

2022 Annual Report

CHRISTIANLEGALSOCIETY.ORG

Christian Legal Society is a fellowship of Christians dedicated to

serving Jesus Christ

through

- 1) the practice and study of law,
- 2) the defense of religious freedom and life, and
- 3) the provision of legal aid to the needy.

Act Justly love mercy walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:8

TABLE OF **CONTENTS**

3	LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
4-5	CHRISTIAN LEGAL AID
6-7	CHRISTIAN LEGAL AID CLINICS
8-15	CENTER FOR LAW & RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
16	LAW STUDENT MINISTRIES
17	LAW STUDENT CAMPUSES SERVED
20-21	CLS LAW SCHOOL FELLOWS PROGRAM
22-23	ATTORNEY MINISTRIES
24	ATTORNEY CHAPTERS
25	RESOURCES
26-28	CONNECTED IN 2022
29	GET CONNECTED: WAYS TO PARTNER WITH CLS
30	FINANCES
31	CLS' BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We are grateful that CLS was able to serve so many in 2022, through Christian Legal Aid clinics, CLS law school and attorney chapters, and the advocacy and defense of religious freedom and the sanctity of human life. It is a pleasure to publish this annual report and share all the amazing things that CLS did over the past year.

As the entire world continued to emerge from the pandemic, CLS gathered in person around the country – in events, chapter meetings, and other venues – with a greater appreciation for community. In May, the CLS Law School Fellows program returned to Washington, D.C.; CLS held two regional retreats in the Midwest and Southwest; and in October, CLS was blessed to once again host an amazing in-person CLS National Conference in Newport Beach, California – not to mention all the chapter meetings in cities and campuses around the country throughout 2022.

Thank you for your partnership with Christian Legal Society and your support of CLS' four amazing ministries – Attorney Ministries, Law Student Ministries, the Center for Law & Religious Freedom, and Christian Legal Aid. The work of CLS continues to thrive and bless others because of you – the CLS family – and we pledge to remember the weightier matters of the law "justice, mercy, and faithfulness" (Matt 23:23).

CLS continues its commitment to seek justice with the love of Christ, just as it has for the last 61 years, whether through religious freedom advocacy or serving the poor through the incredible work of volunteers and others in clinics across the country.

As always, we harken to the calling of Micah 6:8 – to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God. CLS serves in ways only attorneys can serve – in and through the law – and CLS thanks you and invites you to continue alongside us in this great mission.

D

DAVID NAMMO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO

CHRISTIAN LEGAL AID

Christian Legal Aid is a critical ministry that increases access to legal aid services for the poor, the marginalized, and the victims of injustice in America with the love of Christ.

CLS' Christian Legal Aid program provides critical legal help that sets people free from abusive and burdensome situations.

After two years of figuring out a "new normal" of serving clients, in 2022, Christian Legal Aid clinics largely settled into a hybrid combination of serving clients in person and online. Meeting clients in person of course enables a more personal experience, which is so important in providing compassionate care to people in dire situations. Yet virtual meetings have proven to be highly beneficial to clients who have difficulties related to lack of reliable transportation, child care, and busy life schedules.

In the spring of 2022, CLA conducted a survey of its CLA clinics across the country. Of the clinics that tracked service hours, in total, they provided more than 12,500 hours of legal aid service annually. With a national median hourly billable rate of \$325, that amounts to over \$4,000,000 in legal services donated by Christian Legal Aid attorneys.

In 2022, CLA provided training to nearly 400 legal aid workers and volunteers on a wide range of issues, including these popular topics:

- "Mercy & Justice: Christian Perspectives on Criminal Justice and the Poor"
- "Low Bono Legal Services: How Private Practitioners Can Help Close the Access to Justice Gap"
- "Purposeful Pro Bono Post-Pandemic"
- · "Serving Clients at Rock Bottom"

The CLA network welcomed a new clinic, City on a Hill Legal Ministry, which is dedicated to serving the needs of the large immigrant population in Miami, Florida. CLA also provided training to attorneys in a dozen cities who are still considering starting new clinics.

CLS is grateful for the thousands of staff and volunteers in the CLS network of Christian Legal Aid clinics who tirelessly serve the needs of low-income people across the U.S. Thank you for your dedication in ministering to those most in need in our communities!



Also in 2022, CLA had the pleasure of honoring Al Johnson, the executive director and founder of New Covenant Legal Services in St. Louis, with the John D. Robb Award for excellence in the pursuit of service in and through Christian Legal Aid.



"CLA has provided a wealth of information to help our legal clinic move forward to be able to serve our clients, liability insurance information, quorums with other legal aid clinics and emails, two volunteer attorneys from our clinic attended the National CLS Conference this year, and an ongoing line of support and encouragement with emails, articles, webinars offered, and open door to CLS CLA with any questions or advice we may need.

THANK YOU!"

"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

PROVERBS 31: 8, 9

150 Communities Served Nationwide

32,000+

Families Served

Clinic Programs Nationwide

CHRISTIAN LEGAL AID CLINICS



ALABAMA

Montgomery

Faulkner University Law School Legal Clinics

ARIZONA

Phoenix Metro Area

CLA of Arizona

Tucson

Christian Legal Society of Tucson CLA Program

CALIFORNIA

Auburn

3R Ministries

Los Angeles

Pepperdine University Legal Aid Clinic

Los Angeles Metro Area

CLA of Los Angeles

Oakland

Pope Francis Legal Clinic

Orange County

CLA Office Orange County

Sacramento

Love and Wisdom (LAW) Clinic

San Diego Metro Area

San Diego CLA

San Jose

Silicon Valley CLA

Santa Ana

Trinity Mobile Legal Clinic **CLA of Orange County**

Tustin

Trinity Law Clinic at the Orange County Rescue Mission

COLORADO

Denver

Justice and Mercy Legal Aid Clinic

Denver Metro

CLA of Metro Denver Triage Legal Clinics

- The Rising Church
- Broomfield FISH
- Samaritan House
- Salvation Army
- Providence Network • More Life Community Center
- Life Center
- SECOR Clinic
- Drv Bones
- Greater Metro Ministerial Alliance

Fort Collins

Serve 6.8 Legal Clinic

DELAWARE

Wilmington

Mission Legal Aid Clinic

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Washington, DC

CLA of the District of Columbia

- Central Union Mission
- DC Dream Center

FLORIDA

Jacksonville

CLS Pro Bono Project Jacksonville Metro Area Jericho Road Legal Service Ministry

Miami

City on a Hill Legal Ministry

ILLINOIS

Chicago

Cabrini Green Legal Aid

INDIANA

Indianapolis Metro Area Neighborhood CLA

KANSAS

Wichita

Wichita CI A

KENTUCKY

Georgetown

Merciful Justice Legal Clinic Louisville

Metro CLA

MARYLAND

Gaithersburg

Good Samaritan Advocates at Covenant Life Church The Salvation Army Center

MICHIGAN

Detroit

CLA of Southeast Michigan The Joseph Project

Grand Rapids Metro Area

West Michigan CLA

Kalamazoo

CLA of Southwest Michigan

Lansing

CLA of Lansing

MINNESOTA

Minneapolis

Park Avenue Legal Clinic

Twin Cities

Twin Cities CLA

MISSISSIPPI

Jackson

Mission First Legal Aid Office

MISSOURI

St. Louis Metro Area

New Covenant Legal Services

NEW JERSEY

Newark Metro Area

Immigrant Hope

NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque

New Mexico CLA

Las Cruces

Catholic Charities of Southern New Mexico

NEW YORK

New York City

Open Hands Legal Services

NORTH CAROLINA

Durham

Justice Matters

Greensboro

Wilberforce Center for Justice and Human Rights

Raleigh

Campbell Community Law Clinic

OHIO

Cleveland

Scranton Road Legal Clinic

Columbus

Vineyard Immigration Counseling Service

Richland County

Richland County Legal Clinic

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma City Metro Area

Trinity Legal

- Crossings Community Center
- Cross and Crown Mission
- City Rescue Mission
- Living Faith Ministry
- Salvation Army Norman

Tulsa

Tulsa University College of Law CLS Christian Legal Aid Clinic

OREGON

Portland

Union Gospel Mission of Portland Christian Legal Aid Clinic

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia

Christian Legal Clinics of Philadelphia

- West Philadelphia Legal Clinic
- Hunting Park Legal Clinic
- South Philadelphia Legal Clinic
- Chester Legal Clinic
- Germantown Legal Clinic
- Kensington Legal Clinic
- Chosen 300 Legal Clinic
- North Philadelphia Legal Clinic

Pittsburgh

CLA of Pittsburgh

TENNESSEE

Murfreesboro

Murfreesboro CLA

Nashville Metro Area

Compassionate Counsel

TEXAS

Dallas

Revive Justice

Houston

Community CLA Restoring Justice

Legal Aid Center

VIRGINIA

Arlington

Restoration Immigration Legal Aid

Northern Virginia

Good Samaritan Advocates

- Columbia Baptist Church
- Cornerstone Chapel
- Reston Bible Church

The Lamb Center WASHINGTON

Seattle

Open Door Legal Services

Spokane

Union Gospel Mission CLA

WISCONSIN

Milwaukee

JC Legal Resources Center Inc.

INTERNATIONAL - CANADA

Toronto

CCM Toronto Legal Clinic

CENTER FOR LAW & RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

The oldest Christian religious freedom advocacy ministry in the United States defending the rights of all Americans and religions.

In 2022, the Center's work included representing clients and defending their religious rights in a variety of settings, supporting federal regulations protecting religious student groups on univeristy and college campuses, and fighting threats to the ability of Christian attorneys to practice law consistently with their religious beliefs.

The Center's work to defend the rights of religious student groups to meet in K-12 schools and on college campuses remained a top priority in 2022. The Center also educated both the public and legislators regarding legislation and regulations that would protect religious students' right to gather on their college campuses and also provided expertise to state and federal legislators regarding how best to protect religious students.

The Center remains the nation's leader in fighting ABA Model Rule 8.4(g). This invaluable work continued in 2022 as the Center provided resources to attornevs in several states. The Center's work enabled attorneys to explain to their colleagues the danger ABA Model Rule 8.4(g) poses for attorneys who value freedom of speech, religious freedom, and ideological diversity in the profession.





ABA ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT: DEFENDING ATTORNEYS AND LAW SCHOOLS FROM THE ABA'S OVERREACH

ABA MODEL RULE 8.4(q)

In 2022, the Center was, once again, the leading force in opposition to the American Bar Association's Model Rule 8.4(g). ABA Model Rule 8.4(g) has been condemned by numerous scholars as a "speech code" for attorneys and poses an existential threat to attorneys who value independent thinking, freedom of speech, and free exercise of religion. In the words of a federal district court judge who held both of Pennsylvania's versions of the model rule unconstitutional: "Ultimately, the Court is swayed by the chilling effect that the Amendments will have on ... Pennsylvania attorneys, if they go into effect This language will continuously threaten the speaker to self-censor and constantly mind what the speaker says and how the speaker says it or the full apparatus and resources of the Commonwealth may be engaged to come swooping in to conduct an investigation."

The Center continued to fight against adoption of ABA Model Rule 8.4(g) by various states in 2022. Because all states are responsible for establishing their own professional conduct rules and the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct only serves as a guide to the individual states, ABA Model Rule 8.4(g) goes into effect only if it adopted by a state supreme court.

Idaho

In November 2021, the bar membership approved a resolution that recommended amending Idaho Rules of Professional Conduct Rule 8.4 to include anti-discrimination and anti-harassment provisions. The resolution was sent to the Idaho Su-

preme Court in early 2022, and the Center submitted a comment letter opposing adoption of the proposed rule. The Idaho Supreme Court did not act on the resolution in 2022.

Nebraska

The Supreme Court of Nebraska held a comment period regarding a proposal from the Women in the Law Section of the Nebraska State Bar Association (NSBA) and the Nebraska Counsel for Discipline to revise Rule § 3-804 of the Nebraska Rules of Professional Conduct to include an ABA Model Rule 8.4(g)-like provision. The Center filed a comment letter with the Nebraska Supreme Court opposing adoption of the proposal. The Nebraska Supreme Court did not make a decision on the proposal in 2022.

Oregon

In May 2022, a subcommittee of the Oregon State Bar Legal Ethics committee began a review of Oregon Rule of Professional Conduct Rule 8.4(a) (7). The purpose of the review is to study the current Oregon misconduct rule in comparison with ABA Model Rule 8.4(g). Encouraged to do so by the Center, a long-time CLS member and current CLS board member sits on the subcommittee. The subcommittee met several times in 2022 and, at this point, the consensus is that only a minor modification to the current Oregon rule is needed.

Pennsylvania

In March 2022, a federal judge ruled in favor of attorney free speech in *Greenberg v. Goodrich*, finding Pennsylvania's Rule 8.4(g) violates both the free speech clause of the First Amendment and the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania appealed that ruling to the Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. The Center

filed an amicus brief in that case – *Greenberg v. Lehocky* – in which the Center urged the Third Circuit to uphold the district court's ruling.

Working with Christian Legal Society (CLS) members and other concerned attorneys.

While only a handful of states acted on ABA Model Rule 8.4(g) in 2022, the Center continued its work to oppose adoption of ABA Model Rule 8.4(g) where it was at issue and to raise awareness with both CLS' own members and other concerned attorneys including a continuing legal education workshop on ABA Model Rule 8.4(g) at the 2022 CLS National Conference in Newport Beach, California, and a presentation on ABA Model Rule 8.4(g) to the Catholic Bishops' Guild in Texas in mid-October 2022.

ABA Model Rule 8.4(g) Website

The Center continued to maintain the CLS website on ABA Model Rule 8.4(g). These webpages provide background information and a litany of resources on the model rule including video presentations, educational webinars, written publications, and comment letters. The website also includes individual state pages to make it easier for interested parties to see what is happening in a particular state. The CLS ABA Model Rule 8.4(g) website is the only publicly available resource on this matter.

NEW ABA LAW SCHOOL ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

The ABA House of Delegates approved changes to its law school accreditation standards. The first change requires each law school to provide training in cross-cultural competencies, bias, and racism when students begin law school and at least once more during their law school career. The second change is the requirement that law schools must have policies that prohibit "actions" that preclude the admission or retention of students on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity or expression and that "foster and maintain equality of opportunity for students" without discriminating based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression. Although the new standards carve out a religious exception, this exception may not be applied to preclude admission or retention of students based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression and is limited to where the SOGI non-discrimination policy is contrary to the "essential elements of the religious values and beliefs held by the school." The Center took steps - including a letter to law school deans and conference calls – to advise various law schools of the new standards and how to best protect themselves.

IN THE COURTS: DEFENDING FREEDOM THROUGH LITIGATION AND REPRESENTATION

Defending the Rights of California Religious Students

(Fellowship of Christian Athletes v. San Jose Unified School District)

Officials in the San Jose Unified School District derecognized a Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) student group because school officials did not like the group's religious beliefs (while recognizing a Satanic Temple Club as an official club). The Center filed suit in 2020 on behalf of FCA, bringing claims under the Equal Access Act and the First Amendment. In 2022, the district court finally ruled on FCA's motion for a preliminary injunction, denying the motion. FCA appealed to the Ninth Circuit, which heard the appeal in August 2022 and ultimately found in favor of FCA, issuing a preliminary injunction. In December, the Ninth Circuit granted the school district's request for rehearing en banc. The rehearing will take place in early 2023.



Remember through it all ... let's focus on the thing that matters and that's the Lord ... that [understanding is] what Christian Legal Society has done for me.

 Mark Miller, student leader at the University of Idaho

Protecting Free Speech on Campus (Perlot v. Green)

The Center joined ADF in representing three Christian law students and a professor who received no-contact orders from the University of Idaho after expressing biblical views on marriage at a campus event. University officials issued the no-contact orders without informing the students and professor that anyone had complained about them. Nor did they give the students and professor an opportunity to review the allegations against them or defend themselves. The CLS students and the professor, who is the chapter's faculty advisor, filed suit against officials at the university for violating their First Amendment rights. A federal court in Idaho granted a preliminary injunction and ordered the university to rescind the no-contact orders while the case continued. In the end, the students and professor settled their lawsuit against the University of Idaho. Under the settlement agreement, the no-contact orders issued against the students and the professor were permanently wiped from their university records, the free speech rights of the students and the professor were restored, and the university paid monetary damages to the students and the professor for its efforts to restrict the students' and professor's free speech.

Representing Couple Seeking to be Foster Parents

A couple in Vermont applied for a foster care license from the Vermont Department of Children and Families. Their application was denied when they informed the social worker that they could not accommodate a gay child or a gender dysphoric child if that child was exploring same-sex attraction or changing genders. The couple said that they would love the child and, based on their religious beliefs, would raise the child as an evangelical Christian child. Represented by the Center, the couple filed an appeal with the Vermont Human Services Board that hears foster care license denials.

Assisting a Church with a Notice of Zoning Violation

A church in Norfolk, Virginia, received a notice of zoning violation from the city for housing the homeless, which it had been doing for over 14 years with permission from the mayor. The Center advised the church pastor, who then met with city officials where the parties agreed that, as long as the residents left the church premises during the day, there was no zoning violation or need for zoning changes.



RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ADVOCACY

Defending Students on Campus Fighting for the CLS Law Student Chapter at the University of New Hampshire

The Student Bar Association (SBA) at the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law tried to deny recognition to the Christian Legal Society Law Student chapter (CLS-NH) there. At a public hearing, the SBA threatened to deny the reactivation request because the SBA claimed that CLS-NH's statement of faith requirement violated the school's diversity, equity, and inclusion policies. Because religion is an identified class, much of the debate centered around whether requiring such a statement of faith discriminates against students of other religions. CLS-NH student leaders were subjected to an unseemly inquisition regarding their religious beliefs, particularly the religious standards for leaders. The dean's office informed the SBA that, per the guidance of the university system's general counsel, the SBA has no legal basis on which to refuse recognition to CLS-NH, yet the SBA held firm. The Center sent a letter to university administrators explaining how failure to recognize CLS-NH was unconstitutional viewpoint discrimination and that both federal regulations and caselaw reinforce the right of religious student organizations to have religious leadership requirements. The administration agreed and directed the SBA to recognize CLS-NH.

Fighting for Recognition of CLS Law Student Chapters in Arizona and Wisconsin

Christian Legal Society Law Student chapters at Arizona State University and the University of Wisconsin were denied re-recognition in the fall of 2022. The Center issued letters to both universities explaining how their failure to recognize the CLS law student chapters violates federal regulations and federal case law and outlining potential legal consequences for university officials if the schools did not recognize the CLS chapters.

Both Arizona State University and the University of Wisconsin subsequently recognized the CLS law student chapters.

Advocating for Federal Campus Equal Access Regulation

The Department of Education sent a Notice of Public Rulemaking (NPRM) to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) at Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for OMB to complete its work on the draft rule and return it back to the Department of Education so it can, in turn, publish the NPRM. The Center is concerned that the NPRM could adversely modify or even eliminate existing equal access rules for state institutions of higher education. Former Center Director Kim Colby was responsible for the existing regulation that provides strong protections for religious student groups on campus – something she achieved during the Trump Administration. The Center participated in a 12866 meeting with members of OIRA and the Department of Education to emphasize the importance of the rule to campus access. No NPRM was published before the end of 2022, and the Center believes proposed regulations rescinding or weaking the current protections will occur in early 2023.

Advocating for Campus Access Legislation in Missouri

On two occasions, the Center advocated for legislation in Missouri that would protect religious student organizations on public college campus. First, the Center provided written testimony to the Missouri House Higher Education Committee in support of legislation that would protect religious student organizations. A week later, the committee voted in favor of the bill and forwarded the bill to a rules committee for review. Second, when the house bill moved over to the senate, the Center submitted letters to both the majority leader and the president pro tem of the Missouri State Senate urging them to bring HB 1724 to the Missouri Senate floor for debate and vote.

Defending Conscience Rights Counseling Employees

An interpreter who works for an agency in Texas that assists with Spanish-speaking migrants was advised that there are situations where girls are pregnant because of a rape and might wish to terminate the pregnancy but are afraid of what their family might think of them or of being judged. The interpreter was asked to structure questions pertaining to the pregnancy itself and to the termination of the pregnancy and the girls'

choice in this. Because of his religious beliefs, the interpreter felt he could neither structure questions nor interpret any conversations for the purpose of informing a girl about her options to terminate a pregnancy. Afraid that his refusal would lead to his firing, he reached out to the Center. The Center advised the interpreter to inform his supervisor that he could structure questions with respect to the crime of rape but that his Christian beliefs preventing him from structuring questions and interpreting conversations regarding abortion and to request an accommodation. The interpreter was told by his supervisor he would no longer receive calls regarding the topic of pregnancy.



Rulemaking CLS Fights to Preserve Title IX

On the 50th anniversary of Title IX, the U.S. Department of Education (Department) proposed revising its regulations implementing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 – a law intended to promote women's equality and opportunity – to expand the scope of sex discrimination in Title IX to include discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. The Center, in conjunction with the Thomas More Society and the National Association of Evangelicals, submitted comments providing reasoning as to why the Department should not adopt the proposed regulations.

Joining the Fight for Marriage

Over the summer, the Senate considered the socalled "Respect for Marriage Act" (H.R. 8404). The Center joined several other national groups and signed onto a letter to Sen. Mitch McConnell calling on him to oppose the bill and to hold accountable any Republicans who support it. As the letter explained, the bill is an act of disrespect toward millions of Americans who hold devout beliefs about marriage and human relationships that have been shared by every society in history and also directly threatens the free speech and religious freedom of every American and countless organizations that faithfully serve their communities.

CLS Files Comment Letters Opposing Proposed HHS Rule Changes

The Center signed onto a comment letter regarding a proposed rule by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to amend HHS regulations to prohibit health exchanges, issuers, agents, and brokers from discriminating based on sexual orientation and gender identity. The focus of the letter was to object to language in the proposed regulations that can be read to mandate insurance to cover gender transition procedures that could conflict with religious and moral convictions of health insurers and plan sponsors. The Center also filed a comment letter with HHS opposing proposed new regulations and amendments to existing regulations pertaining to discrimination as prohibited by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Opposing the Administration's Pick for FDA Commissioner

The Center, on behalf of CLS, joined a coalition letter to U.S. Senators requesting they reject the nomination of Dr. Robert Califf for FDA Commissioner. The letter highlighted: (1) Califf's role in the FDA's 2016 decision to remove critical chemical abortion reporting requirements; (2) how the Califf-approved FDA reporting changes have recklessly undermined data on chemical abortion complications and obscured the true risks of the drug; and (3) exhaustive studies demonstrating the data that the FDA has chosen to use to assess the risk of mail-order abortion is "woefully inadequate."

Supporting Charitable Choice

The Center signed onto a letter with other faithbased service organizations and religious freedom advocates urging Congress to retain the Charitable Choice provisions when reauthorizing the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG). The Charitable Choice provisions (42 U.S. Code 9920) give faith-based organizations an equal opportunity to compete for CSBG funding and safeguard their religious character while also protecting beneficiary rights by prohibiting the use of CSBG grant funds for explicitly religious activities. Removing the Charitable Choice provisions would be detrimental to the participation of faith-based organizations because doing so would create a terrible precedent by signaling that Congress is no longer as boldly committed to equal opportunity for service organizations of every faith.



William Bentley Ball Life and Religious Liberty Defense Award

Each year, the Center presents the William Bentley Ball Life and Religious Liberty Defense Award in recognition of the tireless and obedient work of faithful followers of Christ and defenders of religious freedom and life. The 2022 recipient of the Ball Award was Walter Weber, whose legal practice has focused on constitutional law, specifically the First Amendment speech and religion clauses, as well as defense of the pro-life movement and related laws. He has served as the lead draftsman for over 100 briefs to the U.S. Supreme Court and has briefed and argued many cases in lower federal and state courts as well.

SUPPORTING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND THE FIRST AMENDMENT THROUGH AMICUS BRIEFS

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Fighting for Religious Accommodations at Work

(Kennedy v. Bremerton School District)

The Center filed an amicus brief supporting a high school football coach's right to exercise his freedom of religion by kneeling on the football field after a game for a time personal silent prayer. In the end, the Court recognized Coach Kennedy's First Amendment right to pray on the field after football games, finding that the Bremerton School District had violated the First Amendment's Free Exercise and Free Speech Clauses by firing Coach Joseph Kennedy.

(Groff v. DeJoy)

The Center filed an amicus brief on behalf of a U.S. Postal Service worker asking the Court to grant review of the case and overrule *TWA v. Hardison*, arguing that the Third Circuit erred when it relied on Hardison to find that the USPS was not required to provide Groff a reasonable accommodation to observe the Sabbath because doing so would have caused an undue hardship to the USPS.

Defending Religious Freedom (Klein v. Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries)

The Center submitted an amicus brief in support of the Kleins, bakery owners who refused to custom design a wedding cake for a same-sex marriage because they do not create any cakes with messages that conflict with their faith such as cakes with profanity, cakes celebrating divorce, and cakes advocating harm to others. The Center's brief urged the Court to take the case and use it as an opportunity to overrule *Employment Division v. Smith*.

(303 Creative v. Elenis)

The Center filed an amicus brief on behalf of a web designer who does not want to design websites advertising same-sex marriages because of her religious conviction. The sole "state interest" the Tenth Circuit supported is "preventing ongoing discrimination against LGBT people." The brief argued that the refusal to provide a service or product because of what it is, rather than because of who requested it, is not, as a matter of constitutional fact, discrimination against a group based on that group's identity.

Supporting a Prisoner's Religious Rights (Smith v. Ward)

The Center filed an amicus brief in support of a Muslim prisoner who had been denied the right to grow a full beard, arguing that the Eleventh Circuit erred in applying the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA) when it held that Georgia need not grant a religious accommodation – growing a full-length beard – offered in 39 other prison systems. CLS was instrumental in drafting and passing RLUIPA in the 90s.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WINS BEFORE THE U.S. SUPREME COURT

In 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court handed down several decisions on favor of religious freedom, cases in which the Center had filed an amicus brief in support of the free exercise of religion.

(Ramirez v. Collier)

The Court found in favor of a prisoner's religious freedom, allowing a man on death row in Texas to have his pastor touch him and pray out loud while he is being executed.

(Carson v. Makin)

The Court ruled that Maine's tuition assistance program violated the Free Exercise Clause because it excluded religious schools from the program.

(Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health)

The Court ruled that there is no constitutional right to abortion and overturned both *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, thereby returning the authority to protect life at all stages to the people and their elected representatives.

(Shurtleff v. Boston)

The Court found that the City of Boston violated the First Amendment when it denied an application to fly a "Christian flag" after granting hundreds of applications to fly other flags.

CIRCUIT COURTS

Defending the Rights of Religious Schools in Employment Decisions

(Starkey v. Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Indianapolis)

The Center filed an amicus brief with the Seventh Circuit in support of a Catholic high school's decision to fire the co-director of counseling because



she was in a same-sex marriage in violation of both her contract and Catholic teaching. In the end, the Seventh Circuit ruled in favor of the archdiocese, holding that the ministerial exception, which allows religious institutions to freely choose its religious leaders without government interference, applied here because the undisputed facts showed Ms. Starkey performed vital religious duties.

(Billard v. Charlotte Catholic High School)

In this case, the district court had ruled in favor of a teacher who alleged sexual discrimination under Title VII when the school removed him from the substitute teacher list after he posted publicly that he was marrying his same-sex partner and criticized Catholic teaching. On appeal to the Fourth Circuit, the Center filed a brief arguing that the district court erred because the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) protects the religious high school's actions.

(Tucker v. Faith Bible Chapel)

Faith Christian Academy employed Gregory Tucker as the school's chaplain. After a chapel service on race led by Mr. Tucker became too political, Faith Christian asked him to leave. Mr. Tucker then sued the school in federal court, and Faith Chapel defended its actions as protected by the ministerial exception. Both a Colorado district court and the Tenth Circuit found in Mr. Tucker's favor. When Faith Christian petitioned the Tenth Circuit for rehearing en banc, the Center joined an amicus brief in support of the petition arguing the courts erred by treating the ministerial exception as any other affirmative defense and ignoring the unconstitutional burdens and intrusion of litigating religious issues, which the U.S. Supreme Court and numerous other circuits have readily recognized, and refusing to acknowledge that the ministerial exception is a "structural" limitation on court powers.

Defending against Religious Viewpoint Discrimination

(Young Israel v. Hillsborough Regional Transit Authority)

In an appeal to the Eleventh Circuit, the Center filed a brief in which it argued that HART's policy forbidding advertisements that primarily promote a religious faith or religious organization is viewpoint discrimination and discriminates against religion in violation of the Free Exercise Clause.

Protecting Land Use under RLUIPA

(Thai Meditation Association. v. City of Mobile) In another appeal to the Eleventh Circuit, CLS argued that the city's denial the association's application to build a mediation center violates the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA) because the denial effectively deprives the plaintiffs of any viable means by which to engage in protected religious exercise.



RESPONDING TO PUBLIC INQUIRIES

The Center regularly fields inquires from constituents seeking counsel. In 2022, this included:

- Counseling an attorney who wished to pray and read scripture with clients
- Advising a physician at a pro-life pregnancy center regarding her First Amendment rights not to counsel patients to have an abortion
- Preparing a letter for an employee seeking a religious exemption to the Covid-19 vaccine her employer was requiring, which was successfully granted
- Counseling nonprofit organizations regarding potential legal issues relating to the nonprofit's conducting of museum tours for home-schooling groups
- Advising a person wanting to share his faith with students and faculty on a Florida college campus of his free speech rights

LAW STUDENT MINISTRIES

Learning to do justice with the love of God in the classroom, on campus, and in our profession.

Now, two years removed from the pandemic, things are off and running for Law Student Ministries. The fall semester was the first of its kind—with all new programs, discussions, service projects, and events that sought to prepare Christian law students for the integration of faith and legal practice.

CHAPTERS & CAMPUS VISITS

LSM chapters found a renewed zeal for on-campus engagement and a commitment to rebuilding chapters across the nation through various forms of community, service, and spiritual discipleship. Some of them even learned a thing about the infamous "all-comers" policy – none willingly!

What did LSM do? Thank you for asking. Last fall, LSM launched a Leadership Roundtable for the purpose of bringing students together in a safe environment to cultivate good habits and discuss strategies to better serve their campuses. LSM continued to host discussions on the *Cross & Gavel* podcast (e.g., Benjamin Storey, llana Horwitz, J. Budziszewski, Carolyn Chen) on timely issues that intersect between law, religion, and public policy. Law student chapters rallied together to "seek the welfare of the city" by volunteering at local shelters and bread clinics across their cities.

BUILDING BRIDGES

Among our favorites is a new initiative that aims to invite groups that embrace a different worldview to lunch – seeking to listen and understand their position and engage them in constructive discussion about law, religion, and society.

NAMÁRIË FORUM & BOOK STUDY

LSM also continued its Namárië Forum – a national forum for cultivating the Christian imagination – this year giving students an opportunity to follow Jesus into the digital age by tackling questions surrounding the metaverse, transhumanism, and their own relationship with their devices.

PARTNERSHIPS

LSM also expanded its partnership with various groups working on common causes, including the Center for the Study of Law and Religion (Emory University), Generous Giving, and Feminists Choosing Life of New York (FCLNY). The goal of these partnerships is to enhance LSM's work to build a ministry worthy of the Gospel, alongside those who can enhance the law school experience for students across the nation and cultivate an affection of God and His ongoing work.

Also in 2022, CLS continued its long-standing commitment to InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF), partnering through student retreats and conferences and in the training of IVCF Graduate and Faculty Ministries (GFM) staff to serve law students in CLS campus groups.

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Over} \\ \textbf{2,500} \\ \text{Students Served} \end{array}$ Students Served

CAMPUSES SERVED

The University of Alabama American University Appalachian School of Law Arizona State University University of Arizona University of Arkansas, Fayetteville University of Arkansas, Little Rock Ave Maria Law School University of Baltimore Barry University of Orlando Baylor Law School Belmont University **Boston College** University of Boston CA-Berkley, Univ. of University of California - Davis CA-Hastings, University of CA-Irvine, University of California Western CA-Los Angeles, Univ. of Campbell University Capital University Case Western Reserve University Catholic University Columbus Chapman University Charleston (SC) School of Law University Chicago Law Chicago-Kent College of Law Cincinnati, University of City University of New York Cleveland State University University of Colorado Columbia University Cornell University Creighton University University of Dayton University of Denver University of Detroit Mercy University of District of Columbia Drake University **Duke University** Lincoln Memorial University Duquesne University Elon University **Emory University** Faulkner University University of Florida Florida A&M University Florida State University Fordham University George Mason University The George Washington University Georgetown University University of Georgia Georgia State University

Harvard University Hawaii, University of Hofstra University University of Houston Howard University University of Idaho University of Illinois (Chicago) Illinois-Urbana, University of Indiana University, Bloomington Indiana University, Indianapolis Inter American University (San Juan, Puerto Rico) University of Iowa John Marshall Law School (GA) University of Kansas University of Kentucky Liberty University Louisiana State University Louisville, University of Lovola Marymount University (CA) Loyola University Chicago Marquette University University of Maryland University of the Pacific University of Memphis Mercer University University of Miami Michigan State University University of Michigan University of Minnesota Mississippi College The University of Mississippi University of Missouri, Columbia University of Missouri, Kansas City Nashville School of Law University of Nebraska University of New Hampshire New York Law School New York University North Carolina Central University University of North Carolina University of North Texas, Dallas Northeastern University Northern Illinois University Northwestern University Notre Dame Nova Southeastern University The Ohio State University Oklahoma City University University of Oklahoma Pace University Penn State School of Law Pennsylvania, University of Pepperdine University University of Pittsburgh

Quinnipiac University Regent University University of Richmond Roger Williams University Rutgers Law School Saint Mary's University San Diego, University of San Francisco, University of San Joaquin College of Law Samford University Santa Clara University Seton Hall University of Southern California University of South Carolina University of South Dakota South Texas College of Law Southern Illinois University Southern Methodist University Southern University Law Center Southwestern University St. John's University University of St. Thomas (MN) St. Thomas University (Miami) Stanford University Stetson University Suffolk University School of Law Syracuse University Temple University Tennessee. University of Texas A&M University Texas, University of Texas Southern Texas Tech University Toledo. University of Touro College Trinity Law School **Tulane University** Tulsa. University of Vanderbilt University Vermont Law School Villanova University Virginia, University of Wake Forest University Washburn University Washington and Lee University Washington University West Virginia University Western New England University Western Michigan University (Lansing & Tampa Bay) Western State College (Westcliff) William and Mary, College of Wisconsin, University of Yale University











Top Left: LSM Director Anton Sorkin meeting with students at UNC School of Law.

Top Right: 2022 Scholars' Symposium featuring Professors John Inazu and Steven K. Green.

2nd Left: Mentoring lunch at the 2022 CLS National Conference.

2nd Right: Student late night socials at the 2022 CLS National Conference.

Left: Students from nationwide CLS chapters volunteering with Bread for the City in Washington, D.C.









Left: Wedding of 2021 CLS Fellows, Brad and Cameron Lorenz Jones.

2nd Left: Anton meeting with students at Thurgood Marshall Law in Houston.

3rd left: CLS Fellows Morgan Hinds and Elisabeth McDonald at the CLS National Conference.

Bottom Right: CLS Law School Fellows Reunion at the 2022 CLS National Conference.

Bottom Left: CLS Fellow Lorenzo Tolbert speaking to students at the 2022 CLS National Conference.







CLS LAW SCHOOL FELLOWS PROGRAM

The CLS Law School Fellows program is a unique program designed to encourage, train, and provide law students the theological and philosophical tools for a mission-minded approach to legal study and law practice.



1000 CLS Law School Fellows Since its establishment in 2018, the CLS Law School Fellows program has trained five classes of 199 students from over 80 campuses around the nation. Through the Fellows program, students are "equipped to think theologically about the study and practice of law and to help others to do the same," in the words a 2019 Fellow.

As part of the program, the Fellows spend a week together talking Christian jurisprudence, public integrity, and vocational ministry – learning from an array of scholars and practitioners from across the nation. Many of these students then return to their campus as chapter leaders. One student at Tulsa Law, for example, took the mantle after a slow season and immediately sought to start a chapter at her law school. Another launched into planning events and mobilizing neighboring chapters to host service projects.



CLS LAW SCHOOL FELLOWS REUNION

A first, in 2022, LSM held an official CLS Law School Fellows Reunion at the CLS National Conference in Newport Beach. This was an amazing gathering of Fellows from the first five classes. Forty-two Fellows met in California and participated in this unique event that combined continuing education and fellowship.

Fellows were able to re-engage mentors, scholars, and other Fellows classes in a time of learning, fellowship, and encouragement. They got to participate in key workshops, engage in "hot seat" sessions with judges and deans, and listen to prominent lecturers on the "soul of the law" and how they can better serve their campuses.



ATTORNEY MINISTRIES

Attorney Ministries encourages and trains legal professionals how to integrate the Word of God and their faith in Jesus Christ with their professional calling.

Attorney Ministries continues to expand and grow nationwide.

CLS ATTORNEY CHAPTERS & ENGAGEMENT

Each month, Attorney Ministries chapters come together in their cities to provide opportunities for fellowship. Attorneys in these chapters dedicate thousands of hours to mentoring law students, serving the poor and needy, educating the Christian community, and becoming equipped through continuing legal education classes.

During 2022, Attorney Ministries was blessed to add three new Attorney Ministries chapters – in Greenville (SC), Virginia Beach (VA), and New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT). New leadership also stepped up post-pandemic to reactivate attorney chapters in Los Angeles (CA) and Atlanta (GA). Attorney Ministries wants to reach every part of our nation so that Christian attorneys can remain connected.

Some of the chapters hosted their annual CLE events, while others gathered for monthly fellowship or holiday events. Attorney Ministries Director, Lakuita Bittle, and other CLS directors engaged in speaking with many attorney chapters virtually and in person.

NEW MEMBERSHIP INITIATIVES

In 2022, Attorney Ministries was pleased to roll out two new membership programs: group membership and recent graduate memberships. These new initiatives provided opportunities to reach new members and stay connected with our former law student members who went on to become recent graduates.

CLS' ONLINE GATHERING

CLS' Online Gathering began with the purpose of creating community and mentorship using an online platform. In 2022, Attorney Ministries continued to host online gatherings every other month. Through this program, attorneys around the country gathered via Zoom to hear from speakers who covered topics such as human trafficking, dealing with addiction from a faith perspective, and other issues that lawyers face.

CHAPTER LEADER RESOURCES

Attorney Ministries hosts quarterly roundtables as a resource to attorney chapter leaders. Attorney Ministries continued with these roundtables in 2022 where chapter leaders shared best practices, discussed an array of topics, and offered encouragement to one another. The focus of the 2022 roundtables was on developing and cultivating mentorship programs for the CLS attorney chapters to minister to both newer attorneys and law students.

CLS REGIONAL RETREATS

Regional gatherings were held in the Midwest, Southwest, and New England in 2022. At all locations, attorneys, law students, and their families came together for a time of refreshment, relaxation, and restoration.



Also in 2022, AM had the pleasure of honoring A.Jay Fowinkle, president of the Central Florida chapter, with the Attorney Ministries Award for excellence.

6,000+
Attorneys engaged

Attorney Chapters



ATTORNEY CHAPTERS

ALABAMA

Birmingham

ARIZONA

Phoenix Tucson

CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles Orange County

Sacramento San Diego

San Fernando Valley

San Francisco

COLORADO

Colorado Springs

Denver

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FLORIDA

Jacksonville Central (Orlando)

Palm Beach (West)

GEORGIA

Atlanta

HAWAII

Honolulu

ILLINOIS

Chicago

INDIANA

Indianapolis

KANSAS

Topeka Wichita

LOUISIANA

New Orleans

MARYLAND

Baltimore

MINNESOTA

Minneapolis

MISSISSIPPI

Central (Jackson)

MISSOURI

Kansas City St. Louis

Springfield

NEBRASKA

Lincoln

NEW ENGLAND

NEW JERSEY

Cape May

NEW YORK

New York City Upstate (Albany)*

NORTH CAROLINA

Wake County

OHIO

Columbus Willoughby Hills

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma City

OREGON

Salem

PENNSYLVANIA

Western PA (Pittsburgh)

SOUTH CAROLINA

Greenville*

TENNESSEE

Chattanooga Memphis

Nashville

TEXAS

Austin Dallas

Houston

San Antonio

Williamson County

VIRGINIA

Northern VA Virginia Beach*

WASHINGTON

Seattle

WISCONSIN

Madison

*New Chapter



RESOURCES

In 2022, CLS brought new life to existing publications and even tackled a few new ones.

THE CLS BLOG

The CLS Blog is a great resource for the most recent items of interest in the CLS orbit. Posts include updates on recent legal developments, commentaries on articles and events, devotionals, and the latest ministry resources.



JOURNAL OF CHRISTIAN LEGAL THOUGHT

CLS' Journal of Christian Legal Thought exists to equip legal professionals to seek and study biblical truth as it relates to law, the practice of law, and legal institutions. The Journal seeks to bring together a wide cast of thought leaders and legal practitioners to advance the interaction of law, religion, and vocation.

In 2022, the *Journal* was redesigned and tackled issues surrounding social justice, critical theory, law and policy, Christian imagination, philosophy of aesthetics, quest for community, common law tradition, poetry, and crime fiction in order to wrestle with the complicated public challenges that come with living out one's Christian faith in public life.



THE CHRISTIAN LAWYER MAGAZINE

In 2022, CLS tackled the topics of justice and mentoring in *The Christian Lawyer* magazine. These are important topics that sought to address the need and desire of attorneys to engage more fully.



CROSS & GAVEL PODCAST

CLS' Cross & Gavel podcast posts bimonthly episodes that tackle the interaction between law, religion, and public policy. In 2022, CLS continued producing quality content by engaging national scholars and thought leaders on a broad array of issues. Podcast guests included J. Budziszewski, Ilana Horwitz, Clarke Forsythe, Jason Thacker, Carolyn Chen, Jonathan Todres, and Crystal Downing. Check it out at ChristianLegalSociety. org/podcast.

CONNECTED IN 2022

2022 CLS National Conference Newport Beach, CA October 6-9, 2022

CLS members and friends gathered for the 2022 CLS National Conference in Newport Beach, California

It was a beautiful location with new events and an amazing community. The CLS family was very eager to meet together in-person once again. Conference participants enjoyed important moments of reconnecting and career changing fellowship and heard amazing messages from Tom Lin, Jennifer Marshall Patterson, Justin Giboney, and Pastor Ric Rodeheaver.

In 2022, CLS added a Job Fair to the conference. It was well received by all, and CLS is excited about continuing it at future events.

CLS invites you to join us for the 2023 CLS National Conference in Boston from October 5-8, 2023. We promise it will be an amazing time of fellowship, learning, and fun.













Pictures from the 2022 CLS National Conference. Photography by Courtney Herron, Jon Laasko, and Abigail Chikkala.























Pictures from the 2022 CLS Midwest Regional Retreat and the Southwest Regional Retreat.



GET CONNECTED: WAYS TO PARTNER WITH CLS

PRAY

Please pray for CLS' ministries as CLS continues to impact our nation for Christ. CLS' work is possible because of God's provision and your faithful support. CLS firmly believes in the importance of bringing the needs of CLS' ministries to the Lord in prayer.

GIVE

CLS' work is supported entirely by faithful partners who believe in CLS' mission. Please consider supporting CLS financially in the coming year. You can designate your gift to your favorite CLS ministry if you would like. Please also consider incorporating CLS into your will today. CLS' ability to reach more people for Christ is heavily dependent on the financial support CLS receives.

SHARE

Please tell your friends, family, and colleagues about CLS. Share the CLS publications with everyone you know. CLS is always thankful for your positive words of its critical ministries.

VOLUNTEER

If you are interested in getting involved in CLS in a volunteer capacity, CLS has many opportunites available including, but not limited to:

- attorneys and administrative staff working at Christian Legal Aid clinics;
- coordination with state lawmakers to protect religious freedom in states nationwide;
- planning and on-site assistance at the CLS regional retreats;
- mentoring law students;
- · mentoring young attorneys; and
- leadership and coordination of CLS attorney and law student chapters.

GET CONNECTED

Show up and get involved with a local attorney or law student chapter. Stay connected by following Christian Legal Society on Facebook or Twitter. Read through the CLS magazine and journal. Sign up for devotionals, monthly emails, and other CLS communications

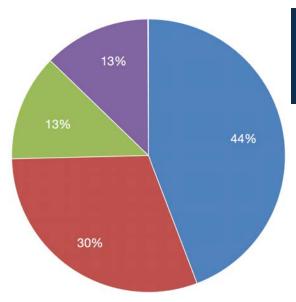


2023
CLS NATIONAL
CONFERENCE

Boston

OCTOBER 5-8, 2023

FINANCES



CONTRIBUTIONS
- YOUR SUPPORT ACCOUNTED FOR 74% OF
CLS' REVENUE IN 2022.

2022 PROGRAM REVENUE

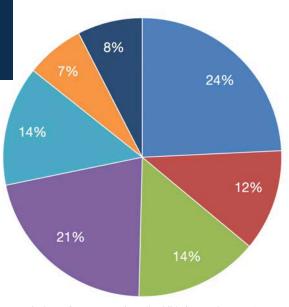
Donations	\$1,228,525	44%
Foundation Grants	\$844,500	30%
Other	\$2,516	.09%
Membership Dues	\$351,036	13%
Conferences & Events	\$251,795	13%

TOTAL REVENUE \$2,778,372

IN 2022, CLS INVESTED 86 CENTS OF EVERY DOLLAR DIRECTLY INTO MINISTRY PROGRAMS.

2022 PROGRAM EXPENSES

Attorney Ministries	\$509,520	24%
Law Student Ministries	\$449,405	21%
Center for Law		
& Religious Freedom	\$292,287	14%
Conferences & Events	\$301,554	14%
Christian Legal Aid	\$247,545	12%
Development	\$158,646	8%
Administration	\$142,169	7%



Note: These financial reports for 2022 are pending completion of our annual audit. All information on these pages reflects data from January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022. CLS' Annual Report, IRS form 990, and audited financial statements are available upon request.

CLS' BOARD OF DIRECTORS



President & Chairman of the Board: Jeffrey S. Fowler Laner Muchin | Chicago, IL

Past President: Charles M. Oellermann
Jones Day | Columbus, OH

President-Elect: Joshua Grosshans

The Grosshans Group Winter Garden, FL

Secretary: Sylvia Chen Google | Chicago, IL Treasurer: Michael V. Hernandez

Regent University School of Law | Virginia Beach, VA

Executive Director & CEO: David Nammo
Christian Legal Society

Richard C. Baker Mauck & Baker | Chicago, IL

Benjamin Bull National Center on Sexual Exploitation | Scottsdale, AZ

Richard Campanelli University of Virginia Charlottesville, VA

Christopher J. Charles
Provident Law | Scottsdale, AZ

Harold Coleman American Arbitration Association | San Diego, CA

Professor Carl H. Esbeck University of Missouri School of Law | Columbia, MO Herb Grey Attorney at Law | Beaverton, OR

Lina Hughes Yen Hughes Law PC Sacramento, CA

John L. Kea II The Southern Baptist Foundation | Nashville, TN

Stuart Lark Sherman & Howard LLC Colorado Springs, CO

Wallace L. Larson, Sr. Carson Messinger PLLC Phoenix, AZ

Monique Miles Old Towne Associates, P.C. Alexandria, VA Stephen Moll**
Reed Smith LLP | Houston, TX

Bruce Sidebotham* Telios Law, PLLC Monument, CO

Kenneth W. Starr** Lanier Law Firm | Waco, TX

Myron S. Steeves** Church Law Center Santa Ana. CA

Sally Wagenmaker**
Wagenmaker & Oberly, LLC
Chicago, IL

*Joined the Board during 2022 **Left the Board during 2022

