



The
Legal Aid Society

Since 1905

For Immediate Release

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Ashtabula County Attorneys Volunteer and Make a Difference

The Ashtabula County Bar Association and The Legal Aid Society in Ashtabula County acknowledges the following attorneys for their agreement to participate in the 2006 *pro bono* (volunteer) project: Jerome Lemire, H. Valentine Holz II, Jason Fairchild, Jane Timonere, Philip Cordova, Gary Pasqualone, Kyle Smith, David Per Due, Virginia Miller, Pamela Houston, Nicholas Iarocci, Mark Andrews, Jeffrey Ford, David Pontius, Samuel Altier, Michael Meaney, David McCombs, James Sartini, William Bobulsky, Jonathan Winer, and Duane Dubsy.

The Ohio State Bar Association highlights *pro bono* work as a top priority. The volunteer program in Ashtabula County is a collaborative effort between Legal Aid and the bar association. The program expands legal services for the poor; a recent study of legal needs in Ohio found that an estimated 83% of the legal problems experienced by the poor fail to get legal attention.

The Ashtabula County Bar Association and Legal Aid are offering a CLE on ethics, professionalism, and substance abuse, free of charge to their *pro bono* volunteers. This CLE will take place at the Geneva Lodge and Conference Center on December 9, 2005. The Ashtabula County Bar Association's annual meeting and holiday dinner will follow the CLE.

Davida J. Dodson, managing attorney of The Legal Aid Society in Ashtabula County, points out that the ability of the poor to get representation may mean the difference between keeping a family together and homelessness. "The need for legal services is one that all lawyers can understand because it may mean the difference between a life of hope and one of hopelessness for the poor."

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