



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1769

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

CABA Pro Bono Condominium and HOA Foreclosure Defense Pilot Project will provide free legal services and representation to low income residents who reside in condominiums or within homeowners associations that are facing foreclosure and do not have funds available to hire an attorney to provide them with legal advice and/or legal representation. This appropriation is separate and distinct from another appropriations request requested by Senator Rodriguez in the amount of \$500,000 as this is unique to this particular group of individuals and families that reside within these communities.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	300,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	300,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	300,000	14%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	500,000	23%
Local	498,000	23%
Other	870,000	40%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	2,168,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

In addition to state funding, we will use matching funds from the Florida Bar Foundation to achieve the goals of this project. However, without funding from the State of Florida, this project will not be possible.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?



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Yes

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

Yes. CABA Pro Bono Legal Services received two PPP loans in the amount of \$137,500 each. These funds were used to pay for staff salaries.

Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction
 N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12. List the owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.

13. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits	Part of this amount will be used to pay for part of the salary of the administrative assistant that will be in charge of entering all of the cases under the Foreclosure Defense Project in our Legal Server Case Management system. Additionally, part of this money will be used to pay part of the salary of our Office Manager as she will be in charge of reporting under this contract and the general administration of this Project.	20,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	This amount will be used to pay for part of the salary and benefits of a full-time staff attorney that will be providing legal services and representation to the individuals that we will be representing under this Program and part of the salary and benefits of a paralegal for this program.	260,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	This amount will be used to pay for marketing/outreach, office supplies, parking at the Courthouse, a computer for the staff attorney on this Project, court translators, court reporters and other costs of litigation.	20,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		



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Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		300,000

14. Program Performance

a. What specific purpose or goal will be achieved by the funds requested?

These funds will be used to hire an attorney and paralegal to provide legal counsel, services and representation to low income homeowners who reside in a condominium or HOA and are facing the risk of foreclosure.

b. What activities and services will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?

Through this Project we will conduct outreach to identify homeowners in need of free legal representation and provide them with either legal counsel, help with drafting and submitting pro se pleadings and motions, or full legal representation. We will also hold office hours regularly at the Courthouse to best advise individuals showing up to their foreclosure hearings unrepresented and in need of legal services.

c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

Legal Counsel and Advice, Legal services and assistance with drafting pro se motions and pleadings and legal representation.

d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

The target population for this Project are low income households that reside in condominium or HOA communities and are unjustly having their properties foreclosed. We will also mainly focus on elderly members of our community that are being targeted and becoming victims of wrongdoing by condo/homeowners' associations. We expect to serve between 100-250 clients during the first year of this Project. This appropriation is separate and distinct from another appropriation being sponsored by Senator Rodriguez in the amount of \$500,000.

e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?

This Project will provide legal representation to members of our community that are currently having their properties foreclosed on and cannot afford legal representation. Through our Project and by providing vigorous legal representation to those in need we will be able to save the homes of many homeowners that are currently having their properties foreclosed unjustly and thus keep vulnerable members of our community in their homes. This will be achieved by marketing efforts and outreach to inform the community about our Project and the free legal services that we offer to homeowners.

f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for the contract?

If the deliverables listed in the contract are not achieved, funds from the contract should be deducted accordingly.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number **Ext.**

16. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County



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c. Organization Type

- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (please specify)

d. First Name Last Name

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number