violence Shelter <i>Melbourne</i>	
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To purchase toiletries, clothing, bedding and related items for families seeking refuge at Serene Harbor Domestic Violence Shelter.

<b>Clearwater Bar Association Young Lawyers Division</b> \$1,000 The Latest Objection, A Young Lawyers Essay Contest <i>Clearwater</i>	
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<b>Collins Center for Public Policy</b> \$95,000 <i>Miami</i>	
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To support the development and dissemination of non-partisan, objective and independent analyses of the November 2008 proposed amendments to the Florida Constitution.

<b>Dade County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division</b> \$1,000 Mock Trial High School Competition <i>Miami</i>	
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<b>The Florida Bar</b> \$15,000 Reporting on the Courts and the Law: A Workshop for Journalists (2007–\$7,500; 2008–\$7,500) <i>Tallahassee</i>	
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To educate journalists in the basics of reporting on the law and the court system, including The Florida Bar attorney disciplinary process, and to increase their awareness of the importance of the judiciary as a co-equal branch of government with the legislative and executive branches.

<b>The Florida Bar</b> \$67,443 The Pro Se Appellate Handbook: Representing Yourself on Appeal <i>Tallahassee</i>	
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To provide funds to translate the Pro Se Appellate Handbook into Spanish and Creole and to print and disseminate it (including in English) to all circuit court libraries, all Florida prisons, legal aid offices in Florida and all law schools in the state, and to provide an ADA compliant Web site version.

<b>The Florida Bar Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism</b> \$100,000 <i>Tallahassee</i>	
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To support a planning process for the transition of the Center's functions to a comprehensive approach to promoting the professionalism of Florida lawyers.

<b>Florida Education Fund</b> \$101,460 Florida Minority Bar Preparation Project <i>Tampa</i>	
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To pay tuition for the Bar review course for minority law school graduates with demonstrated financial need who have registered to take The Florida Bar examination.

<b>Florida Law Related Education Association</b> \$28,000 Justice Teaching Institute <i>Tallahassee</i>	
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Investing in Florida Teachers – A Model Professional Development Program on the Courts and the Judiciary.

<b>Florida Law Related Education Association</b> \$105,060 Leadership for Justice <i>Tallahassee</i>	
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To support the development and expansion of model civic and law-related education programs in Florida and to build upon the organizational and programmatic future of the Florida Law Related Education Association.

<b>Florida Partners in Crisis Inc.</b> \$150,000 <b>Florida Partners in Crisis Inc. Advocacy</b> <i>Orlando</i>	
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To provide funds for a two-year project to strengthen the infrastructure of FPIC; strengthen the roles and responsibilities of the board of directors, board of trustees and members; increase the criminal and juvenile justice membership of the organization for local and state advocacy; and create a long-term financial sustainability plan.

<b>Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights and American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Florida</b> \$92,750 Rethinking Restoration of Civil Rights in Florida <i>Tallahassee/Miami</i>	
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For advocacy to reform Florida's legal system, which denies automatic restoration of civil rights for convicted felons upon completion of their sentences, and to assist individuals in applying for restoration of their civil rights under Florida's executive clemency process.

<b>Florida State University Center for Advancement of Human Rights</b> \$85,000 Second-Year Funding of Human Rights/Immigration Rights Law Clinic <i>Tallahassee</i>	
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To support a full-time attorney to provide pro bono legal assistance and advocacy in immigration matters in Florida, including supervision of graduate students in the development of immigration cases and advocacy.

<b>Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights</b> \$58,500 Advancing the Findings and Recommendations of the American Bar Association/Florida Death Penalty Assessment Team Report <i>Tallahassee</i>	
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To provide funds to support a one-year project intended to address a wide range of issues and problems that undermine the fairness and accuracy of Florida's death penalty process and thereby improve the administration of justice in Florida by advancing the findings and recommendations of the ABA/Florida Death Penalty Assessment Team report (September 2006).

<b>Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights</b> \$60,000 Human Trafficking <i>Tallahassee</i>	
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To create a Florida Strategic Plan to Combat Human Trafficking involving various levels of federal and state law enforcement, affected state executive branch agencies and non-governmental agency service providers tasked with serving the needs of Florida trafficking victims.

<b>Innocence Project of Florida</b> \$330,000 <i>Tallahassee</i>	
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For general support of a project to identify and free innocent inmates in Florida's prisons through DNA testing.

<b>Jacksonville Bar Association Young Lawyer's Division</b> \$6,000 Afternoon in the Courthouse/DUI Project/Legal Aid Awareness Project	
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<b>Marion County Bar Association Young Lawyer's Division</b> \$1,000 Marion County Great Debate	
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<b>Orange County Bar Association</b> \$10,000 Modest Means Program <i>Orlando</i>	
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For continued development of a model program for persons of modest means to pay a reduced fee for legal services.

<b>Tampa Bay Hispanic Bar Association</b> \$5,000 <b>1st Annual Diversity Picnic</b> <i>Tampa</i>	
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To provide funds for a Diversity Picnic at the downtown Tampa campus of Stetson Law School for minority law school students from all laws schools in Florida.

**Total** **\$1,493,213**



# Voluntary Bar Association Community Service Grant Program

The Voluntary Bar Association Community Service Grant Program — funded out of the improvements in the Administration of Justice Grant Program — is an ongoing program of one-time grants of up to \$5,000 each awarded to voluntary bar associations in Florida to promote new or significant improvement in existing charitable, community-service projects. The goals of the Voluntary Bar Association Community Service Grant Program are:

- To increase community service by Florida’s legal profession through voluntary bar association initiatives; and
- To serve as a readily accessible source of funding for a full range of voluntary bar association charitable, community-service projects.

2006-2007 Grant Awards	
Grantee	Award
Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida <i>Miami</i> CARE – Credit Abuse Resistance Education, Student Outreach Program	\$3,000
Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers <i>Orlando</i> Courthouse child care for families with official court business	\$1,000
Clay County Bar Association Inc. <i>Orange Park</i> Clay County Victim Service Center	\$1,000
Collier County Women’s Bar Association <i>Naples</i> Reading materials and mentors for students at PACE Center for Girls	\$3,500
Dade County Bar Association <i>Miami</i> Legal Line call-in pro bono service for South Floridians	\$3,155
F. Malcolm Cunningham Sr. Bar Association <i>West Palm Beach</i> CBA Community Law Project to assist seniors and families with end-of-life legal decisions	\$3,000
George Edgecomb Bar Association <i>Tampa</i> Parents’ School Passport Program – Parent Participation Incentive	\$3,000
Highlands County Bar Association <i>Sebring</i> Law Day 2008 public education program	\$2,000
The Hispanic Bar Association of Central Florida <i>Orlando</i> Conozca Sus Derechos (Know Your Rights)	\$3,660
Josiah T. Walls Bar Association <i>Gainesville</i> Street Law After School, a program to educate children about the consequences of crime	\$4,500
The Lee County Bar Association <i>Ft. Myers</i> The Lee County Bar Association Pro Bono Initiative	\$2,000
Martin County Bar Association <i>Palm City</i> Annual Constitution Week Project to educate children about the Constitution	\$2,000
Miami Beach Bar Association <i>Coral Gables</i> Low-Income Legal Services Clinic	\$1,000
Orange County Bar Association <i>Orlando</i> Civic Education: Promoting an Independent Judiciary	\$1,500

Palm Beach County Bar Association <i>West Palm Beach</i> Mediation Week: Poster Contest and Mediation Video	\$3,500
South Palm Beach County FAWL <i>Delray</i> Domestic Violence Restraining Order Project	\$2,000
Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association <i>Tampa</i> CARE – Credit Abuse Resistance Education, Student Outreach Program	\$4,000
Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association <i>Tampa</i> Re-entry life skills training for federal felons	\$4,685
Volusia County Bar Association <i>Daytona Beach</i> Rules and Procedures of Small Claims Court educational pamphlet	\$1,500
Total	\$50,000

2007-2008 Grant Awards	
Grantee	Award
F. Malcolm Cunningham Sr. Bar Association <i>West Palm Beach</i> College and University Resource Fair	\$4,215
George Edgecomb Bar Association <i>Tampa</i> Pro Bono Outreach Project	\$4,520
Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association <i>Miami Shores</i> Phoenix Rehabilitative Initiative to facilitate women’s re-entry and education	\$5,000
Hillsborough County Bar Association <i>Tampa</i> HCBA Leadership Institute	\$2,500
Lee County Bar Association <i>Ft. Myers</i> Foreclosure Legal Assistance Project	\$5,000
Marion County Bar Association <i>Ocala</i> Teen Society Block Party to promote healthy alternatives to at-risk behavior	\$5,000
Orange County Bar Association <i>Orlando</i> Pathways in Law crime prevention program	\$4,000
The Tampa Bay Hispanic Bar Association and The George Edgecomb Bar Association <i>Tampa</i> Diversity Internship Program for first- through third-year minority law students	\$5,000
Virgil Hawkins Florida Chapter National Bar Association <i>Tallahassee</i> Florida’s First Black Lawyers: 1869-1979, an education and outreach project	\$5,000
Total	\$40,235

## Legacy for Justice

For a special group of dedicated supporters, the mission of The Florida Bar Foundation is of such great personal importance that they have chosen to make a commitment of resources to ensure that the Foundation’s work can be sustained well into the future. The Legacy for Justice recognizes those who have either included the Foundation in their estate planning, made a pledge of more than \$10,000, directed a significant cy pres award to the Foundation, or facilitated a colleague’s major gift. We offer the members of this prestigious group our sincerest gratitude for their deep and abiding commitment to the Foundation.

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## Recognition Levels for Lifetime Giving

President's Society	\$1,000,000 and up	The Foundation is very pleased to recognize the following individuals whose total giving to the Foundation exceeds \$2,500.
Judge's Society	\$500,000-999,999	
Advocate's Society	\$250,000-499,999	
Barrister's Society	\$100,000-249,999	
Counselor's Society	\$50,000-99,999	
Platinum Society	\$25,000-49,999	
Gold Society	\$10,000-24,999	
Silver Society	\$5000-9,999	
Bronze Society	\$2,500-4,999	

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### Platinum Society \$25,000-49,999

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## Your Investment in Access to Justice

The mission of The Florida Bar Foundation is to provide greater access to justice.

Foundation grants support leadership and funding for legal aid in Florida, improvements in the state's justice system, and programs designed to instill a spirit of public service in law students.

Many Floridians have nowhere else to turn but to a legal aid or pro bono attorney to help them when they are facing domestic violence, unlawful evictions, scams such as mortgage fraud, or denial of child support or public benefits to which they are entitled.

Although IOTA funds support the Foundation's mission, the need still far outstrips the capacity of legal services programs. Working together, we can do more to enhance the Foundation's mission and meet the legal needs of the state's most vulnerable populations.

Your gifts can support current programs or can be added to The Florida Bar Foundation Endowment Trust as a permanent source of support for Foundation programs.

Florida lawyers – and the broader public – consistently demonstrate their sense of responsibility to care for those in need and their belief in the value of fairness in our justice system. We invite you to support the work of the Foundation and make your investment in access to justice.

To learn more about charitable giving opportunities at the Foundation, please contact:



**Tim Bachmeyer**  
Director of Development  
tbachmeyer@flabarfdndn.org  
(800) 541-2195

## Samuel S. Smith Memorial Endowment Fund

In 2001, the law firm of Ruden, McClosky, Smith, Schuster & Russell established the Samuel S. Smith Memorial Endowment Fund in honor of law partner Sam Smith, a longtime supporter and past president of the Foundation. The

purpose of the Fund is to protect the legal rights of the incapacitated, elderly and the disabled. In 2006-2007, a grant of \$6,484 was provided from the Fund to the Guardianship Program of Dade County, of which Sam Smith was a founder and president.

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**Fellows are life members of The Florida Bar Foundation;** core supporters who believe in the value of justice and the importance of the Foundation’s leadership and charitable programs.

Fellows gifts become part of The Florida Bar Foundation Endowment Trust, which preserves the original gift and expends only endowment income. Additions to the Endowment increase the Foundation’s revenue and help secure the future of its charitable programs.

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## Cy Pres Awards Benefit the Foundation

A settlement that could have meant a few pennies to nearly 8 million people instead will mean a shot at justice for hundreds of Floridians who otherwise might have languished in substandard housing, abusive relationships or unsafe working conditions.

Those are just a few of the situations legal aid attorneys confront on behalf of their clients every day in Florida, and a \$295,000 cy pres award secured for The Florida Bar Foundation in 2008 by Tampa attorney John Yanchunis will go a long way toward supporting the work of those who represent the state’s most vulnerable citizens.

As class counsel in a suit involving tiny overcharges applied to a large class of consumers, Yanchunis recommended The Florida Bar Foundation as the recipient of the settlement, given the impracticality of locating all the class members and refunding them less than 4 cents each.

“Since the injury arose from a consumer class action, and The Florida Bar Foundation has as its charge the funding of legal services for people who can’t afford it, I thought it would be the closest connection to the way in which the injury to the class arose,” Yanchunis said.

Both the defense counsel and the presiding judge agreed, and Yanchunis, a senior partner with James Hoyer Newcomer and Smiljanich, became the subject of a barrage of appreciative e-mails from Bar Foundation board members all over the state.

“Countless families will silently bless him for his endeavors,” wrote board member Roberto Pardo of Miami.

The term cy pres comes from the French, “cy pres comme possible,” meaning “as near as possible,” and the doctrine is often applied in class action cases in which full restitution to all injured parties is impossible or infeasible, such as when the amount of damage per person is insignificant although the aggregate damages are large. It can also be employed in probate matters when gifts fail, or in the area of charitable trusts.

This cy pres award is not the first for The Florida Bar Foundation. Florida Bar past President Tod Aronovitz of Miami previously directed two cy pres awards to the Foundation.

“In approving a final settlement, courts examine whether the cy pres award is fair and reasonable and if the recipient is appropriate for the award,” Aronovitz said. “In many consumer class action cases, the class of consumers is typical of the underprivileged Floridians who receive Florida Bar Foundation-funded legal assistance.”



John Yanchunis



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Joseph H. Saunders	Richard A. Sharpstein	Harry Martin Solomon	Jane Sullivan	Steven J. Uhlfelder	Robert Craig Waters	Honorable Thomas S. Wilson, Jr.
Thomas C. Saunders	Timothy Shaw	Mark S. Solomon	Timon V. Sullivan	Samuel C. Ullman	Emily S. Waugh	Scott E. Wilt
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Jeffrey Savlov	Gary E. Sherman	Oswaldo N. Soto	Chantale Leif Suttle	James C. Valenti	Diane Joy Weaver	Richard Frederick Wolfson*
Nancy Saxton	William Barry Sherman	A. James Spalla	Joseph Swiderski	Joseph John Van Heyde, II	Barry Webber	Sandra K. Wolkov
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Larry Schatz	J. B. Spence	David Ira Spector	Ana Elena Tangel-Rodriguez	Roberto Mario Vargas	Daniel Weiss	Jacqueline Wooden
Honorable John M. Scheb	Thomas R. Spencer, Jr.	J. B. Spence	Brian Lee Tannebaum	Wilfred C. Varn	Jack Adam Weiss	Council Wooten
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Honorable Eleanor Schockett	Rebecca Steele	Karen Stedronsky	Dennis P. Thompson	Louis B. Vocelle, Jr.	Susan B. Werth	Sarah M. Yoho
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Robert Schumaker	Charles R. Stepter, Jr.	John Stephens, Jr.	Richard Joseph Thornton	George L. Waas	Claudia Wheeler	Paul Young
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Philip B. Schwartz	William L. Stewart	Larry Scott Stewart	Allen R. Tomlinson	Royce B. Walden	Joshua Whitman	Kurt D. Zimmerman
Philip B. Schwartz	Dori Katrine Stibolt	William L. Stewart	Joel Toomey	Aleida Ors Waldman	Marva Wiley	Barry Zisser
Paul J. Schwiep	Adele I. Stone	Dori Katrine Stibolt	Stephanie Jean Toothaker	Honorable David Seth Walker	John Wilke	Juan Carlos Zorrilla
Gregory Lee Scott	Todd Ian Stone	Adele I. Stone	Frank Toral	Deana Walker	James Donovan Wilkerson	Julius James Zschau
Neil Scott	Paul Anthony Straske	Todd Ian Stone	Alfred Walker Torrence, Jr.	Frank C. Walker	C. Gary Williams	Harry Zukernick*
Robert C. Scott	Richard Straughn	Paul Anthony Straske	Clay Tousey, Jr.	Joan LoBianco Walker	Jeannine S. Williams	Joel Zwemer
Christian D. Searcy	Arnold Maurice Straus	Richard Straughn	Ronald Toward	Stephen Alan Walker	Reginald L. Williams*	
Stephen H. Sears	Marilyn Strauss	Arnold Maurice Straus	George Euripedes Tragos	Vernetta Walker	William E. Williams	
James E.L. Seay	David Updegraff Strawn	Marilyn Strauss	Robert Traurig	William Wallace	John W. Williams, Jr.	
William M. Seider	Thomas Edmund Streit	David Updegraff Strawn	A. Roger Traynor, Jr.	Honorable Waddell Arlie Wallace, III	Honorable O. Edgar Williams, Jr.	
Honorable Patricia A. Seitz	Honorable Jeffrey Earl Streitfeld	Thomas Edmund Streit	Johnnie Trevena	Michael P. Walsh	Douglas M. Williamson	
Floyd R. Self	Barbara Strickland	Honorable Jeffrey Earl Streitfeld	William Trickel, Jr.*	Michael Raymond Walsh	Claudia Willis	
Lawrence E. Sellers, Jr.	John Strickland	Barbara Strickland	Matthew Triggs	Clifford Walters		
Mary Selter	William C. Strode	John Strickland	Theodore L. Tripp, Jr.			
Stephen R. Sem	Gary Strobauer	William C. Strode				
Joseph H. Serota		Gary Strobauer				

## The Gift That Gives Back

Former Florida Bar Foundation president Rod Petrey has long been a supporter of the Foundation, but recently he signed on to a new giving program that will pay dividends on his generosity.

The first donor to establish a charitable gift annuity with the Foundation, Petrey now receives a steady lifetime income stream through the annuity, although his primary motivation was to help support the Foundation’s mission.

“The Foundation is very near and dear to me,” said Petrey, president of the Collins Center for Public Policy. “It does spectacularly good work for legal justice.”

Tim Bachmeyer, the Foundation’s director of development, said donors who are passionate about an organization’s mission still want to know that it will be a good steward of their contributions.

About 90 percent of the Foundation’s total expenses go directly toward its grant programs, and the Foundation’s careful stewardship has been able to ensure stable funding for its grantees even in the current economic climate.

Petrey knew he could be confident in the Foundation’s wise use of his contribution.

“The funds are well invested and well supervised. You know it’s going to

be spent for very good works that are related to the legal profession and help lawyers fulfill duties to the community.”

### How It Works

A gift annuity allows a donor to give at least \$10,000 to the Foundation and receive a fixed income for life based on the donor’s age. The payout is guaranteed by the assets of the Foundation, and by its conservative investment policies.

Other benefits include the opportunity for a donor to:

- Name himself and/or another person as the beneficiary, or name both as joint lifetime beneficiaries in the gift annuity
- Receive an upfront charitable income-tax deduction for a portion of the gift
- Receive a portion of each payment tax-free.

For more information contact Tim Bachmeyer at (800) 541-2195 (FL)/ (407) 843-0045 or at [tbachmeyer@flabarfndn.org](mailto:tbachmeyer@flabarfndn.org)



Rod Petrey

Six Fellows wish to remain anonymous.

\* indicates a deceased Fellow

Fellows as of November 18, 2008



# Tribute and Memorial Gifts 2006-2008

## In Honor of...

The Florida Bar Staff  
by Francisco R. Angones  
Georgina A. Angones

Danielle Adams  
by Michelle C. Lyles

Francisco R. Angones  
by The Florida Bar

Georgina A. Angones  
by The Florida Bar

Thomas M. Danahy  
by Georgia R. Danahy

Mayanne Downs  
by Bruce B. Blackwell

Michael J. Faehner  
by Suncoast Chapter  
of the Association  
of Fundraising  
Professionals  
Pinellas County Estate  
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Christopher DeShaun  
Horne  
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Michele Kane Cummings  
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Scott Rost  
Adele I. Stone

Walter F. Lambert  
by Robin Halpern Greene

Christopher Leklem  
by John Leklem

Miles A. McGrane, IV  
by Miles A. McGrane, III

## In Memory of...

S.L.Badger, Jr.  
by Jane Elizabeth Curran

Michael Bryant  
by Maria E. Henderson  
John C. Patterson, Jr.  
Jon C. Peterson  
George Steven Pfeiffer

Richard D. Saba  
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Lois Thacker Graessle  
by Jane Elizabeth Curran

Esther Glick Groundine  
by Jane Elizabeth Curran

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by Barbara Clements  
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Gertrude Kaupinen  
by Carol A. Wherry

Nancy Elaine Kennon  
by Hans Kennon

Ruth Elizabeth Mruz  
by Jane Elizabeth Curran

Gary Curtis Pajcic  
by Young Lawyers Section  
of The Florida Bar

John J. Raymond, Sr.  
by Burton Young

Johnnie Ridgely  
by Burton Young

Honorable Paul H. Roney  
by Burton Young

Bernice Setnor  
by Jane Elizabeth Curran

Alvin E. Smith  
by Tod Aronovitz  
Edward R. Blumberg  
Alan B. Bookman  
Howard Coleman Coker  
Henry M. Cox, III  
Jesse H. Diner  
Kelly Overstreet Johnson  
Miles A. McGrane, III  
Edith G. Osman  
Herman J. Russomanno

Douglas H. Smith  
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of The Florida Bar

Kathryn Ann Soltis  
by Dianne Misiak

Lillian Sussman  
by Alex Nemiroff

Pierre A. Valbrun  
by Thomas R. Spencer, Jr.

Sheila Young  
by Jane Elizabeth Curran

# Lawyer's Challenge for Children 2006-2008

On behalf of the thousands of children served by Foundation Children's Legal Services grants, thank you for supporting our activities through your contribution to the Lawyers' Challenge for Children on the Florida Bar Annual Fee Statement. Your gift will be added to the Foundation's Children's Legal Services grant program to serve poor children throughout Florida. Donors to the Lawyers' Challenge for Children of more than \$100 are listed here. While donors of less than \$100 are too numerous to include in this report, we do wish to express our gratitude to them and have included them in our complete list at [www.flabarfdn.org](http://www.flabarfdn.org).

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Richard Abramowitz  
David Craig Albert  
Thomas John Ali  
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Arlir Manuel Amado  
Bernard James Apperson  
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Luis Artime  
Michael Joseph Babboni  
Richard B Badgley  
Richard M Bales  
William Cook Ballard  
Mary Melissa Baltz  
Gary Allyn Barcus  
Scott Wilson Barger  
Myron Paul Barlow  
Mary Jane Bass  
Dora Lilia Beatty  
Joseph W. Beatty  
Leo Becerra  
Jeffrey Haines Beck  
Susan Neiswender Black  
Sebrina Giaffis Blackburn  
Homer Austin Chandler  
Bliss  
Byron Block  
Carlos J. Bonilla  
Ronald Lee Book

Brooke J. Bowman  
Karl Bozicevic  
Sharon Bush Brandford  
Ruth Anne Braun  
Kathleen Louise Brennan  
David Ross Bridger  
Ruth E. Bright  
David S. Bromley  
David S. Bromley  
Henry Miller Bugay  
John Joseph Bulfin  
Adam J Buss  
Rosa Busto-Pina  
Dennis Scott Cameron  
Michael J Cappuccio  
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Kenneth Fluent Conrad  
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Dimitrouleas  
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Díaz-Merheb  
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Kim Elaine Evers  
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William Francisco Fabra  
Tony Michael Fineman  
Daniel Patrick Fischetti  
Stephen Mayhew Fisher  
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Tim Michael Flaherty  
Joanne Danielle Flanagan  
Patricia Kimball Fletcher  
Jeffrey Alan Foor  
Jeffrey Eric Foreman  
Margaret Smallwood Fox  
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Wendy Ellen Friedberg  
Lisa Gallagher  
Kelly Jean Howard Garcia  
James Andrew Gardner  
Laura Beth Gardy  
Michael Gaschler  
Rita McAndrews Giblin  
Frederick Philips Gilliam  
Richard M. Goldstein  
Juan M Gonzalez  
Elana B. Goodman

Lyann Goudie  
Marla Grant  
Javier Guadayol  
Daniel Garvin Hall  
Richard Alan Halpern  
Heather Noel Hanson  
Elizabeth Harris  
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Judith Anne Luengas  
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Karen L Martin  
D Michael Mathes  
Patrick Matusky  
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Yasmine Zyne

# A Just Legacy

Paul Doyle has long been considered an institution in legal aid circles, having dedicated a nearly 40-year career to providing justice to the poor. Now Florida Legal Services has dedicated its new building to him. The Florida Legal Services Inc. headquarters in Tallahassee will be named the Paul Doyle Justice Center.

Doyle, director of The Florida Bar Foundation's Legal Assistance for the Poor (LAP) and Law Student Assistance (LSA) grant programs, has "laid out a road map to forge paths in legal aid," said Kent Spuhler, executive director of Florida Legal Services. "There's probably no other person who has impacted the way that legal assistance has been delivered to the poor as he has," Spuhler said.

After graduating from Harvard Law School in 1961, Doyle served as director of several legal services programs, worked as a state and local government attorney, and was a partner in a Jacksonville law firm.

In 1990, Doyle started his work with the Foundation as director of The Joint Florida Bar/Florida Bar Foundation study on the delivery of legal services to the indigent. He has since provided his expert guidance in overseeing the funding of



Paul Doyle



Paul Doyle Justice Center

legal assistance for Florida's poor through the Foundation's LAP and LSA programs. Doyle said it was a "total shock and humbling experience" to be honored by having the Justice Center named for him.

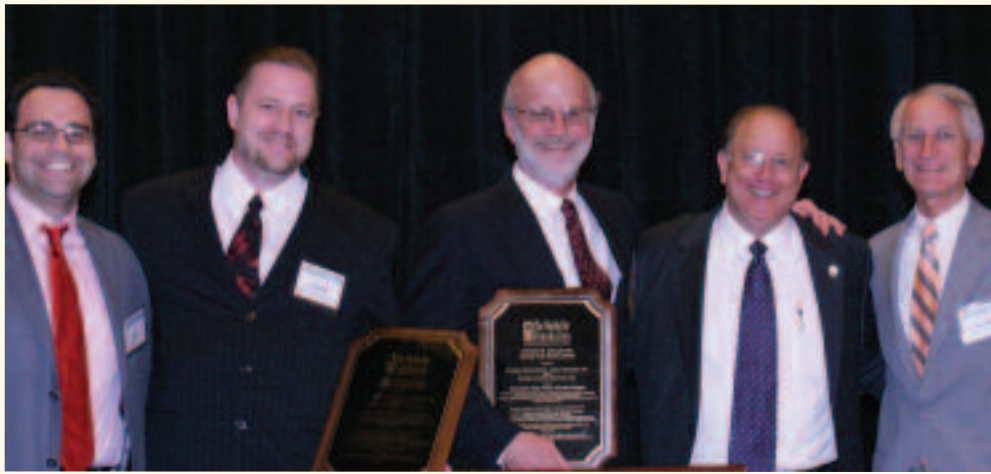
"I think the building symbolizes that Florida Legal Services is going to be an aggressive advocate for the poor in the courts and administrative agencies," Doyle said. "It also signifies that they'll be there to be a beacon of collaboration for the 30 legal aid programs across the state for the pressing needs of the poor."



# The 2008 Steven M. Goldstein Award for Excellence

This competitive, biennial award was established in memory of Steve Goldstein, a tireless advocate for the poor throughout his career as a legal services attorney and professor of law at Florida State University, through his extensive pro bono work, his service to the Foundation as a member of the board of directors and chair of the Legal Assistance for the Poor grant committee. The award recognizes projects of significant impact undertaken by Foundation Legal Assistance for the Poor grantees. To be eligible, the project must affect a substantial number of poor persons, address an important poverty-law issue, involve a significant commitment of grantee program resources and staff, and reflect legal work of a high professional level.

In 2008, the Steven M. Goldstein Award was presented to Florida Institutional Legal Services and the Florida Justice Institute for the Vulnerable State Prison Inmates Project, intended to protect inmates, particularly the



Foundation President Bruce Blackwell, second from right, presents the 2008 Steven M. Goldstein Award to (from left) pro bono counsel Leon Fresco of Holland & Knight in Jacksonville, Christopher Jones of Florida Institutional Legal Services in Gainesville, Randall Berg of the Florida Justice Institute in Miami, and pro bono counsel George E. Schulz Jr., also of Holland & Knight in Jacksonville.

mentally ill and developmentally disabled, from abuse and neglect. The lead attorneys on the project were: Cassandra Capobianco, Kristen Lentz and Christopher Jones of Florida Institutional Legal Services in Gainesville; Randall Berg, Peter Siegel and Joshua Glickman of the Florida Justice Institute in Miami; and pro bono counsel George E. Schulz Jr. and Leon

Fresco of Holland & Knight in Jacksonville.

The first runners-up were Florida Institutional Legal Services and Southern Legal Counsel for “Right to Treatment Issues of Florida’s Civil Confinement of Sex Offenders,” a project to protect the constitutional and statutory rights to treatment of persons being indefinitely civilly committed for sex offenses. The lead attorneys were Kristen Lentz, Cassandra Capobianco, Peter Sleasman and Christopher Jones of Florida Institutional Legal Services and Alice Nelson of Southern Legal Counsel in Gainesville.

The second runner-up was the Legal Aid Service of Broward County for “Code Enforcement Advocacy,” a project to stop the gentrification and loss of homestead properties in a historically low-income, black community. The lead attorney on the project was Sharon Bourassa.

## Medal of Honor Awards

The Florida Bar Foundation Medal of Honor Award Program was established in 1977 to recognize outstanding achievements in improving the administration of justice in Florida in two categories.

The first category is for a member of The Florida Bar who has demonstrated his or her dedication to the objectives of the Bar as set out in the rules regulating the Florida Bar: “to inculcate in its members the principles of duty and service to the public, to improve the administration of justice, and to advance the science of jurisprudence.”

The second is for a non-lawyer or person not actively engaged in the practice of law who has made an outstanding contribution to the improvement of the administration of justice through research, writing, or other deeds of such character and quality that, in the judgment of the Foundation, warrant the highest award that can be bestowed by the Foundation.

The service activities of our Medal of Honor recipients could fill more pages than there are in this report. The following is a brief summary of the contributions of each, along with an excerpt from his or her award citation.

### 2007– A. Hamilton Cooke

*“[He has an] unparalleled commitment to making the ideal of equal justice under law a reality for the poor and for those with unpopular causes . . . Ham Cooke walks the walk.”*



John W. Thornton, Jr. and A. Hamilton Cooke

Cooke was presented the Medal of Honor in the lawyer category for his many contributions to providing access to justice for those living in poverty throughout Florida, and his devoted service to HabiJax, his local Habitat for Humanity affiliate in Jacksonville. Cooke was co-chair of the joint Florida Bar/Florida Bar Foundation Commission on the Delivery of Legal Services to the Indigent in Florida, which helped shape the future of legal services delivery to Florida’s poor. He also championed mandatory IOTA and successfully argued before the Florida Supreme Court for its adoption, which significantly increased funding for legal services in Florida.

### 2007– Dr. Walter F. Lambert

*“The epitome of the caring man, Walter F. Lambert has taken the Hippocratic Oath of ‘first, do no harm,’ one step further by striving always to ‘first, do some good.’”*



Dr. Walter F. Lambert and John W. Thornton, Jr.

Lambert was awarded the Medal of Honor in the non-lawyer category for his life’s work as a medical advocate for abused and neglected children and for his significant volunteer work for South Florida children in foster care. As long-time Medical Director of the Child Protection Team for Dade and Monroe counties, Lambert has served as the voice for deserted children in the courts, and his expert testimony has brought justice and charted their future well-being.

### 2008 – Terrence Russell

*“Terry Russell stands as the touchstone by which so many take the measure of their lives.”*

Russell was the recipient of the Medal of Honor in the lawyer category for his exceptional lifelong compassion and undaunted efforts to secure the first appropriation for legal assistance for the poor made by the Florida



Terrence Russell and Bruce Blackwell

Legislature. During his year as Florida Bar President, Russell led every aspect of advocacy for the passage and funding of the Florida Access to Civil Legal Assistance Act, including walking the corridors of the Capitol for hours to persuade legislators.

### 2008– Elizabeth Lander Bell

*“Florida is a better place today and will be a better place tomorrow because of Budd Bell. Her selfless, tireless and effective advocacy not only gave voice to those with none, but inspired others to unite in speaking up for the impoverished and downtrodden.”*



Elizabeth Lander “Budd” Bell

Bell was presented the Medal of Honor in the non-lawyer category for over four decades of volunteer advocacy to improve the lives of Florida’s children, elderly and disabled persons. In her many years of public service, Bell founded what is now Kids Incorporated of the Big Bend to provide affordable day care in Tallahassee; The Clearinghouse on Human Services to increase the number of advocates for the poor and powerless; and The Florida Center for Children and Youth, a critical resource in Tallahassee. Her advocacy for the elderly and disabled, who were being warehoused in mental hospitals, led to the adoption of the Baker Act that gave people the right not to be institutionalized unless they are a danger to themselves or others.



# Profile of the IOTA Account Portfolio as of June 30, 2008

Total Number of IOTA Accounts . . . . .	26,360
Weighted Average IOTA Account Interest Rate . . . . .	.074%
Total Principal Balance in IOTA Accounts . . . . .	\$3.01 Billion
Average Balance per Account . . . . .	\$114,240
Number of Lawyers Participating in IOTA . . . . .	33,370
Number of Banks Participating in IOTA . . . . .	329

IOTA eligible funds: Client and third-person funds shall be deposited in a lawyer's or law firm's IOTA account unless the funds can otherwise earn income for the client or third person in excess of the costs incurred to secure such income.

# ENDOWMENT

In 1991, the Foundation established an Endowment as a permanent source of support for all of the Foundation's charitable activities. Initial funding for the Endowment came from \$1 million in unrestricted IOTA investment earnings, the income from which will fund IOTA grants exclusively. In 2007-2008, additional Endowment funding came from \$272,506 in donations and other contributions increasing the total Endowment net assets to \$5,714,414 as of June 30, 2008.

# The Foundation Thanks You

Many attorneys, law firms and other organizations contributed to our success in 2006-2008 through pro bono services and other in-kind support for the Foundation itself.

- Ava Doppelt, Esquire  
Allen Dyer Doppelt et. al.  
*Orlando*
- Mark D. Passler, Esquire  
Akerman Senterfitt  
*West Palm Beach*
- Lawrence Ploucha, Esquire  
Atkinson Diner Stone Mankuta & Ploucha P.A.  
*Fort Lauderdale*
- Bruce H. Roberson, Esquire  
Holland & Knight  
*Tampa*
- Adele Stone, Esquire  
Atkinson Diner Stone Mankuta & Ploucha P.A.  
*Fort Lauderdale*
- Virginia B. Townes, Esquire  
Akerman Senterfitt  
*Orlando*
- Donald Carlton Works III, Esquire  
Jackson Lewis et. al.  
*Orlando*
- Florida Trend  
*Miami*
- Florida Lawyers Mutual  
Insurance Company  
*Orlando*

# Kids Deserve Justice

As of June 30, 2008, more than 1,900 people had shown their support for children's legal services by purchasing a Kids Deserve Justice specialty license plate. All proceeds from sales of the plate are used to support children's legal services, protecting the rights of our most vulnerable residents. For more information, call the Foundation or visit: [www.flabarfdn.org/KidsDeserveJustice](http://www.flabarfdn.org/KidsDeserveJustice).



# Matching Gift Companies

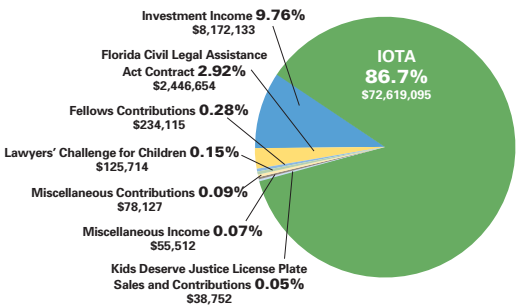
Many corporations and law firms will match employee contributions to The Florida Bar Foundation. Some will match gifts made by their directors and spouses of employees. To encourage matching gift opportunities, The Florida Bar Foundation attributes matching gifts to the responsible donor. The recognition of donors is determined therefore by the donor's total annual gift — his or her personal contribution plus any resulting matching gift received during the fiscal year.

Thank you to the following companies and foundations who contributed to The Florida Bar Foundation through their matching gift programs:

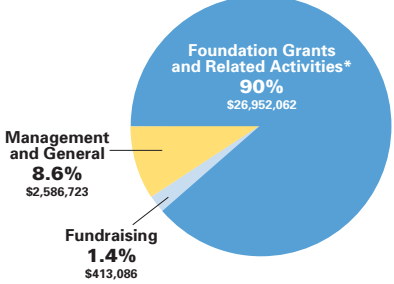
- GEICO Philanthropic Foundation
- Raymond James Financial

# FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Combined for Foundation and Endowment)

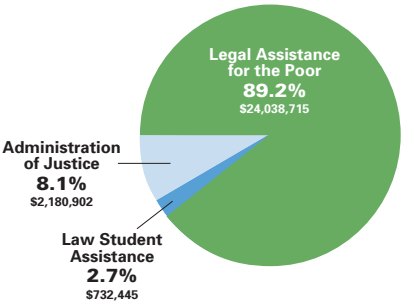
2006-2007 Revenues  
\$83,770,102



2006-2007 Expenses  
\$29,951,871



2006-2007 Breakout of Grants and Related Activities\*  
\$26,952,062

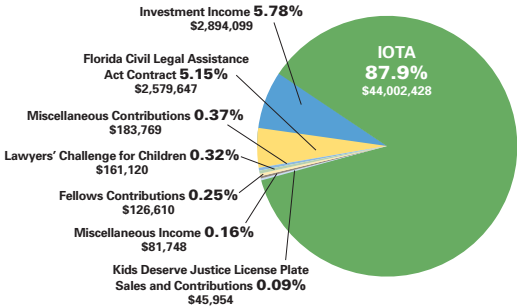


Fundraising and management and general expenses represent 10% and 8.5% of the Foundation's total activities in 2006-2007 and 2007-2008, respectively.

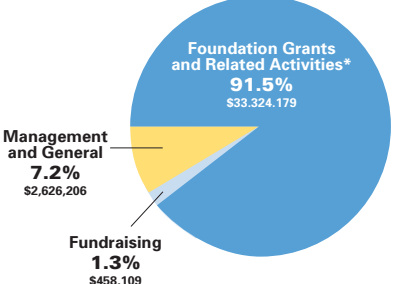
Audited financial statements are available from the Foundation upon request. The Foundation's IRS Form 990 is available on the Foundation's Web site at [www.flabarfdn.org](http://www.flabarfdn.org).

\*Foundation grants are based upon the net revenues of the fiscal year preceding the year being reported. These amounts may differ from the grants listed elsewhere in this report due to conditional and multi-year grants.

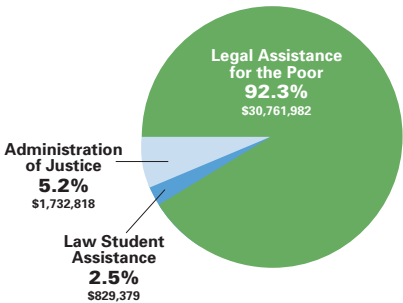
2007-2008 Revenues  
\$50,075,375



2007-2008 Expenses  
\$36,408,494



2007-2008 Breakout of Grants and Related Activities\*  
\$33,324,179

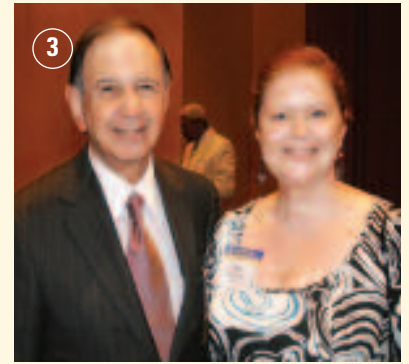


# Be Sure to Thank Your Banker

September 1981 marked implementation by the Florida Supreme Court of the country's first IOTA program and the beginning of an important source of support for civil legal assistance to the poor, projects to improve Florida's justice system and programs to promote public service by law students. While we often mark that milestone and thank those responsible, we don't publicly recognize often enough Florida's banking community. IOTA works because of the support and cooperation of Florida banks — from the superb bank staff who make sure monthly remittance information and interest gets to the Foundation, to the teams who worked so closely with the Foundation to implement the interest rate comparability rule, to the leaders of the Florida Bankers Association who step up to the plate and help IOTA achieve its full potential. The Foundation, its grantees and those they serve are very grateful for the successful partnership between the legal and banking communities that is Florida's IOTA program.



# Annual Dinners



## 2007 ANNUAL DINNER

1. Rep. Ellyn Setnor Bogdanoff receives the joint Florida Bar/Florida Bar Foundation Legislative Award for help in securing civil legal assistance funding.
2. Retired Florida Supreme Court Justice Joseph Hatchett and 5th DCA Judge Emerson Thompson Jr.
3. David and Casey Shear
4. 2006-2007 Foundation President John W. Thornton, Jr.
5. Neal and Pat Sonnett
6. John and Mindy Thornton
7. Mike Stafford, Dudley Goodlette and Kathy Stafford



## 2008 ANNUAL DINNER

1. Florida Supreme Court Justice R. Fred Lewis
2. A. Hamilton Cooke and John Patterson
3. Julie and Bruce Blackwell
4. Larry Bostic, who was exonerated with help from the Innocence Project of Florida Inc., a Florida Bar Foundation AOJ grantee
5. 1st DCA Judge Bill Van Nortwick Jr. and Maria Henderson
6. Hank Cox and Bruce Blackwell
7. Mary Kay and Terry Russell with Adele Stone

