

COMMISSION MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES

Our Mission is to overcome barriers to justice and empower North Carolinians to meet their legal needs through our leadership, collaboration, and problem-solving.

Our Vision is a North Carolina legal system that is fair, just, and open to everyone.

Our Core Values are:

- **Justice & Equity:** We believe every North Carolinian has a right to a fair and impartial legal system.
- **Leadership & Problem-Solving:** We identify, evaluate, and respond to unmet legal needs using our statewide perspective and network.
- **Collaboration & Inclusiveness:** We leverage the experience, influence, and diversity of our members and community partners to further our mission.
- **Innovation & Flexibility:** We explore novel strategies to address new or evolving legal needs and barriers to the administration of justice.
- **Efficiency & Accountability:** We prioritize data-driven solutions to steward our resources responsibly, operate with integrity, and are transparent with our partners and the people we serve.

Learn more about us at ncaccesstojustice.org and ncprobono.org.

2021
IMPACT
REPORT

In 2021, the Commission continued to pursue access to justice for all North Carolinians, despite pandemic-related challenges. Through pro bono legal service, self-represented litigant resources, advocacy for civil legal aid, and serving as a convener for collaboration and assessment, the Commission leveraged new tools and approaches to pursue its mission, whether remote, in-person, or hybrid. Further, remote connection has allowed for greater engagement with Commission partners across the state.



Through driver's license restoration, housing stability, expunction, and other pro bono projects, the Pro Bono Resource Center served 1,578 clients with 295 volunteer attorneys.



In April 2021, a statewide civil legal needs assessment launched at nclegalneeds.org. This assessment was viewed more than 2,500 times by nearly 1,500 people in 2021.



eCourts Guide and File continued to provide self-represented litigant assistance in 2021, with 77,365 users accessing the tool and nearly 12,000 legal documents completed.



NCFairChance.org serves as a crucial resource connecting people to information about restoring their driver's licenses, leading to 1,229 advice letters in 2021.

Through a variety of pro bono projects designed to address legal needs related to COVID-19, the Pro Bono Resource Center assisted more than 700 clients in pandemic-related matters.



Responding to housing instability caused by COVID-19, the Commission launched the Housing Stability project to assist landlords and tenants to access rent assistance through the HOPE Program.



The Faith and Justice Alliance hosted virtual events in Buncombe and Pitt Counties in late 2021 to educate faith leaders and community members about Driver's License Restoration efforts.



Nearly 1,650 attorneys reported providing more than 67,750 hours of free legal services in 2021, leading to recognition for 589 Honor Society members.



2021 COMMISSION MEMBERS

The Honorable Paul Newby, Chair	Charles Holton	The Honorable Linda Stephens
Julian H. Wright, Jr., Vice Chair	David W. Hood	Dean Jonathan L. Walton
Natalia Botella	Gabriel Jiménez	James A. Barrett, Special Advisor
Senator Danny Britt	Jaclyn Kiger	Marion Cowell, Special Advisor
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J. Samuel Cone	David Leitch	George V. Hanna III, Special Advisor
Kim Crouch	Virginia Knowlton Marcus	George Hausen, Special Advisor
Barbara Degen	TeAndra Miller	The Honorable Michael R. Morgan, Special Advisor
The Honorable Richard Dietz	Representative David Rogers	Kenneth Schorr, Special Advisor
Rick Glazier	Elizabeth D. Scott	
Jennifer Harjo	Sorien Schmidt	
	Ray Starling	

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

2021 Support and Revenue

CLE Fee–NC State Bar	356,583
Grantmaking Support	329,180
Private Support	74,718
NC AOC Support	130,777
Contract Services	66,042
Total Revenue	\$957,300

2021 Expenses

General Operations–Administrative	82,629
General Operations–Programming	416,611
PBRC–Administrative	58,347
PBRC Programming:	
General	228,439
Driver’s License Restoration	81,940
Housing Stability	32,870
Total Expenses	\$900,836

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

<i>Ally Financial</i>	<i>NC Bar Foundation</i>
<i>Alston & Bird</i>	<i>NC IOLTA</i>
<i>Cadwalader, Wickersham</i>	<i>NC Justice Center</i>
<i>& Taft</i>	<i>Nelson Mullins</i>
<i>DLA Piper</i>	<i>Seyfarth Shaw</i>
<i>GSK</i>	<i>Troutman Pepper</i>
<i>Dave Horne</i>	<i>US Bank</i>
<i>Kilpatrick Townsend</i>	<i>The Weil Foundation</i>
<i>Erik Lazar</i>	<i>Winston & Strawn</i>
<i>McGuireWoods</i>	<i>Z. Smith Reynolds</i>
<i>Moore & Van Allen</i>	<i>Foundation</i>
<i>NC Advocates for Justice</i>	

COMMISSION STAFF

Jennifer M. Lechner, Executive Director
Sylvia K. Novinsky, Director, NC Pro Bono Resource Center
Katherine Asaro, Senior Staff Attorney & Disaster Legal Services Program Director
Anh LyJordan, Housing Stability Project Manager
Meghan Martie, Staff Attorney
Pat McAlexander, Office Administrator
Rachel Royal, Paralegal Consultant
Jennifer Simmons, Senior Project Manager
Jared S. Smith, Foundation & Development Manager
B. Leigh Wicclair, Senior Staff Attorney & Restorative Justice Program Director

SUPPORT OUR WORK

If you would like to donate to support the work of the North Carolina Equal Access to Justice Commission and the Pro Bono Resource Center, please visit:

ncprobono.org/support