



The
Legal Aid Society
of Cleveland
Since 1905

For Immediate Release

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For First Time, Cleveland Represented in National Policy Group

Thomas Mlakar, supervising attorney at The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, was elected this week to the National Legal Aid and Defender's Association's (NLADA) "Civil Policy Group" as a staff representative. His three-year term expires in 2010. This is the first election of a Cleveland attorney to this important policy group.

NLADA's Civil Policy Group's primary objective is to develop programs and policies which support the NLADA and its members. Duties of the Civil Policy Group include: reviewing all matters of interest to legal services organizations across the United States; issuing policy statements; participating as Amicus Curiae on civil legal services related issues in the name of NLADA and engaging in appropriate activities in support of legal services organizations.

Civil Policy Group members are elected on a regional basis, and include management, staff and clients from legal aid programs nationwide.

Founded in 1905, The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland is the law firm for low-income individuals in Northeast Ohio.

Legal Aid is a nonprofit organization serving Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake and Lorain counties. Its 45 full-time attorneys and nearly 1,000 volunteers secure justice and resolve fundamental problems for those who are low income and vulnerable by providing high quality legal services and working for systemic solutions.

Legal Aid's \$10 million budget is funded by the Legal Services Corporation, the Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation, United Way and hundreds of private corporations, foundations and individual donors.

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Photograph of Mr. Mlakar is available upon request. Call 216-861-5217.

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