



**A Year-End Message
To LSC-Funded Programs
From John G. Levi
Chairman, LSC Board of Directors
December 19, 2011**

As my parents taught me, you cannot say thank you enough.

That is particularly the case in a year like this, when our funding has been cut and the need for civil legal assistance has dramatically increased. We know your programs are stretched in ways you never expected and that you are trying to make every dollar count for the huge numbers of people seeking access to justice.

All across the country, you have done your best to serve individuals and families in need of help. We are very appreciative of your efforts, your dedication, and your commitment to providing high-quality legal services.

The LSC Board this year held quarterly meetings in Illinois, Virginia, Washington state and Washington, D.C. We were privileged to hear from Executive Directors and other representatives of LSC-funded programs from those states and from Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Oregon, Maine, Maryland, Missouri, Montana, New York, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin. We received presentations on an array of topics, including pro bono, technology, court help desks, law school clinical education, and Native American courts. We are impressed with your work involving foreclosure, veterans' rights, domestic violence, consumer issues, and other matters, as well as your response to natural disasters in Alabama, Missouri, Vermont and other states. And we are very grateful to the lawyers who donate countless hours to LSC-funded programs across the country.

We also want to thank Jim Sandman, who marks his first anniversary as the LSC President next month, for really rolling up this sleeves and taking on the challenges we all face. We are so fortunate to have him at the helm.

We know this is a tough time to serve in the field, but it could not be a more important time. The future of the country's civil justice system depends on the work that you do and your dedication to our abiding mission. A thousand times, thank you.

On behalf of the LSC Board, our best wishes to you for a happy holiday season and a wonderful New Year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John G. Levi". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".