



February 13, 2015 Contact: Meg Meo or Ivonne Snavely, 512-472-9599 or <u>mmeo@echristianpr.com</u> or <u>isnavely@echristianpr.com</u>

Media Advisory

Press Conference Regarding Texas Legal Aid Funding Concerns and Legislative Solutions <u>Wednesday, Feb. 18</u>

AUSTIN, Texas—Representatives from the Texas Access to Justice Commission, the Texas Access to Justice Foundation and Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Nathan Hecht will hold a press conference at 1 p.m. on Wed., Feb. 18, to discuss funding concerns related to the Texas legal aid system. Due to a lack of resources, only about 20 percent of the civil legal needs of eligible Texans are currently being met.

What: Press conference regarding funding for the Texas legal aid system

When: Wed., Feb. 18, 2015, at 1 p.m.

Where: Texas State Capitol Speaker's Committee Room, Room 2W.6

The **Texas Access to Justice Commission** was created in 2001 by the Supreme Court of Texas to develop and implement policy initiatives designed to expand access to and enhance the quality of justice in civil legal matters for low-income Texans. The Commission has created several initiatives to increase resources and awareness of legal aid. For more information, please visit <u>www.TexasATJ.org</u>.

The **Texas Access to Justice Foundation**, created by the Supreme Court of Texas in 1984, is the largest state-based funding source for the provision of civil legal aid in Texas. The organization is committed to the vision that all Texans will have equal access to justice, regardless of their income. The Foundation administers a variety of funding sources, which are earmarked to assist nonprofit organizations in providing legal aid to approximately 100,000 Texas families each year. For more information, please visit: <u>www.teajf.org</u>.

For more information on access to justice issues in the 84th Texas Legislature, visit: http://www.teajf.org/news/84th-Legislative-Session.aspx