



The
Legal Aid Society
of Cleveland
Since 1905

For Immediate Release

March 29, 2007
Page 1/1

Contact: Melanie Shakarian, Esq.
216-861-5217 (direct dial)
melanie.shakarian@lasclev.org

Legal Aid Announces Addition of Staff Attorney

The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland is pleased to announce Philip Althouse as a new staff attorney in the Lorain County Office. Mr. Althouse began full-time work March 29. Earlier this month it was announced that Jessica Baggett was selected as the new managing attorney for the Lorain Office.

Mr. Althouse has practiced law for 17 years, and has maintained a private practice in Cleveland for 16 years. A graduate of Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, he began his career with Southeast Ohio Legal Services – a legal aid organization in Marietta OH. Mr. Althouse is also a registered nurse, and previously worked as a case manager with the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging. Most recently, he has been working with Legal Aid's Lorain County office as a contract attorney. "We are thrilled to add Phil to our full-time staff," commented Colleen Cotter, Legal Aid's executive director. "He has become familiar with Lorain County as a contract attorney for Legal Aid during recent months, and he has developed excellent relationships with clients, the courts and our community partners. This experience has also given him insight into the problems that our clients face, and how we can work to address them."

In his private practice, Mr. Althouse primarily focused on consumers, families and children. He successfully litigated predatory lending cases, aggressively pursued notorious home improvement contractors, and prosecuted consumer claims. Mr. Althouse looks forward to full-time work at Legal Aid, "I have a passion for public interest advocacy that helps to empower clients and solves their legal problems. Working with Legal Aid's Lorain County office provides an outlet for that passion and a tremendous opportunity to make a meaningful difference in people's lives."

Mr. Althouse is a member of numerous professional organizations, including the American Bar Association, Ohio State Bar Association and the National Association of Consumer Advocates.

The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland is the law firm for low-income individuals in Northeast Ohio. The nonprofit law firm has 45 full-time attorneys providing high-quality free legal assistance in Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake and Lorain counties.

To schedule an interview or for more information, call 216-861-5217 or e-mail melanie.shakarian@lasclev.org

Cuyahoga County
& ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
1223 West Sixth Street
Cleveland, OH 44113

Phone: 216.687.1900
Toll-Free: 888.817.3777
Fax: 216.687.0779

Ashtabula County

121 East Walnut Street
Jefferson, OH 44047

Phone: 440.576.8120
Toll-Free: 866.873.9665
Fax: 440.576.3021

Lake & Geauga Counties

8 North State Street
Suite 300
Painesville, OH 44077

Phone: 440.352.6200
Toll-Free: 888.808.2800
Fax: 440.352.0015

Lorain County

538 West Broad Street
Suite 300
Elyria, OH 44035

Phone: 440.323.8240
Toll-Free: 800.441.7348
Fax: 440.323.8526

www.lasclev.org