



MARYLAND LEGAL AID

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Advocates of Civil Legal Aid and Equal Access to Justice to be recognized at the 25th Annual Equal Justice Awards Breakfast with Keynote Speaker U.S. Senator Ben Cardin

BALTIMORE, Md., (May 7, 2024) - On Tuesday, May 21, Maryland Legal Aid's Equal Justice Council (EJC) will host its 25th Annual Equal Justice Awards Breakfast at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel. This event will celebrate 25 years of honoring the individuals, law firms and community partners that are helping to ensure that all Marylanders have a fair shot at justice. **U.S. Senator Ben Cardin** is this year's keynote speaker.

AWARDS FOR 2024:

Pro Bono Partners of the Year

Covington & Burling LLP
Hon. Andre Davis

Preeminent Partners

Venable LLP/Venable Foundation, Inc.
Kramon & Graham PA
Zuckerman Spaeder LLP
Brown, Goldstein & Levy, LLP
Law Offices of Peter T. Nicholl
Iloff, Meredith, Wildberger & Brennan, P.C.
Saiontz & Kirk P.A.
Blades & Rosenfeld

Paragon of Justice

Venable LLP/Venable Foundation, Inc.

Beacon of Justice

DLA Piper LLP (US)
Kramon & Graham PA
Whiteford, Taylor & Preston LLP

Defender of Justice

Baker Donelson
Miles & Stockbridge P.C.
Rosenberg Martin Greenberg, LLP
Gallagher, Evelius & Jones, LLP
Saul Ewing LLP
Zuckerman Spaeder LLP
Hogan Lovells US LLP
Ballard Spahr LLP
Goodell DeVries

The Equal Justice Council is composed of leading partners from Maryland's top law firms and other prominent members of the Maryland Bar and corporate community. Since 1997, members of the EJC have raised critically needed funds for Maryland Legal Aid in order to promote equal access to justice, while also serving as dedicated advocates who raise awareness of the organization's important work.

Additionally, EJC members are charged with increasing *pro bono* involvement among private attorneys and participating in fundraising activities such as educational sessions and contacting foundations and corporations. Maryland Legal Aid's Development Unit works closely with the Equal Justice Council to provide administrative and informational support to increase contributions to the organization.

Special Thanks to our Presenting Sponsor

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Event Details: **25th Annual Equal Justice Awards Breakfast Details**

What: Maryland Legal Aid's 25th Annual Equal Justice Awards Breakfast

When: Tuesday, May 21 | 7:45 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Where: Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel
202 East Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202

For more information about the Equal Justice Awards breakfast, visit <https://www.mdlab.org/equal-justice-awards-breakfast/> or email Director of Development Graham Cowger, gcowger@mdlaborg.

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About Maryland Legal Aid

Maryland Legal Aid (MLA) is a statewide private, nonprofit law firm that provides free, civil legal services to low-income and vulnerable people to address their most fundamental legal problems. From its 12 offices around the state and through its many community-based clinics, we help our clients preserve and access safe and affordable housing, maintain custody of their children, and be safe from domestic violence. MLA increases our clients' economic security by defending against consumer debt, including foreclosures and tax sales, removing barriers to employment, and accessing critical income supports such as unemployment, food stamps and other vital public benefits. Through special projects, we represent seniors, nursing home residents, children in alleged abuse and neglect cases, migrant farmworkers, and those in mental health institutions. In its advocacy, MLA seeks systemic change through impact litigation, policy advocacy, and by telling our clients' compelling stories.

