



Newsletter

Dec. 30, 2023



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- **Federal court decision protects constitutional rights of Pottstown homeless encampment residents** and prevents criminal charges & other penalties & threats
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- **Vote for LASP by Dec. 31: Target Circle** giving campaign
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- Property Tax/Rent Rebate deadline **Dec. 31**
- Bucks Emergency Rental Assistance (BERA) applications **CLOSE Jan. 5**
- Pro bono opportunities
- Upcoming outreach

Pottstown College Drive Encampment

Federal court decision protects constitutional rights of Pottstown homeless encampment residents & prevents criminal charges & other penalties & threats 'as long as there are more unhoused individuals than there are shelter beds in Pottstown'

PHILADELPHIA – A federal court decision issued Nov. 28 protects the constitutional rights of Pottstown College Drive Encampment residents experiencing homelessness. The ruling granted a preliminary injunction, in part, for plaintiffs Better Days Ahead Outreach, Inc. et al. Judge Mia R. Perez, of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, cited the Eighth Amendment protection against cruel and unusual punishment as the basis of her decision.

The Borough of Pottstown threatened that anyone who remains at the College Drive Encampment after Dec. 1, 2023 would be subject to potential criminal actions. The judge's order prevents



the Borough from engaging in criminal enforcement. Specifically, Judge Perez ruled that the encampment residents cannot receive or be threatened with criminal citations, arrests, or fines, “as long as there are more unhoused individuals than there are shelter beds in Pottstown.”

Community Justice Project (CJP) and **Legal Aid of Southeastern PA** (LASP) argued the Motion for Preliminary Injunction on behalf of the homeless individuals living in the College Drive Encampment, along the Schuylkill River Trail in Pottstown. CJP Executive Director Marielle Macher and LASP’s Charles Burrows and Erica Briant asked the court to order the Borough of Pottstown to refrain from using criminal sanctions to close the encampment of approximately 25 residents experiencing homelessness on Dec. 1, 2023 without an offer of adequate alternative housing.

* * * * *



The hearing for **Better Days Ahead Outreach, Inc. et al v. Borough of Pottstown** took place on Nov. 16 and 20 at the James A. Byrne U.S. Courthouse in Philadelphia. Judge Perez issued a [16-page opinion](#) and [2-page order](#) on Nov. 28 (links to opinion & order on [LASP website](#)).

Ms. Macher noted, “Criminalizing homelessness is unconstitutional. The Court’s decision recognizes this principle.”

Carolyn Johnson, LASP Chief Counsel, stated, "This result is a protection of the constitutional rights of those experiencing homelessness. Legal Aid of Southeastern PA is dedicated to serving those with low incomes, ensuring they have essential housing and other critical resources, whether they are indoors or outdoors. Our legal efforts are aimed at preventing the criminalization and mistreatment of homeless individuals, upholding their basic human right to live and exist. Presently, there are limited options for alternative housing and shelter in Pottstown. Not everyone can be housed indoors, but it is an ideal to pursue."

Charles Burrows, LASP Staff Attorney, said, “It is well-established that our clients’ constitutional rights are at risk of being violated by the refusal to offer adequate shelter space. As the *Martin* decision establishes, 'so long as there is no option of sleeping indoors, the government cannot criminalize indigent, homeless people for sleeping outdoors on public property on the false premise they had a choice in the matter.' This decision affirms that criminalizing a person’s status as homeless violates the Eighth Amendment’s protections against cruel and unusual punishment and will protect both our clients’ rights and potentially many more beyond Pottstown.”

Erica Briant, LASP’s Director of Community Engagement & Training, said, “I’ve seen through my work, time and time again, the huge negative impact faced by people with criminal records in getting housing. It’s a huge relief to be able to share the news with our clients and the people impacted by the order. They have just that little bit of extra certainty, when they’re already struggling with so much, to know that they won’t face criminal charges that would create an additional barrier for them.”

Excerpts from the order and opinion, links & more at lasp.org/news, or direct link:

Website news



From left: **Eric Tars**, Senior Policy Director for the [National Homelessness Law Center](#); **Erica Briant**, LASP Director of Community Engagement & Training; **Charles Burrows**, Staff Attorney; and **Marielle Macher**, Executive Director, Community Justice Project.



From left: **Joe Harmar** and **Rachael Robles**, both LASP fall Community Engagement Unit interns & Villanova Law students; **Laurel Anderson**, Community Engagement Unit Staff Attorney; **Erica Briant**; and **Charles Burrows**.

Annual Giving

Giving the gift of justice helps to ensure peace of mind, health, safety, empowerment & hope

There is still time to [make your annual gift](#) by Sunday, Dec. 31!

While providing low-income residents with civil legal aid is essential year-round, it becomes particularly important as we enter the colder months when the basics like food, rent, or gas, all cost more.

By giving, you are making sure the ability to afford and access an attorney or legal education is not another added burden.

Low-income residents in Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties face **high-stakes situations** including **losing their home, finding protection from an abusive partner, or securing a well-paying job**. LASP attorneys work tirelessly to resolve these legal issues where an individual's health, safety, and economic well-being are at stake.

So, we're making an all-out effort this winter to reach out to people who care about justice and are asking for your help.

You can give the gift of health, safety, happiness, and hope. You can give the gift of justice.

Give to LASP before the end of 2023 to make the greatest impact at bit.ly/lasp-annual-gift-2023. Thank you! We couldn't do it without you!



Make your Annual Gift today!

Target Circle giving campaign

Vote by Dec. 31!

LASP is honored and excited to announce that we have been chosen to participate in a special charitable giving campaign, sponsored and funded by Target. And you have the chance to help direct a portion of Target's donation to us!

Now through Dec. 31, vote for LASP through the Target Circle program to help determine how Target's donation will be divvied up. Find out more about Target Circle here: target.com/circle. How-to: lasp.org/ways-to-give.

Every vote counts to help us receive a portion of the available Target funds as we continue our mission to provide free civil legal aid in Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties. Already voted? You can vote multiple times during the campaign if you earned more points! **Thank you for your support!**



Vote by Dec. 31!

PLAN Excellence Awards

Erica Briant to be honored with Outstanding Attorney Advocate Award in March 2024

Congratulations, Erica Briant! The Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network announced Dec. 20 that Erica will receive an Outstanding Attorney Advocate Award at the Excellence Awards ceremony on March 27, 2024 in Harrisburg.

Erica is currently LASP's Director of Community Engagement & Training, having started at LASP in 2014 as an Equal Justice Works fellow and then serving as Staff Attorney and Community Engagement Unit Supervising Attorney. Her legal work helps clients gain a fresh start through a practice focused on mitigating the collateral consequences of criminal records and legal name changes.

She and the Community Engagement Unit team are currently strategizing on implementing Clean Slate 3.0 in Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties, when it goes into effect on Feb. 12, 2024. (More information on Clean Slate 3.0: <https://bit.ly/PLAN-12-15-2023>.)

PLAN press release: <https://bit.ly/PLAN-Excellence-12-20-2023>



LASP retirement

Thomas Kerstan, longtime LASP Staff Attorney based in Chester City, Delaware County, to retire Dec. 31

CHESTER City - Thomas Kerstan, Staff Attorney & Delaware County Pro Bono Coordinator, is retiring Dec. 31 after a 16-year career at LASP. He started at LASP on July 2, 2007. Throughout his time at LASP, he was based in the Chester City office in Delaware County, starting at 410 Welsh Street and moving to Avenue of the States in April 2018. Tom holds a bachelor's degree in computer science from Villanova University and a J.D. from Temple Law School. Tom is pictured at right on Oct. 26, 2023 following the Delaware County Bar Association's Pro Bono Week CLE. He shared some reflections below:



"My only legal work between law school and LASP was document review. I knew I didn't want to do that for long; I knew I wanted to represent people in the courtroom and LASP gave me that opportunity. During my time at LASP, I worked primarily in housing, including public housing and the housing choice voucher program, known to most as Section 8, and child custody. For a brief period, I also handled Protection from Abuse (PFA) cases.

"One of my most unlikely wins was for a man who had agreed, before he came to LASP, to his wife taking his two boys to Texas. Several years after she and the boys moved to Texas, her attorney was trying to move the case to Texas. Based on the fact that she was a flight attendant and had a brother in PA whom she visited, I was able to convince the court to keep jurisdiction in Pennsylvania, which was important because if jurisdiction was moved to Texas, our client would not have seen those boys again for the rest of their childhood."

"I accepted the position as pro bono coordinator in 2015. I had not applied for it. At the time, the decision was made that the pro bono coordinator for each county should be an attorney. Prior to that decision, the pro bono coordinator for some counties, including Delaware County, had been a paralegal. I had always enjoyed attending bar events and interacting with the local bar including the bench bar conference. It was because of my interaction with the local bar that I was offered the pro bono coordinator position."

Thank you, Tom, for your service to LASP and to Delaware County! Best wishes on your retirement!

[Story on website](#)

Battle of the 'Burbs softball tournament

LASP's Inaugural Battle of the 'Burbs softball tourney is RESCHEDULED for Saturday, May 18!

The **Inaugural Battle of the 'Burbs** has been rescheduled for **Saturday, May 18, 2024**. (It was rained out on Oct. 7, 2023.) **We look forward to a friendly competition & presenting a new trophy!**

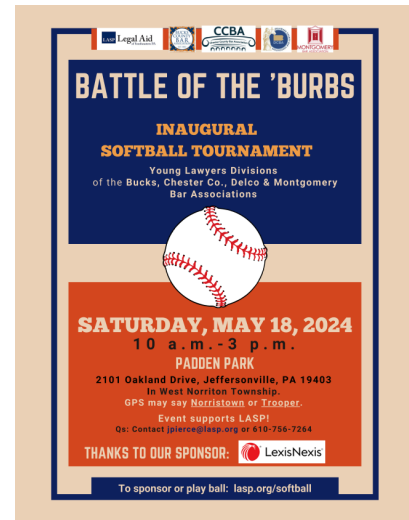
The same location is planned: **Padden Park, 2101 Oakland Drive, Jeffersonville, PA 19403**, in West Norriton Township. GPS may say Norristown or Trooper.

The event will feature the Young Lawyers Divisions of the Bucks County Bar Association, Chester County Bar Association, Delaware County Bar Association & Montgomery Bar Association. (You do not have to be a young lawyer to play!)

Thank you to LexisNexis for your sponsorship.

Learn more, sign up to play, & sponsor: lasp.org/softball.

If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Pierce at jpierce@lasp.org.



Softball Tournament ~ Battle of the 'Burbs

Pro bono news & opportunities

Pro Bono Week photos!

October 2023 marked Pro Bono Week in Bucks, Chester, Delaware & Montgomery counties, PLUS the Trial Run 5K!

- Oct. 24 [Chester County Bar Association CLE & Reception](#) & Oct. 26 [CCBA Pro Bono Thank You Reception](#) | 25+ photos
- Oct. 25: [Montgomery Bar Association CLE, Cocktail Reception & inaugural Keystone Pro Bono Awards](#) | 25+ photos
- Oct. 26 [Delaware County Bar Association Pro Bono Week CLE: Veterans Benefits 101](#) | 9 photos
- Oct. 26: [Bucks County Bar Association Pro Bono Celebration ~ CLE, Awards & Reception](#) | 35+ photos
- Oct. 29: [Trial Run 5K Run/Walk & costume contest](#) at Wilson Farm Park, Wayne, hosted by the Chester County Bar Association Pro Bono Committee | lasp.org/trial-run | 500+ photos

LASP Flickr albums



Bucks County pro bono opportunities

Volunteers needed for eviction prevention program in Lower Makefield Township

Pro bono attorneys are invited to volunteer for an eviction prevention program in Bucks County! The hearings take place **every Thursday at 2 p.m.** at Judge Kronnagel's MDJ court, located at **31 E. Cleveland Ave., Morrisville, PA 19067**. The project is a collaboration between the Bucks County Bar Association Pro Bono Committee, LASP, and the Bucks County Opportunity Council (BCOC), with support from the Bucks County Dept. of Housing & Community Development.

More information: [website article](#). To learn more or sign up, contact Jennifer Pierce at jpierce@lasp.org or Megan Reinprecht at mreinprecht@lasp.org.



Volunteers needed for eviction prevention program in Lower Makefield Township

DOYLESTOWN - Provide representation for plaintiffs at Protection from Abuse (PFA) hearings, held every Wednesday. **CHOOSE ANY DAY(S)!** Current dates when volunteers for plaintiffs are especially needed are Wednesday, **Jan. 3, 24 & 31, 2024**

LIMITED-SCOPE pro bono opportunity, with no expectation of continued representation beyond the day of volunteer service.

New volunteers can observe PFA Day and learn from staff and current volunteers before committing to provide representation. You do NOT need to be a family law attorney to participate. Hearings are at Bucks County Justice Center, Doylestown.

- To volunteer for plaintiffs, contact Durene McCarty at dmccarty@lasp.org or 215-398-6757.



Delaware County pro bono opportunities

Jan. 25 & April 25: Volunteer attorneys, paralegals & notaries are needed for Senior Legal Clinics in Delaware County

Volunteers will help low-income seniors draft **simple wills, financial powers of attorney and healthcare directives**.

Newtown Square Clinic with Rep. Lisa Borowski:
Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Brookhaven Clinic with Rep. Leanne Krueger & Sen. John Kane:
Thursday, April 25, 2024 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Volunteers can sign up for whole or a portion of the clinic.

To learn more or sign up, contact Jennifer Pierce at 610-756-7264 or jpierce@lasp.org.

LASP Legal Aid
of Southeastern PA

Volunteer attorneys, paralegals & notaries are needed for upcoming **Senior Legal Clinics** in Delaware County

<p>Newtown Square Clinic with Rep. Lisa Borowski:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024 • 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 	<p>Brookhaven Clinic with Rep. Leanne Krueger & Sen. John Kane:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, April 25, 2024 • 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
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- Volunteers will help **low-income seniors** draft **simple wills, financial powers of attorney and healthcare directives.**
- Volunteers can sign up for whole or a portion of the clinic.
- To learn more or sign up, contact Jennifer Pierce at 610-756-7264 or jpierce@lasp.org.

lasp.org/pro-bono

Pro bono attorneys needed for simple divorce & custody cases

Divorce

Pro bono volunteers are needed to represent clients in **simple, no fault, no asset divorces**. The divorces are either by consent or one-year separation and do not involve equitable distribution, custody, support, or fault grounds. Typically, a pro bono volunteer will not need to appear at a court proceeding in these cases.

Custody

Pro bono volunteers are needed to represent clients in custody cases **in a limited scope**, pursuant to the [PA Rules of Professional Conduct](#) and [Delaware County's limited entry of appearance rule](#). Delaware County's Rule 1012 permits attorneys to withdraw by praecipe after representation at the number of custody conferences agreed to in advance.

To learn more or sign up, please contact Jennifer Pierce, LASP Pro Bono Coordinator, at jpierce@lasp.org. Or register at lasp.org/volunteer-signup.

Montgomery County pro bono opportunities

Divorce cases | Custody cases | Lansdale outreach

More details about each opportunity are at lasp.org/pro-bono. Please contact Jennifer Pierce, Pro Bono Director, at jpierce@lasp.org, or register at lasp.org/volunteer-signup.

Eviction prevention in 8 courts across the county as part of EPIC

The Eviction Prevention & Intervention Coalition (EPIC) started in 2017 in one courtroom in Norristown and is currently in **eight Magisterial District Justice courtrooms** across Montgomery County: three in Norristown, two in **Pottstown**, and one each in **East Norriton, Jenkintown** and **Lansdale**.

Volunteer attorneys appear in court to help those facing eviction. You can specify your courtroom location/day of service, etc. To learn more or volunteer for EPIC, please contact Michelle Dempsy, LASP Staff Attorney & lead attorney with EPIC, at mdempsy@lasp.org.



LASP Pro Bono

PA Pro Bono Matters

LASP in the news



Federal judge issues ruling ahead of Pottstown homeless encampment sweep

by Rachel Ravina | Pottstown Mercury, Lansdale Reporter, Norristown Times Herald, Main Line Media News & Reading Eagle | <https://bit.ly/Mercury-11-29-2023>

Pottstown homeless woman shares her views on borough's planned encampment sweep

by Rachel Ravina | Pottstown Mercury, Lansdale Reporter & Norristown Times Herald | Dec. 18, 2023 | <https://bit.ly/Mercury-12-18-2023>

LSC Grantees in the News

- Legal Services Corporation | Nov. 17, 2023 | [Twitter/X](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [YouTube](#)

Pottstown faces federal lawsuit over plans to vacate homeless encampment along Schuylkill River Trail: Pottstown has erected signs along College Drive, declaring the parcel a flood hazard and "private property of the borough." The sign demands people vacate after Dec. 1

- by Kenny Cooper | WHYY News | Nov. 16, 2023 | <https://bit.ly/WHYY-11-16-2023>

The Writs Magazine from Bucks County Bar Association

- Dec. 27, 2023 | <https://bit.ly/Writs-fall-2023>
- Emeritus Attorney Status: How retired attorneys can continue to provide pro bono legal services by Jennifer Pierce, Pro Bono Director | Pages 20-21
- Bucks Pro Bono Week CLE, Awards & Reception | Pages 34-35

Additional coverage: lasp.org/in-the-news

LASP website: In the News

Other news

Homelessness Rose to Record Level This Year, Government Says: The rise of 12 percent was the biggest one-year jump since the federal government began an annual count in 2007

by Jason DeParle | New York Times | Dec. 15, 2023 | <https://nyti.ms/3RNEmQA>

Clean Slate 3.0 Enacted into Law - Allows Sealing of Some Old Felony Criminal Records

PA Legal Aid Network | Dec. 15, 2023 | <https://bit.ly/PLAN-12-15-2023>

Heavy rain, floods, and heat: How climate change makes life tougher for unhoused people in the Philly area: Hundreds of people live outside in the Philly area. Data shows some of the weather conditions they deal with are becoming more extreme

by Sophia Schmidt | Dec. 7, 2023 | <https://bit.ly/WHYY-12-7-2023>

Property Tax/Rent Rebate

Reminder! Apply for the Pennsylvania Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program by Dec. 31, 2023!

LAST CHANCE! The deadline to apply for the PA Property Tax/Rent Rebate is **Sunday, Dec. 31, 2023**.

Eligibility

Pennsylvania residents (at least one of the following):

- age 65 and older
- widows and widowers age 50 and older
- with disabilities age 18 and older

Income limits

- \$35,000 a year for homeowners
- \$15,000 annually for renters

How to apply

- Online application: <https://mypath.pa.gov/?Link=RebateApply>
- revenue.pa.gov/prr

LASP website: Property Tax/Rent Rebate info + links

PA Property Tax/Rent Rebate

Get up to \$975, if:

- Your income in 2022 was under \$35,000 (homeowners) or \$15,000 (renters)
- Note: Half of Social Security is excluded.

AND you are a **PA resident** (at least 1 of the following must apply):

- You are age 65 or over as of Dec. 31, 2022
- You are a widow/widower age 50 or over
- You are disabled and age 18 or over

➤ **LAST CHANCE: Apply by Dec. 31, 2023!** ◀◀

Apply online through myPATH.pa.gov or request paper application. revenue.pa.gov/PTRR

lasp.org/news

Rental Assistance

ALERT: Bucks County Emergency Rental Assistance (BERA) applications close Jan. 5

- **Apply ASAP!**
- Due to limited remaining funds, the Bucks County Emergency Rental Assistance (BERA) program **will stop accepting applications after Friday, Jan. 5, 2024**.
- Eligible tenants with an active, court-filed landlord-tenant case for nonpayment of rent, utility shut-off notice, or request for relocation assistance will receive priority.
- Applications received before the deadline will be processed until program funds are spent. Payment is based on funding and is not guaranteed.
- The BERA program will close when all available funds have been spent.

More information: <https://www.buckscounty.gov/828/Emergency-Rental-Assistance-BERA>

Rental assistance: 4-county updates

BUCKS COUNTY UPDATE | Dec. 2023

RENT & UTILITY ASSISTANCE

ALERT: Bucks Emergency Rental Assistance (BERA) applications CLOSE Jan. 5, 2024

- **APPLY ASAP!**
- Due to limited remaining funds, the **BERA program will stop accepting applications after Friday, Jan. 5, 2024**.
- Eligible tenants with an active, court-filed landlord-tenant case for **nonpayment of rent, utility shut-off notice, or request for relocation assistance** will receive **priority**.
- Applications received before the deadline will be processed until program funds are spent. (Payment NOT guaranteed.)
- **BERA will close when all available funds have been spent.**

Details + links for Bucks, Chester, Delaware & Montgomery counties:

bit.ly/rent-utility-help

Free legal outreach

Events

lasp.org/events

FREE outreach:
Learn more about a legal
issue of interest.

Hybrid: Legal Workshops in Exton & virtual - Jan. 9 & 16

- **Clean Slate** | Tuesday, Jan. 9, 10-11:30 a.m. | **Virtual:** bit.ly/clean-slate-1-9-2024 or in-person
- **Unemployment Compensation** | Tuesday, Jan. 16, 10-11 a.m. | **Virtual:** bit.ly/unemployment-comp-1-16-2023 or in-person
- at **PA CareerLink office**, 479 Thomas Jones Way, Suite 500, Exton, PA 19380
- [Flyer](#) (1-page PDF), or click image at right

EXTON - A LASP attorney will hold free Legal Workshops in January. **Attend in person or virtually.** This workshop series is presented in partnership with LASP, United Way of Chester County, and PA CareerLink of Chester County.

Open to all counties! LASP serves Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties.

Hybrid (virtual or in-person)

Free Legal Workshops



- Get information on a legal issue, in about an hour.
- An attorney from Legal Aid of Southeastern PA will discuss the legal topic.
- Then, meet one-on-one with the attorney to discuss specifics of your situation.

Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2024
10-11:30 a.m.

**Criminal records
expungement**

Your choice:

In-person at

PA CareerLink office
479 Thomas Jones Way
Suite 500
Exton, PA 19380

Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2024
10-11 a.m.

**Unemployment
Compensation**

or virtual:

Register in advance.

Links to each workshop

are posted at:

lasp.org/events



or pacareerlinkchescoco.org/events



In-person: Legal Clinic in Exton - Jan. 10

- **Wednesday, Jan. 10** from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
- 2nd Wednesdays: Feb. 14, March 13, April 10, May 8 & June 12, 2024
- at **PA CareerLink of Chester County**, 479 Thomas Jones Way, Suite 500, Exton, PA 19380
- [Flyer](#) (1-page PDF), or click image at right

EXTON - A free legal clinic will be held monthly at PA CareerLink of Chester County. The clinics will be the second Wednesday of the month through June 2024.

To schedule a 30-minute appointment with a LASP attorney, contact Edwina at 610-429-9400, ext. 4115 or ejohnson@uwchestercounty.org.

The clinics are a partnership between LASP, United Way of Chester County's Financial Stability Center, and PA CareerLink of Chester County.

In person, in Exton!



Financial Stability Center

FREE LEGAL CLINICS

2nd Wednesdays

**Jan. 10, Feb. 14, March 13, April 10, May 8,
and June 12, 2024**
9 a.m.-12 p.m.

PA CareerLink Office
479 Thomas Jones Way | Suite 500
Exton, PA 19380



Schedule a 30-minute appointment with a Legal Aid of Southeastern PA attorney. Contact Edwina at 610-429-9400, ext. 4115 or ejohnson@uwchestercounty.org.

In-person: MLK Day of Service Expungement Clinic in Darby - Jan. 15

- **Monday, Jan. 15, 2024** from 12-2 p.m.
- at **Darby Borough Complex**, 1020 Ridge Ave., Darby, PA 19023
- To register/for more information, call 215-492-2980.
- [Flyer](#) (1-page PDF), or click image at right

DARBY - Join LASP, in partnership with PA Sen. Anthony Hardy Williams and PA Rep. Joanna McClinton, for the ninth annual Expungement Clinic held in honor of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service.

In December 2023, the Pennsylvania legislature passed, and Gov. Josh Shapiro signed, a **new law expanding eligibility for record-clearing**. The new law goes into effect Feb. 12, 2024. Attend the clinic to get started now!

Under the new law, you are eligible for an expungement if you meet these qualifications:

- Only non-conviction charges, including ARD, or summary convictions with no arrests in the past five years can be expunged. (**Note:** non summary convictions cannot be expunged until you are at least 70 years old, unless you first receive a pardon.)
- Many misdemeanor convictions may be sealed if seven years have passed.
- Some low-level drug and property-related felony convictions may be sealed if 10 years have passed.
- Must have no current criminal charges.

State Senator
ANTHONY H. WILLIAMS
& State Representative
JOANNA MCCLINTON

In partnership with
LASP Legal Aid of Southeastern PA
Invite you to participate in a

Delaware County Expungement Clinic

MLK Day of Service
Monday • January 15, 2024 • Noon – 2 p.m.
Darby Borough Complex
1020 Ridge Avenue, Darby, PA

You are eligible for an expungement if you meet these qualifications:

- Only Delaware County arrests are eligible
- Only non-conviction charges, including ARD, or summary convictions with no arrests in the past 5 years can be expunged (non summary convictions cannot be expunged)
- Many misdemeanor convictions may be sealed if 7 years have passed
- Some low-level drug and property-related felony convictions may be sealed if 10 years have passed
- Must have no current criminal charges
- Must not be serving probation time

For more information call 215-492-2980
www.senatoranthonywilliams.com • www.pahouse.com/mcclinton

ADVOCATING FOR CITIZEN RIGHTS

In-person: Bucks County Custody Clinic in Doylestown - Jan. 16

- **Tuesday, Jan. 16** from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
- at the **Almshouse**, 1260 Almshouse Road, Building G, 4th floor Conference Room, Doylestown 18901
- Phone map / GPS tip: Put "Bucks County Planning Commission" in search.
- **Register** or learn more about the clinic, contact Carol Wilbur at **215-340-1818**.
- **Flyer** (1-page PDF), or click image at right

DOYLESTOWN - Join LASP at a free Bucks County Custody Clinic. Schedule:

- 9:30 a.m. Intake. (All guests must sign in downstairs, per building policy.)
- 10-11 a.m. Information session
- 11 a.m. Meet with an attorney for approximately 20 minutes

LASP Legal Aid of Southeastern PA
CUSTODY CLINICS
Free legal clinics for Bucks County

Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2024 in Doylestown
1260 Almshouse Road, Building G, 4th floor Conference Room, Doylestown

Tuesday, Feb. 6 in Bristol
1230 Veterans Highway, Suite F13, Bristol, PA

Tuesday, March 12 in Doylestown
1260 Almshouse Road, Building G, 4th floor Conference Room, Doylestown

- 9:30 a.m. Intake
- 10-11 a.m. Information session
- 11 a.m. Meet with an attorney for approximately 20 min.

First step: Register
To register by phone or learn more about the clinic, please contact Carol Wilbur at 215-340-1818.

Who we can help at the FREE clinic

- **Parents only** (no grandparents or extended family members)
- Assistance is for **Bucks County** cases only.
- **Parents must meet financial eligibility** for Legal Aid of Southeastern PA (LASP).

LASP provides free civil legal aid in Bucks, Chester, Delaware & Montgomery counties.
Helpline: 877-429-9994, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., or 24/7: lasp@laspa.org
S/hearer reported. Language Line access & interpretation available in 240+ languages.
More details: lasp.org/events Follow @legalaidspe

In-person: Senior Wills Clinic in Newtown Square - Jan. 25

- **Thursday, Jan. 25** from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- at **Rep. Borowski's Office, 24 S. Newtown Street Road, Suite 100, Newtown Square, PA 19073**
- **Flyer** (1-page PDF), or click image at right

NEWTOWN SQUARE - Rep. Lisa A. Borowski & Legal Aid of Southeastern PA (LASP) will hold a Senior Wills Clinic in Newtown Square

Get help with simple wills, durable Powers of Attorney & healthcare directives at no cost for seniors (60+) who meet income criteria.

To ask a question or sign up, contact Erika Felpel at efelpel@lasp.org or 484-275-0672. Registration is required.



FREE LEGAL WORKSHOP
 presented by
Rep. Lisa A. Borowski
 & Legal Aid of Southeastern PA

Senior Legal Clinic

Get help with **simple wills, durable Powers of Attorney & healthcare directives** at no cost for seniors (60+) who meet income criteria.

Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024
 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

at **Rep. Borowski's Office**
 24 S. Newtown Street Road, Suite 100
 Newtown Square, PA 19073

To ask a question or sign up, contact Erika Felpel at efelpel@lasp.org or **484-275-0672**.
Registration is required.

877-429-5994 Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., or lasp.org/apply
lasp.org/events | Follow us on social @legalaidspea

In-person: Legal Clinic in Lansdale - Jan. 25

- **Thursday, Jan. 25** from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- at **North Penn Commons / Manna on Main Street**, 606 E. Main St., Lansdale, PA 19446
- [Flyer](#) (1-page PDF), or click image at right

LANSDALE - LASP will hold a free monthly outreach event at North Penn Commons / Manna on Main Street in Lansdale. Stop by our table!

Have a question about the outreach? Contact Erika Felpel at 484-275-0672 or efelpel@lasp.org.



In person, in Lansdale!

North Penn Commons Building Community on Common Ground | LASP Legal Aid of Southeastern PA | manna on main street

NEED FREE LEGAL SERVICES?
 Stop by our table on these dates: **Thursdays, Jan. 25, Feb. 22, March 28, April 25, May 23 & June 27, 2024 (4th Thursdays)**
11 a.m.-1 p.m.
 at **North Penn Commons / Manna on Main Street**
 606 E. Main St., Lansdale, PA 19446

- Stop by Legal Aid of Southeastern PA's table to learn if you qualify for free legal services.
- Have a question about LASP's services? Contact Erika Felpel at 484-275-0672 or efelpel@lasp.org
- Se habla español. Language access & interpretation available for 240+ other languages.

lasp.org/events

In-person: Upper Darby Legal Aid Outreach - Jan. 27

- **Saturday, Jan. 27, Feb. 24 & March 23** from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
- at **Breaking Bread Community Shelter**, 107 Long Lane, Upper Darby, PA 19082
- [Flyer](#) (1-page PDF), or click image at right

UPPER DARBY - A free legal outreach will be held at Breaking Bread Community Shelter in Upper Darby.

LASP attorneys, working with law students from Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law, will provide free legal services for low-income individuals experiencing homelessness.



LASP Legal Aid of Southeastern PA | BREAKING BREAD COMMUNITY SHELTER | VILLANOVA LAW

UPPER DARBY LEGAL AID OUTREACH

Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024
Saturday, Feb. 24
Saturday, March 23
 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

at **BREAKING BREAD COMMUNITY SHELTER**
107 Long Lane, Upper Darby, PA 19082

Free legal services for low-income individuals experiencing homelessness

Legal problems that may be able to be addressed:
 Custody & family | Consumer/Debt Relief | Social Security Expungements & pardons
 Medicaid | SNAP | Housing | Landlord-Tenant
 Veterans Benefits | Domestic Violence
 Utilities (gas, electric, water)
 Unemployment Compensation | Other legal issues

877-429-5994 M-F, 9a-1p | lasp.org | Follow @legalaidspea

LASP career opportunities

CHESTER City

- City of Chester Staff Attorney
- Regional Housing Unit Staff Attorney

NORRISTOWN

- Norristown Staff Attorney
- Norristown Paralegal
- Helpline Paralegal/Administrative Support Staff
- Executive Administrative Assistant
- Regional Disaster Relief Case Manager

POTTSTOWN

- Pottstown Staff Attorney

WEST CHESTER

- VOCA Staff Attorney



Job descriptions & how to apply: lasp.org/careers



Subscribe to e-news or read past issues: lasp.org/enews

Questions or feedback? Contact Marion Hoffman Fraley, Communications Director & Editor, at mfraley@lasp.org.



Legal Aid of Southeastern PA
610-275-5400 | lasp.org

lasp.org/ways-to-give
[2020-22 Annual Report](#)
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