

LEGAL AID SOCIETY

OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE AND THE CUMBERLANDS

INFORMATION FOR RELEASE

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LEGAL AID SOCIETY PUBLISHES UPDATED VERSION OF FORECLOSURE INFORMATION BOOKLET

New version includes information for active duty military facing foreclosure.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., April 1, 2008 – The Legal Aid Society has just released an updated booklet that offers legal and practical information to homeowners facing foreclosure. The free booklet is available by calling, 1-800-238-1443. It can also be downloaded from Legal Aid’s website, at www.las.org.

The booklet, “If You Can’t Make Your House Payment, Get Expert Help Quickly” helps homeowners respond to new mortgage scams and includes a section on options available to people on active military duty who are facing foreclosure on their home.

“This is an important topic because far too many people are facing foreclosure right now,” said David Tarpley, an attorney with the Legal Aid Society who handles housing issues. Mr. Tarpley, who is funded by the Herman O. Lowenstein Chair of Consumer Law, explained, “Many Tennesseans are facing the double bind of an increase in their mortgage rate and decline in their home’s value. Deployed military personnel in this situation have a particularly difficult time of trying to save their home while fighting a war overseas.”

Like all community education materials published by the Legal Aid Society, this one is written in plain English that is easy to understand. We want these books to be useful to an average person who doesn’t have a lawyer,” said community education coordinator Adinah Robertson. “We cut out the legal terms and fine print and lay out what practical options are available.”

The main message of the booklet, according to Mr. Tarpley, is that people who think they face foreclosure should get expert advice promptly. “You have many more options if you act before a lender takes formal action,” Tarpley explained.

The Legal Aid Society gives free legal aid to people who have nowhere else to turn. It serves 48 counties from offices in Nashville, Gallatin, Clarksville, Murfreesboro, Columbia, Tullahoma, Cookeville and Oak Ridge.

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