



April 14, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Janneth A. Diaz
Police Fiscal

FROM: Eric D. Smith
Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Use of Federal Asset Sharing Trust / Law Enforcement Trust Fund

Please issue funds from the appropriate account totaling \$25,000 to the Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association, Inc. The donation will help provide legal assistance to vulnerable members of the community. These matters involved foreclosures, evictions, and domestic injunction proceedings. Their effort and assistance promote crime prevention within the city.

The primary purpose of the Legal Aid Society is to provide quality legal services for low-income residents, children, and disadvantaged groups with special legal needs in the City of Orlando through effective and fiscally sound programs through the combined efforts of staff and pro bono attorneys.

Thank you for handling this request.

ES/jg

**LAW ENFORCEMENT/FEDERAL ASSET SHARING TRUST FUNDS
ENDORSEMENT CHECKLIST**

SUBJECT:

Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association Inc.


Bureau Making Request

4/14/26
Date

Recommended

Not Recommended

acting

Police Planning Manager

4/14/2026
Date

No open grants

As counsel for OPD, I certify this request for LETF complies with §932.7055, Fla. Stat., and/or this FAST request complies with the USDOJ Guide to Equitable Sharing for Law Enforcement Agencies.


Police Legal Advisor

4/14/26
Date

Approved
LETF

Approved
FAST

Disapproved


Police Fiscal Manager

4/16/26
Date

OPD0004-C
Financial Statement Attached

RECEIVED
4/15/26

I certify this LETF request complies with §932.7055, Fla. Stat., and/or this FAST request complies with the USDOJ Guide to Equitable Sharing for Law Enforcement Agencies.

Chief of Police

Date

Approved

Disapproved



ORLANDO POLICE DEPARTMENT

1250 W. South Street
Orlando, FL 32805

Application for Funding

Pursuant to Florida Statutes 932.701-706 the Orlando Police Department provides funding to organizations for the support or operation of any drug abuse education, drug prevention, crime prevention, safe neighborhood program(s) or other law enforcement purposes. Funding may also be available from federal forfeitures and proceeds of unclaimed property. The police department has the discretion to determine which program(s) are certified for funding..

ORGANIZATION			
Date of Request:	April 2, 2026	Amount Requested:	25,000.00
Applicant Name:	Legal Aid Society of O.C.B.A., Inc.	Contact Person:	Bethanie Barber, Esq. and Donna Haynes
Street Address:	100 E. Robinson Street	Phone/Extension:	407-515-1850
Street Address 2:		Email Address:	bbarber@legalaidocba.org dhaynes@legalaidocba.org
City:	Orlando	State:	Florida
		Zip:	32801
Is your organization a non-profit or public tax-exempt organization as defined under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code?		x Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Attached is a completed and signed W-9 with this application.		x Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

PROGRAM DETAILS (ATTACH ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NECESSARY)	
When will the funding be needed?	As soon as possible
Which of the following goals will the described project/program support?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crime Prevention <input type="checkbox"/> Drug Prevention
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Housing and Job Skills Programs
	<input type="checkbox"/> Drug Abuse Education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other free legal aid & education in Orlando. _

1. Give a brief description of the project/program. Please see attached documents.
2. Describe exactly how the project/program will impact crime prevention, neighborhood safety, drug abuse education, drug prevention or a law enforcement purpose Please see attached documents
3. How will the project/program be evaluated for success? Please see attached documents.
4. Describe anticipated recurring costs for subsequent fiscal years. If there is poverty, abuse and neglect there will be a need for free legal services through our program with a staff of 97, plus thousands of volunteers, both attorneys and lay people that we coordinate, insure and train.

CERTIFICATION		
I possess the authority to certify that the funds being applied for will be used for the purposes described in this application. I understand that the Orlando Police Department may require additional information, including but not limited to receipts, program data, lesson plans, staff salary information, or any other supporting documentation to meet their obligation that the funds are being spent appropriately.		
Bethanie Barber	Executive Director	
Printed Name	Title	
Donna Haynes		Signature
Printed Name of Witness	Signature of Witness	April 2, 2026 Date



ORLANDO POLICE DEPARTMENT

1250 W. South Street
Orlando, FL 32805

Post Project/Program Evaluation

This evaluation is due no later than six months after the funding award.

ORGANIZATION			
Date of Award:	May 9, 2025	Amount Awarded:	\$ 25,000.00
Applicant Name:	Legal Aid Society of the O.C.B.A., Inc.	Contact Person:	Bethanie Barber, Esq. and Donna Haynes
Street Address:	100 East Robinson Street	Phone/Extension:	407-515-1850
Street Address 2:		Email Address:	bbarber@legalaidocba.org dhaynes@legalaidocba.org
City:	Orlando	State:	Florida
		Zip:	32801

PROGRAM EVALUATION (ATTACH ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NECESSARY)

- Describe how the project/program met each of its goals. In 2025, LAS continued to have family law and housing matters at the top of our charts. We saw an increase in identity theft, consumer, bankruptcy, eviction and foreclosure, children in the dependency system. OPD funds enable us to help many vulnerable neighbors including children, homeless and geriatric that are financially challenged Orlando residents.
- Describe how the project/program impacted crime prevention, neighborhood safety, drug abuse education, drug prevention or law enforcement purpose. OPD dollars enable us to meet the legal needs of the Orlando community. In 2024, we were able to move from a staff of 42 to 70, and in 2025 we hired additional staff totaling 97. Because of this increase, we were able to train more pro bono attorneys, fill another general litigation position which allows us to provide more services which include taxes, clinics, community outreach, court representation, self-help litigant and forms clinic assistance. We do these services in English and Spanish and use language line for any other language needs.
- How many participants did the project/program serve? The Legal Aid Society served 10,784 during 2025, and we expect to exceed that number during 2026.
- Describe the overall success and/or areas of improvement of the project/program. LAS prevented a record number of evictions keeping our neighbors from being homeless, provided countless divorces with injunctions. We increased the number of people served by over 3,148 neighbors in one year, helping people gain safety and security through our outreach.

5. Provide a detailed accounting of how the award was spent:

Description	Amount
Partial intake funding	\$4,000.00
Partial Pro Bono funding	4,000.00
Partial veterans funding	1,000.00
Outreach/general/BOC	11,000.00

Description	Amount
Partial children's funding	2,500.00
Partial domestic violence funding	2,000.00
Partial VITA Tax Clinic	500.00
Total	25,000.00

CERTIFICATION

I possess the authority to certify that the funds awarded were used for purposes described in this evaluation. I understand that the Orlando Police Department may require additional information, including but not limited to receipts, program data, lesson plans, staff salary information, or any other supporting documentation to meet their obligation that the funds were spent appropriately.

Bethanie Barber, Esq.
Printed Name

Executive Director

Title



Signature

April 2, 2026
Date

Donna Haynes
Printed Name of Witness

Donna A. Haynes

Signature of Witness



April 2, 2026

Orlando Police Department
Eric Smith, Chief of Police
1250 West South Street
Orlando, Florida 32805

Email: opd@orlando.gov

Re: 2026 Orlando Police Department Forfeiture Fund Application

Dear Police Chief Eric Smith

Brief description of the program.

This is our 2026 application for forfeiture funds. The Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association (Legal Aid) is a vital part of the Orlando community, complimenting the essential services of the Orlando Police Department (OPD) by providing free civil legal services to the low-to-middle income neighbors, and those targeted as helpless. Our clients are survivors of domestic violence, abused children, vulnerable seniors, and veterans susceptible to exploitation. We seek \$25,000.00 to address the need for legal representation in Orlando, a cause that we can all take pride in supporting.

Since 1961, the Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association has worked side-by-side with the Orlando Police Department, providing practical legal help where it is most urgently needed. We use the law to bring as much physical safety and economic stability as possible to our neighbors in need. We pride ourselves in providing the assist for law enforcement. When someone faces violence at home or the threat of losing their housing, our team is often the bridge between crisis and stability. We do not just handle cases. We solve real problems for real people, quietly strengthening the safety net in the same neighborhoods your officers serve.

We are asking for a portion of the Orlando forfeiture funds as Legal Aid's work directly fulfills the statutory purposes of forfeiture funding: preventing crime, supporting law enforcement, and strengthening neighborhood safety. Every dollar supports legal interventions that stop violence, curb fraud, and protect at risk residents, aligning squarely with *the funding intent*.

Describe exactly how the program will impact crime prevention, neighborhood safety, drug abuse education, drug prevention, or law enforcement purposes.

We stop violence before it escalates: by getting protection orders and helping families separate from abusers. Our team also steps in with child custody, divorce, and name change cases, when those are the barriers to safety. Because we see people at their most vulnerable, we often catch problems early and help before they become emergencies.

ATTORNEYS

Bethanie A. Barber
Executive Director

Grace B. Canellas
Coravious L. Cowart
C. Vanessa Cox
Gabrielle J. D'Esposito
Hannah N. Farber
Tenesla C. Hall
Zachary T. Hamill
Desire Lopez Torres
Luc R. Louis-Jacques
Jennifer Madeus
Shaun J. McCleave
Arabella P. Midgley
James K. Mobley
Katie M. Pareja
Ashley Perez

Marie M. Priebe
Michael L. Resnick
Kaelin L. Richard
Mexcyce C. Roberts
Yadira M. Rodriguez
Gisel Santamaria
Staci D. Sciandra
Jenessa J. Smith
Sharlene C. Stanford Greene
Larri T. Thatcher
Brittney J. Tolbert
Cassidy R. Toro
Jessica Valentin
Tasha L. Vazquez
Catherine E. York

When grandparents or relatives care for minor children due to a parent's absence, we establish guardianships to formalize care and prevent entry into the dependency system. Our Guardian ad Litem Program represents the best interests of abused, abandoned, and neglected children. We work to reunite children with their families when safe, or secure adoptive families when reunification is not possible.

When someone is scammed or targeted by fraud, we help them recover and work with law enforcement to prevent it from happening to others. Our focus is on practical outcomes, fixing what is broken, and keeping more people safe. We help people stay in their homes. That means defending against eviction or foreclosure, resolving landlord-tenant issues, and addressing unsafe housing. When families are not forced onto the street, neighborhoods are stronger and safer.

We focus outreach where it matters: working in neighborhoods where financial stress and crime go hand in hand. Whether it is billboards, flyers, or talking directly with people at community events, we make it as easy as possible for people to find us when they need help.

We are on the ground throughout Orlando: offering workshops, showing up at local fairs, and partnering with the VA hospital to support veterans. The goal is simple: make sure everyone knows their rights and how to get help if they need it.

Our attorneys spend time at courthouse Self-Help Centers in Orlando and Winter Park, talking to people and walking them through their legal options. We break down complicated procedures and help people take the next step.

Every week, we run a forms clinic where anyone can get help filling out legal paperwork. It is a simple service, but for someone facing the court system alone, it can make all the difference.

With more than 2,000 volunteer attorneys, we help thousands of Orlando residents every year.

We meet people where they are: speaking their language, using interpreters, and making sure disability is never a barrier to getting help.

Family Law: We help victims leave abusive situations, get court orders for protection, and sort out custody so families can move forward safely.

Consumer: We protect people from scams, unfair loans, fraud, and financial abuse, and help them get out from crushing debt and alleviating credit problems.

Wills and Estates: We prepare crucial documents: Wills, Powers of Attorney, and Healthcare Surrogates.

Dependency: We fight for permanent, loving families for children in foster care, always prioritizing the best interests of vulnerable children. Our team, including social workers, partners with hospitals, schools, and social service agencies to deliver the legal documents and holistic care every child deserves.

Medical-legal partnerships: When someone lands in the hospital and needs legal help: we step in.

Housing: We keep families off the streets and protect homeownership by defending against eviction and foreclosure, challenging unsafe housing, and resolving title issues: this helps families build stability and generational wealth.

How will the program be evaluated for success?

Legal Aid will track our numbers and measurable results using our software system. We chart the number of clients served, the zip codes, and other identifying factors to ensure we reach every community. In 2025, with your donation of \$25,000.00 we served an additional 3,148 neighbors.

Describe anticipated recurring costs for subsequent fiscal years.

When there are domestic violence, human trafficking, and legal needs in Orlando, Legal Aid will continue to provide our low-to-middle income neighbors with emergency lawyers at no charge.

This year our signature event, the Breakfast of Champions, will take place at the Plaza Live on October 15. This event brings together 455 advocates, leaders, and law enforcement and is featured on Orange TV and eight cable affiliates. We extend an invitation to your team to join us once again at this prestigious event.

The Legal Aid Society values its 11-year partnership with the Orlando Police Department in addressing critical legal and social needs in our community and respectfully requests \$25,000.00. Together, we can build a safer, stronger Orlando where residents have access to the legal advocacy they need.

Sincerely,

Bethanie Barber
Bethanie Barber,
Executive Director

Donna Haynes
Donna Haynes,
Development Director

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

Go to www.irs.gov/FormW9 for instructions and the latest information.

**Give form to the
 requester. Do not
 send to the IRS.**

Before you begin. For guidance related to the purpose of Form W-9, see *Purpose of Form*, below.

Print or type. See Specific Instructions on page 3.	<p>1 Name of entity/individual. An entry is required. (For a sole proprietor or disregarded entity, enter the owner's name on line 1, and enter the business/disregarded entity's name on line 2.) Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association, Inc.</p> <p>2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above.</p> <p>3a Check the appropriate box for federal tax classification of the entity/individual whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one of the following seven boxes.</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor <input type="checkbox"/> C corporation <input type="checkbox"/> S corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Trust/estate <input type="checkbox"/> LLC. Enter the tax classification (C = C corporation, S = S corporation, P = Partnership) <i>Note: Check the "LLC" box above and, in the entry space, enter the appropriate code (C, S, or P) for the tax classification of the LLC, unless it is a disregarded entity. A disregarded entity should instead check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner.</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions) Nonprofit 501c3 </p> <p>4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3): Exempt payee code (if any) _____ Exemption from Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) reporting code (if any) _____ <i>(Applies to accounts maintained outside the United States.)</i></p> <p>3b If on line 3a you checked "Partnership" or "Trust/estate," or checked "LLC" and entered "P" as its tax classification, and you are providing this form to a partnership, trust, or estate in which you have an ownership interest, check this box if you have any foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries. See instructions <input type="checkbox"/></p>
	<p>5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.). See instructions. 100 E. Robinson St.</p> <p>6 City, state, and ZIP code Orlando, FL 32801</p> <p>7 List account number(s) here (optional)</p>
	<p>Requester's name and address (optional) City of Orlando Police Dept 1250 W South Street Orlando, FL 32805</p>

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN*, later.

Social security number									
OR									
Employer identification number									
5	9	-	1	2	0	8	3	2	2

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. See also *What Name and Number To Give the Requester* for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and, generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.

Sign Here Signature of U.S. person Date 10/8/2025

General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to www.irs.gov/FormW9.

What's New

Line 3a has been modified to clarify how a disregarded entity completes this line. An LLC that is a disregarded entity should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. Otherwise, it should check the "LLC" box and enter its appropriate tax classification.

New line 3b has been added to this form. A flow-through entity is required to complete this line to indicate that it has direct or indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries when it provides the Form W-9 to another flow-through entity in which it has an ownership interest. This change is intended to provide a flow-through entity with information regarding the status of its indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries, so that it can satisfy any applicable reporting requirements. For example, a partnership that has any indirect foreign partners may be required to complete Schedules K-2 and K-3. See the Partnership instructions for Schedules K-2 and K-3 (Form 1065).

Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS is giving you this form because they

Internal Revenue Service

Date: June 21, 2007

LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF THE ORANGE
COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION INC
100 E ROBINSON ST
ORLANDO FL 32801

RECEIVED JUN 29 2007

Department of the Treasury
P. O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Person to Contact:

Ms. Guilkey 17-56982
Customer Service Representative
Toll Free Telephone Number:
877-829-5500
Federal Identification Number:
59-1208322

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to your request of June 21, 2007, regarding your organization's tax-exempt status.

In May 1968 we issued a determination letter that recognized your organization as exempt from federal income tax. Our records indicate that your organization is currently exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that your organization is also classified as a public charity under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that contributions to your organization are deductible under section 170 of the Code, and that you are qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Internal Revenue Code.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely,



Michele M. Sullivan, Oper. Mgr.
Accounts Management Operations 1

- Entity Registration
 - Core Data
 - Business Information
 - Entity Types
 - Financial Information
 - Points of Contact
 - Assertions
 - Reps and Certs
 - Exclusions
 - Responsibility / Qualification

LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF THE ORANGE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION, INC.

Active Registration

Entity Information

Unique Entity ID CAGE/NCAGE
J9UZEMGN4MN8 7HYY9

Expiration Date
 Aug 1, 2026

Physical Address
**100 E Robinson ST
 Orlando, Florida
 32801-1602, United States**

Mailing Address
**100 E Robinson ST
 Orlando, Florida
 32801-1602, United States**

Purpose of Registration
Federal Assistance Awards Only

Version

Sunbiz



[Department of State](#) / [Division of Corporations](#) / [Search Records](#) / [Search by Entity Name](#)

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Events **No Name History**

Detail by Entity Name

Florida Not For Profit Corporation
 LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF THE ORANGE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION, INC.

Filing Information

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State	FL
Status	ACTIVE
Last Event	AMENDMENT
Event Date Filed	02/06/2023
Event Effective Date	NONE

Principal Address

100 E. ROBINSON ST.
 ORLANDO, FL 32801-8694

Changed: 03/17/1989

Mailing Address

100 E. ROBINSON ST.
 ORLANDO, FL 32801-8694