



Newsletter

Oct. 11, 2023



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PA Pro Bono Matters

New: PA Pro Bono Matters
Sign up for a SPECIFIC pro bono opportunity

In an initiative launched in September, **PA Pro Bono Matters** enables volunteers to search for SPECIFIC opportunities for LASP and sign up directly! Check out LASP's current opportunities at lasp.org/pa-pro-bono-matters.

IMPORTANT! Not all of LASP's volunteer opportunities are posted, so please visit lasp.org/pro-bono to see more!

The initiative is funded through the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network (PLAN). LASP and **Neighborhood Legal Services** are piloting this national program in Pennsylvania. The program establishes a state version of this portal which can be utilized to research volunteer opportunities



across the Commonwealth. In addition, each participating organization can host its volunteer activities on its website, similar to lasp.org/pa-pro-bono-matters.

The PLAN Statewide Conference featured a panel discussion of PA Pro Bono Matters on Sept. 14. Please see photos below.

Other Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network members or prospective LASP volunteers can contact Jennifer Pierce for more information: jpierce@lasp.org or 610-756-7264.

PA Pro Bono Matters ~ LASP



From left: **Judy Hale**, Pro Bono Manager for Neighborhood Legal Services; **Jennifer Pierce**, LASP Pro Bono Director; **Janine Dunlap Kiah**, Director, Public Service and Pro Bono Initiatives, Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law; and **Megan Lovett**, Director, Public Interest & Pro Bono Initiatives, University of Pittsburgh School of Law.



David Keller Trevaskis, PA Bar Association Pro Bono Coordinator, joined the presenters after the **PA Pro Bono Matters** session on Sept. 14.

LASP's **PLAN Conference Flickr album** has 20+ photos:
<https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjAWoYt>

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

LASP helps survivors with Protection from Abuse orders & more

Legal Aid of Southeastern PA
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE.
FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE.
 Legal Aid of Southeastern PA (LASP) attorneys and staff help victims of domestic violence with various **civil legal issues** including, but not limited to:

- Protection from Abuse orders
- Child custody
- No asset/No fault divorce
- Landlord-Tenant issues
- & more

How to access LASP's legal services for victims of domestic violence in 4 counties:

BUCKS COUNTY
 Please call LASP Bucks County at **215-340-4818** and leave a message. Or, if you need immediate assistance, please call 610-283-4548.

CHESTER COUNTY
 Chester County Protection from Abuse clients should contact LASP's West Chester office at **610-431-4340** if you need immediate assistance, please call 484-812-9131.

DELAWARE COUNTY
 LASP's Delaware County Domestic Violence Helpline: **610-679-3306**

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
 LASP's Montgomery County Domestic Violence Helpline: **610-283-4855**

lasp.org/domestic-violence
 Follow @LASPorg on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn & Twitter

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During Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, LASP highlights the year-round work of our Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) team. Domestic violence can happen to anyone regardless of race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, religion or gender.

LASP attorneys and paralegals provide trauma-informed free legal help for victims of domestic abuse who are seeking Protection from Abuse (PFA) orders in Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties.

From July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023, **LASP obtained 689 PFA orders**, protecting 1,636 adults and children from domestic abuse. This is an increase from 562 PFAs obtained in 2021-22.

Several LASP staff and board attended the Domestic Violence Network's training at the Montgomery Bar Association on Oct. 4. They included (from left): **Jennifer Pierce**, Pro Bono Director; **Michael E. Kelley**, Staff Attorney; **Leigh Fuga**, VOCA Paralegal; **Noelle Gambale**, Staff ; and **Lindsay Childs**, LASP Board of Directors. Staff will table at several DV Month events in LASP's service area in October.



LASP phone numbers to get help with domestic violence:

- **Bucks County**: 215-340-1818
- **Chester County**: 610-436-4510 | Urgent: 484-803-2131
- **Delaware County** Domestic Violence Helpline: 855-879-3100
- **Montgomery County** Domestic Violence Helpline: 855-980-6924

On Oct. 6, PA Courts released the [latest state and county data on PFAs](#). In 2022, the number of new Protection from Abuse (PFA) orders filed statewide increased by 5% from 2021. Read the report: bit.ly/AOPC-PFAs-10-6-2023. View the data: bit.ly/PA-PFA-data. Or see the graphics below.

[2022 Statewide PFAs](#)

[Bucks County PFAs](#)

[Chester County PFAs](#)

[Delaware County PFAs](#)

[Montgomery County PFAs](#)

[LASP DV webpage](#)

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 divided up. Find out more about Target Circle here: target.com/circle.

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.

Don't forget, as you earn more votes, you can keep voting multiple times during the campaign!

Thank you for your support!

Vote by Dec. 31!



Battle of the 'Burbs Softball Tournament

Rain delay! LASP's Inaugural Battle of the 'Burbs softball tourney was POSTPONED

The inaugural Battle of the 'Burbs softball tournament, originally scheduled for Oct. 7, had to be POSTPONED due to a determination by the township and anticipated rain on Oct. 6.

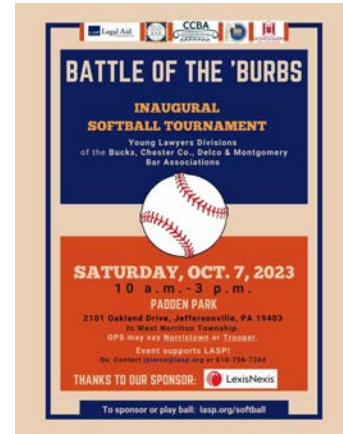
Stay tuned for a new date (probably in spring).

Thank you to LexisNexis for your sponsorship and to the team captains, players and volunteers who signed up.

We look forward to a friendly competition, fun event & presenting a new trophy in the future.

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!

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



Trial Run 5K

Sponsor, run or walk! 18th annual Trial Run 5K set for Sunday, Oct. 29, with optional costume contest. Join us at Wilson Farm Park!

WAYNE - The Trial Run 5K is back for its 18th year! Start your Sunday morning with a run or walk at Wilson Farm Park in support of Legal Aid of Southeastern PA! Awards will include top men's/women's finishers and best costume. The Chester County Bar Association Pro Bono Committee is organizing this event as part of its Pro Bono Week celebration.

The race will be **Sunday, Oct. 29 at Wilson Farm Park, 500 Lee Road, Wayne, PA 19087**. (Map apps may say Chesterbrook.) Sign-in starts at 8:15 a.m. The **race begins at 9 a.m.** Parking is available on-site. The starting line is the south pavilion, nearest to Route 202.

To register: <https://bit.ly/TrialRun5K>

Entry fee: **\$20 until Oct. 28**. On race day: \$25. Includes t-shirt, while supplies last! LASP's event webpage is lasp.org/trial-run.

To sponsor or for more information, please contact Brian Doyle, LASP Staff Attorney and Chester County Pro Bono Coordinator, at 484-416-4259 x5210 or bdoyle@lasp.org.

Register: Trial Run 5K Run / Walk



Pro Bono updates & opportunities

CELEBRATE
PRO BONO
www.celebrateprobono.org

National Pro Bono Celebration
October 22-28, 2023

Thank you!



Thank you, pro bono volunteers!

Your contributions throughout the year play a crucial role in guaranteeing that more individuals in our communities have exceptional legal advocacy, regardless of their financial resources.

Your service truly makes a difference.

Register now: CLEs & celebrations

Pro Bono Month events, at a glance!

- **Tuesday Oct. 17: Montgomery Bar Association DEI Committee: CLE - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in Estate Planning** | Register: bit.ly/MBA-10-17-2023
- **Thursday, Oct. 19: Women in the Law's Wine Tasting Fundraiser**: bit.ly/wine-10-19-2023
- **Tuesday, Oct. 24: Chester County Bar Association CLE & Reception - Lawyers, Drugs & Money - 2023 FREE Pro Bono CLE**: bit.ly/CCBA-10-24-2023
- **Wednesday, Oct. 25: Montgomery Bar Association CLE, cocktail reception & inaugural Keystone Pro Bono Awards** | Register: <https://bit.ly/pro-bono-10-25-2023>
- **Thursday, Oct. 26: Delaware County Bar Association Pro Bono Week Brown Bag Lunch & Learn CLE: Veterans Benefits 101** | Register: <https://bit.ly/DCBA-10-26-2023>
- **Thursday, Oct. 26: Bucks County Bar Association CLE, reception & awards** | 4 p.m. | bucksbar.org/calendar
- **Sunday, Oct. 29: Trial Run 5K** (run or walk), with optional costume contest, at Wilson Farm Park, Wayne, hosted by the Chester County Bar Association Pro Bono Committee | Register: bit.ly/TrialRun5K. **Sponsors invited!** Contact Brian Doyle at bdoyle@lasp.org. Event website: lasp.org/trial-run (or scroll up).
- Stay tuned for possible Pro Bono CLE(s) in November!



Stay tuned! lasp.org/pro-bono

BUCKS COUNTY pro bono opportunities

Volunteers needed for eviction prevention program in Lower Makefield Township

Volunteer attorneys are invited to help with a new eviction prevention program in Bucks County. The Bucks County Bar Association Pro Bono Committee, LASP, and the Bucks County Opportunity Council (BCOC) are collaborating on the effort, with support from the Bucks County Dept. of Housing & Community Development. The project is occurring in Magisterial District Court 07-1-11 in Judge Corryn Kronnagel's courtroom, located in Morrisville.



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

Pro bono attorneys needed for PFA hearings Wednesdays (in-person)

DOYLESTOWN - Pro bono opportunities are available for attorneys at the Bucks County Justice Center in Doylestown every Wednesday. Choose any day(s). Provide representation for plaintiffs at Protection from Abuse (PFA) hearings and earn CLE credit for service.



Volunteers are especially needed for:

- **Wednesday, Oct. 25**
- **Wednesday, Nov. 8, 15 & 22**

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

To volunteer to represent **plaintiffs**, please contact Durene McCarty, LASP Bristol Office Manager, at dmccarty@lasp.org or 215-398-6757.

CHESTER COUNTY: Lawyers, Drugs & Money Pro Bono CLE - Oct. 24

- **Tuesday, Oct. 24** from 3-5 p.m. (CLE) & 5-6 p.m. (Pro Bono Recognition)
- at the Chester County Bar Association, 15 W. Gay St., West Chester, PA 19380
- Register through CCBA: <https://bit.ly/CCBA-10-24-2023>

WEST CHESTER - The Chester County Bar Association Young Lawyers' Division and Pro Bono Committee present Lawyers, Drugs and Money, a CLE moderated by Catherine Voit, Esq.

Cathie, President of LASP's Board of Directors, will be joined by Hon. Louis Mincarelli, hearing Officer Mary Jones, Jessica Socienski, Michael Rovito, Patrick (PJ) McGinnis and Amanda Grant.



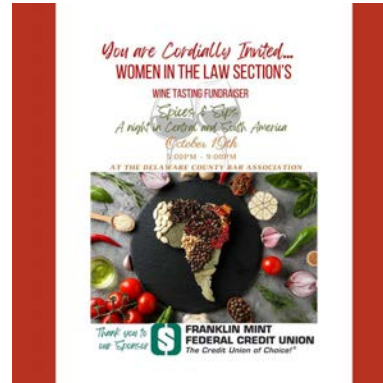
Attendees receive 2 free CLE credits (1 ethics, 1 substantive) in exchange for accepting one pro bono Access to Justice case.

DELAWARE COUNTY: Women in the Law Section Wine Tasting Fundraiser Oct. 19

- **Thursday, Oct. 19** from **5-9 p.m.**
- at Delaware County Bar Association, 335 W. Front St. Media, PA 19063
- Register through DCBA: <https://bit.ly/wine-10-19-2023>

MEDIA - Join the Delaware County Bar Association's Women in the Law Section for a fabulous evening. Their Wine Tasting Fundraiser will feature "Spices & Sips: A Night in Central & South America."

Thank you to sponsor Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union



DELAWARE COUNTY CLE: Veterans Benefits 101, a Pro Bono Week Brown Bag Lunch & Learn

- **Thursday, Oct. 26** from **12:30-1:30 p.m.** Doors open 11:45 a.m.
- at Delaware County Bar Association, 335 W. Front St., Media, PA 19063
- Register: <https://bit.ly/DCBA-10-26-2023>
- 1 credit, Substantive

MEDIA - Join us for a CLE, "Veterans Benefits 101," being hosted by the DCBA's Pro Bono & Legal Services to the Poor Committee. The event is a Pro Bono Week Brown Bag Lunch & Learn CLE.

Speaker: Richard A.J. Prebil, Supervising Attorney, LASP Veterans Advocacy Project

The CLE will focus on the types of benefits available and which veterans qualify for each benefit. It will also provide information about which branch of the VA or other government office to contact to address issues and obtain information before focusing on how to advocate and/or litigate for veterans within the system.



DELAWARE COUNTY: Pro bono attorneys needed for simple divorce & custody cases

Volunteer attorneys have the opportunity to represent clients 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 to volunteer, please contact Thomas Kerstan, LASP Staff Attorney and Delaware County Pro Bono Coordinator, at tkerstan@lasp.org or 484-206-7808. Or register at lasp.org/volunteer-signup.



MONTGOMERY COUNTY: CLE, Cocktail Reception & inaugural Keystone Pro Bono Awards ~ Oct. 25 | Why Does 'Pro Bono Matters' Matter to You? Online resources for the Pro Bono Attorney

- **Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2023** from 3-5 p.m. (CLE 3-4 p.m.; Reception 4-5 p.m.)
- at the Montgomery Bar Association, 100 W. Airy St., Norristown, PA 19401
- Register through MBA: bit.ly/pro-bono-10-25-2023

NORRISTOWN - Join the Montgomery Bar Association's Pro Bono, Access to Justice & Community Service Committee for a CLE, Cocktail Reception & inaugural Keystone Pro Bono Awards. The CLE (1 Ethics Credit), "Why Does 'Pro Bono Matters' Matter to You? Online resources for the Pro Bono Attorney,"

This session will look at a plethora of resources for the pro bono attorney, and for any lawyer looking to do some good for those in need. PA Pro Bono Matters, a statewide platform for posting pro bono cases that is being field tested by Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Bar Association, is highlighted. Also featured is LASP's and the PBA's partnership with Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law.

Everyone will leave this session with new pro bono connections!

Presenters:

- **David Keller Trevaskis**, Esq., Pennsylvania Bar Association Pro Bono Coordinator
- **Jennifer Pierce**, Esq., LASP Pro Bono Director
- **Janine Dunlap-Kiah**, Esq., Public Service and Pro Bono Initiatives for Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law

Moderator: Kathryn M. Palladino, Esq., LASP Norristown Managing Attorney & Co-Chair, MBA Pro Bono, Access to Justice & Community Service Committee

This program will be followed by a cocktail reception + award ceremony, where the **inaugural Keystone Pro Bono Attorney Awards** will be presented.



MONTGOMERY COUNTY pro bono opportunities

Divorce cases | Custody cases | Lansdale outreach

More details about each opportunity are at lasp.org/pro-bono. Please contact Kathryn M. Palladino, LASP Staff Attorney and Montgomery County Pro Bono Coordinator, at 484-209-0892, or kpalladino@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

Pro bono attorneys are needed for Montgomery County

Divorce cases

Represent clients in simple, no fault, no asset divorces. The divorces are either by consent or on the grounds of one-year separation. The divorces 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 cases

Represent clients in custody cases at Custody Conciliation Conferences. Volunteer attorneys have the opportunity to represent clients in a limited scope at the Conciliation only. All Conciliations are held via Zoom. There is no commitment for the volunteer attorney beyond the Conciliation.

Lansdale outreach at Manna on Main Street

Staff the outreach at the North Penn Commons in Lansdale in partnership with Manna on Main Street on the **4th Thursday** of the month from **11 a.m.-1 p.m.**

Contact Kathryn M. Palladino at kpalladino@lasp.org.

Eviction prevention

The **Eviction Prevention & Intervention Coalition (EPIC)** provides free legal & social services on the day of an individual's eviction hearing. **Appear in court to help those facing eviction.** Choose from **8 courtrooms**: 3 in Norristown, 2 in Pottstown, & 1 each in East Norriton, Jenkintown & Lansdale.

Contact Michelle R. Dempsy at mdempsy@lasp.org.

lasp.org/pro-bono

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 Dempsky, LASP Staff Attorney & lead attorney with EPIC, at mdempsky@lasp.org.

LASP Pro Bono Program

At the Bar Associations

Local bar association calendars

Stay tuned for CLEs in your area of practice or pro bono service!

[BUCKS Co. Bar Assoc. Calendar](#)

[CHESTER Co. Bar Assoc. Calendar](#)

[DELAWARE Co. Bar Assoc. Calendar](#)

[MONTGOMERY Bar Assoc. Calendar](#)

LASP in the news



[Emails show Norristown officials turned down federal funding to fix homelessness crisis](#)

by Alfred Lubrano | **Philadelphia Inquirer** | Page 1 | Sept. 22, 2023 | <https://bit.ly/Inquirer-9-22-2023>

[ACLU of Pennsylvania sues Delaware County over failure to expunge criminal record](#)

by ACLU of Pennsylvania | Oct. 5, 2023 | <https://bit.ly/ACLU-10-5-2023>

[Nearly \\$5M in grants going to 26th Senatorial District group. Money focused on victims' services, protecting seniors and more, Kearney office says](#)
Delaware County Daily Times | Sept. 24, 2023 | <https://bit.ly/Delco-Daily-Times-9-24-2023>

[More than \\$5M awarded to victim services organizations in Bucks](#)

by 69 News | **WFMZ 69** | Sept. 21, 2023 | <https://bit.ly/WFMZ-9-21-2023>

[Eviction prevention: Bucks County pro bono attorneys have a role in new community partnership](#)

PA Pro Bono Net | Aug. 4, 2023 | bit.ly/ProBonoNet-Bucks-8-2023

Other News

[Could you make rent in these towns? Here's the 50 most expensive places to rent in PA](#)

by Chris Ullery | **Bucks County Courier Times & Doylestown Intelligencer** | Sept. 18, 2023 | bit.ly/Bucks-Courier-Times-9-18-2023

[The Americans Most Threatened by Eviction: Young Children](#)

by Emily Badger, Claire Cain Miller & Alicia Parlapiano | **New York Times** | Oct. 2, 2023 | <https://bit.ly/NYT-eviction-10-2-2023>

Who is Evicted in America?

by Nick Graetz, Carl Gershenson, Peter Hepburn, and Matthew Desmond | **Eviction Lab** | Oct. 3, 2023 | <https://bit.ly/EvictionLab-10-2023>

Climate change is causing more damaging 'mid-size' storms. Insurers are taking notice. Here's what that means for homeowners in the Delaware Valley.

by Susan Phillips | **WHYY News** | Oct. 5, 2023 | <https://bit.ly/WHYY-10-5-2023>

"In Pennsylvania, just 1.6% of owner-occupied homes have flood insurance, according to the state's Insurance Department."

Whole Home Repairs**Chester County announces Whole-Home Repairs program to help low- & moderate-income homeowners make repairs**

Chester County has designated \$2.7 million for the Whole-Home Repairs (WHR) program. The program will help low- to moderate-income Chester County homeowners make critical repairs so their homes are habitable, safe, accessible, and healthy.



The Chester County Dept. of Community Development will administer the program through contracts with Good Works, Inc., Habitat for Humanity of Chester County, Good Neighbors Home Repair (The Whole-Home Repairs Coalition), and Housing Partnership of Chester County.

Chester County was awarded the funds for the WHR program by the PA Dept. of Community & Economic Development, using American Rescue Plan Act dollars allocated through the state budget process.

Chester County WHR program awards must be less than \$25,000 and will support labor and materials needed to complete home renovation activities. Homeowners are required to meet program eligibility requirements. Approved scopes of work will include only repairs that directly address immediate health, safety, habitability, and accessibility concerns.

Applications will be accepted until all funds have been awarded to eligible applicants.

For more information, application and intake process: chesco.org/home-repairs or 610-713-8088.

- Chester County press release: <https://bit.ly/whole-home-9-28-2023>
- Procedures: <https://bit.ly/chesco-whole-home-9-2023>

LASP resources on our website

[Changes to Medicaid, Medical Assistance and CHIP: You MUST renew every year!](#)

[Did you apply for PAHAF? You MUST RE-REGISTER in the new Neighborly system](#)

**[Property Tax/Rent Rebate:](#)
Deadline extended to Dec. 31**

Staff promotion

Kathryn Palladino named Norristown Managing Attorney



NORRISTOWN - Kathryn M. Palladino, Esq. has been named LASP's Norristown Managing Attorney, effective Oct. 1. She joined LASP in August 2019 as a Staff Attorney in the Norristown Office. She handles custody, divorce, Social Security, and landlord-tenant cases for LASP. Kathryn is LASP's Montgomery County Pro Bono Coordinator and co-chairs the Montgomery Bar Association's Pro Bono, Access to Justice, & Community Service Committee.

She holds a J.D. from Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law and a B.A. in English and Political Science from Albright College. During law school, Kathryn interned with the Montgomery County Public Defender and the Villanova Farmworker Legal Aid Clinic. After law school, Kathryn developed a robust private practice, including custody, adoptions, divorce, Protection from Abuse, unemployment, dependency and expungement work. During her time as an associate at a small local firm, Kathryn volunteered for LASP and at driver's license restoration and expungement clinics. She also volunteered for the Montgomery Child Advocacy Project (MCAP) and the Montgomery County Eviction Prevention & Intervention Coalition (EPIC).

Kathryn was honored with the Montgomery Bar Association's Henry Stuckert Miller Community Service Award in April 2023 and LASP's Rising Star Award in June 2023. She can be reached at 484-209-0892 or kpalladino@lasp.org.

Welcome, new staff!

Noelle Gambale, Staff Attorney



NORRISTOWN - Noelle Gambale joined LASP's Community Engagement Unit Sept. 5 as Staff Attorney. The unit serves Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties. She earned her J.D. at Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law and a Master's in Public Administration from Villanova's School of Graduate Arts & Sciences in May 2023. Noelle was named a Villanova Public Interest Scholar and received the Pro Bono Student Award from the Philadelphia Bar Association and the Dorothy Day Award for Pro Bono Service.

She served as Certified Legal Intern at the Villanova Civil Justice Clinic, where she handled child custody matters, Protection from Abuse (PFA) cases, and estate administration. She also interned at the Pennsylvania Institutional Law Project and the Bucks County Office of the Public Defender. Noelle earned a bachelor's degree in Criminology and Sociology from Villanova in 2019. In her role with the Office of Residence Life, she participated in diversity and inclusion efforts, organized community events, and supported residents with emotional and mental health concerns.

Gambale was an Administrative Associate at the Pennsylvania Prison Society, overseeing programs and developing resources for incarcerated individuals and their families. She has also worked at IMX Medical Management, conducting research and providing insights on worker's compensation and no-fault laws. Volunteer roles have included Editorial Assistant for the Pennsylvania Prison Society's Graterfriends publication, for Theatre & Kids in Lansdale, for Swarthmore Players Club Theater as Seasonal Director and Stage Manager, and as Recruitment Chair for Boy Scouts of America Troop 401 in Souderton. She can be reached at 610-510-8934 or ngambale@lasp.org.

Charles Smith, Helpline Paralegal



NORRISTOWN - Charles Smith joined LASP Sept. 5 as Helpline Paralegal based in Norristown. He earned a B.A. in Political Science from Rutgers University's School of Arts and Sciences in 2019, with a minor in Criminology. As a Legal Assistant at Portnoff Law Associates from 2019-21, he reviewed delinquent tax and municipal claim files for over 190 Pennsylvania municipalities, decided files to be merged into pleadings based on the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA), and answered inquiries from property owners and mortgage lenders.

Charles was a Canvasser for The Fund at PennEnvironment, where he mobilized community members to clean Pennsylvania waterways and collaborated with a small team to raise over \$5,000 per week. As a volunteer with WRSU Rutgers Radio's News Department in 2018-19, Smith communicated with local public figures and scheduled interviews, interviewed Rutgers affiliates and students about current events, and edited audio to be worked into aired news packages. As Legal Intake Volunteer with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) in July-September 2018, he analyzed and extracted important details of prospective cases, constructed summaries of cases the ACLU decided to undertake, and corresponded with local nonprofits to provide assistance. He can be reached at 610-275-5400, ext. 1011, or csmith@lasp.org.

Events

lasp.org/events

**FREE legal outreach:
Know your rights!**
Learn from a LASP advocate
about your legal issue.

In-person: Senior Resource Fair in Horsham - Oct. 13

- **Friday, Oct. 13 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**
- **Horsham Community Center, 1025 Horsham Road, Horsham, PA 19044**

HORSHAM - State Rep. Melissa Cerrato will hold a free Senior Resource Fair. The event will include resources, short wellness screening sessions, and more.

Stop by LASP's table at this event!

Questions? Call Rep. Cerrato's office at 267-282-6695.



Hybrid: DCCC Expungement Clinic in Media, or virtual - Oct. 14

- **Saturday, Oct. 14 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.**
- **Café, Academic Building, Delaware County Community College Marple Campus, 901 S. Media Line Road, Media, PA, 19063, or attend virtually**

MEDIA - The Delaware County Community College's Paralegal Studies Program will host a hybrid Criminal Expungement Clinic in collaboration with LASP.

To register for either the in-person or virtual clinic, go to www.dccc.edu/expungement-clinic. The clinic will try to accommodate walk-ins, but advance registration is preferred. Under the supervision of LASP attorneys, DCCC paralegal students will assist people in determining if they are eligible to have prior arrests or convictions expunged or sealed from their record. Some convictions cannot be expunged but may be sealed.



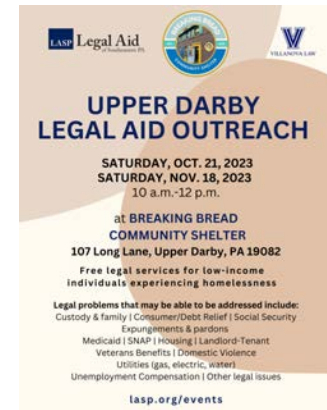
In-person: Legal Outreach in Upper Darby - Oct. 21 & Nov. 18

- **Saturday, Oct. 21 & Saturday, Nov. 18, both 10 a.m.-12 p.m.**
- at **Breaking Bread Community Shelter**, 107 Long Lane, Upper Darby, PA 19082

UPPER DARBY - A free legal outreach will be held Upper Darby. LASP attorneys, working with volunteer law students from Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law, will provide free legal services for low-income individuals experiencing homelessness.

LASP serves Delaware, Bucks, Chester and Montgomery counties.

Legal issues the clinic may be able to address include custody & family, consumer/debt relief, Social Security, expungements & pardons, Medicaid, SNAP, housing, landlord-tenant, Veterans benefits, domestic violence, utilities (gas, electric, water), Unemployment Compensation, and more.



In-person: Legal Outreach in Lansdale - Oct. 26

- **Thursday, Oct. 26, Nov. 30 and Dec. 28 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**
- at **North Penn Commons / Manna on Main Street**, 606 E. Main St., Lansdale, PA 19446

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: Senior Fair in Worcester - Oct. 26

- **Thursday, Oct. 26 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.**
- **Schultz Community Center at Meadowood Senior Living**, 3205 W. Skippack Pike, Lansdale (GPS may say Worcester)

WORCESTER - Rep. Matt Bradford's annual Senior Fair. There will be free health screenings and dozens of vendors to discuss programs and services available in the community. There will also be a complimentary lunch for all attendees.

Stop by LASP's table at this event!



The Senior Fair is free and open to neighbors ages 55 and older. RSVP by emailing repbradford@pahouse.net or calling 610-222-3490 with your name and address.

In-person: Reentry, Resetting & Redemption: Expungement & Pardon Clinic at Widener University - Nov. 4

- **Saturday, Nov. 4** from 3-7 p.m.
- at **Widener University** in the Webb Room, University Center

CHESTER City - The Expungement & Pardon Clinic, "Reentry, Resetting & Redemption," will provide important information about the reentry process along with inspiration from speakers, followed by a legal clinic designed to start the expungement or pardon process and/or provide an understanding of the timeline for the process.

RSVP through Safe Corridors at 484-489-0036 or safecorridors@gmail.com, or call LASP at 610-510-8934.

Speakers:

- **Jonathan King**, CEO, Safe Corridors; Reentry professional
- **Shelly Watson**, Secretary, Pennsylvania Board of Pardons
- **Saad Soliman**, CEO, Soliman Consulting LLC; National Reentry Systems Subject Matter Expert; and Executive Director of Peers Mentoring Center & Peace by Peace

Moderator:

- **John Linder**, former Mayor of Chester, 2012-16

In-person: Legal Clinic in Exton - Nov. 8

- **Wednesday, Nov. 8 & Dec. 13** from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
- at **PA CareerLink of Chester County, 479 Thomas Jones Way, Suite 500, Exton, PA 19380**

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 December 2023.

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.

Hybrid: Veterans Clinic at Coatesville VA & virtual - Nov. 8

- **Wednesday, Nov. 8**, and Dec. 13, 2023 from **9:30-11 a.m.**
- **[Two-page flyer](#)** (or click image at right)
- **Please call 610-383-0289 to schedule**, or visit **1400 Blackhorse Hill Road, Building 57, Room 232, Coatesville, PA, 19320**. Walk-ins are also welcome.
- **Zoom login: bit.ly/va-veterans-clinics-2023** (Meeting ID: 824 6750 9878 | Passcode: 832781)

COATESVILLE - LASP's monthly legal clinics with the Coatesville VA will be the **second Wednesday of each month** in 2023. A referral by social worker, clinician or case manager is suggested but not necessary. The clinics are part of the medical center's **Veterans Justice Outreach Program**, which connects Veterans with VA health care services.

Questions? Contact VA staff members Diana Zinnie (Chester County) at 484-744-3442, Rhonda Sanford (Montgomery County) at 484-667-1988, or Lily Thomas (Delaware County) at 610-496-5007.

Are you a Veteran?
Do you need legal advice?

Every Month on the Second Wednesday at 9:30 AM – 11 AM
Building 57, Room 232
Please call to schedule 610-383-0289 (Walk-ins are also welcome)

Please have any and all documents pertaining to your legal situation.

2023 Dates: 9:30 AM (Eastern Time)
Jan. 11 - Feb. 8 - Mar. 8 - Apr. 12 - May 10 - June 14
July 12 - Aug. 9 - Sept. 13 - Oct. 11 - Nov. 8 - Dec. 13

Attend one of these sessions learn about any and all of the following topics:
Engagement Partners
Social Security
Unemployment compensation
Public benefits
Housing
Bankruptcy
Veterans Benefits
Discharge Upgrades
Custody and visitation
No asset divorce
Protection from abuse
Elder law
Appeals
Employment problems

Veterans can also call the Legal Aid Veterans Helpline at 610-283-0884 at anytime - if you do not get an answer, please leave a message and your call will be returned.

Legal Aid does NOT handle criminal cases. They handle civil matters like bankruptcy, wills, Military Service Discharge upgrades, social security questions and child support type questions.

Any questions should be directed to Diana Zinnie (Chester County) at 484-744-3442, Rhonda Sanford (Montgomery County) 484-667-1988 or Lily Thomas (Delaware County) 610-496-5007. Sessions are presented by Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania and are open to Veterans. This offering is part of the medical center's Veterans Justice Outreach Program which connects justice-involved veterans with VA health care services.

VA Veterans Justice Outreach Program

In-person: Bucks County Custody Clinic in Bristol - Nov. 14

- **Tuesday, Oct. 14** from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- at **LASP's Bristol Office**, 1230 Veterans Highway, Suite F-13, Bristol. PA 19007

BRISTOL - LASP will hold a free Bucks County Custody Clinic in Doylestown. The schedule will include the following:

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

To register by phone or ask a question, contact Carol Wilbur at 215-340-1818. Details about who we can help and what to expect: lasp.org/events/bucks-custody-clinic-11-14-2023.

LASP Legal Aid of Southeastern PA
CUSTODY CLINIC
Free legal clinic for Bucks County

Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023
9:30 a.m. at LASP's Bristol Office
1230 Veterans Highway, Suite F-13
Bristol, PA 19007

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

How to register:
To register by phone or ask a question 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)
- Residence is for Bucks County cases only.
- Provide a copy of the most recent custody order, if there is one.
- Clinic is available to help prepare the first petition for custody to change a current order, or to provide general advice in a Bucks County custody case.
- Parents must meet financial eligibility for Legal Aid of Southeastern PA (LASP).
- Please register first (details above).

What to expect

- Parents will meet individually with an attorney for about 20 minutes.
- The attorney will give brief legal advice regarding custody, help you fill out the paperwork, and give directions on how to file the paperwork at court.
- After the clinic, a LASP advocate can follow up with you.

LASP provides free civil legal aid in Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties. LASP helpline: 610-496-5000, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or 24/7. Web: lasp.org. See hours in our office. Language Live access & interpretation available in 240+ languages. Follow us @lasporg on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter & LinkedIn.

LASP events calendar

Ongoing homeless outreach in Norristown & Pottstown

LASP continued to work with community partners in Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties. LASP also held outreaches in September for people experiencing homelessness in Pottstown, Norristown and Upper Darby, with additional efforts scheduled. In August, LASP was elected to the Chester County Partnership to End Homelessness.



IOLTA visit

NORRISTOWN - **James Swoyer** (at right), Grants Manager for the Pennsylvania Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts IOLTA) Board, visited LASP offices in West Chester, Chester City, Doylestown and Norristown on Sept. 11. He is pictured on a visit to a homeless encampment in Norristown with (from left) **Erica Briant**, Director of Community Engagement & Training; **Mark Boorse**, Director of Program Development for Access Services, Inc. and Montgomery County Street Outreach; **Carolyn Johnson**, LASP Chief Counsel; and **Charles Burrows**, LASP Staff Attorney.



Pottstown Resource Day

POTTSTOWN - **Carolyn Johnson**, Chief Counsel, attended Pottstown Resource Day in a homeless encampment on Sept. 16. Coordinated by **Chris Brickhouse**, **Better Days Ahead**, and **Leanne's Life Changing Fairies**, the event included distribution of food, portable shower units, 25 tents, 20 sleeping bags and phone chargers.

See the **Better Days Ahead** [Facebook post](#).

LASP-Community Justice Project outreach

POTTSTOWN - LASP and Community Justice Project (CJP) teamed up for an outreach Sept. 28 in Pottstown at an encampment. They were joined by Montgomery County Street Outreach.

Pictured (from left): **Marielle Macher**, CJP Executive Director; **Charles Burrows**, LASP Staff Attorney; **Carolyn Johnson**, LASP Chief Counsel; and **Mark Boorse**, Director of Program Development for Access Services, Inc.

LASP Scrapbook



CLE at Delaware County Bar Association

MEDIA - The Delaware County Bar Association's Elder Law Committee hosted a CLE, "Legal Aid of



Access to Justice Summit

NORRISTOWN - **Shawn Boehringer**, Executive Director, discussed LASP's services, affordable housing, homelessness and eviction at the Montgomery Bar Foundation's Access to Justice Summit on Oct. 5 in Norristown. Other presenters were **Mary C. Pugh**, Montgomery County Child Advocacy Project (MCAP) Executive Director; **Megan Morrison**, Deputy Chief of Supervision Services/Montgomery County Treatment Courts; **Elizabeth DiArcangelo**, Community Connections Administrator; **Nelly Jimenez-Arevalo**, ACLAMO CEO & Executive Director; and **Dave Eckert**, Director of the Intersect Initiative at Access Services, Inc. on the Montgomery County Multi-Faith Coalition. **LASP's Flickr album** with 30+ photos:
<https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjAXME2>

Constant Contact Southeastern PA and Helping Seniors" on Sept. 13.

Jennifer Pierce (at left), LASP Pro Bono Director, and **Michelle R. Terry**, Managing Attorney of LASP Chester City Office, discussed LASP's programs for helping seniors, other services provided by LASP, and how attorneys can support low-income residents through pro bono work.

Scroll up, or visit lasp.org/pro-bono, for the full slate of Pro Bono Month CLEs and celebrations.

Job openings

Current openings

- **Norristown Staff Attorney**
- **Regional Housing Unit Staff Attorney** ~ Chester City
- **Paralegals** ~ Norristown, LASP Helpline in Norristown, and **West Chester**
- **Regional Disaster Relief Case Manager** ~ Norristown
- **Executive Administrative Assistant** ~ Norristown

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



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



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610-275-5400 | lasp.org

Ways to give: lasp.org/ways-to-give
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