

Law Services News



SUMMER, 2019

Consumer Debt Project Fights Hospital Debts

Sharon Campo, attorney in our Consumer Debt Law Project, was successful in vacating a \$28,000 hospital debt based on lack of personal jurisdiction. The client, Mrs. B., is a working single mom who was allegedly served with process in 2007 at an incorrect address. As a result of not receiving proper notification, she failed to appear and a default judgment was entered against her. Years later, she was served with an income execution from the sheriff and her wages had begun to be garnished for this judgment.

Mrs. B. came to NSLS and sought the assistance of our Consumer Debt Project. Ms. Campo realized that the case had strong merit and filed papers to dispose of the judgment and dismiss the action based on a lack of personal jurisdiction. The hospital did not dispute that service was made to the wrong address and since Mrs. B. was never properly served, the court granted Ms. Campo's motion to vacate the judgment and dismiss the action. Furthermore, the hospital is prevented from trying to collect on this debt in the future because the statute of limitations has run on this action. Congratulations, Sharon!

Homeless Disaster Averted!

Nora Gonzalez, paralegal in our Riverhead office, recently won a significant victory on behalf of a family who faced displacement from a Department of Social Services (DSS) authorized homeless shelter. The family's transgression was an alleged failure to complete housing logs to document their weekly search for housing. As this is a requirement for receiving temporary housing, DSS issued the homeless family a notice stating that they must leave the shelter with no other recourse for safe housing.



With such serious consequences at stake, Ms. Gonzalez threw herself into investigating the facts of the case. In preparation for the Fair Hearing she was unsuccessful in getting DSS' cooperation to provide all the requested records pertaining to the case, as required by law. However, she did learn that DSS had never given the client instructions on completing the mandated housing search and never gave the client warnings regarding the repercussions if she failed to do so. After giving the client formal notice that her shelter housing was being discontinued, DSS referred the matter to Child Protective Services (CPS) as required.

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We dedicate this issue to our friend and colleague, Frank Gulas. He is sorely missed.



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(Continued from page 1) **Homeless Disaster Averted**

But the CPS referral came after the fact, and though the referral is intended to evaluate any impediments to her compliance or to determine whether there was a safe plan in place for the minor child, only a cursory assessment was completed.

In a favorable finding for the homeless family, The Administrative Law Judge decided that the client had never been given the required Independent Living Plan or warnings of a violation. The proper statutory evaluation by CPS was apparently no more than DSS “merely going through the motions of producing forms...” The Fair Hearing decision directed that the family be permitted to remain in the temporary housing facility, averting an otherwise frightening outcome.

This exemplary decision stands for the importance of meaningful due process and serious, professional assessments of the trauma and challenges of families experiencing homelessness. Congratulations, Nora, on this outstanding result!

A Homeless Veteran Family Suffers Similar Experience...



In a similar scenario, our **Veterans Rights Project** represented a homeless veteran and her family who faced eviction from their temporary shelter by the Department of Social Services. During her stay at the shelter, the client was living with her boyfriend who had significant income but refused to pay his share of the shelter contribution. After major disagreements, the boyfriend left the household, but DSS still expected the veteran to pay her boyfriend’s share of shelter arrears, even though she had no income of her own.

Catherine Mendolia, Esq. represented the veteran at the hearing and maintained that her client was not willfully refusing to pay, but rather was without resources. She also argued that DSS failed to make a referral to Adult Protective or Child Protective Services as required in order to evaluate the client’s potential need for support services. She cited extensive statutory authority and case law, holding that prior to the discontinuance of temporary housing, DSS has to insure that there is safe plan for any minor children and make every effort to avoid the unnecessary foster care placement of children. Proper planning and a full evaluation of the overall circumstances is essential before taking the drastic step of putting a family out of a homeless shelter. The Administrative Law Judge agreed and ordered DSS to continue to house the family and restore any lost benefits resulting from DSS’ actions. This was another important victory for homeless families but is not expected to be our last challenge. Congratulations, Catherine!

Veterans News

NSLS’ **Veterans Rights Project** has added another attorney to its ranks and the legal team is now able to expand its services to the veteran community. Our bicounty staff is now handling issues involving:

- Housing issues: eviction defense and Section 8/HUD VASH issues
- Social Security Disability, Medicare
- Public Assistance, Medicaid
- Veterans benefits including family benefits
- Family Law
- Consumer Debt
- Call 631 232-2400 or 516 292-8100



Medicaid Buy In Eligibility Rules are Reaffirmed

In the Fall, 2018 issue of *Law Services News* p. 7, we discussed the importance of the Medicaid BuyIn Program for Working Persons with Disabilities (MBI-WPD). This program can eliminate the Medicaid spenddown for those who meet the Social Security criteria for disability and who can work in some capacity. There is no minimum hourly work requirement and no formal work arrangement is required.

Our Mental Health Law Project staff recently represented a client at a hearing where the individual was denied the MBI-WPD program because DSS contended that the work was not substantial. Our representatives argued that there is no basis in law which dictates the number of hours that a MBI-WPD program participant must work or the amount received for such work.

In the instant case, our client was employed as



a dog walker each day and was paid for the services. A letter was submitted by the employer to satisfy the

proof of employment requirement for the MBI-WPD program. DSS argued that the nature of the work activity was not sufficient to qualify as “work” because it was not a significant physical or mental duty. It was also alleged that since the individual was not a professional dog walker, his work did not make him eligible for MBI-WPD.

The Administrative Law Judge disagreed. The decision held that the payment of taxes is not necessary to demonstrate work activity. Nor does MBI-WPD eligibility depend on the nature of the work, the number of hours, the amount paid, or for whom the disabled person is working. DSS was directed to withdraw the notice. Congratulations to the legal team of **Hailey Kantrow** and **Kayla Schunk**!

Agency Collaboration and Superb Legal Advocacy Saves Home for Sandy Victim



Many Long Islanders are still suffering from the effects of Superstorm Sandy. Ms. Y. sought the assistance of our Foreclosure attorney, **Heather Graham** back in December 2016 when she first received the summons and complaint on a foreclosure. Her house had flooded and then burned down in the storm before the foreclosure was commenced. Ms. Graham assisted her with submitting an Answer and also believed that the client had not been properly served with process. The attorney followed up with a motion to dismiss the action. Ms. Graham then battled for a loan modification, but was unsuccessful because there was no structure. Finally, Ms. Graham won at a traverse hearing, and on January 2, 2019, the motion to dismiss the foreclosure complaint was granted.

For a good portion of this time, the client was working on a Mortgage Assistance Application (MAP) with CDCLI. The application was running into problems so NSLS paralegal, **Luz Cartagena-Collado** and attorney Graham teamed up with CDC staff to provide the client with advice and counsel throughout the MAP application process. By the middle of May, 2019, the client closed on the MAP application!

Since this is a Sandy-damaged property, the client can start re-building her house. The structure’s foundation was provided by NY Rising. Thanks to the efforts of this effective team of advocates and community services, the foreclosure action was dismissed, the loan reinstated, and rebuilding has begun!

NLS Celebrates Significant Wins in Housing Cases

Roberta Scoll, NLS Staff Attorney who oversees the Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP) Landlord Tenant Attorney of the Day, was successful in getting a post foreclosure eviction matter dismissed due to a defective predicate notice. An 85-year old had lived with his significant other for 44 years in her home. After she passed away, the house was foreclosed and the Bank served him with eviction papers. He then sought the assistance of the VLP. When Ms. Scoll examined the papers, the legal notices had him listed as "John Doe" but the Referee's Deed showed he was named in the foreclosure action. In defending the eviction, Ms. Scoll argued that under the "due diligence" requirements, the Bank should have indicated the client by name on the legal papers, rather than "John Doe." Ms. Scoll was successful in having the case dismissed due to the defects in the Bank's papers. The senior was very grateful to have the eviction postponed.



Darlene Rosch, Disability Attorney, successfully challenged Mr. M's Section 8 termination when the agency sought to terminate the client's rental subsidy, based on allegations of criminal activity in the housing. Specifically, it was alleged that a drug raid was conducted at Mr. M's apartment and that there were drug related arrests at the premises. Ms. Rosch presented evidence that there were no charges made against her client nor did the drug raid occur at his premises. In fact, the incident took place at another address which did not involve her client, any of his relations, or any member of his household. The decision held that Mr. M. was not a "culpable member of the action taken" by the police and should not have had his assistance terminated. Ms. Rosch cleared up the unfortunate error of mistaken identity, much to the client's relief, and preserved his valuable housing subsidy.

Cathy Lucidi, paralegal in The Legal Support Center for Advocates, received a call from a community advocate regarding the imminent eviction of an elderly woman. She was being sued in District Court for nonpayment of rent by her cousin. The cousin and her husband were owners of the subject premises, and had inherited the property from the cousin's parents. Years ago our client had given her cousin more than \$200,000, which was the profit from the sale of the client's home, in exchange for a 50-year lease, with a small amount due annually for rent.



Our client suffered a stroke and remained in rehab facility for close to a year. During that time the cousins removed our client's pets to a shelter, maintained the property, and collected rent from the subtenant. Our client made a significant recovery and returned to the premises with a 24-hour aide. After the cousins attempted to evict, NLS intervened and the eviction proceeding was withdrawn following the payment of the small amount of rent arrears owed.

However, the cousin and her husband persisted and retained an attorney for the purpose of removing our client citing "waste, nuisance and unjust enrichment." The validity of the lease was challenged as well. We answered all the allegations and within days of receiving our Answer, the cousin sought to settle this dispute. After extensive negotiations, the matter resulted in our client being in an equal or better position than when the suit was commenced. She was even able to reclaim and keep two of her beloved dogs. Congratulations to the legal team of **Hannah Abrams** and **Bill Stuber** for this happy and just resolution.



Law Services continues its strong ties within the community in an effort to collaborate with various agencies and ensure that low income Long Islanders receive the services they so desperately need. If you happen to see any of our Law Services' staff at a community event, please stop by to introduce yourself and say hello. We'd love to meet you, and as always we thank you for your support!



On February 25, **Carly Sommers**, Staff Attorney of the Re-Entry Project gave a housing discrimination training to parolees at the Parole Office in Bohemia. On April 11, Carly also spoke to the staff of the Offender Workforce Development Project regarding Corrections Law 23-A, which prohibits discrimination against formerly incarcerated individuals. She reviewed the different certificates available to parolees.

Lynn Iacona, Sr. Staff Attorney participated in a panel discussion regarding disability rights before a group of Masters level Occupational Therapy students at Stony Brook University on February 25th. She gave a lecture on Special Education laws/regulations most relevant to the Occupational Therapy practitioner, followed by a Q&A.

On April 10, 2019, Lynn Iacona and **Marcia Vogel**, Disability Advocate, attended the Long Island Dispute Resolution Summit at LIU—Post. They participated in roundtable discussions focusing on collaborative practices to engage parents, students and districts promoting positive outcomes for students.

On May 10, **Maria Dosso**, Director of Communications and Volunteer Services, joined fellow Access to Justice colleagues from New York to present at the ABA/NLADA's Equal Justice Conference in Louisville, Ky. The session, "Getting to Meaningful Access to Justice for All" focused on New York's pilot projects and efforts to implement a strategy to provide effective legal access to their communities.



(rear) Quisquella Addison, Law HelpNY, Ken Perri, Legal Assistance of Western N.Y., (front) Maria Dosso, Helaine Barnett, NYS Permanent Commission on Access to Justice, Tina Foster, Volunteer Legal Services Monroe County

Learning to Make Effective Referrals



The New York State Permanent Commission on Access to Justice, Suffolk Planning Group, sponsored a training for Suffolk Support Staff and Intake Workers who frequently are faced with making legal referrals. Presenters from a variety of legal service agencies described their services and referral procedures in order to facilitate more appropriate referrals for our mutual clientele. NSLS staff were among the almost 100 who were in attendance at Touro Law Center to hear the valuable information about the many services provided.

Adult Home Project Outreach

Erika Verrill, Staff Attorney in the Adult Home Project has been very busy doing presentations on the legal rights of adult home residents at the many Adult Homes across Long Island. At these on-site trainings she connects with the residents and staff and distributes the adult home legal rights booklet., as well as giving them her contact information. (This booklet is also available on our website)



On March 27, 2019 Erika also participated in the Ombudsmen Suffolk County Legal Rights Training for Adult Home ombudsmen advocates held at Family Service League.



On March 26, 2019, **Michael Wigutow**, Senior Staff Attorney attended the Pathways to Economic Success Program held in Hempstead. Mike gave a presentation to tenants regarding their rights and obligations pertaining to landlord tenant law.



Wendy Hamberger is pictured center with Jeffrey Seigel, NSLS Exec. Director, and the staff of the Volunteer Lawyers Project

Wendy Hamberger, Esq. was chosen by the Nassau County Bar Association (NCBA) as the recipient of the *Thomas Maligno Pro Bono Attorney of the Year* award "in recognition of selfless commitment to the furtherance of the most noble traditions of the organized Bar." Wendy devotes hours of her time each week in our VLP assisting litigants in uncontested matrimonials. The celebration took place at the NCBA's Law Day dinner on May 1, 2019. Congratulations!

Eve Nowak, Esq. has been awarded the New York State Bar Association President's Pro Bono Service Award for the 10th Judicial District. Since 2015, Eve has played a critical role in our Suffolk Pro Bono Project screening hundreds of pro bono applicants every year and giving advice on child support matters. Her generous assistance insures that the huge number of callers receive prompt attention and services, and in the appropriate cases, receive assignment to a pro bono attorney for full representation. The awards were presented at the NYSBA awards ceremony in Albany on May 1, 2019. Kudos for this well deserved award!



Eve Nowak, center, pictured with NYSBA President Michael Miller, left and President-elect, Henry M. Greenberg, right



Our colleague, **Susanna E. Laruccia, Esq.** is being honored at the Nassau County Women's Bar Association Annual Installation Dinner on June 17, 2019. Susanna is a Staff Attorney in our Veterans Rights Project and works zealously on behalf of her veteran clients. We are so proud of the worthy recognition she is receiving for her important work in the community.



We extend our continuing gratitude to [The New York Bar Foundation](#) for its generous support to NSLS over the years. Emily Franchina, Esq, Chair of The Fellows of The New York Bar Foundation, is pictured left awarding Jeffrey Seigel, NSLS Executive Director, a check from the Foundation to support our Re-Entry Project!





Scott Karson was recently honored at a reception sponsored by the Suffolk County Bar Association and attended by his colleagues, friends and family. The group celebrated Mr. Karson as the new President-elect of the New York State Bar Association. Scott Karson also serves as Vice Chair of NSLS' Board of Directors. We congratulate him on his new position!

Photo credit: Barry M. Smolowitz, Esq.

LAW SERVICES HAS PRODUCED A VIDEO PROMOTION!

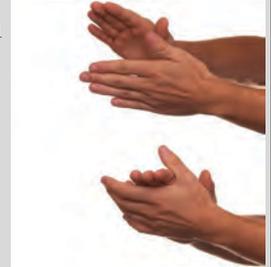


This video was made possible thanks to the generosity of David Goldberg and Digital Waterworx. Hear our staff talk about the valuable services we provide to our community.

<https://vimeo.com/331026486>

NSLS Pro Bono Services featured in Newsday

In a recent Newsday article, Nassau Suffolk Law Services' pro bono attorneys were proudly featured for their important contribution to the community. This Long Island Living Section piece explains that valuable pro bono partners fill the gap where NSLS does not receive funding to provide particular services, such as in divorce and bankruptcy cases. A couple of our dedicated pro bono attorneys are also quoted. You can read the article in the [Long Island Living Section March/April 2019](#) pp. 70-1. Our award winning Pro Bono Project and Volunteer Lawyers Project are proud to serve our Long Island neighbors. Read more about our dedicated volunteers on p. 7-8!



NSLS was a semi finalist for the **Imagine Awards Long Island!** Our staff attended the ceremony and **Cathy Lucidi**, Director of Community Relations, was very happy to meet Doug Geed of News 12! Congratulations to all the 2019 winners!



NSLS WELCOME RECEPTION

On April 16, 2019, NSLS hosted an Open House for its Advisory Council members. Our supporters were given a tour of the Islandia office and also were able to meet the dedicated staff and hear about the work we do. We appreciate the support of all of our Advisory Council Members.

If you would like more information and are interested in becoming an Advisory Council Member, please contact Cathy Lucidi at 631 232-2400 ext. 3324



PRO BONO ATTORNEYS OF THE MONTH-SUFFOLK



Pro Bono Attorney of the Month, **Vincent Cuocci**, has adeptly handled many pro bono bankruptcy cases for the past ten years. He especially enjoys having the ability to help clients “get back on their feet” financially and personally. His clients have been able to avoid further legal and family problems

as a result of the discharge of their debts. Clients who are heading towards foreclosure and even divorce are sometimes able to completely turn their lives around through bankruptcy. They can also financially recover from a disabling injury or disease, or the loss of a spouse. When the dischargeable debts are cleared, Mr. Cuocci enables his clients to return to stable economic ground. Mr. Cuocci believes that “filing for bankruptcy is a fair system for most people.” He recalls that one of his pro bono clients refused to come to the office because of the stigma associated with consulting with a bankruptcy lawyer, so Mr. Cuocci agreed to meet at a coffee shop. The client was buying food from the dollar store, had no air conditioning or television, and was not even able to afford the co-payments of prescribed medication. However, this same client was still making the minimum payments on several “maxed out” credit cards. It took all of Mr. Cuocci’s persuasion skills to convince them that filing for bankruptcy was in their best interests, and it was even harder to convince the client to take care of immediate medical needs before paying the credit card companies. Now that the credit card debt has been discharged, this client is Mr. Cuocci’s biggest fan and never forgets to send a holiday card, and has even referred several friends to Mr. Cuocci’s office for help. The Pro Bono Project sincerely thanks Mr. Cuocci for his demonstrated commitment to less fortunate Long Islanders.



Jeannie M. Henry has been representing numerous pro bono clients in matrimonial cases through the Pro Bono Project. Ms. Henry is a tireless advocate on behalf of our clients, and is currently representing five clients who were referred from the Suffolk Pro Bono Project. The

most affecting clients to Ms. Henry are those who cannot afford an attorney as they face the difficult

challenges of divorce and custody battles. “Divorce can have a devastating impact on parents and their children. Not having the proper legal guidance and advocacy can only compound an already trying circumstance. That is why I see my role as not only a legal advocate, but also as a caring, empathetic supporter who is there to help parents and children navigate through this most difficult time,” said Ms. Henry. Her strong work ethic, coupled with her life experience, makes her a powerful advocate. She emphasizes how important it is to treat people with compassion and respect. She explains, “The financial and emotional turmoil, which often accompanies divorce proceedings and child custody matters, can leave clients feeling anxious, frustrated, and overwhelmed. I strive to encourage them that we will get through the process together. It is just as important to me how we get through the process as what results are achieved.” The Pro Bono Project has been inspired by Ms. Henry’s capacity for hard work and her willingness to take on many cases at once.



Alan Finkel is one of the Pro Bono Project’s most inspiring matrimonial attorneys. After litigating matrimonial cases for thirty years, he has recently left his litigation practice to focus entirely on mediation.

In the last three years, Mr. Finkel has handled three divorces and in several cases was able to fashion a settlement that was acceptable to both parties. It is this ability to find and develop common ground that makes Mr. Finkel’s mediation practice so successful. When asked what it is about pro bono work that has been most gratifying to him, Mr. Finkel responded, “I like to give back to the community. I’m always impressed by the hard-working members of the community and I’m happy to help them if they need a divorce.” The Pro Bono Project is grateful for Mr. Finkel’s dedication to helping the less fortunate on Long Island. We are delighted to honor him as Pro Bono Attorney of the Month.

Go to www.nslawservices.org/honorees to read these testimonials in their entirety and learn more about our pro bono heroes!

PRO BONO ATTORNEYS OF THE MONTH-NASSAU



Dennis Buchanan was honored for his tremendous dedication to the clients he represents in Landlord-Tenant Court through the VLP's Attorney of the Day Project. Since joining the program in October of 2017, Mr. Buchanan has assisted 177 low-income clients, vol-

unteering more than 286 hours of his time to date. His zealous representation has allowed many tenants to remain in their residences, avoiding eviction and possible homelessness.

The Attorney of the Day Project, supervised by VLP Staff Attorney Roberta Scoll, assists hundreds of indigent and disabled men, women and children in housing court to prevent homelessness. Most tenants must appear pro se, and are severely disadvantaged by lack of counsel. The courts are overburdened trying to administer justice. Given the lack of affordable housing in this region, eviction may place families at a severe risk of becoming homeless.

As a retired attorney, with prior experience in corporate compliance and human resources, Mr. Buchanan decided that it was the perfect time to garner experience in the courtroom while helping those less fortunate. He pursued volunteer opportunities through the Nassau County Bar Association, which led him to the VLP Attorney of the Day Project. There he was given training materials, and the opportunity to work under the direct oversight of Roberta Scoll and her team of experienced volunteer Landlord Tenant attorneys.

"The structured environment of the Attorney of the Day Project was an excellent place for me to develop my litigation skills, and I am grateful for the chance to shadow and gain steady feedback from the other volunteers," states Mr. Buchanan. "Working on a pro bono basis allows me to focus purely on the goal of helping a client get the best deal possible and avoid being put out on the street. It is truly rewarding to roll up my sleeves and deal with the essence of peoples' basic needs."

Attorney of the Day Coordinator Roberta Scoll notes, "We are very fortunate to have Dennis as a volunteer. Twice a week Dennis consistently devotes his energies representing tenants through the Volunteer Lawyers Project. He is a tremendous help to the program."

The Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP) in Nassau County is a joint effort of NSLS and the Nassau County Bar Association. The demand for pro bono assistance is greatest in the areas of matrimonials, 17A guardianship, bankruptcy and landlord tenant. To volunteer, please contact Susan Biller, Esq. or Roberta Scoll (landlord/tenant) at 516 292-8299.

The Pro Bono Project in Suffolk County is a joint effort of NSLS and the Suffolk County Bar Association. Volunteer attorneys are most needed in the areas of full service matrimonial and bankruptcy cases as well as 17a Guardianships, Citizenship applications, and SSI/SSD application assistance (pro se assistance). Please call Carolyn McQuade to volunteer 631 232-2400

Heath S. Berger, Esq. has donated nearly fifty hours assisting twenty-two low income clients to obtain a new financial start by filing Chapter 7 bankruptcy petitions on their behalf. His long standing commitment to pro bono is truly impressive. Over the last decade, he has represented hundreds of debtors and volunteered over five hundred thirty hours helping VLP clients.



Mr. Berger is a member of Berger, Fischhoff, Shumer, Wexler & Goodman, LLP, a full-service Long Island Law firm located in Syosset. They handle a wide range of bankruptcy, matrimonial and family law matters, real estate transactions, education cases, complex transactional matters and general litigation. The entire firm holds a deep commitment to dedicating a significant portion of their time and resources to pro bono work, which truly benefits the community. Mr. Berger's bankruptcy practice ranges from the simplest chapter 7 and 13 filings to highly litigated matters representing both debtors and creditors.

Since joining the VLP panel of bankruptcy attorneys over 15 years ago, Mr. Berger has consistently accepted several Chapter 7 referrals after each bi-monthly bankruptcy clinic. These VLP clinics are detailed screenings held at the Nassau County Bar Association and staffed by experienced volunteer bankruptcy attorneys. Mr. Berger has been previously recognized as Pro Bono Attorney of the Month in 2006 and 2011 for this dedicated work. "I feel so fortunate that I am in the position to be able to help alleviate the tremendous burden many of our low income and disabled clients face. Assisting them to gain a fresh start and peace of mind is incredibly rewarding," reflects Mr. Berger. "We are truly thankful for Heath Berger's dedication to the VLP," states Susan Biller, Pro Bono Coordinator for the Project. "For years, we have consistently counted on him to represent our clients in need, and he does so with compassion and respect."



“Summer School” Training Schedule



Trainings will be held at our Islandia office: 1757 Veterans Hwy, Suite 50, Islandia. To pre-register, please call the Training Line at 631 232-2400 x 3357, fax 631 232-2489 or email Cathy Lucidi at clucidi@nsls.legal. Fee is \$35 per training. Please make check payable to Nassau Suffolk Law Services and mail your payment in advance to confirm pre-registration.

Public Assistance Overview What are the rules and financial eligibility guidelines for public assistance, food stamps and Medicaid? How does one apply and document the applications? What are the appeal rights? What are the other challenges in dealing with the Department of Social Services bureaucracy? These questions and more will be answered. Wednesday **July 10, 2019 9:30-12:30**

Landlord Tenant Training An overview of the rights of tenants in a landlord tenant eviction, including holdovers and nonpayment proceedings. The session will also cover elements of a lease, warranty of habitability, and illegal evictions. The staff of the Suffolk Civil Unit will present. 9:30-12:30 **Monday July 22, 2019.**

Social Security Overview An overview of the Social Security SSI/SSD application process for disabled individuals. We will discuss the general criteria for SSA-approved disabilities, the financial eligibility guidelines for SSI, an overview of work rules, and how an advocate can best assist their client in developing the disability case for the most successful application. **Tuesday August 13, 2019 9:30-12:30**

Training Registration Form

Name _____

Agency Affiliation _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Title of Training(s) _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Please check if payment will be sent at a later date or on the date of the Training

Please return with applicable fee to: Nassau/Suffolk Law Services, 1757 Veterans Highway, Suite 50, Islandia, N.Y. 11749
Attn: Cathy Lucidi. This form may also be faxed to Cathy at (631) 232-2489



Nassau/Suffolk Law Services Committee, Inc.

1 Helen Keller Way, 5th Fl.
Hempstead, N.Y. 11550
(516) 292-8100

1757 Veterans Memorial Hwy., Suite 50,
Islandia, N.Y. 11749
(631) 232-2400

400 W. Main St., Suite 301,
Riverhead, N.Y. 11901
(631) 369-1112



Make sure to give us your email address by going to www.nslawservices.org and look for the “Sign up for our newsletter field”. Tell your friends and colleagues



We're Quite Social!



Congratulations to the following staff celebrating their recent milestone employment anniversaries:



<u>Staff</u>	<u>Years of Dedicated Service</u>
Jody Brinson, Staff Attorney	10
Cathy Lucidi, Director of Community Relations	35
Maureen Marmero, Administrative Assistant	30
Darlene Rosch, Staff Attorney	20
Jeffrey Seigel, Executive Director	30
Regan Serlin, Staff Attorney	10
Carrie Vasiluth, Staff Attorney	30
Beth Zweig, Staff Attorney	5

Welcome New Hires

Omar Navarro, Paralegal, Community Legal Help Project
Allison Noonan, Staff Attorney, Disability Advocacy

Congratulations

Sandra Trujillo who has been promoted to Paralegal, VLP
Regina Reid, who has been promoted to Paralegal, Child Support Unit

It is with great sadness that we announce that our legal community has lost one of its own. **Frank J. Gulas, Jr.** passed away on January 26, 2019. Frank was a staff attorney with Nassau Suffolk Law Services for over 18 years (having been an intern for years prior to attending law school). For the last ten years, he represented low-income victims of domestic violence. He previously represented people living with HIV/AIDS for many years. As anyone who knew Frank would know, he was an attorney deeply dedicated to his clients and a true warrior for justice.



NASSAU SUFFOLK LAW SERVICES
2019 FALL COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE RECEPTION

"A Ray of Light for Justice"
OCTOBER 30, 2019
Larkfield, East Northport, NY

Save the Date

BARBARA J. MEHRMAN
COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE
HONOREE

ELLEN BIRCH
REALTIME REPORTING

NSLS Advisory
Council Member

NASSAU SUFFOLK LAW SERVICES
COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE
HONOREES

MARIA DOSSO, ESQ.
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS
& VOLUNTEER SERVICES

After more than 30 years of dedicated service, Maria will be retiring at the end of the year.

DOUGLAS RUFF, ESQ.
DIRECTOR OF LITIGATION
& SENIOR STAFF ATTORNEY

After more than 40 years of dedicated service, Doug will be retiring in September of this year.

Nassau/Suffolk Law Services Committee, Inc.

1757 Veterans Memorial Highway, Ste 50

Islandia, NY 11749