

Foundation Brief

WINTER 2009

Bracing for Change

The economic climate is affecting us all. Nonprofits are competing for a limited amount of charitable dollars – including your Bar Foundation. As you set your personal giving priorities, please consider the impact of declining IOLTA dollars on the profession – how much they are falling and what that will do to our grantees' capacities to serve. July 2007 marked an all-time high for monthly IOLTA revenues. Today's receipts are 80 percent lower than that peak. Last year, 96 percent of Foundation support came from IOLTA.

In response to the fall in our main revenue stream, the Foundation was forced to make very challenging cuts to grantees during the current cycle – \$5.4 million originally was awarded; mid-year cuts resulted in \$4.0 million in awards. To prevent further reductions to current grantees, the Foundation will utilize \$1.5 million in reserve funds. Looking ahead, we predict IOLTA revenues less than \$2.0 million. Grantees are reducing work forces – some might even be forced to shut their doors. Though we cannot make up the millions of dollars lost in IOLTA revenues, we do have an opportunity to attempt to bridge the gap through attorney support.

- If you are a contributor, please see if you are able to increase your gift.
- If you have never given, or if it has been a while since your last gift, change that today.
- See if your firm might consider a gift to the Foundation.
- Tell our colleagues about this need and how we have an opportunity as a profession to bridge part of the gap until IOLTA funding is restored.

If everyone does a little, the profession can do a lot.

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE SOUTH CAROLINA BAR FOUNDATION

Our mission is to fund the advancement of justice by improving access, education and accountability.



Freeman's Challenge:
"...much to be done...our neighbors will need our help..."

David Freeman (L); Frank Knowlton (R). Photo credit: John Mann Photography

The Bar Foundation named David L. Freeman with Wyche Burgess Freeman & Parham, PA as the 30th recipient of the DuRant Distinguished Public Service Award. Upon accepting his award, Mr. Freeman stated:

"I believe that all of us have a very important craving for service above and beyond the work we do strictly for pay. As officers of the Court, we fill needs for pro bono counsel to the poor and the disadvantaged that frequently cannot be met in any other way. Our training as lawyers especially qualifies us for government service. As lawyers, over time we can become trusted advisors, not just to our clients, but to the community at large. It is in this role that we often find our best chance to make a significant difference in the lives of our fellow citizens."

To view Mr. Freeman's full remarks and his distinguished profile, please visit www.sctbarfoundation.org/durant.asp.

Lawyers Reach Milestones in Giving

Six lawyers have reached a level of \$5,000 in giving to permanent Foundation funds over the course of their lifetimes. We honor them as Liberty Legacy donors. They have been consistent in their support and we gratefully express our appreciation to them. We applaud the Hon. J. Michelle Childs, Sue Erwin Harper, Lanneau Wm. Lambert Jr., David Merline, E. Windell McCrackin and Dennis E. O'Neill for their steadfast support of the Bar's charitable arm. For photos and more donor information, please visit www.sctbarfoundation.org/donors/asp.

Gala March 12, 2009 Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center

CELEBRATING 37 YEARS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA BAR FOUNDATION

Special presentation to the *Nifty Fifty* members of the South Carolina Bar

Special invitees include
the South Carolina Supreme Court and the South Carolina Court of Appeals

Honoring the Nifty Fifty Class of 1958

John Graham Altman III
Thomas G. Buist
Leonard B. Burgess
Robert M. Carlisle Jr.
Max Barnes Cauthen Jr.
Cary Doyle

Harry Easterling
Bernard R. Fielding
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Kermit S. King
E. Crosby Lewis
Wm. Ellison Long Jr.
Ben W. Macmillan
Julian H. Morgan Jr.

William E. Myrick Jr.
William C. Parler
Robert S. Poydasheff
W. D. Rhoad
Harvey Melvin Spar

Tickets \$75

Please join us at 6:00 PM for cocktails, a seated dinner and dancing. Black tie optional.
To reserve your seat, please contact the Bar Foundation at 803.765.0517 or via foundation@sctbar.org.

Gala 2009 is being held to help the Foundation in its quest as the only statewide entity that supports legal aid and educates the public about the civil justice system.

TRIBUTE GIFTS

Honor a colleague ... remember a friend

The Bar Foundation acknowledges those who have made gifts in memory or honor of a colleague or friend of the Bar through January 2009.

IN MEMORY OF...

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- \$100-\$249 JM Perry Patron

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- Apply my gift where it is needed most.
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SC Bar Foundation • PO Box 608 • Columbia, SC 29202

The SC Bar Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c) 3 charitable organization and all contributions are tax deductible within the limits of the law.

WINTER 2009

Your gift will help -

At our highest IOLTA funding capacity, 8,500 of the state's poor received legal services and 4,700 of our youth benefited from a law related education program. The capacity of our grantees with half as much available in resources will be devastating. We've always looked to members of the Bar and law firms for support. Your help is needed now more than ever.

Give online via www.sctbarfoundation.org

