

*Executive Summary*  
of the 2007-2008 Annual Report



CHRISTIAN  
LEGAL SOCIETY

*Justice at the Foot of the Cross*

*"Restoring Lives. Protecting Freedom. Molding the Future."*



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Vision, Mission Statement, and Core Value

### VISION

A growing nationwide fellowship of Christian lawyers and law students who act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with their God.

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Christian Legal Society is to inspire, encourage, and equip Christian lawyers and law students both individually and in community to proclaim, love and serve Jesus Christ through the study and practice of law, the provision of legal assistance to the poor and needy, and the defense of the inalienable rights to life and religious freedom.

### CORE VALUE

Being a justice-seeking, Christ-following band of committed, loving friends.

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Springfield, VA 22151-2110

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Executive Director & CEO, or  
David J. Lee, Chief Operating Officer

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Christian Legal Society (CLS), founded in 1961, is the oldest and largest national, non-denominational membership association of Christian attorneys, judges, law professors, and law students, working in association with other friends, to follow Jesus' command "*to do justice with the love of God ... never forgetting the weightier matters of the law: justice, mercy, and faithfulness,*" (Luke 11:42; Matthew 23:23).

## A Word from our Chairman & President, and our Executive Director & CEO

Grace and peace to you!

Whether the need is proclaiming and practically applying the Gospel about Jesus Christ in the legal marketplace, providing legal aid for the poor, promoting Christ-centered reconciliation of relationships and resolving disputes out of court, defending the religious liberties and the sanctity of human life of all Americans from Congress to the courts, or asserting and maintaining high standards of legal ethics and wise counsel, CLS exists to meet these needs in every state, more than 1100 cities, and 165 law schools where CLS members meet, pray and serve together. Further, through our partnership with *Advocates International (AI)*, CLS also exists as the North American fellowship of Jesus' disciples in the legal profession standing for reconciliation, religious liberty, the rule of law, social reform and spiritual revival around the world.

As we celebrate our 47<sup>th</sup> year of fellowship and service to God and neighbor in this country, we cordially invite you to read this report, tell your friends about CLS, join us in prayer for all those in need, and help us to meet those needs by becoming a partner with us in the support of CLS' ministries.

At CLS, we believe that there is so much more good we can do for and with one another than just sitting listening to ‘lawyers jokes’ while cynically forgetting our Lord’s command to all of us *‘to do justice with the love of God, never forgetting the weightier matters of law justice, mercy and faithfulness.’* Please join us in our Lord’s work as we stand “in the gates” of the law seeking to be faithful followers of Jesus doing what we can to proclaim His Supremacy while we model His Whole Gospel though His Whole Church in the Whole World.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James A. Davids".

James A. Davids  
Virginia Beach, Virginia  
CLS Chairman & President



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sam B. Casey".

Samuel B. Casey  
Springfield, Virginia  
CLS Executive Director & CEO

## CONFERENCES

We are thankful for the more than 1,000 attorneys, law students, jurists, and law scholars that joined us from all over the world for the 2008 AI/CLS hosted Global Convocation at the *Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill*, October 5-12, 2008. Now we strongly encourage you to *mark your calendars* and plan to join us for the 2009 CLS National Conference which will be held at the *San Diego Marriott-La Jolla*, October 15-18, 2009! What a phenomenal setting for CLS’ 2009 National Conference! We *urge* you to mark you calendars **NOW** to join upwards of 700 of your colleagues at this beautiful location for a conference filled with strategic, timely and spiritually-enriching sessions, stellar speakers, and all of it balanced with time to enjoy the beautiful Pacific La Jolla coast with its unique *La Jolla Cove* for shopping, exquisite beaches, and all the God-designed beauty you could possibly imagine!. And there will be time for world-class golf at Torrey Pines just 2 miles from the hotel. And if that isn’t enough, you are barely 20 minutes from downtown San Diego! So please don’t forget to *mark the dates and join us* and all your colleagues and friends in La Jolla! See you there!



# CHRISTIAN LEGAL SOCIETY

## 2007-2008 Ministry Highlights

As more fully explained in the accompanying full report, CLS made the following progress in each of its ministries in 2007-2008. Some of the highlights and third-party endorsements for each ministry include:



### LEGALLY ASSISTING THE POOR AND NEEDY THROUGH LEGAL AID MINISTRIES

In addition to handling 250 legal referral contacts per week, CLS' Legal Aid Ministries has accomplished the following milestones in its national Legal Aid Ministries program (*LAM*) that, through cooperating faith-based social service providers (e.g., Gospel Rescue Missions, The Salvation Army, Catholic Social Services, inner city church-based social service agencies, etc.) provides legal aid, a presentation of the gospel and training in biblically-based reconciliation of conflict to the truly poor and needy in this country:

- Launching of the *Christian Lawyer Connection (CLC)*, a 24/7 web-based lawyer and client referral service, substantially enhancing CLS' CLA limited capability telephone-based referral service.
- Distributed LAM program resources and training materials to more than 950 LAM project volunteers serving in 59 CLS-sponsored programs in 28 states and 49 cities, and, in addition, 4 countries, where an estimated 7,800 individuals and families received a total of more than 45,000 hours of free legal help annually with a value of more than \$8.0 million dollars in voluntary legal services.
- Conducted the 10th Annual LAM program National Recruitment and Training Conference on October 9-12, 2008.
- Received one matching grant totaling \$75,000 which is already being "matched" on a dollar for dollar basis, and 2 CLA State-specific grants for Michigan and for Southern California that are helping to provide training for more volunteers, expanding and strengthening existing programs, and adding new projects to the LAM program.



*"[We are] excited about working with the Christian Legal Society...I believe that working together we have a unique opportunity to share God's love, and to serve some of the most needy people in our nation."*

Former Executive Director Steve Burger,  
Association of Gospel Rescue Missions  
(AGRM)



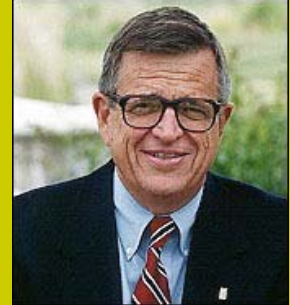
*"The Christian Legal Aid program in Jacksonville, Florida has transformed our local CLS chapter. No longer do we give lip service to God's command to do justice to the afflicted and destitute"*

Rose Marie Preddy  
President, CLS of Jacksonville

ADVOCATING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM & THE SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE THROUGH CLS'  
**CENTER FOR LAW & RELIGIOUS FREEDOM**

Thanks to CLRF's efforts in the courts, the Congress and our state legislatures, here are just some of the results being achieved and initiatives planned with your prayers and support:

- Successfully completed litigation against Southern Illinois University and the University of Georgia, and have current litigation pending against the University of Florida and the University of California Hastings College of Law in order to secure religious student organizations' freedom to maintain their religious character while being recognized by universities as official student organizations.
- Successfully intervened in two federal court actions to help defend the constitutionality of a federal law protecting the exercise of conscience by health care providers.
- Filed "friends of the court" briefs in multiple cases pending before the United States Supreme Court in the 2006-2007 term involving partial birth abortion, fair access to funding for faith-based social service providers, healthcare providers' right of conscience and religious liberties of all Americans.
- Expended approximately 6,000 legal service hours, at the trial court or appellate level, working on 24 legal matters, involving the defense of life or religious freedom thanks to the charitable support of more than 500 donors.



*CLS' Center for Law and Religious Freedom is one of our countries most preeminent defenders of liberty from Congress to the courts.*

**Chuck Colson, Founder  
& Former Chairman -  
Prison Fellowship  
Ministries**



*CLS' expert legal help, volunteer network, and determined advocacy for life from conception to medical death is making a unique and invaluable contribution to the pro-life movement*

**Cathy Cleaver Ruse, Esq.,  
Sr. Fellow for Legal Studies,  
Family Research Council**

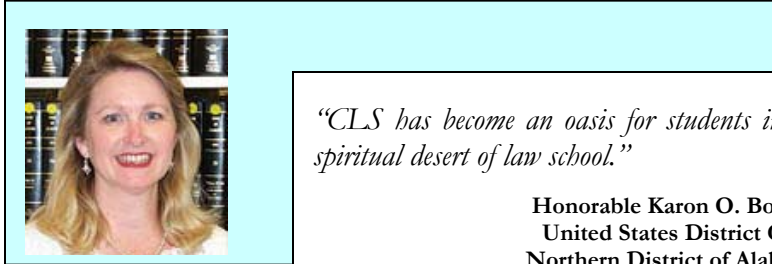


*ENCOURAGING STUDENTS & PROFESSORS  
TO DO JUSTICE WITH THE LOVE OF GOD THROUGH*

# LAW STUDENT MINISTRIES & THE INSTITUTE FOR CHRISTIAN LEGAL STUDIES

CLS is committed to supporting and encouraging law students and their professors to be truly faithful followers of Jesus Christ. Although the challenges are daunting, there is much good news to report:

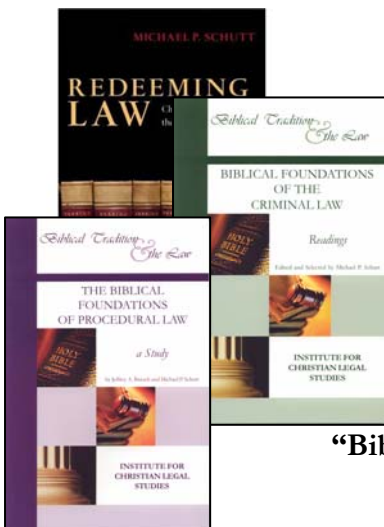
- Student membership in CLS has increased from 240 in 1996 to over 750 in 2007, while the number of non-member students attending LSM activities has grown to over 2,500.



*“CLS has become an oasis for students in the spiritual desert of law school.”*

Honorable Karon O. Bowdre  
United States District Court  
Northern District of Alabama

- The LSM staff now supports Christian law fellowships at more than 165 law schools, over twice as many as CLS supported in the fall of 1996.
- LSM and InterVarsity Christian Fellowship Graduate & Faculty Ministries are partnering together to reach more law school campuses, using LSM resources, history, and network, and relying on IVCF campus ministry workers.
- LSM and the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist partnered together in 2006-2007 to hold three student retreats, attended by nearly 300 students, and CLS held two additional similar retreats in 2007 attended by over 300 students.
- The November 2007 19<sup>th</sup> Annual National Law Student Convention (NLSC), held in San Antonio, TX, was attended by 130 law students, and 15 spouses, representing 75 law schools.



- CLS' Institute for Christian Legal Studies (ICLS), under the leadership of Professor Michael Schutt, held its 5th Annual Christian Scholars Symposium in conjunction with the 2007 NLSC, attended by 30 law professors from 25 law schools to discuss the natural law tradition in Christian thought under the theme banner of *“Christianity and the Rule of Law.”*
- In 2005, ICLS published and distributed the second volume in the *“Biblical Tradition and the Law Study Series,”* a 115-page study on the *“Biblical*

*World-reknoned author, speaker, and Dean of Pepperdine Law School, addresses more than 250 law students and nearly 1,000 attorneys, justices and scholars from 110 countries at the 2008 Global Convocation.*

Foundations of Procedural Law. Now, ICLS has just published the third volume in the “Biblical Tradition and the Law Study Series,” a study entitled “Redeeming Law: *Christian Calling and the Legal Profession*” that is already available on Amazon.com, and was distributed in late August 2007 to CLS’ entire membership. It still remains in the top 10 in overall sales of similar Christian-focused books.

- In 2006-2007, LSM continued to expand its ministry to undergraduate students in Christian universities with pre-law clubs or academic majors across the country. Evangel University, Missouri Baptist University, Oral Roberts University, and LeTourneau University are among the “charter” chapters. The goal of this expansion is to continue to take the LSM three-fold ministry to the pre-law level, encouraging students in spiritual formation, integration of faith and learning, and compassionate outreach to the poor and needy.

## *Encouraging One Another in Love and Good Works through* **Attorney Ministries**

CLS remains the largest national network of Christian lawyers in the world. Indeed, we depend on the growing strength and solidarity of our voluntary network in every state and 1,500 cities and towns to spiritually encourage one another in the love and good work Jesus commands.

- Chaplain Glandion Carney authored the first discipleship curriculum for attorneys and held the first discipleship retreats for attorneys and their spouses in Birmingham, San Antonio, and Honolulu.
- In partnership with the National Christian Foundation, CLS launched the Christian Gift and Estate Section, which requires additional training to become a member of the section. In 2009, CLS plans to establish sections for Christian trial lawyers and Christian adoption attorneys.
- CLS published its first edition of the *Christian Lawyer* magazine in the Fall of 2005. Interest in the magazine has grown at a robust pace, leading to the publishing of the semi annual editions since. Plans call for the magazine, beginning in the Spring of 2009, to publish quarterly editions.

*The 2007 CLS National Conference was one of great encouragement and fellowship. We were especially enriched by the speakers’ dedication to Christ and ministry in law. They encouraged us to use our law practice as an instrument of ministry*

**Bill and Karen Watt**  
Mobile, Alabama

*[pictured here with CLS’ Senior Chaplain Glandion Carney and his wife Marian]*



- CLS continues to serve over 3,000 active members, in all fifty states and 1,100 cities, organized in 32 attorney chapters, and influence the more than 10,000 Christian lawyers, law students, judges, law professors and friends who have signed CLS' Statement of Faith and continue to associate with CLS through fellowship, networking, websites and referrals.

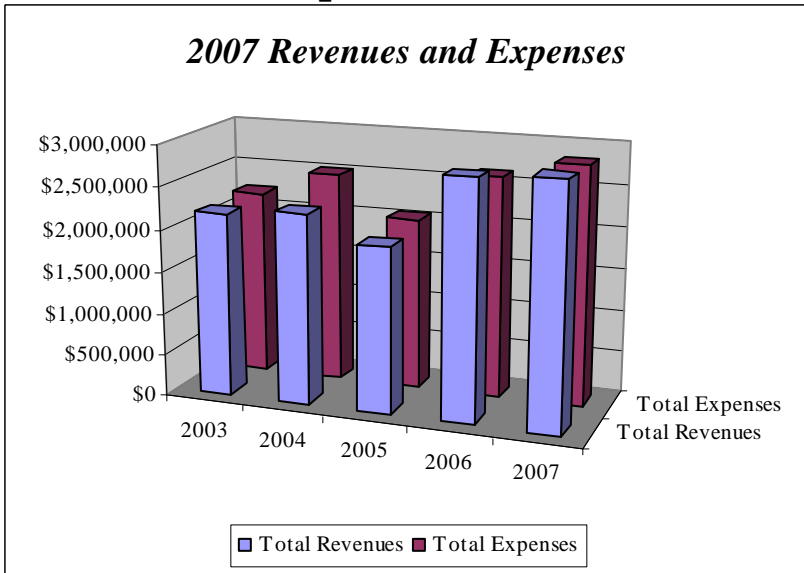


“And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God....”

~Micah 6:8~

# 2007 Financial Highlights

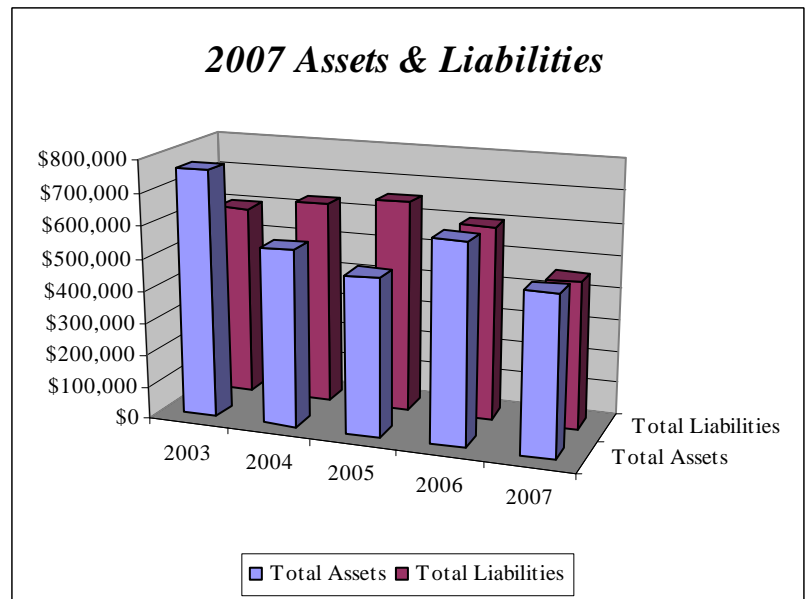
## Revenue & Expenses



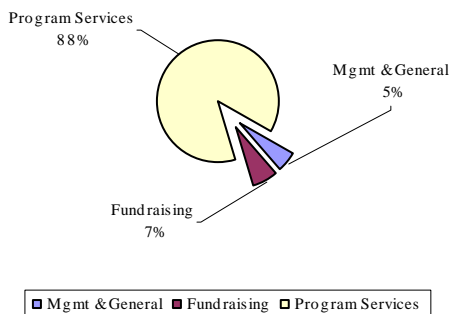
As of 12/31/2007, CLS had about \$2.9 million in total revenue, including \$171,839 from in-kind contributions, and about \$2.8 million in total expenses. In addition to its unrestricted revenues of \$2.1 million, CLS booked temporarily restricted revenues of \$457 thousand. To see a 10-year analysis of CLS' financial history, including its temporarily restricted revenues and contributions in-kind as reported in its audited financial statements, please go to the *Finances* section beginning at Page 32.

## Assets & Liabilities

As of 12/31/2007, CLS had \$489,493 in assets, *not including* more than \$1,720,255 in temporarily restricted assets, and \$457,259 in liabilities.



## Uses of Funds



## Uses of Funds

CLS spent 88% of its total revenue on its programs and services in 2007.

## About this *Executive Summary* report . . .

This report is a printed copy of the information found in CLS' Information Center on its website [www.clsnet.org](http://www.clsnet.org) . It was written and published by CLS' senior management and staff.

CLS welcomes potential supporters and invites you to visit our website for more detailed information on who CLS is, our structure, mission and focus.

You are also invited to contact us at:

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