## LAS adds Jephson to Volunteer Lawyers Program

NASHVILLE, Tenn. Sept. 16, 2014 – Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands, Tennessee's largest non-profit law firm, has announced the hiring of Valerie Jephson as project coordinator for Legal Aid Society's Volunteer Lawyers Program.

Jephson most recently worked as a project assistant for People Talking to People, The Arc Tennessee. There, she coordinated research teams across the state to conduct face-to-face interviews



and processed results for quality assurance reporting for the Tennessee Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Prior to her role as a project assistant, she worked as a senior paralegal for Rose Immigration Law Firm.

"Our Volunteer Lawyers Program is a vital component of extending our efforts to provide free civil legal services to those in need across our service area," said Lucinda Smith, director of Legal Aid Society's Volunteer Lawyers Program. "We were looking for someone with a depth of legal experience who would also be able to handle the high demands of coordinating new projects. With over seven years of legal work, as well as experience in project management, Valerie was an obvious fit."

The Volunteer Lawyers Program (formerly the Nashville Pro Bono Program) connects volunteer lawyers with clients needing civil legal assistance in 48 counties. In her new role, Jephson will develop and implement projects to provide pro bono civil legal help to low-income families.

Jephson is fluent in Spanish and holds a master's degree in English from Florida State University.

Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands advocates for fairness and justice under the law. The non-profit law firm offers free civil legal representation, educational programs and advice to ensure people in its region are able to protect their livelihoods, their health and their families. It serves 48 counties

from offices in Clarksville, Columbia, Cookeville, Gallatin, Murfreesboro, Nashville, Oak Ridge, and Tullahoma. Legal Aid Society is funded in part by United Way. Learn more at www.las.org, or by following the firm on Facebook.

Last updated on September 18, 2014.

<u>Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands; LASMTC; LAS; Legal Aid Society; Volunteer Lawyers Program</u>

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