

# Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services

■ JANUARY 1 —  
DECEMBER 31, 2004



ANNUAL REPORT



## EMMETT STANTON, Chairman's Letter 2004

Colleagues and Friends:

This has been a banner year for the Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services, thanks to the support we received from so many individual attorneys, law firms and affiliated organizations. The positive impact we have been able to make this year upon so many individuals, as well as entire communities, is a shared triumph. You have my appreciation for all we continue to do together on their behalf. Yet there is still much to do, as you will see when you review this Annual Report and compare the value of the mission with the amount of funds available to support the needs of people who otherwise would lack access to legal counsel. As public funding for agencies that serve this constituency diminishes, it is up to the private sector to step in, and step up to help.

There is no greater purpose, as I see it, than to make this commitment to the Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services, as so many of our colleagues listed here have done. Our gifts are providing a valuable lifeline and source of future stability for a demographic group that truly needs our help.

This year we have made major strides in a number of ways:

- Increased overall donations by more than 20%.
- Welcomed new donors from the business community including those who partner with and provide important support services to law firms.
- Encouraged area corporations to step up their support under the able leadership of the General Counsel Committee.
- Strengthened our leadership by adding four new members to expand representation of area law firms on our board.
- Instituted a new computer system to build our organizational capacity.

Our challenge now is to continue this momentum, to go beyond simply sustaining the current level of support to the agencies and people who now depend on us. We need to expand the number and scope of firms and individuals who we want to partner with us in this endeavor.

I am proud of what we have done so far, but I know that we have much more to do so that those who need our support can receive it. Thank you for continuing to make a difference in people's lives.

Sincerely,

— Emmett Stanton, Esq.  
FENWICK & WEST LLP



“Our challenge  
is to go beyond  
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the current level  
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— Emmett Stanton, Esq.  
FENWICK & WEST LLP





## Campaign Mission

The Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services (SVCLS) provides funds to increase the effectiveness and ability of non-profit legal services agencies to assist men, women and children of all ages, ethnicities and cultural backgrounds. The organization supports individuals who cannot afford to hire an attorney in civil cases and whose legal rights would otherwise go unenforced or unrecognized. Funds are raised from the legal community in Silicon Valley and from surrounding areas, and are distributed to agencies that provide civil legal services directly to the poor. SVCLS also works to encourage the legal community to become more involved in the provision of pro bono legal assistance. The Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services is a recipient of the American Bar Association's prestigious Harrison Tweed award with the Santa Clara County Bar Association for leadership in expanding and developing support for the provision of free legal services to the poor.

## Characteristics and Needs of People Who Benefit

Over 521,000 people in Silicon Valley—30% of the population—qualify for special help due to income, age or disability. These individuals' critical legal issues are related to:

- health care;
- the ability to secure and preserve affordable and fair housing;
- family law issues such as domestic violence, child custody and divorce;
- economic stability;
- special problems of the elderly;
- consumer fraud, debt collection abuses and other unfair practices;
- immigration; and
- employment.

The people who receive assistance have “poverty-level” income; this is far below the income that people actually need to live in Silicon Valley. Many of these individuals are the working poor. For a family of three (such as a mother and two children) the federal poverty level is \$15,260/year – well below the California Self-Sufficiency Standard for Santa Clara County of \$39,153 to \$57,169. Families like these cannot afford even their basic needs without assistance.

Silicon Valley-based legal services agencies lack the financial resources needed to meet the legal needs of our community's poorest residents. We welcome the legal community's pro bono actions and financial support.

“Words cannot express the gratitude our organization has for SVCLS. All legal service providers have seen a substantial reduction in government support, individual donations and grants. We are struggling to meet our budgets.

This contribution means that we will be able to meet this year's budget without reducing services.

The Silicon Valley Campaign's success has given us renewed hope that attorneys in private practice do care about the disadvantaged and this has made our jobs easier. The Campaign has awakened (or perhaps re-awakened) the desire to give on the part of our private bar.

Thank you.”

— Cynthia A. Mertens, Esq.  
PROFESSOR OF LAW/ EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR, THE KATHERINE  
AND GEORGE ALEXANDER  
COMMUNITY LAW CENTER

“SVCLS helps stabilize our program assuring the continuation of free legal services to at least 2,000 Santa Clara County elders annually. Because these funds are unrestricted, we can place these funds in the area of greatest need such as requests for intervention in elder abuse cases.

Your funding also leverages matching funds from other sources.

This is a great return on investment for SVCLS donors, for the participating legal service agencies, and most of all for our clients.

We at SALA thank you for making this fundraising effort such a success.”

— Georgia Bacil, Esq.  
DIRECTING ATTORNEY  
SENIOR ADULTS LEGAL ASSISTANCE  
(SALA)



“What SVCLS has done benefits clients so much, beyond the sheer funding cushion. It shows a real and principled commitment to the needs of clients by the private bar in Silicon Valley. Thanks is not enough.”

— Bob Planthold Esq.  
BAY AREA LEGAL AID BOARD MEMBER  
AND CLIENT

## SVCLS Funding Rises 20%

Grants given to seven legal service providers enabled them to serve over 31,000 low-income people in 2004. SVCLS awarded nearly \$337,000 to seven beneficiary agencies last year, up from \$278,000 in 2003 for an increase of 21%. Each beneficiary agency’s board of directors determines the best and most effective use of these monies, thus ensuring support for the most urgent client needs and program priorities.

## Ready. Set. Continue!

2004 saw the steady expansion of SVCLS’ donor base of support with the number of law firm, company and individual supporters growing by nearly 50%. This figure bodes well for SVCLS’ drive to reach \$1 million in funding support for legal services agencies in three to five years. We are grateful to those donors who responded so generously in 2004.

Thanks to a continued, generous advertising donation from *The Recorder*, and marketing communications support from *Blattel Communications*, SVCLS continues to challenge the legal community to increase its support of SVCLS. The “Ready. Set. Challenge!” ad campaign also provides recognition for our donor family. We are grateful to these two donors for their efforts to bring attention to increasing legal services for the poor through SVCLS.





Client and Brooke Heymach, Legal Aid of San Mateo County.

## Donors Celebrate Grant Distribution at Gibson Dunn

Donors and beneficiary agencies joined together in celebration of SVCLS' fifth annual distribution of funds in October 2004. Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP graciously hosted the event.

As in past years, clients again shared their meaningful, personal stories – the circumstances that led them to seek legal assistance and the impact of the legal assistance they received due to SVCLS' funding. On the following pages are just two of many moving stories we heard that evening.



Top photo | Event Host Denis Salmon, Gibson Dunn & Crutcher and Craig Allison, Dewey Ballantine.

Bottom photo | Linda McPharlin, McPharlin Sprinkles & Thomas, Karen Cottle, Adobe Systems, and John Place.

“Applied Materials is a proud supporter of SVCLS’ efforts to improve the quality of life for Silicon Valley’s most vulnerable residents.

Helping our neighbors obtain critical legal help when it’s needed is the right thing to do. We invite others to join us in supporting this worthy organization.”

— Joe Sweeney, Esq.  
GROUP VICE PRESIDENT,  
LEGAL AFFAIRS AND  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY,  
AND CORPORATE SECRETARY

## Major Gifts Initiative Launched

With the leadership of Linda McPharlin and Phil Hammer, SVCLS launched an initiative to encourage new and increased participation by individuals donating to the campaign. The community responded generously to our call for major gift support. We are most grateful.

## Clients Remind Us of The Value of Our Work

“The funds from SVCLS are vital to maintaining the quality of client service. We salute the many donors and board members who work to bring equal access to justice to all in our community.”

— Jim Bower Esq.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
LAW FOUNDATION OF SILICON VALLEY

### MARIA INES VICTORIA SHARES HER STORY:

I was an owner of a clothing boutique in my country, Colombia. On a business trip to the states, I met and fell in love with my husband, a United States citizen. I sold my business and uprooted my daughter because I believed in this marriage.

After our marriage I saw that my husband was not the man I thought he was. He had problems controlling his anger to the point that in a discussion he hit me and threatened to kill me. I was so scared, and after the second call to the police, they finally arrested him. It was a complete nightmare.

I literally escaped the violence with only the clothing on my back. My husband refused to share his income with us. While escaping this violent relationship and trying to obtain transitional housing, my immigration notice came to our former residence. My husband deliberately failed to inform me about the interview, and my legal residency was denied.

Fortunately, with the help of a legal advocate, I was able to obtain approval under the Violence Against Women Act, and after that, legal residency as a battered spouse of a U.S. citizen. My legal advocate pressed the immigration officials to conduct the adjustment of status interview before my daughter reached 21, which made a huge difference in her ability to legalize as well.

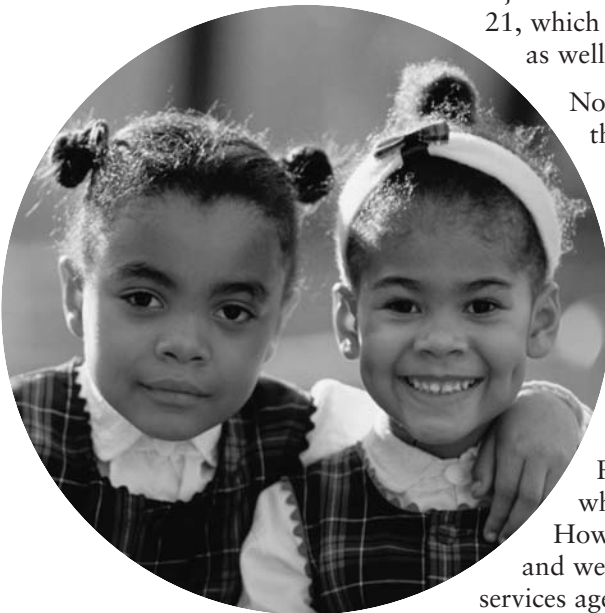
Now, my life is completely different. I am free from the abuse, study English and support myself. My daughter is now a university student and is doing very well in school.

I want to thank you for supporting the work of SVCLS. I cannot imagine what our life would be like now if we had not received help.

### LAURA SHARES

#### THIS STORY WITH US:

I sought assistance from the Golden Gate Regional Center (GGRC) for my son, Nadir, who was believed to be on the Autistic Spectrum. However, after four months, GGRC was unresponsive and we were unable to access services. I went to a legal services agency for help. The advocate immediately contacted GGRC inquiring about the delay. The advocate guided me step by step through a process leading to successfully obtaining help. I also learned about our rights and the different resources available to my son and me. Having the assistance of a legal advocate sped up the process of getting an official diagnosis of autism for Nadir and allowed me to be more attentive to him when I was at home.





The advocate, subsequently, facilitated obtaining professional help for Nadir's transition into pre-school. I had encountered problems obtaining services from the school district. After attending an Individualized Education Program, I was told two pro-bono attorneys had agreed to help us.

Nadir has been receiving Applied Behavior Analysis therapy for seven months and just recently started pre-school. He is doing phenomenally well. Although he hasn't started talking, his behavior is much improved. He has begun to sign more consistently and his social skills have also progressed.

As a single mother with a very low income, it is a blessing to have resources like those provided by the legal services agency that



helped me. The attorneys are dedicated to helping underprivileged county residents, like myself, address our legal problems. I'd like to say thank you to all of the donors, attorneys and staff who helped give Nadir a chance at a more successful and happy childhood and education. Thank you!



"With funding from SVCLS, low-income children, families and seniors are able to turn to the oldest provider of free, high quality civil legal services in our community for legal assistance needed just to get the basics: access to food and housing, access to medical care and an education, and access to the courts to ensure an end to domestic violence for women and their children. Legal Aid staff attorneys and dedicated pro bono volunteers from throughout Silicon Valley join together to bring justice for all to life for thousands. Thanks as always, for SVCLS' great support."

—M. Stacey Hawver, Esq.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
LEGAL AID SOCIETY  
OF SAN MATEO COUNTY





— Derek Witter Esq.  
SILICON VALLEY BANK

“The General Counsel Committee provides a unique opportunity for in-house lawyers and the companies they represent to help provide legal services for those less fortunate.”



— Scott Taylor, Esq.  
PHOENIX TECHNOLOGIES

## General Counsel Committee News

Derek Witte, Silicon Valley Bank, and Scott Taylor, Phoenix Technologies, assumed leadership of the General Counsel Committee in 2004. SVCLS extends its heartfelt appreciation to founding chair, John Place and to Kent Walker for their vision and actions encouraging expanded support for SVCLS within the Silicon Valley business community. We also recognize members Don Gralnek, Mark Michael and Mark Katz for their early support of the committee.

## SVCLS Welcomes Practising Law Institute as Major Sponsor

Practising Law Institute (PLI) awarded a significant grant supporting the continuing legal education needs of SVCLS legal services providers. The grant provides scholarships for PLI’s continuing legal education (MCLE) programs to all staff attorneys at SVCLS’ grantee agencies. The gift also offers one PLI program scholarship to each attorney actively providing pro bono services through one of the agencies. Each scholarship is valued at approximately \$1,200. More than 50 staff attorneys and nearly 600 volunteer attorneys will be able to take advantage of this program. Support such as that from PLI, along with SVCLS’ continued fundraising endeavors, allows us to highlight SVCLS’ delivery of assistance to those in need and attract the services of additional attorneys to do pro bono work.



Amanda Groves, Winston & Strawn and Aaron Myers, Fenwick & West, Bowl-A-Thon co-chairs.

## Bowl-A-Thon – The Amicus Committee in Motion

The Amicus Committee organized a Bowl-A-Thon and Legal Services Mixer in April 2004. The event, sponsored by Gray Care Ware & Freidenrich LLP, Dechert LLP, and Hammer & Jacobs, attracted 50 attorneys and staff from area law firms. The event raised over \$3,200 for SVCLS.

Planning is well underway for 2005 with a focus on networking efforts and support for *2005 Match: Making Pro Bono Connections* — an event to encourage greater involvement in pro bono legal services. Our thanks to Amanda Groves whose leadership brought energy to the committee’s work in 2004.



Hammer & Jacobs attorneys and staff enjoy the event.



“The Amicus Committee  
is a great way  
to network  
with colleagues  
at other firms  
and support  
a great cause  
at the same time.”

— Amanda Groves, Esq.  
WINSTON & STRAWN

# Thank You! 2004 Donors

Thank you for supporting our very important mission – to give low-income individuals access to civil legal counsel.

We gratefully acknowledge our 2004 donors.



Gifts from January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004.

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\* The *Thurgood Marshall Society* recognizes law firms whose gift is equivalent to \$250 or greater per attorney based in Silicon Valley.

# Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services 2004 Financial Statement *(Unaudited)*

“Our programs and services reach thousands of low-income members of our community. SVCLS’ contribution makes a difference! Your grant enables us to replace funds lost from the United Way of Silicon Valley. We have lost roughly 60% of our United Way funding because of the downturn in the economy. Thank you again for your dedication to our clients and to the legal services provided by ALA.”

— Richard Konda, Esq.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ASIAN  
LAW ALLIANCE

## INCOME

### Contributions

Individuals		
Board Members	\$ 39,900	
Individuals	<u>43,980</u>	
<i>Sub-Total Individual Gifts</i>		\$ 83,880
Law Firms	236,550	
Companies	64,000	
Organizations	32,800	
Foundations	3,000	
Special Events	<u>3,270</u>	
<i>Sub-Total Other Gifts</i>		\$339,620
<b>Total 2004 Contributed Income</b>		<b>\$423,500</b>

## EXPENSES

### Agency Distributions

Bay Area Legal Aid (SCC Office)	\$ 73,290	
Katherine & George Alexander		
Community Law Center	62,586	
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley	73,290	
Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County	10,000	
Pro Bono Project Silicon Valley	33,684	
Santa Clara County Asian Law Alliance	40,608	
Senior Adults Legal Assistance	<u>43,388</u>	
<i>Sub-Total Distributions to Agencies</i>		\$336,846
Administrative Expenses		\$ <u>97,807</u>

### Total 2004 Expenses

**\$434,650**

### Surplus (Shortfall)

Assets beginning of the Year		(\$ 11,150)
Assets at end of Year		<u>15,148</u>
		\$3,998



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**Silicon Valley  
Campaign for Legal Services**

Client photos do not illustrate case stories. Photos by: Peter Fox, Ira Nowinsky and others.

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Yes, I/We would like to help.

## INDIVIDUALS AND COMPANIES

I/We wish to make a contribution at the following level:

### Founders Circle

- John Marshall Society (1801 –1835)  
Gifts of \$40,000 and above
- Oliver Wendell Holmes Society (1902 –1932)  
Gifts of 25,000 to \$39,000
- Louis Brandeis Society (1916 –1939)  
Gifts of \$10,000 to \$24,999

### Benefactors Circle

- Benjamin Cardozo Society (1932 –1938)  
Gifts of \$5,000 to \$9,999
- Felix Frankfurter Society (1939 –1962)  
Gifts of \$2,500 to \$4,999
- Earl Warren Society (1953 –1969)  
Gifts of \$1,000 to \$2,499

### Supporters

- Gifts \$500 to \$999

### Donors: The Billable Hour or Greater

- Gifts up to \$499

Please consider this pledge for:

\_\_\_\_\_ of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ and  
Year \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ and  
Year \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.  
Year \_\_\_\_\_

Other instructions \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## LAW FIRMS

\_\_\_ Our firm will make a commitment based on:

- \_\_\_ \$350 per attorney
- \_\_\_ \$300 per attorney
- \_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per attorney.

The total number of attorneys employed by our firm is

\_\_\_\_\_ Number

Please consider this a minimum. If the number of attorneys increases, our contribution will increase.

## For Gifts:

\_\_\_ My/Our check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ payable to the Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services is enclosed.

- Please charge my credit card for \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- VISA       Mastercard

\_\_\_\_\_ Card Number

\_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date

\_\_\_\_\_ Authorization Signature      \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date

\_\_\_ I/We wish to make a gift of stock or securities. Please call me to discuss this gift.

## For Pledges:

\_\_\_ My/Our gift is a pledge for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I/We plan to pay pledge payment(s) in full by the end of each year. Please send a reminder notice.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date      \_\_\_\_\_ Amount      \_\_\_\_\_ Date      \_\_\_\_\_ Amount

\_\_\_\_\_ Date      \_\_\_\_\_ Amount      \_\_\_\_\_ Date      \_\_\_\_\_ Amount

\_\_\_\_\_ Date      \_\_\_\_\_ Amount      \_\_\_\_\_ Date      \_\_\_\_\_ Amount

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Donor      \_\_\_\_\_ Date

## Donor Information: (Please complete)

\_\_\_\_\_ Name of Donor (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_ Address (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number      \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address

## Acknowledgements:

Please recognize my/our name(s) as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I/We wish to remain anonymous.

Your contribution is tax deductible except for the Fair Market Value (FMV) of the benefits and privileges of recognition. We estimate the FMV to be \$0.

Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services  
4 N. 2nd Street, Suite 400  
San José, California 95113  
www.svcls.org

If you have any questions regarding this form, please call 408-287-2557.

Federal Tax ID: 77-0524824

Please tear off and return in enclosed envelope.







**Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services**

4 North Second Street, Suite 400  
San José, California 95113

**CALL US** | 408.287.2557  
**FAX US** | 408.287.6083

**EMAIL US** | [svcls@baymoon.com](mailto:svcls@baymoon.com)  
**DONATE ONLINE** | [www.svcls.org](http://www.svcls.org)