



2024

EXCELLENCE

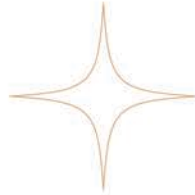
★ ————— AWARDS

COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITIES.
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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2024
HILTON HARRISBURG



THANK YOU TO ALL WHO
WORK ON BEHALF OF
ADVANCING ACCESS TO
JUSTICE IN PENNSYLVANIA.



Social Reception

Opening Remarks
SAMUEL W. MILKES, ESQ.

In Memoriam Reflection

Keynote Address
AUSTIN A. DAVIS
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA

Acknowledgement & Appreciation
SAMUEL W. MILKES, ESQ. & RHODIA D. THOMAS, ESQ.

Excellence Awards Program
SAMUEL W. MILKES, ESQ. & MAX W. LAUN, ESQ.

Outstanding Attorney Advocate Award
DONNA ALLEN-ROSEMOND, ESQ.
ERICA N. BRIANT, ESQ.

Outstanding Community Advocacy Award
JANE A. DOWNING

Outstanding Non-Attorney Advocate Award
JANICE L. MEINERT
GIGI NIKPOUR

Outstanding Community Advocacy Award
WINEBRAKE & SANTILLO, LLC

Acknowledgement of The Hon. Kim Berkeley Clark

Closing Remarks

Thank You!

We extend heartfelt appreciation to our dedicated sponsors for their unwavering support, which underscores the significance of our mission to ensure access to justice for all. Thank you for standing with us as champions of civil rights.

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Pennsylvania Bar Foundation**

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OUTSTANDING ATTORNEY ADVOCATE AWARD

DONNA ALLEN-ROSEMOND, ESQ.

STAFF ATTORNEY, NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES

Donna has over 30 years' experience as an attorney at Neighborhood Legal Services. During that time, her responsibilities have grown to include overseeing a neighborhood branch office, managing paralegal staff, and being promoted to the role of senior staff attorney for the family law unit. Prior to her current role, Donna was awarded a two-year Reginald Heber Smith Fellowship.

Donna is a member of the Allegheny County Bar Association, where she serves as a family law section council member and co-chairs both the Mentoring Committee and Professionalism Committee. She is also a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, the Matrimonial Inns of Court, and Mentor for Protection from Abuse Pro Bono Volunteer Attorneys.

Donna serves on the Domestic Violence Task Force, Court Relations Committee, the Green Book Initiative Committee, and the Subcommittee for Children's Issues. Donna is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc., a public service sorority.

In 2019, Donna was named one of New Pittsburgh Courier's "Women of Excellence" in recognition of her legal advocacy on behalf of survivors of domestic violence. In 2022, she was recognized as the Duquesne University Women's Law Association Woman of the Year. Donna earned her Bachelor of Science in Criminology from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She received her J.D. from Duquesne University School of Law.






OUTSTANDING ATTORNEY ADVOCATE AWARD



ERICA N. BRIANT, ESQ.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & TRAINING,
LEGAL AID OF SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA



Erica was appointed Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania's Director of Community Engagement and Training in January 2023. In this new role, Erica continues to take expungement cases and leads the Community Engagement Unit.


Erica's legal work helps clients gain a fresh start through a practice focused on mitigating the collateral consequences of criminal records and legal name changes.

In addition, she coordinates strategic outreach efforts across Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery counties. Her role in directing staff training includes developing a curriculum and identifying training opportunities outside the organization. She also works with community organizations and others who wish to have Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania staff provide training about legal aid services.

Prior to her current role with the organization, she held the title of Supervising Attorney of the Community Engagement Unit from 2019-2022, Staff Attorney from 2016-2019, and Equal Justice Works Fellow from 2014-2016.

Erica holds a J.D. from Drexel University School of Law, where she taught the Justice Lawyering Seminar as an adjunct professor from 2016-2018. She holds a B.A. from Reed College.

As a law student, Erica interned providing legal services related to immigration, domestic violence, anti-LGBT discrimination, and public benefits. Prior to starting law school, Erica was a community organizer in Philadelphia and a Peace Corps volunteer in Eswatini. Erica has traveled to 43 countries. She is currently based in Norristown.







OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY ADVOCACY AWARD

JANE A. DOWNING

FORMER SENIOR PROGRAM OFFICER FOR
ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT,
THE PITTSBURGH FOUNDATION

Jane recently retired as Senior Program Officer for Economic and Community Development at The Pittsburgh Foundation. Hailing from Maine and a proud graduate of Bates College, Jane's professional journey was shaped by a transformative advocacy campaign during her time as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Panama City, Panama. There, she successfully secured homeownership for residents of a condemned tenement district, igniting her passion for facilitating voice and action in community betterment initiatives.

As a Senior Program Officer at The Pittsburgh Foundation, Jane presided over the first grants to fund Allegheny County's inaugural five-year plan to prevent homelessness, collaborating with activists, community-based organizations, development corporations, service providers, as well as city and county staff.

These initiatives facilitated eviction prevention mediation to grow in scale such that currently, after three years of operation, over 150 eviction prevention mediations occur each month within this mediation partnership, and 96% of landlord-tenant mediations reach agreements to settle their disputes.

Jane was a proactive force in supporting advocacy initiatives aimed at tackling housing challenges, championing the establishment of mediation programs in Magisterial District Courts, the revision of Allegheny County's housing section of the health code, and the augmentation of county eviction prevention services.

Jane received a Master of Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs.



OUTSTANDING NON-ATTORNEY ADVOCATE AWARD

JANICE L. MEINERT

PARALEGAL, PENNSYLVANIA HEALTH LAW PROJECT

Janice has provided advice, assistance, and direct representation to thousands of low-income Pennsylvanians throughout her nearly 25 years at the Pennsylvania Health Law Project. Joining the organization in 2000 as its first social worker, Janice embarked on the second chapter of her career, leaving her prior role supporting pregnant women, teen parents, and individuals with substance use disorders, to become an advocate for healthcare access in underserved communities.

It was by chance that Janice stumbled upon Pennsylvania Health Law Project's advertisement for legal professionals. Though she lacked experience as an attorney or paralegal, her master's degree in social work and extensive expertise in behavioral health were a perfect match for the organization's needs.

In addition to decades of direct client work helping thousands of individuals access healthcare, Janice has played a pivotal role in advancing Pennsylvania Health Law Project's mission through various avenues. She has contributed numerous newsletter articles, presented dozens of trainings on a wide range of health-related topics, and developed a plethora of educational materials intended to empower consumers and advocates alike.

Among her most notable contributions are educational resources like "How to Access Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services in Pennsylvania," "The Many Doors to Consumer Empowerment," and "Person-Centered Service Planning: What Pennsylvanians with Disabilities Need to Know about Getting Long Term Services and Supports in Community HealthChoices."





OUTSTANDING NON-ATTORNEY ADVOCATE AWARD

GIGI NIKPOUR

PARALEGAL, EMPLOYMENT UNIT,
COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES OF PHILADELPHIA



Gigi is a paralegal in the Employment Unit of Community Legal Services of Philadelphia, where she assists clients with unemployment benefits, criminal records, discrimination, and wage theft issues. Between 2020 and 2021, Gigi helped over 173 unemployment claimants overcome technological and language barriers to access Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) after being unfairly denied.

Gigi also has experience working in the SSI, Aging and Disabilities, Intake, and Homeownership and Consumer Rights units. With this comprehensive knowledge, she is able to provide holistic assistance to clients and make them aware of additional benefits available to them.

Gigi became interested in justice work after she traveled as a volunteer to Turkey in 2009 to assist Iranian LGBTQ+ refugees seeking asylum in the US and Canada. In 2016, she joined the Philadelphia Mayor's Commission on LGBT Affairs, formed an elder committee, and advocated for a long-term care bill of rights for LGBTQ+ seniors. She served as board president with Team Philadelphia and the Philadelphia Falcons Soccer Club, where she was inducted into the Soccer Club's Hall of Fame in 2010.

Gigi earned her B.S. in Information Systems from Carnegie-Mellon. She obtained her paralegal degree from Pierce College in 2013 and will receive her Master's in Public Policy (MPP) from Temple University this May.



OUTSTANDING PRO BONO ADVOCACY AWARD

WINEBRAKE & SANTILLO, LLC



Winebrake & Santillo, LLC, a Philadelphia-based firm specializing in employment law with a focus on wage and overtime claims for workers, is being recognized for its outstanding pro bono support, exceeding the requirements set by the class action residual distribution rule in its advocacy for civil legal aid in Pennsylvania.

Over the span of a decade, Winebrake & Santillo directed an impressive \$261,148 in class action residual distributions to the Pennsylvania IOLTA Board. This amount is in excess of the mandated 50% allocation required by Pennsylvania's Rules of Civil Procedure. The funding allocated to the Pennsylvania IOLTA Board supplements future grant awards to legal aid organizations within our Network and statewide. To date, their total contributions amount to \$392,949.

Their financial support has been pivotal in sustaining crucial legal aid services, particularly during a period marked by historically low IOLTA revenue due to prolonged low interest rates.

Central to their pro bono ethos is their dedication to handling cy pres cases, which often overlap with the client communities served by the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network. Their dedication to fighting for workers' rights, ensuring fair wages, and recovering compensation for deserving families is evidenced by their cy pres support, which aims to further justice and equity through civil legal aid.

Additionally, Winebrake & Santillo has co-counseled numerous cases alongside Community Legal Services of Philadelphia, and were recently honored with an award at their Breakfast of Champions event.





KEYNOTE SPEAKER

LT. GOV. AUSTIN A. DAVIS

Austin A. Davis is the youngest lieutenant governor in the country and the first Black lieutenant governor in Commonwealth history. Inspired by the history-makers who came before – leaders like Pennsylvania House Speaker K. Leroy Irvis and state Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert Nix Jr. – Austin is determined to motivate a new generation of public servants to break even more barriers.

Austin's path to the second-highest office in the Commonwealth started in McKeesport, a former steel town in western Pennsylvania. Growing up, he watched his mom – a hairdresser for more than 40 years – juggle raising a family with putting food on the table, and he watched his dad work hard as a union bus driver.

At the age of 16, Austin was living in McKeesport when gun violence came to their doorstep. After a shooting in his neighborhood, he got involved in his community, starting a youth advisory council with the mayor and a youth gun violence prevention program at his high school. Austin went on to study political science at the University of Pittsburgh, becoming a first-generation college graduate and then pursuing a career in public service.

He returned to McKeesport to work for the Allegheny County executive. In that role, he helped create the first violence prevention office within the Allegheny Department of Health. By the age of 21, he had earned praise from the *Tribune-Review*, which called him "a veteran at the politics of helping others."



In 2018, Austin successfully ran for the state House of Representatives to represent the Mon Valley and his hometown of McKeesport, becoming the first African American to represent his legislative district.

As lieutenant governor, Austin presides over the Pennsylvania Senate, chairs the Pennsylvania Board of Pardons, leads the Local Government Advisory Committee, and serves on the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Council. Gov. Josh Shapiro has also appointed Austin to chair the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. While serving as lieutenant governor, Austin is focused on combating the epidemic of gun violence, supporting small and minority-owned businesses, advocating for working-class Pennsylvanians, and being a champion for communities that feel like they've been left behind.

Austin currently resides in Allegheny County with his wife, Blayre Holmes Davis, and daughter, Harper.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

SAMUEL W. MILKES, ESQ.

Samuel W. Milkes, Esq. was the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network, Inc., the umbrella for the statewide civil legal aid system, from 2001 to 2020. During his tenure, Sam advocated for funding and support from multiple sources, including the Pennsylvania General Assembly, and partnered with civil legal aid programs, the Pennsylvania Bar Association, private bar, and the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts. As a result of his leadership, the organization played a pivotal role in the enactment of the Access to Justice Act and its amendments, bills which provide an additional mechanism for helping to fund civil legal aid through very modest filing fee surcharges.

Sam previously served as Executive Director of the Community Justice Project (1993-2001), Central Pennsylvania Legal Services (1988-1992), and as Deputy Director of Legal Services, Inc. (1983-1988) – CPLS and LSI are now part of MidPenn Legal Services. He was also a part-time Public Defender in Cumberland County for ten years and a partner in the Carlisle firm of Jacobsen & Milkes. He has litigated many cases, including family law, public benefits, housing, and impact cases. Sam earned his undergraduate degree from Arizona State University and his J.D. from Indiana University at Bloomington.



Currently, Sam engages in consulting with nonprofit organizations. He was appointed by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania to the Pennsylvania IOLTA Board in 2020 and reappointed 2023.

Congratulations 2024 PLAN Excellence Recipients



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- Auto Repossessions
- Credit Reporting Issues
- Solar Panel Sales Fraud
- Class Action Lawsuits

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The Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation salute the 2024 Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network Award Winners. Through its Pro Bono Office, the PBA partners with PLAN to improve access to justice for the neediest among us.

Outstanding Attorney Advocate Award

Donna Allen-Rosemond, Esq.

Erica N. Briant, Esq.

Outstanding Community Advocacy Award

Jane A. Downing

Outstanding Non-Attorney Advocate Award

Janice L. Meinert, MSW

Gigi Nikpour

Outstanding Pro Bono Advocacy Award

Winebrake & Santillo, LLC



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Congratulations to the
2024 Excellence Award
honorees.

Thank you for your
commitment to
ensuring access to
justice for all!

Max Lunn, Esq. and Diana Petruska

-GOLD SPONSOR-



Pictured Above: Bernard W. Smalley, Timothy R. Lawn, Stephen E. Raynes, Regina M. Foley*

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE 2024 AWARDEES

We are proud to support the important work of the
PENNSYLVANIA LEGAL AID NETWORK.
We commend your unwavering dedication to promoting
quality and fairness in the legal system.



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*REGINA M. FOLEY 2022 - 2024 PLAN President Elect • 2019 - Present - PLAN Board Member

-GOLD SPONSOR-

Congratulations
to the 2024 Excellence Award Honorees

Outstanding Attorney Advocates

Donna Allen-Rosemond, Esq.
Erica N. Briant, Esq.



Outstanding Non-Attorney Advocates

Janice L. Meinert
Gigi Nikpour



Outstanding Community Advocacy

Jane A. Downing



Outstanding Pro Bono Advocacy

Winebrake & Santillo, LLC

Allen Harberg, Esq.

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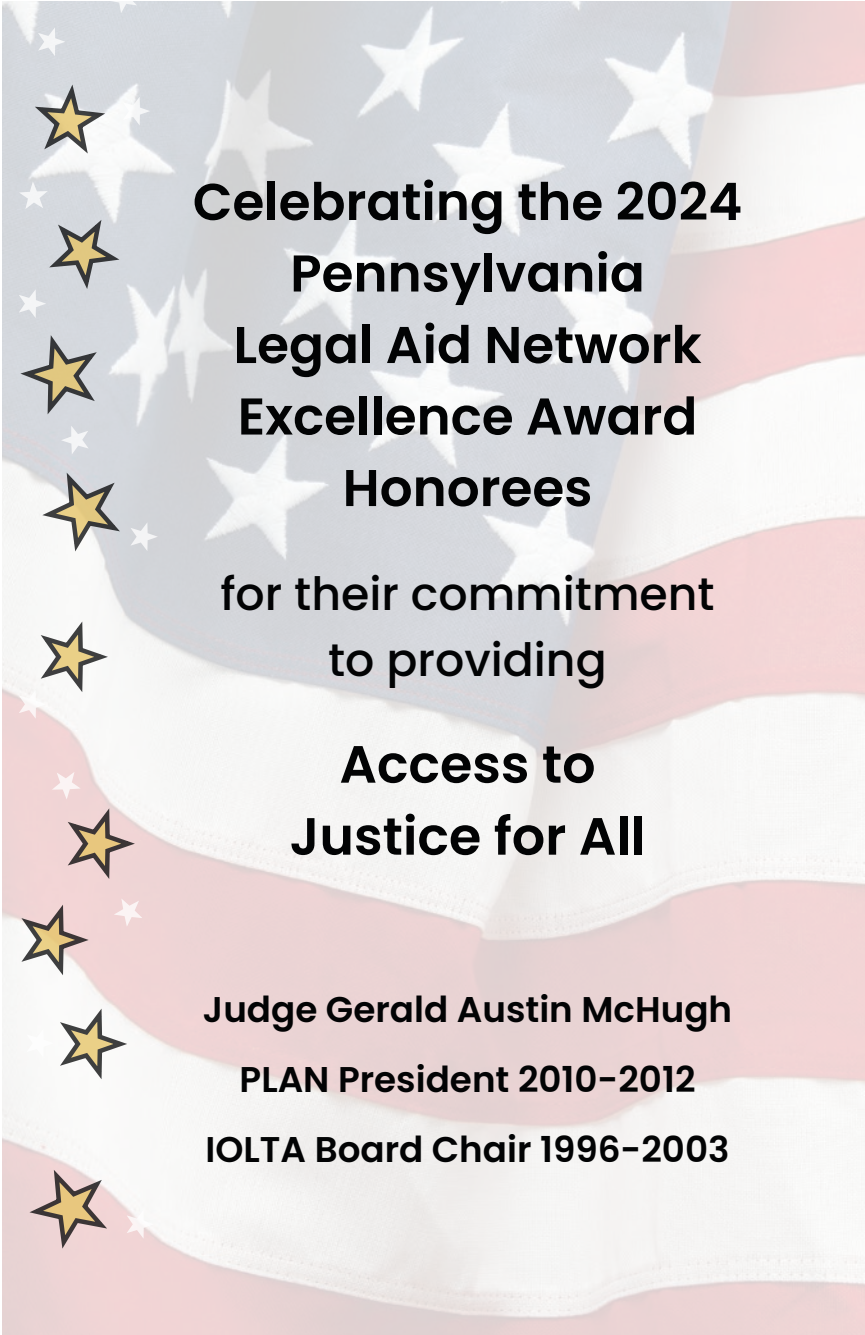
Congratulations



to all the
2024 Award winners!

James and Linda DeAngelo

-SILVER SPONSOR-



**Celebrating the 2024
Pennsylvania
Legal Aid Network
Excellence Award
Honorees**

**for their commitment
to providing**

**Access to
Justice for All**

Judge Gerald Austin McHugh

PLAN President 2010-2012

IOLTA Board Chair 1996-2003

-SILVER SPONSOR-

**Congratulations to the
2024 PLAN Excellence
Awards Recipients!**

MaherDuessel

**For over 30 years,
Maher Duessel has provided
audit, tax and consulting services to non-profits
including organizations providing legal aid.**



-SILVER SPONSOR-



McNees Wallace & Nurick is pleased to sponsor the **2024 Excellence Awards** and congratulates the awardees for their tireless efforts to expand access to legal services to underserved communities.

Dana Chilson

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Congratulations to the
2024 Excellence Awards
honorees.

“We make a living by what we get,
but we make a life by what we give.”

-Winston Churchill

Thank you for your
dedication.

Michael J. McDonald, Esq.

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Celebrating the difference-makers in Pennsylvania.

Congratulations to the Awardees of the 2024 PLAN Excellence Awards! PNC is proud to partner with PA Legal Aid Network and to support our legal experts and change makers across the Commonwealth.


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-SILVER SPONSOR-

Jane Downing



**CELEBRATING
THOSE WHO STAND UP
FOR OTHERS**

The Pittsburgh Foundation staff and Board are proud to congratulate our esteemed friend and colleague, Jane Downing, along with all of the 2024 Excellence Award honorees. Your compassion, dedication and commitment to service inspire us all.



For a greater Pittsburgh.

pittsburghfoundation.org

-SILVER SPONSOR-



With the Greatest Respect and Appreciation for
My Friend and Colleague

ERICA BRIANT

Community Organizer, Peace Corps Volunteer,
and Graduate of Drexel Law --

Listening to Her Clients, Thinking Creatively,
Building Coalitions, Advocating Effectively,
and Delivering Restorative Justice --
Helping Bend the Arc of the Moral Universe

Tobey Oxholm
Director, The Pardon Project



-SILVER SPONSOR-

Buchanan

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**We congratulate
all of the 2024
Excellence Award
winners and thank
them for their
steadfast
commitment and
leadership in the
public interest
community.**



Eve Biskind Klothen & Kenneth L. Klothen

-BRONZE SPONSOR-



SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA INTEREST ON
LAWYERS TRUST ACCOUNT BOARD

THE PENNSYLVANIA IOLTA BOARD
CONGRATULATES
THE LAW FIRM OF
WINEBRAKE & SANTILLO
AND ALL THE
2024 EXCELLENCE AWARD HONOREES



*We applaud your steadfast commitment to extending the arm
of justice to the less fortunate in our communities.*



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**CONGRATULATIONS TO
THE 2024
EXCELLENCE AWARDS RECIPIENTS
FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE**

OUTSTANDING ATTORNEY ADVOCATE AWARD

Donna Allen-Rosemond, Esquire

Senior Staff Attorney—Neighborhood Legal Services

Erica N. Briant, Esquire

Director of Community Engagement & Training—Legal Aid
of Southeastern Pennsylvania

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY ADVOCACY AWARD

Jane A. Downing

Former Senior Program Officer, Economic & Community
Development—The Pittsburgh Foundation

OUTSTANDING NON-ATTORNEY ADVOCATE AWARD

Janice L. Meinert, MSW

Paralegal—Pennsylvania Health Law Project

Gigi Nikpour

Employment Unit Paralegal—Community Legal Services of
Philadelphia

OUTSTANDING PRO BONO ADVOCACY AWARD

Winebrake & Santillo, LLC



Judge Kim Berkeley Clark
Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas

-BRONZE SPONSOR-

**“We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility.
It’s easy to say, it’s not my child, not my community, not
my world, not my problem.**

**Then there are those who see the need and respond.
I consider those people my heroes.”**

- FRED ROGERS

Pennsylvania
Legal Aid Network
2024 EXCELLENCE AWARDS

THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THIS YEAR'S AWARD WINNERS!

The Montgomery Bar Association appreciates the work of Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania and all of this year's Legal Aid Network Excellence Award Winners and contributors, throughout Pennsylvania. Thank you for being true heroes to all of us.



MONTGOMERY
BAR ASSOCIATION

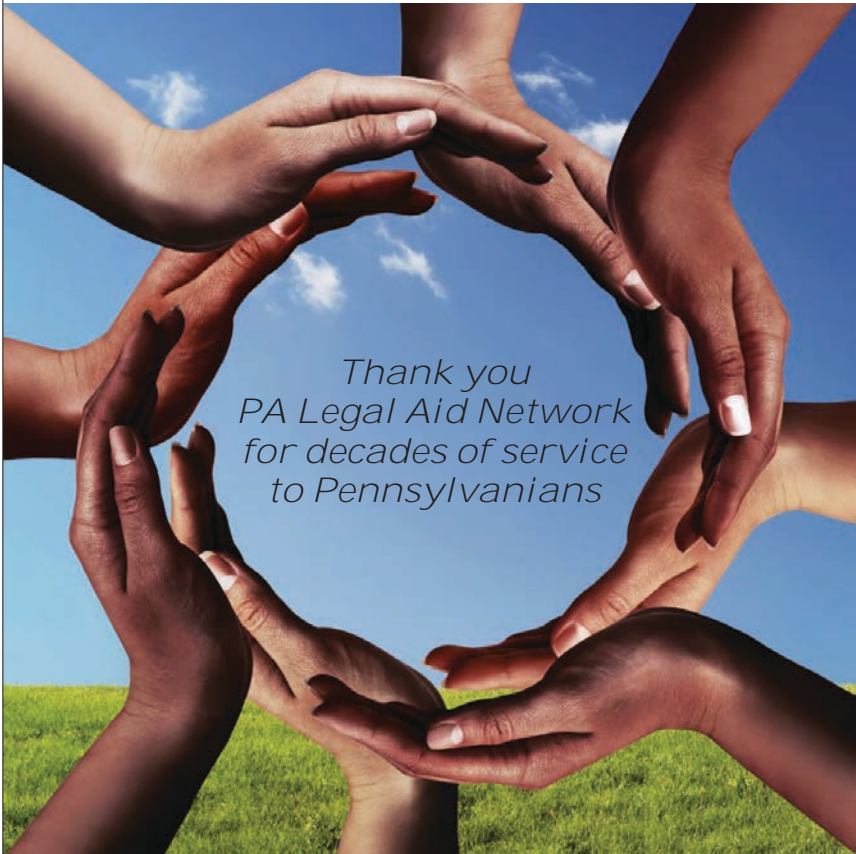
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-BRONZE SPONSOR-

Congratulations Excellence Award Winners!



*Thank you
PA Legal Aid Network
for decades of service
to Pennsylvanians*

PHFA

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www.PHFA.org

1-855-U-Are-Home

Josh Shapiro, Governor | Robin Wiessmann, Executive Director & CEO



-BRONZE SPONSOR-

**Congratulations to the 2024
Excellence Award honorees**

Donna Allen-Rosemond, Esq.

Erica N. Briant, Esq.

Jane A. Downing

Janice L. Meinert

Gigi Nikpour

Winebrake & Santillo, LLC

Wes Payne, Esq.

-BRONZE SPONSOR-

Congratulations

to

DONNA ALLEN-ROSEMOND, ESQ.

JANE A. DOWNING

JANICE L. MEINERT

and all the winners of the
2024 Excellence Awards



**ALLEGHENY COUNTY
BAR FOUNDATION**

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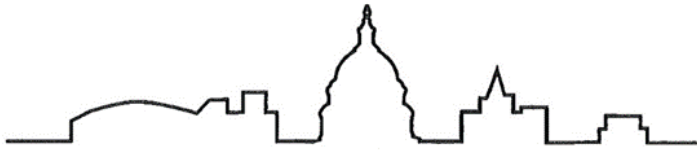
As a previous client of Erica's through LASP, and as a past Excellence Awards recipient through the Pardon Project/PLSE, I would like to share my sincere congratulations to Erica for being recognized by PLAN with the Outstanding Attorney Advocate Award. Erica was instrumental in my beginning stages of applying for a pardon. While pursuing my pardon she became not only an advocate, but a friend, forging an attorney-client relationship that I had never experienced.

To share an example of her commitment and compassion: during my pardon process, I was devastated by my grandmother's passing and moved out of the area, abandoning the steps to move my application forward. Though I was no longer a resident of Norristown, Erica reached out to express her deepest condolences as well encouraging me to continue the process. She went above and beyond by being there for my various speaking engagements on pardons, where I shared my lived experience. She is a shining example of leadership, dedication, and excellence as an attorney, and in my humble opinion, there isn't anyone more deserving of this award!

*With gratitude,
Akeem Sims
Pardon Project Steering Committee, Chair*

A golden scale of justice is positioned on the left side of the image, set against a teal background. The scale has a central pillar with a decorative top and two pans hanging from a horizontal beam.

Chief Justice Emeritus
Ronald Castille
congratulates all of the
Excellence Award Honorees
for the great work they do to
promote access to justice.



Dauphin County Bar Association

213 NORTH FRONT STREET, HARRISBURG, PA 17101 (717) 232-7536 FAX (717) 234-4582

The Dauphin County Bar Association
congratulates the recipients of the
2024 PLAN Excellence Awards
and thanks the

Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network

On another year of

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

in expanding access to legal services
across the Commonwealth.





JANE DOWNING

Congratulations Jane!

You set the standard for leadership in affordable housing and were instrumental in creating a model eviction prevention system in Allegheny County.

Your dedication to ensuring access to justice and housing for all is truly commendable. Enjoy your retirement!

Your Eviction Prevention Collaborative Partners:

The Community Justice Project, Just Mediation Pittsburgh, Neighborhood Legal Services, Regional Housing Legal Services and Rent Help Pittsburgh

Pennsylvania
Legal Aid Network

SAVE THE DATE

**JUNE
TEENTH
GYMBOREE**

JUNE 12TH - JUNE 14TH

We're hosting our first ever
Juneteenth Gymboree!

This 3-day extravaganza is packed with programs dedicated to fundraising for DEIB initiatives, fostering community engagement, and celebrating the spirit of Juneteenth.



Justice at Work congratulates
Winebrake & Santillo, LLC
on receiving the Outstanding
Pro Bono Advocacy Award.

Thank you for your work to
ensure access to justice for low-
wage workers across
Pennsylvania!

The LASP Board of Directors & Staff congratulate

Erica N. Briant on the 2024 PLAN Excellence Award for **Outstanding Attorney Advocate**



Erica Briant is Legal Aid of Southeastern PA's Director of Community Engagement & Training. She started at LASP in 2014 as an Equal Justice Works fellow and then served 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 helping clients obtain legal name changes.

She and some of the Community Engagement Unit team are filing petitions for clients under **Clean Slate 3.0** in Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties and have held several CLEs to train attorneys and encourage pro bono volunteer participation. The CEU also encompasses **disaster legal aid** and the **Regional Disability Advocacy (DAP) Program**.



LASP serves Bucks, Chester, Delaware & Montgomery counties. lasp.org



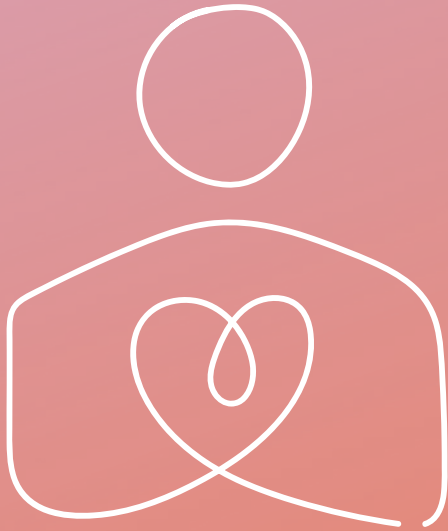
DONNA ALLEN-ROSEMOND

Congratulations!

on receiving the 2024 Pennsylvania
Legal Aid Network, Inc. Outstanding
Attorney Advocate Award!

Congratulations to all of the
PLAN Excellence Award Honorees!

*Congratulations to the
2024 Excellence Awardees!*



*Philadelphia Welfare Rights
thanks this year's honorees
for their commitment to
excellence and advocacy for
those in need.*



PENNSYLVANIA
Health Law
PROJECT

Congratulations

Janice L. Meinert, MSW
PARALEGAL

**Thank you for 23 years
of dedicated service
and commitment to
our clients and the
PLAN community!**

— PHLP Staff & Board

**CHEERS TO ALL
OF THE 2024
AWARDEES!**



Congratulations to the 2024 Excellence Award Recipients!

PLAN, Inc. is honored to recognize these outstanding advocates for their dedication to helping disadvantaged and underrepresented clients across the Commonwealth.



**Outstanding
Attorney Advocates:**

**Donna Allen-Rosemond, Esq.
Erica N. Briant, Esq.**

**Outstanding
Non-Attorney Advocates:**

**Janice L. Meinert
Gigi Nikpour**

**Outstanding
Pro Bono Advocacy:**

Jane A. Downing

**Outstanding
Community Advocacy:**

Winebrake & Santillo, LLC

Your generous advocacy helps us advance our goal of collaborative communities, equitable justice, and strong futures in Pennsylvania.

from the staff at Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network, Inc.

CONGRATULATIONS
to the recipients of
the **2024 Excellence Awards**

Outstanding Attorney Advocates:

Donna Allen-Rosemond, Esq.

Erica N. Briant, Esq.



Outstanding Non-Attorney Advocates:

Janice L. Meinert

Gigi Nikpour



Outstanding Community Advocacy:

Jane A. Downing



Outstanding Pro Bono Advocacy:

Winebrake & Santillo, LLC

You make a difference in people's lives.



Sam Milkes and Jan Terpening

**Welfare Pride, Inc. thanks the
2024 Excellence Award Honorees
for their dedication to helping
underrepresented Pennsylvanians.**





Community Legal Services
congratulates

Gigi Nikpour

Outstanding Non-Attorney Advocate Award
and all of the other recipients of the
2024 PLAN Excellence Awards.

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Work with us to help secure justice, equity, and hope for those in need. Scan the QR code to view openings at legal aid offices throughout the state.

Donna Allen-Rosemond, Esq.
Neighborhood Legal Services
Outstanding Attorney Advocate Award

Jane A. Downing
The Pittsburgh Foundation
Outstanding Community Advocacy Award

Gigi Nikpour, Paralegal
Community Legal Services of Philadelphia
Outstanding Non-Attorney Advocate Award

Erica N. Briant, Esq.
Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania
Outstanding Attorney Advocate Award

Janice L. Meinert, Paralegal
Pennsylvania Health Law Project
Outstanding Non-Attorney Advocate Award

Winebrake & Santillo, LLC
Outstanding Pro Bono Advocacy Award

Congratulations to the 2024 Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network Excellence Award Winners



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Pennsylvania Project Directors Association

ABOUT OUR VIDEOGRAPHER

ROLLING LEMON

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production.**

Rolling Lemon is a Pennsylvania based visual storytelling studio that helps advocates build narrative power with integrated media production, creative strategy, and DIY training.

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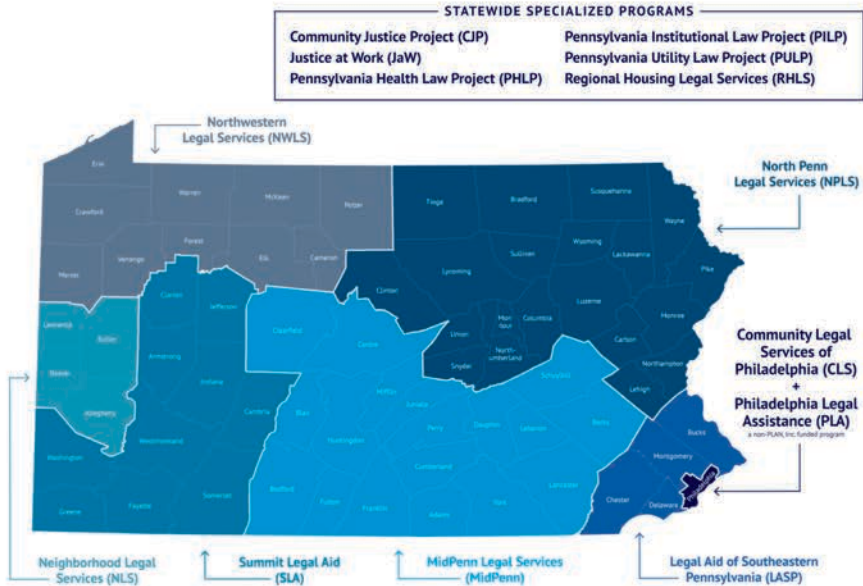
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ABOUT OUR NETWORK



The Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network is a statewide system made up of fourteen legal aid organizations that provide free civil legal services, advice, and representation to underserved families across Pennsylvania. Our eight regional legal aid programs provide general legal assistance to low-income families and domestic violence survivors. At our six specialized legal aid programs, attorneys operate statewide, addressing specific issues such as housing, health, utilities, workers' rights, and the rights of institutionalized individuals.

Our distinctive coordinated approach sets us apart from other civil legal providers in Pennsylvania, playing a crucial role in fulfilling our mission of providing access to legal remedies and support for low-income residents in every county of the state.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGAL AID NETWORK, INC.



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