



REPRESENTING LOW-INCOME TENANTS IN FRANKLIN COUNTY

Application has been made to the Supreme
Court of Ohio for
3.25 CLE Credits

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2017

11:00 AM– 2:30 PM

Porter Wright Morris & Arthur LLP —41 S. High Street,

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This program is designed to prepare volunteer attorneys who provide critical representation to low income tenants in eviction proceedings in Franklin County through the Volunteer Resource Center Housing Project (VRC) and the Tenant Advocacy Project (TAP). TAP participants will volunteer for specific weekday clinics to provide first-cause-only representation to tenants onsite at eviction court. VRC Housing volunteers will receive cases ahead of time and are equipped to provide the higher level of service that potentially require advance client contact and case preparation. This training will provide basic information that is relevant to all volunteers—on landlord/tenant law, as well as practical information on legal defenses, settlement, procedure, and other issues impacting low-income tenants. The materials include outlines, forms and template pleadings.

AGENDA

11:00-11:15—Views from the Bench

11:15-11:45— Hearing Simulation and Basic Procedures/Practices of Eviction Court

11:45-12:15 —Intro to TAP & Day in the life of a TAP volunteer

12:15-12:30—Break / Lunch

12:30-2:00—10 Eviction Defenses and Practical Tips

2:00-2:30—Pro bono Attorney panel with Q&A

FACULTY

Melissa Benson joined LASC in August, 2015, after working for nearly ten years as an attorney in the Chillicothe office of Southeastern Ohio Legal Services (SEOLS). She has practiced in housing, consumer, domestic, and public benefits in her time with legal aid, but now focuses exclusively on housing issues. She successfully litigated numerous appeals on various issues including FHA foreclosure, unfair and deceptive car sales practices, parental consent to adoption, and when a court can impute income to an unintentionally unemployed parent for the purposes of determining child support. Before obtaining her law degree, Melissa worked as a journalist in Cleveland.

Benjamin Horne is the Managing Attorney of the Housing Unit at the Legal Aid Society of Columbus. Prior to joining LASC, Ben worked at the Chillicothe, Newark, and Lancaster offices of Southeastern Ohio Legal Services. Ben is a graduate of Carleton College and Notre Dame Law School.

Jyoshu Tsushima is a 2014 graduate of the University of Cincinnati School of Law. During law school, he worked as a Legal Intern for the Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati Civil Protection Order Clinic, as a legal extern for the Cincinnati Public Schools, and as a Legal Intern for the Housing Assistance Council in Washington, D.C. After graduating from law school, Jyoshu served as a pro bono attorney for both the Volunteer Lawyers Project in Cincinnati and the Legal Aid Society of Columbus (LASC). He currently runs the LASC Security Deposit project on a volunteer basis

Registration

This training is free to any attorney currently participating in (or committed to participate in) the Tenant Advocacy Project. All others should submit a \$110.00 fee.

To register, please complete an online form here: <https://oslsa.wufoo.com/forms/w12nt7qx0mx5o5y/>

Unless a hard copy is specifically requested, materials will be e-mailed to participants in advance of the training. Thank you for helping us save resources!

LASC does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, or age in admission, treatment, or participation in its programs, services and activities, or in employment.

