

# 2021 Lycoming Law Association Foundation Report

It is my privilege to submit this report to the Law Association on behalf of the LLAF Board.

## **Foundation Meetings**

The last Annual Meeting of the Foundation was held on January 13, 2021 in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Lycoming Law Association. All members of the Association are Members of the Foundation. The Foundation is governed between LLA meetings by a Foundation Board, elected by the Association members at the annual meeting. The Foundation Board held meetings every quarter and special meetings as needed to respond to grant requests and the proposal to amend the by-laws. All meetings in 2021 were held by Zoom.

#### **Foundation Board Governance**

The Foundation Board's By-laws, Investment Policy, Spending Policy, and Grant Application Form are posted on the LLA website for easy access by all our members. Last year the Foundation Board's proposed amendment to expand the board from five to nine members was approved. The Board terms are staggered to ensure continuity and fresh perspectives on the Board. In accordance with our charter, the money we raise is used to promote justice, the legal system, and public legal education in Lycoming County.

### **Fund Management**

Woodlands Bank continues to serve as the repository for our funds. The Fund continued a stable conservative investment policy with modest gains consistent with the market in 2021. Our goal continues to be to increase the principal of the fund to the point that earned interest will support the anticipated grants.

### **Fund Raising**

In 2021 donated arbitration fees resulted in contributions of \$9,150 to the Foundation. We continue to receive Memorial Contributions when an LLA member dies. Each of you are encouraged to consider a bequest to the Foundation in your personal estate planning and that of your clients who support the goals of the Foundation.

### **Fund Expenditures**

Grant requests typically are submitted to the Community Outreach and Activities Committee of the LLA. That committee reviews the grant applications and submits recommendations to the Foundation Board. This Covid-19 year saw fewer requests and some c:\users\gweber.mglaw\appdata\local\packages\microsoft.office.desktop\_8wekyb3d8bbwe\ac\inetcache\content.outlook\dhjneg9h\2021 llaf unusual opportunities for positive publicity for our Association. In 2021 the fund made the following grants:

*Grant to North Penn Legal Services*: As in past years the Foundation provided \$7,320 to North Penn Legal Services from the Arbitration Fee contributions.

*Other grants:* The Montoursville High School Mock Trial Team was granted \$3,300 toward training expenses.

## **Extraordinary Projects**

*PBA Matching Grants:* The Board worked with the PBA Foundation to create a program for small grants. The PBA Foundation has an annual grant program that distributes funds via a process that takes six to nine months from application to dispersal. We proposed a pilot program for Unit Counties (we are one) that allows for matching grants to be awarded within weeks or days of the application. The PBA Foundation accepted our proposal, and the pilot program began in 2021. We are seeking a partial grant reimbursement for the Montoursville H.S. expenditure explained next.

*Montoursville High School Mock Trial Grant*: For the past several years we have awarded funds to the Montoursville High School Mock Trial team to allow them to attend a training conference especially for H.S. Mock Trial teams. This year, their fundraising was hampered by Covid restrictions. With the cooperation of the Community Outreach Committee we expedited an approval of \$3,300 to help the team attend a weekend training at Harvard University. The Foundation is debating whether this type of grant should continue from year to year. Currently Montoursville is the only Lycoming County High School to participate in the PBA Mock Trial Competition. Anyone with ideas about how we might help increase the number of local teams is encouraged to contact a member of the Foundation Board.

Finally, the Board would like to extend a special thanks to Michele Frey, the LLA Executive Director for her tireless support of not just the Association, but also your Foundation.

Respectfully submitted, <u>S/ William Arbuckle</u> William Arbuckle President, LLA Foundation

William I. Arbuckle, III - President (January 9, 2017 - January 10, 2022)
Paul Roman (January 8, 2018 – January 9, 2023)
Fred Holland - Treasurer (January 14, 2019 – January 8, 2024)
Robin Read - Secretary (January 13, 2020 - January 13, 2025)
Sean P. Gingerich (January 11, 2021 – January 9, 2023)
Nicole M. Ippolito (January 11, 2021 – January 8, 2024)
Julieanne E. Steinbacher (January 11, 2021 – January 13, 2025)
Donald F. Martino (January 11, 2021 – January 10, 2022) - LLA President (ex officio member)
Corey J. Mowrey (January 11, 2021 – January 10, 2022) - LLA President-Elect (ex officio member)