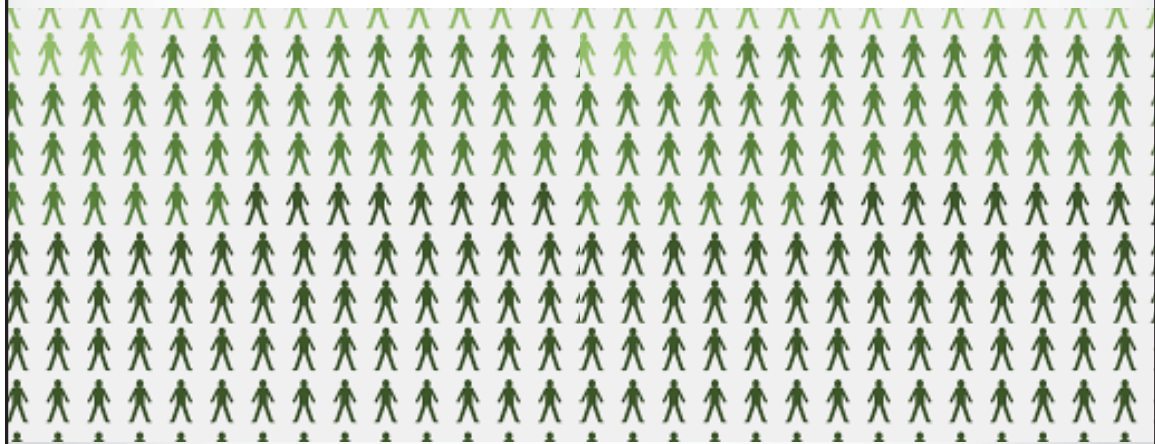


Access to Justice and Professional Responsibility

Lois R. Lupica
Maine Law Foundation Professor of Law
University of Maine School of Law

- Legal Services Corporation: nearly a million low-income people who seek help for civil legal problems are turned away annually because of the lack of adequate resources.



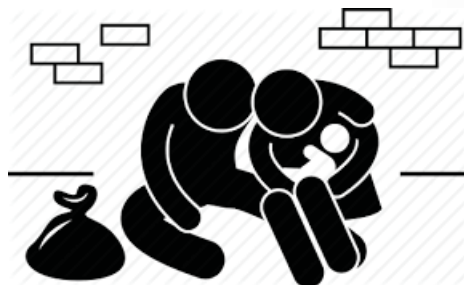
President Trump's Budget would End Funding for Legal Services Corporation

Trump Budget Would Gut Legal Aid For Veterans, Domestic Abuse Victims And Disaster Survivors

If the Trump administration gets its way, the Legal Services Corporation is getting the axe.

Legal services in unprecedented danger under Trump's budget proposal

- Family law cases
- Debt collection
- Eviction
- Domestic abuse



Preamble

- “A lawyer is a public citizen having special responsibility for the quality of justice”
- “A lawyer should seek improvement of the law, access to the legal system, the administration of justice, and the quality of legal services rendered by the legal profession.”
- “A lawyer should be mindful of deficiencies in the administration of justice and of the fact that the poor and sometimes persons who are not poor, cannot afford adequate legal assistance.”

Rule 6.1 ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct

- “A lawyer should aspire to render at least 50 hours of pro bono public legal services per year” and that “a substantial majority of the 50 hours” should be to persons of limited means or to organizations that support the needs of persons of limited means.
- ABA 2013 Supporting Justice III study found that the average annual amount of service provided by attorneys was 56.5 hours, with a median of 30 hours per year.

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First appeared as part of the conference materials for the

36th Annual Jay L. Westbrook Bankruptcy Conference session

"Professional Responsibility Rules and (Other) Barriers to Access to Civil Justice"