

2008-2009 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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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).



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:

- Distributed LAM program resources and training materials to more than 950 LAM project volunteers serving in 60 CLS-sponsored programs in 28 states and 49 cities, and, in addition, 4 countries, where an estimated 8,500 individuals and families received a total of more than 52,000 hours of free legal help annually with a value of more than \$8.0 million dollars in voluntary legal services.
- Conducted the 10th Annual Christian Legal Aid Leadership LAM Training Conference on October 16th, 2009 in San Diego, CA.
- 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.



LEARNING TO DO JUSTICE WITH THE LOVE OF GOD
LAW STUDENT MINISTRIES
& THE INSTITUTE FOR CHRISTIAN LEGAL STUDIES

CLS is committed to nurturing and encouraging communities of law students and law professors in order that they may glorify God, grow in their love for God, and advance His kingdom purposes in their lives, their schools, their profession, and their society. LSM has good news to report:

- LSM ministers to students, members and non-members alike, by offering resources, networking, and fellowship on more than 100 campuses nationwide. Student membership in CLS has grown about 700 in 2008-09. LSM Director Mike Schutt and Deputy Director Dan Kim make approximately 30 personal visits to campuses each year.



“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

- LSM and InterVarsity Christian Fellowship Graduate & Faculty Ministries continue to partner together to more effectively minister to law school communities, using LSM resources, history, and networks, and relying on IVCF campus ministry staff, who minister directly to law students on campus. LSM Director Mike Schutt also serves InterVarsity as national coordinator of its Law School Ministry. Each year since 2003, InterVarsity staffers have attended the CLS National Conference.
- More than 240 Christian law students, pre-law students, and spouses attended the 20th Annual National Law Student Convention last year in Washington, DC in conjunction with the 2008 CLS Global Convocation. More than 40 law schools were represented. In addition, LSM helped local groups host regional events, such as the Northeast Attorneys Retreat and the Minnesota Law, Apologetics, and Worldview Symposium, which were attended by law students.

- Regent University School of Law and CLS founded the Institute for Christian Legal Studies (ICLS) in November of 2001, so we mark the beginning of our ninth year of partnership. ICLS continues to develop resources for Christian law students, building on the *Biblical Tradition and the Law Study Series* (2003), and Professor Schutt's book, *Redeeming Law: Christian Calling and the Legal Profession* (IVP 2007). In March, LSM unveiled the ICLS resource website, Cross & Gavel. www.CrossandGavel.org features an interactive bibliography, discussion forums, news feeds, regular podcasts and more.
- Through the generosity of the Pepperdine University's Herbert and Elinor Nootbaar Institute on Law, Religion, and Ethics and Advocates International, ICLS hosted its 6th Annual Christian Scholars Symposium in conjunction with the 2008 Global Convocation. More than 100 law professors, students, and scholars from around the world attended the symposium, discussing natural law, professional calling, and international events, under the banner *The Legal Scholars' Calling*. Speakers included law professors from Africa, South and Central America, Singapore, and China, and natural law scholar J. Budziszewski.

Since 2006, LSM has sought to expand its ministry to undergraduate students in Christian universities with pre-law clubs or academic majors across the country. 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. 20 pre-law students attended the 2008 Global Convocation.

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.

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.

- 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. Beginning in the Spring of 2009, CLS is now publishing quarterly editions.
- 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.

Financial Information

	2008
ASSETS	
CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash	116,8€
Accounts and Grants Receivable	23,67
Pledges Receivable, net	69,5€
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	6,67
Total current assets	216,77
PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT, net	40,5€
OTHER ASSETS	15,9€
TOTAL ASSETS	273,2€
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	
CURRENT LIABILITIES:	
Accounts Payable	87,8€
Line of Credit	60,8€
Notes Payable- Board Members	10,0€
Payroll Liabilities	47,8€
Accrued Vacation Expense	62,2€
Deferred Expenses	28,4€
Deferred Revenue	110,8€
Total current liabilities	408,0€
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES	
Subtenant Security Deposit	7,2€
Notes Payable-Board Members	130,0€
Total Long-Term Liabilities	137,2€
TOTAL LIABILITIES	545,2€
NET ASSETS: (See Note P)	
Unrestricted - undesignated	(361,8€)
Temporarily restricted	89,8€
Total Net Assets	(272,0€)

About this report . . .

This report is a printed copy of the information found in CLS' Information Center on its website 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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