

MBF SOCIETY OF FELLOWS

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MASSACHUSETTS BAR FOUNDATION

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MASSACHUSETTS BAR FOUNDATION



Society
of
Fellows



MISSION STATEMENT

The Massachusetts Bar Foundation represents the commitment of the lawyers and judges of Massachusetts to improve the administration of justice, to promote an understanding of the law and to ensure equal access to the legal system for all residents of the commonwealth, particularly those most vulnerable.



Each year, generous contributions of Massachusetts Bar Foundation Fellows support critical legal aid programs for the poor, foster ideas that improve

the administration of justice, promote careers in public interest law, and introduce young people to the infinite possibilities of our legal system.

The attorneys and judges that join the Foundation believe that, together, we can do more to expand the availability and strengthen the network of legal resources for low-income individuals and families in our state.

We invite you to stand with us, both as a colleague and a leader of our profession, to set an example to others and to demonstrate the positive contributions made every day by the Massachusetts legal community.

We invite you to become a Fellow of the Massachusetts Bar Foundation.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

Founded in 1964, the Massachusetts Bar Foundation is the philanthropic partner of the Massachusetts Bar Association. Through its grantmaking and charitable activities, the MBF works to increase access to justice for all Massachusetts citizens and to support programs that improve the administration of justice across the commonwealth.

IOLTA Grants Program

At the heart of the Foundation's grantmaking activities is the IOLTA Grants Program. The Foundation is one of three charitable entities in the



state charged with distributing the Interest on Lawyer's Trust Account (IOLTA) funds, receiving 26 percent of the aggregated interest on Massachusetts IOLTA accounts.

Through the IOLTA Grants Program, the MBF awards more than 150 grants annually to nonprofit organizations whose programs either provide civil legal services to low-income clients or improve the administration of justice. These grants enable recipients to provide critical assistance to those who have few resources to address legal issues, including domestic violence, housing, immigration status, child advocacy, family law, and health care.

Fellows Fund Initiatives

Through the MBF Fellows Fund, the Foundation endeavors to lead the legal community in funding innovative law-related initiatives. For example, Fellows Fund support allows the MBF to foster careers in public interest law through the Legal Intern Fellowship Program, which annually awards stipends to outstanding law students for summer internships in civil legal services.

THE ROLE OF A FELLOW

MBF Fellows set the highest standard among their peers by taking an active role in meeting the critical legal aid needs of our fellow citizens. With membership numbering over 1,400 strong, MBF Fellows serve as the driving force of all of the Foundation's efforts and successes. MBF Fellows provide vital support to the Foundation through their generous financial contributions. Many also choose to participate in the annual grantmaking process, foundation governance, and special events.

Pledge Contribution Levels

Fellows pledge to contribute a minimum of \$1,500 to the MBF's Fellows Fund, payable in affordable annual installments over as many as 10 years. Prospective Fellows may select from the following pledge levels:

Foundation Fellow	\$1,500
Louis D. Brandeis Fellow.....	\$2,500
Oliver Wendell Holmes Fellow	\$5,000
President's Circle — Bronze Fellow	\$10,000
President's Circle — Silver Fellow.....	\$25,000
President's Circle — Gold Fellow.....	\$50,000
President's Circle — Platinum Fellow	\$75,000

For Fellows who wish to build upon their initial contributions, all previous Fellows contributions may be applied to subsequent pledge levels.

MBF Justice Circle

As an alternative to pledge support, the MBF's Justice Circle offers Fellows the option of making an annual gift in perpetuity instead of committing to a particular pledge level. All Justice Circle members will be honored with the respective designations as they achieve each giving level listed above.

WHY BECOME A FELLOW?

Unprecedented Need



Each year, the MBF receives requests for support which far exceed its funding capacity. Despite funding from federal, state, and private sources, the demand for legal assistance remains very high. MBF Fellows are committed to reversing this trend and increasing access to justice for all citizens of the commonwealth.

Giving Back to the Profession

Members of the Massachusetts legal profession have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to giving back to the community in appreciation for all that the legal profession has given them. Becoming a Fellow is an ideal way to directly help people while simultaneously helping the profession. In addition, a Fellows pledge can help to fulfill the mandate of Rule 6.1 of the Massachusetts Rules of Professional Conduct for those aspiring to do so.

Expert Grantmaking

With decades of experience in the Massachusetts legal community, the MBF understands legal needs across the state, and can direct your contributions to where they are most critically needed and will create the highest impact.



The MBF's highly efficient and effective system of grantmaking and grant monitoring is often used as a model for other bar foundations and funders across the country.

Volunteer Opportunities

As a Fellow, you will be offered the opportunity to participate in governance, fund-raising, and the annual grantmaking process. Each year, more than 150



Fellows participate on grant advisory committees to ensure that grant funds are distributed effectively and judiciously to programs throughout Massachusetts.

Publicity and Networking Opportunities

In addition to being acknowledged in several MBF publications each year, Fellows are invited to participate in all MBF events. These include the Annual Meeting, Grantee Receptions, and other networking opportunities offered throughout the year.

Tax-Deductible Contributions

Since the MBF is a charitable, nonprofit organization under IRS code 501(c)(3), all contributions are tax-deductible, in accordance with federal and Massachusetts state law. Receipts are issued for all gifts.

To learn more about the MBF and the Society of Fellows, please visit us online at www.MassBarFoundation.org, or call (617) 338-0647.

“The MBF represents the best of what lawyers do.”

– Alice E. Richmond, Esq.
Richmond & Associates, Boston
MBF Fellow since 1976



MBF SOCIETY OF FELLOWS

Option 1. Pledge Support

I would like to make a pledge in the amount specified below: *(Already a Life Fellow? All previous Fellows contributions may be applied to the next pledge levels.)*

MBF SOCIETY OF FELLOWS PLEDGE LEVELS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1,500 Foundation Fellow
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$2,500 Louis D. Brandeis Fellow
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$5,000 Oliver Wendell Holmes Fellow
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$10,000 President's Circle — Bronze Fellow
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$25,000 President's Circle — Silver Fellow
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$50,000 President's Circle — Gold Fellow
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$75,000+ President's Circle — Platinum Fellow

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____ toward this pledge.
 Bill me annually in the amount of \$ _____ until this pledge is fulfilled.

Option 2. Sustaining Support — MBF Justice Circle

I would like to make an annual on-going contribution in the amount specified below:

MBF JUSTICE CIRCLE ANNUAL GIFT LEVELS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$150 Continuing Friend
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250 Continuing Supporter
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500 Continuing Sustainer
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1,000 Continuing Benefactor
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am interested in making or increasing my pledge, but not at this time. Please contact me at a later date.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am unable to make a pledge at this time, but please accept my contribution of \$ _____.