



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1551

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The COVID-19 Veterans Legal Clinic (CVLC) is part of Florida State University College of Law's esteemed Public Interest Law Center. CVLC began in fall 2020 to serve veterans impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The clinic provides opportunities for law students to represent low-income veterans residing in the Second Judicial Circuit (Leon, Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Liberty and Wakulla counties) in cases in the areas of Housing (evictions, foreclosures, etc.), Consumer (car repossessions, unfair debt collections, etc.), Public Benefits (unemployment compensation, SNAP, CARES Act, stimulus checks, etc.), and Family (divorce, custody, child support, etc.). Law students also provide community legal education for local area veterans. Law students work under the supervision of the Director of CVLC, a Clinical Professor and licensed Florida attorney. This clinic will serve 320 veterans and service providers.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	200,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	200,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	200,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022	200,000	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.

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



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No

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

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	The Director of the COVID-19 Veterans Legal Clinic / Clinical Professor teaches students enrolled in the course, and serves as supervising attorney on all cases and on all community legal education.	200,000
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		200,000

12. Program Performance

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

The first goal is for low-income veterans in the Second Judicial Circuit impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic to have their civil legal needs addressed, increasing stability, security and economic prosperity for local area veterans. The second goal is for service providers across the state of Florida to receive training on legal issues and advocacy, thereby enhancing advocacy for veterans across the state.

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

Individual case representation and community legal education for veterans affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in the areas of housing, consumer, public benefits and family law.

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

We expect to serve 120 low-income veterans per year through individual case representation. We expect to serve 200 veterans, service providers and pro bono attorneys per year through statewide legal education trainings (total = 320 served per year).

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

The target population is low-income veterans residing in the Second Judicial Circuit who are affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as service providers and pro bono attorneys serving veterans across the state of Florida.

We expect to serve 120 low-income veterans per year through individual case representation. We expect to serve 200 veterans, service providers and pro bono attorneys per year through statewide legal education trainings (total = 320 served per year).



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

(a) Decrease in veteran homelessness, increase in veteran family stability, and increase in veteran economic prosperity. These outcomes will be measured by detailed case tracking through the Public Interest Law Center's case management software.
(b) Enhance advocacy for veterans across the state of Florida, expanding services and legal representation of veterans statewide in Florida.

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?

Return of the funds.

13. 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.

N/A



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14. Requestor Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

15. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

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

16. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number