

# LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE AND THE CUMBERLANDS

INFORMATION FOR RELEASE

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## LEGAL AID SOCIETY ATTORNEY RECEIVES ABA GRANT

*Funds to help attorney serve clients with employment law issues.*

COOKVILLE, Tenn. Oct. 22, 2007 – The American Bar Association recently announced that Bill Bush, an attorney with Legal Aid Society’s Cookeville office, was awarded a fellowship from the ABA’s Employment Law Section. The fellowship, designed to train attorneys in the latest developments in employment law, totals more than \$6,700 over three years.

Bush said he has a special interest in employment law and has handled several cases involving the Family Medical Leave Act.

“More and more, **our clients are the working poor,**” he said. “They have problems at work dealing with discrimination, harassment and wage claims. **We can refer a lot of fee generating cases to private attorneys, but there are many cases that the private bar does not handle. We hope that this fellowship will give us new ways to help our clients.**”

Bush co-chairs the Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services Employment Law Task Force with Doug Stevick, an attorney with Southern Migrant Legal Services.

“**Legal aid providers in Tennessee recognize a growing need for helping low wage workers on employment issues,**” Bush said. In addition to his work in Tennessee, Bush works with the ABA on some of their publications including articles on the Family Medical Leave Act and state wage and hour laws.

Bush has been with Legal Aid Society since 1982. In 1995 he **handled one of the first private actions in the nation to enforce the Family and Medical Leave Act.**

The Legal Aid Society gives free legal aid to people who have nowhere else to turn. It has eight offices and 30 attorneys who serve families in 48 counties throughout middle and east Tennessee.