

# **News From IOLA**

For Immediate Release  
March 11, 2010

**For more information, contact:**  
Christopher O'Malley  
Executive Director  
(646) 865-1541

## **IOLA Fund Legal Assistance Grants Plunge to \$6.5 Million for 2010**

On March 10, 2010, the Trustees of the IOLA Fund awarded nearly \$6.5 million in grants for April to December of 2010 to support programs that provide free civil legal services to low-income persons throughout New York State. The amount represents a substantial decrease over grants awarded in the Fund's previous grant period.

Benito Romano, chair of the Fund's Board of Trustees said:

“Due to historically low bank interest rates, the Fund's income has decreased nearly 80%. In December of 2008 when IOLA made its last round of grant making, IOLA had nearly \$32 million available for grants, the \$6.5 available now represents a decrease of \$25 million.”

The grants were made for the remaining nine months of 2010 in the hope that interest rates may improve later in the year resulting in a greater capacity for future grantmaking. IOLA thanks the lawyers of New York and their bar associations for their continued strong support of IOLA bank accounts – the Fund's sole source of income.

Christopher O'Malley, the Fund's executive director emphasized the critical need for greater funding for legal services:

“As a result of the economic downturn both the number of low-income New Yorkers, and the need for civil legal services has skyrocketed. Unfortunately at the same time IOLA's income has dropped and this will have a huge impact on the delivery of civil legal services throughout the state, and this underscores the need for greater financial support for civil legal service programs.”

The Fund administers two grant programs: Civil Legal Services, which supports programs that provide free legal services in housing, family law and public benefits, among others, and Administration of Justice, which supports programs that serve the elderly, the disabled, immigrants, children, and victims of domestic violence as well as other programs that improve the administration of justice in New York State.

The Legislature created the IOLA program in 1983. The Fund is administered by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor. It enables interest to be earned on short term or nominal deposits held in a lawyer's pooled client trust account, with the interest remitted directly by the financial institution to the Fund for distribution in grants.

A schedule of the 2010 grants is attached.

---

**IOLA**

11 East 44<sup>th</sup> Street  
(646) 865-1541  
www.iola.org

Suite1406 New York, N.Y. 10017-0055  
1 (800) 222-IOLA Fax (646) 865-1545  
iolaf@iola.org

# Interest on Lawyer Account Fund of the State of New York

***Funding civil legal assistance for low-income New Yorkers since 1984***

On March 10, 2010, the Trustees of the IOLA Fund awarded grants for 2010 to organizations which provide free civil legal services to low-income persons and organizations which improve the administration of justice in New York.

CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES GRANTS		AWARDS	TERM <i>(in months)</i>
1	Bronx Defenders (The) - Civil Action Practice	\$22,688	9
2	Empire Justice Center	\$141,715	9
3	Frank H. Hiscock Legal Aid Society	\$95,541	9
4	Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo	\$49,688	9
5	Legal Aid Society (NYC)	\$1,020,938	9
6	Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York	\$293,285	9
7	Legal Aid Society of Rochester	\$133,950	9
8	Legal Aid Society of Rockland County	\$49,751	9
9	Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc.	\$242,250	9
10	Legal Services for New York City	\$1,020,938	9
11	Legal Services of Central New York	\$264,860	9
12	Legal Services of the Hudson Valley	\$313,372	9
13	MFY Legal Services	\$96,422	9
14	Nassau/Suffolk Law Services Committee	\$260,000	9
15	Neighborhood Legal Services	\$231,875	9
16	New York Legal Assistance Group	\$170,156	9
17	Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation	\$204,188	9
18	Rural Law Center	\$59,375	9
19	Urban Justice Center	\$102,094	9
20	Western New York Law Center	\$100,938	9
<b>TOTAL FOR CLS:</b>		<b>4,874,021</b>	

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE GRANTS		2010 AWARDS	TERM <i>(in months)</i>
1	Advocacy Center (The)	\$ 11,200	9
2	Advocates for Children	\$ 21,000	9
3	Albany County Bar Association	\$ 11,200	9
4	Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund	\$ 11,200	9
5	Association of the Bar of the City of New York Fund - City Bar Justice Center	\$ 56,000	9
6	Brooklyn Bar Association - Volunteer Lawyers Project	\$ 32,200	9
7	CAMBA Legal Services	\$ 56,000	9
8	Capitol District Women's Bar Association Legal Project	\$ 42,000	9
9	Catholic Charities Community Services of the Archdiocese of New York	\$ 28,000	9
10	Center for Disability Advocacy Rights (CeDAR)	\$ 12,600	9
11	Center for Family Representation	\$ 21,000	9
12	Central American Legal Assistance (CALA)	\$ 11,200	9
13	Central American Refugee Center (CARACEN)	\$ 16,800	9
14	Disability Advocates	\$ 15,400	9
15	Erie County Bar Association - Volunteer Lawyers Project	\$ 28,000	9
16	Farmworkers Legal Services of New York	\$ 63,000	9
17	Fund for New Citizens (a project of the New York Community Trust)	\$ 84,000	9
18	Housing Conservation Coordinators	\$ 28,000	9

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE GRANTS		2010 AWARDS	TERM <i>(in months)</i>
19	inMotion	\$ 42,000	9
20	International Institute of Buffalo	\$ 28,000	9
21	LatinoJustice PRLDEF	\$ 28,000	9
22	LawHelp Consortium	\$ 49,000	9
23	Lawyers Alliance for New York	\$ 36,400	9
24	Legal Action Center	\$ 21,000	9
25	Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo	\$ 37,500	9
26	Legal Aid Society of Mid New York	\$ 28,000	9
27	Legal Aid Society of Rochester	\$ 50,000	9
28	Legal Services for the Elderly, Disabled or Disadvantaged of Western New York	\$ 56,000	9
29	Lenox Hill Neighborhood House	\$ 21,000	9
30	Long Island Advocacy Center	\$ 25,200	9
31	Make the Road New York	\$ 28,000	9
32	My Sisters' Place	\$ 14,000	9
33	National Center for Law and Economic Justice	\$ 14,000	9
34	New York County Lawyers Association	\$ 11,200	9
35	New York Lawyers for the Public Interest	\$ 56,000	9
36	New York State CASA Association	\$ 35,000	9
37	New York State Dispute Resolution Center	\$ 28,000	9
38	NYSARC	\$ 28,000	9
39	Onondaga County Bar Association - Volunteer Lawyers Project	\$ 11,200	9
40	Partnership for Children's Rights	\$ 35,000	9
41	Partnership for the Homeless	\$ 21,000	9
42	Pro Bono Net	\$ 21,000	9
43	Pro Bono Partnership	\$ 16,800	9
44	Queens Volunteer Lawyers Project, Inc.	\$ 14,000	9
45	Resources for Children with Special Needs	\$ 14,000	9
46	Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council	\$ 98,000	9
47	Safe Horizons	\$ 42,000	9
48	Sanctuary for Families	\$ 42,000	9
49	The Door	\$ 21,000	9
50	Volunteer Legal Service Project of Monroe County	\$ 28,000	9
51	Volunteers of Legal Services	\$ 35,000	9
52	Westchester Hispanic Coalition	\$ 16,800	9
53	Workers' Rights Law Center of New York	\$ 21,000	9
<b>TOTAL FOR AOJ:</b>		<b>\$ 1,621,900</b>	