



## REPRESENTING LOW- INCOME TENANTS IN EVICTION COURT

*Application has been made to the Supreme  
Court of Ohio for 2.0 CLE Credits*

**TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2020**

**12:00 PM—2:00 PM**

**Live Interactive Webinar**

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This Live Interactive Webinar is designed to prepare volunteer attorneys who provide critical representation to low-income tenants in eviction proceedings in Central and Southeastern Ohio. Staff attorneys from the Legal Aid Society of Columbus will discuss the Tenant Advocacy Project (TAP). TAP participants in Franklin County volunteer for specific weekday clinics to provide first-cause-only representation to tenants onsite at eviction court.

Attorneys interested in volunteering in any county in the service area of the Legal Aid Society of Columbus or Southeastern Ohio Legal Services are welcome to join us for this CLE. While part of the presentation will discuss procedures specific to Franklin County Municipal Court, eviction defenses covered are relevant to all Ohio eviction proceedings. New TAP projects are being explored in counties outside of Columbus. Once those projects are launched, a supplemental training session will be provided for the volunteer attorneys with county specific procedural guidance for eviction proceedings.

**As a result of changes made during COVID-19, volunteer help for TAP will be needed more than ever, as we prepare for eviction hearings restarting in June, 2020.** This training will provide basic information 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

12:00 - 12:45 - Basic Procedures/Practices of Eviction Court

12:45 - 1:15 - Intro to TAP & Day in the Life of a TAP volunteer

1:15 - 2:00 - Eviction Defenses and Practical Tips

## FACULTY

**Melissa Lenz** joined the Legal Aid Society of Columbus in 2018 as a staff attorney with the Housing Team, where she represents clients in evictions and housing subsidy terminations. She has also assisted clients whose landlords are not making necessary repairs with their rent escrow hearings or nuisance abatement cases. Melissa received her Bachelor of Arts in French and International Studies from The Ohio State University in 2014, and received her law degree from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law in 2018. While in law school, she clerked with LASC's Housing Team, as well as the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO) and Disability Rights Ohio.

**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 Tenant Advocacy Project.

## 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://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4852322241318833422>

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!

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