

# **Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services**

Strengthening the Delivery of Civil Legal Help to Vulnerable Tennesseans

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## **Legal Aid Society Promotes Shaina Thompson to Lead Attorney of its Family Law Section**

Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands, Tennessee's largest non-profit law firm, announced today the promotion of Shaina Thompson to family law lead attorney of its Nashville office. She will help victims of domestic violence gain independence from abusive situations. Beyond Orders of Protection and divorces, this includes helping victims with issues like denial of benefits, food stamps and/or housing.

As lead attorney of the Family Law Section, Thompson will supervise a staff of six and facilitate community education activities on domestic violence in and around Davidson and Williamson Counties.

Thompson joined Legal Aid Society in July 2016 as an attorney with the firm's Family Law Section where she worked on several large cases involving domestic violence and sexual abuse. In addition to practicing general family law, she worked with the Civil-Legal Advocate (CLA) Program to recruit and train volunteer attorneys and law students to represent victims of domestic violence, sexual abuse or stalking on the Order of Protection dockets in Davidson County courts. Thompson had volunteered and worked as a contract attorney with the firm since October 2015. She has also worked as an intern in a private practice and as an elementary school teacher. Of note, Thompson participated in the creation of an all girl's high school in Nairobi, Kenya, while serving as a Board Member of Reach One Mission International in Marietta, Georgia.

"Shaina has a true dedication to helping survivors of domestic violence. The passion she feels toward each victim she works with is admirable," said DarKenya Waller, executive director of Legal Aid Society. "She is an excellent leader and I am confident she will do well in her new role."

Thompson earned her bachelor's degree and Master of Arts in executive leadership from Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia. She is a May 2015 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law. During her law school career, she worked at the Family Violence Clinic and the Probate Court in Athens, Georgia.

### **About Legal Aid Society**

Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberland<sup>s</sup> advocates for fairness and justice under the law. The non-profit law firm offers free civil legal representation and educational programs to help people in its region receive justice, protect their well-being and support

opportunities to overcome poverty. 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](http://www.las.org), or by following the firm on [Facebook](#).

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