

Skadden Fellow Board Report

Since the beginning of the year, I have focused on promoting access to justice in Kentucky courts. This work has included the following:

- Writing an op-ed about the requirement that domestic violence survivors pay for the guardian ad litem of an incarcerated spouse during divorce proceedings: this op-ed triggered legislation to address the issue, which KEJC helped to successfully shepherd into law.
- Hosting an access to justice panel: KEJC partnered with the American Constitution Society to put on an access to justice panel. Several judges and community partners participated in this panel. The panel was approved for CLE credit, and had over 50 people attend.
- Partnering with legal aid organizations: KEJC is partnering with the Louisville Legal Aid Society on an appeal related to the requirements of the new expungement law and how it interacts with in forma pauperis law. KEJC drafted the notices of appeal and is currently writing the appellate brief. KEJC has also visited other community partners to learn about their work and how KEJC can support them.
- Challenging GAL fees for children: KEJC has written and filed a brief in a family law case about the amount of guardian ad litem fees that low-income parents must pay when the court appoints an attorney to represent their children. This issue is currently under consideration by the court.

- DRC fees: KEJC is continuing to move forward with a case challenging the constitutionality of DRC fees.
- Practicing in family law court: I am continuing to represent several low-income individuals in family court proceedings in family court.

Submitted by:

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