State of Delaware
Office of the Child Advocate

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2009
July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009
The Honorable Jack Markell  
Governor  

Tania M. Culley, Esquire  
Child Advocate  

Safeguarding the welfare of Delaware’s children through educational advocacy, system reform, public awareness, training, and legal representation of children as set forth in 29 Del. C., Ch. 90A  

Office of the Child Advocate  

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Executive Summary

The Office of the Child Advocate (OCA) is mandated to coordinate efforts on behalf of children, work with advocacy groups, promote system reform, recommend changes in law, procedure and policy necessary to enhance the protection of Delaware’s children, and to implement and coordinate a program providing legal representation on behalf of Delaware’s dependent, neglected, and abused children.

OCA accomplishes its charge to represent children through four Deputy Child Advocates (DCAs), a substantial and evolving pool of volunteer attorneys, and strong partnerships with the child-serving agencies in Delaware. In Fiscal Year 2009 (FY09), OCA received 610 appropriate referrals and made 326 attorney appointments to children, 90% of whom were in the legal custody of the Department of Services for Children, Youth & Their Families (DSCYF or the Children’s Department). At the conclusion of FY09, 520 dependent, neglected, and/or abused children were actively receiving legal representation, while 898 children were represented by OCA during this timeframe. Remarkably, at the close of FY09, only 2% of the children in the legal custody of DSCYF were unrepresented due to the combined efforts of the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program, independently appointed attorneys, OCA’s roster of over 420 volunteer attorneys, and more than 10,370 hours of direct legal representation by OCA staff.

In addition to the resources devoted to providing legal services to Delaware’s abused, neglected, and dependent children, OCA ensured thorough reviews of and recommendations for change regarding child welfare policies and procedures impacting children in Delaware. For instance, Delaware’s Child Advocate, Tania M. Culley, Esq., offered recommendations to the Governor’s Children’s Department Transition Team as the new administration formulated their strategy for addressing prevalent issues facing children and their families in the First State.

Additionally, OCA continued to foster and formalize its partnership with CASA and the Division of Family Services (DFS) through quarterly meetings and the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the three entities regarding the joint database of children in the legal custody of DSCYF. The critical need for data upon which the child welfare system can rely to inform decision-making was also recognized by OCA as it continued to enter and fine-tune data into its Policy Concerns database and its Compilation of Delaware's Child Protection Issues and Recommendations from Child Abuse/Neglect Death and Near Death Case Reviews.

As trends in recommendations have been identified, OCA has played a considerable role in committees and workgroups to identify solutions to the challenges facing Delaware’s child welfare system. FY09 was no different. OCA staff was integral to the work of Delaware’s Kids Lobby, the Child Protection Accountability Commission’s (CPAC) Mental and Behavioral Health Services to Children in and Adopted out of Foster Care Subcommittee, and several workgroups dedicated to improving services for youth aging out of foster care. In addition, OCA drafted and supported five pieces of legislation in FY09 all aimed at improving outcomes for children and youth in Delaware.

Outcomes for abused, neglected, and/or dependent children were also positively impacted by the many generous donations OCA received from both individuals and community organizations. Holiday gifts were provided to numerous OCA clients and monies were donated to provide OCA clients with life experiences they may not otherwise have had. OCA is extremely grateful to all of the individuals and organizations that support the children served by OCA. The assistance of these entities, combined with the vast and varied support OCA has enjoyed since its inception, is critical as OCA strives to fulfill its mission to safeguard the welfare of Delaware’s children through educational advocacy, system reform, public awareness, training, and legal representation of children.
Legal Representation

The Office of the Child Advocate is mandated to provide legal services to the most indigent of Delaware’s population – dependent, neglected, and abused children – and accomplishes this charge through its four Deputy Child Advocates (DCAs) and over 420 volunteer attorneys throughout the state. OCA also partners with the Court Appointed Special Advocate Program (CASA) to ensure that all children in the custody of the Department of Services for Children, Youth, and their Families (DSCYF) receive representation.

OCA received 610 appropriate referrals in FY09. Through its DCAs and volunteers, OCA was able to make 326 attorney appointments to children during the course of the fiscal year. The majority of those appointments (90%) were for children in the custody of DSCYF. The remaining 10% were for children who were the subject of dependency/neglect proceedings in Family Court.

During the fiscal year, OCA closed 458 cases to which an attorney had been assigned. 27 of those were cases involving dependency/neglect proceedings or parent custody disputes that were resolved. The remaining 431 involved children in DSCYF custody; those cases closed with a variety of outcomes (see Chart 1).

At the end of FY09, 520 dependent, neglected, and/or abused children were actively receiving legal representation through OCA (see Chart 2). OCA DCAs were representing 141 (27%) of those children, while volunteer attorneys represented the remaining 379 (73%). Of those 520 children, 489 (94%) were in the custody of the Children’s Department, twenty-six (5%) were the subject of dependency/neglect proceedings within the Family Court, and 5 (1%) were the subject of parent custody disputes. Throughout all of FY09, OCA represented a total of 898 children.

The largest concentration of children being actively represented by OCA at the end of FY09 was in New Castle County. OCA was representing 346 children in New Castle County as of June 30, 2009, compared to 75 in Kent County and 99 in Sussex County (see Chart 3). OCA DCAs were representing 59% of the total downstate cases and 11% of the New Castle County cases as of June 30, 2009.
Legal Representation (Continued)

By the end of Fiscal Year 2009, OCA had received 336 referrals to which attorneys were not assigned. This number includes 10 cases that were still pending disposition by OCA as of June 30, 2009. Two cases were appropriate for OCA representation but were closed due to low resources. One hundred twenty-nine referrals had no pending litigation, no apparent dependency, neglect, or abuse issues, or were resolved in court during the OCA disposition phase. An additional 20 cases required OCA intervention in the form of policy reviews, which were completed by OCA’s Family Crisis Therapists. The remaining 170 cases were handled by the CASA program.

In FY09, an unprecedented percentage of children in DSCYF custody received representation either through OCA or CASA, and only a very small percentage went unrepresented. This was due to a number of factors, including OCA’s growing volunteer pool, targeted recruitment efforts resulting in an unprecedented number of CASA volunteers, and a decline in the number of children in DSCYF custody. As of June 30, 2009, 807 children were in the custody of DSCYF, a 16% decline from FY08. Only 2% (19) of those children were unrepresented by the end of FY09, compared to 5% (45) at the end of FY08. OCA was providing legal representation to 489 children, CASA was providing advocates for 296 children, and 3 children were appointed attorneys independently by the Family Court (see Chart 4).

During FY09, OCA staff devoted over 10,370 hours to providing direct legal representation to dependent, neglected, and/or abused children, and another 1,040 hours supporting and training the volunteer attorneys who represent these children.

OCA held 12 Nuts and Bolts trainings throughout the state during FY09, in order to train 55 new attorneys in the legal representation of children. A number of veteran volunteer attorneys also attended these training sessions, in order to learn about updates to the child protection system and to refresh their understanding of their roles as guardians ad litem and their duties to their child clients. Forty-four attorneys took their first OCA case during FY09, while a total of 399 volunteer attorneys actively represented children through OCA during that timeframe.

In addition, 63 veteran volunteers achieved 5 years of volunteering for OCA during FY09, bringing the total number of attorneys who have reached this milestone to 185.

At the end of FY09, OCA boasted a volunteer roster of over 420 attorneys.

OCA Training Hosts

During FY09, the following law firms hosted OCA Nuts and Bolts trainings:

- Connolly Bove Lodge & Hutz
- Curley & Rodriguez, LLC
- Morris James LLP
- Morris, Nichols, Arsh & Tunnell LLP
- Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP
- Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A.
- Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice
- Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor
Child Welfare Policy & Legislative Advocacy

OCA is mandated, pursuant to 29 Del. C. § 9005A(2), to periodically review all relevant child welfare policies and procedures with a view toward expanding the rights of children. OCA is also to recommend changes in procedures for investigating and overseeing the welfare of children. 29 Del. C. § 9005A (4). In FY09, OCA staff spent more than 305 hours on efforts involving child protection policy and procedure, and an additional 660 hours on such efforts while fulfilling their duties as staff to the Child Protection Accountability Commission (CPAC).

As a new administration was ushered into Delaware in FY09, Tania Culley, Delaware’s Child Advocate, ensured that children’s voices were heard and their needs taken into consideration by presenting to the Governor’s Children’s Department Transition Team. During her presentation, Ms. Culley addressed what she believed to be the most critical issues facing the new DSCYF administration, how the fiscal climate impacted those issues, and what service gaps exist in our child protection system. She also offered suggestions for addressing these issues, declaring that the state’s fiscal climate and the change in administration presented real opportunities for serving children and their families differently.

OCA continued working in partnership with CASA and DFS to maintain the comprehensive joint database (OCA/CASA database) of children in DSCYF custody. The statistics that were generated monthly and the regular maintenance and quality assurance of the OCA/CASA database enabled system partners to ensure that no child was being overlooked or going without representation unnecessarily. OCA, CASA, and DFS formalized their commitment to the attainment of legal representation for all children in DSCYF custody through the use of the OCA/CASA database by executing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that outlined each agency’s responsibilities regarding the database. The three agencies also agreed to continue meeting on an annual basis to assess the progress toward the attainment of legal representation for all children in DSCYF custody and to discuss ideas and policies that may help Delaware achieve that goal.

OCA staff members also met quarterly with DFS staff to improve multi-disciplinary collaboration and communication on such issues as caseloads, case decisions, training, and system successes and challenges. The two agencies worked together to provide training to DFS front-line workers on permanency options for children in foster care, and to assess the feasibility of providing subsidies to families who opt to file for guardianship or permanent guardianship of children in foster care. Both of these endeavors were aimed at helping children achieve timely permanency and not languish in foster care unnecessarily.

In addition to maintaining the OCA/CASA database, OCA also continued to enter policy concerns from child abuse/neglect case reviews into its Child Protection Policy Concerns database, and worked on restructuring the database in order to more readily identify trends in Delaware’s child protection practice. OCA will use this database to address areas of concern and provide documentation to support those positions for which it advocates.

Another compilation of child protection concerns and recommendations for change is OCA’s “Compilation of Delaware’s Child Protection Issues and Recommendations from Child Abuse/Neglect Death and Near Death Case Reviews,” a document that lists every public recommendation that was derived from a child death or near death due to abuse and/or neglect, from March of 1997 through June of 2009. OCA staff worked diligently throughout FY09 to update this document, transferring the nearly 100 page document into a more user-friendly spreadsheet, into which information regarding progress toward accomplishing recommendations and implementing changes can be easily entered and tracked. Ultimately, OCA plans to make this document available to system partners via the internet, so that information can be updated by each partner agency and issues can be timely addressed. This tracking system has been used to inform both CPAC and the Child Death, Near Death, & Stillbirth Commission (CDNDSC) as to priority areas for focus and improvement.

OCA staff members enthusiastically took part in the first meetings of Delaware’s Kids Lobby, an initiative of the Delaware Children’s Campaign that began in FY09. The Kids’ Lobby brought together child advocates and policy makers during the weeks that the Delaware Legislature was in session to discuss such things as successful advocacy techniques, pending and proposed legislation relating to children, and child-serving agencies’ budget concerns. The goal of the Kids’ Lobby is to be able to respond quickly, collectively and thoughtfully to legislative issues, budget cuts, and policy concerns that directly affect Delaware’s children.

“It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.”

~ Frederick Douglass
Child Welfare Policy & Legislative Advocacy (Continued)

OCA staff were integral in the development of the CPAC Mental and Behavioral Health Services to Children in and Adopted out of Foster Care Subcommittee's final report, which made numerous recommendations for reform of the current policies and practices surrounding the delivery of mental health services to children in and adopted out of foster care. System partners began addressing some of these recommendations during FY09, and will continue that work over the next several years.

A remaining high priority for OCA in FY09 was work related to youth aging out of foster care. OCA staff were active members of several workgroups dedicated to improving services for these youth, including CPAC’s Extended Jurisdiction Subcommittee and DSCYF’s Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA) Workgroup. These groups focus on such issues as employment, independent living, housing, and other issues that relate to the substantial needs of older youth in foster care.

As an offshoot of the APPLA Workgroup, DFS and OCA staff worked together to create a housing group that began the difficult process of fashioning solutions to the housing crisis facing youth aging out of foster care. They began by developing a training curriculum for youth aging out to educate them on their rights and responsibilities as good tenants. They then started reaching out to the real estate community to explain the benefits of having youth so trained as well as the challenges these youth face once they are out on their own. The group continues to work toward implementation of the training and to garner additional support in the real estate community. In addition, they began to explore the possibility of creating a carve-out in the landlord tenant code and a plan for tax incentives for landlords, to entice real estate professionals and owners to take a chance on renting to these transitional youth. The group looks forward to continued work in these areas in the years to come.

OCA staff also relied on the APPLA Workgroup as a forum to address concerns about the misuse of personal information of youth in care. Unfortunately, youth in foster care sometimes fall victim to family members and others who seek their own personal gain by using birth dates and social security numbers inappropriately, creating undeserved bad credit for the unsuspecting youth. New policy developed as a result of this workgroup will seek to ensure that all youth exiting care will benefit from having free credit reports run prior to leaving foster care and the opportunity for assistance in correcting any discrepancies, helping to ensure that youth aging out of foster care can do so without the additional burden of having poor credit.

OCA had a busy legislative season in FY09. Senate Bill 34, which made changes to the termination of parental rights statute pertaining to children abandoned by, almost killed, or killed by their parents, was OCA’s primary legislative focus for FY09. It expanded the abandonment age from 6 months old to 6 years old, when children are left in circumstances that place them at substantial risk of injury or death. It also allows termination of parental rights, where the grounds can be proven, if a parent causes the death or near death of any child. The bill passed the General Assembly and was signed into law in May 2009.

Other legislation in which OCA was involved includes Senate Bill 55 and Senate Bill 84. SB 55 made it possible for guardians and permanent guardians of children to petition for termination of parental rights and adoption.

SB 84 statutorily establishes de facto parent status in the State of Delaware by allowing the Family Court to consider evidence of a person’s assumption of parental responsibilities and relationship with a child in determining the maternity and/or paternity of a child. Both of these bills were signed into law during FY09.

As staff to CPAC, OCA also had a hand in drafting and advocating for CPAC’s primary legislative initiative, House Bill 104, which was signed into law near the end of FY09. HB 104 clarified the duties and powers of DSCYF when it holds custody of a child, and made changes to the law governing non-parent visitation with a child and what standards must be met in order for the Court to allow such visitation. The legislation also directed that all non-parents seeking custody of children apply for guardianship.

OCA staff also worked hard to assist CPAC in drafting a bill extending the jurisdiction of the Family Court over youth aging out of foster care. Senate Bill 113 was introduced just before the end of the legislative session, and OCA and CPAC look forward to its passage in FY10.

“While the overall process of shaping policy is often deliberative, many times it can be feverish. Specifically, at those times it is imperative that groups representing an issue be coordinated and responsive to the needs/concerns of legislators.”

~ Former Delaware Children’s Campaign Executive Director Rodney Brittingham, on the Kid’s Lobby
Donations to OCA’s Children

As in years past, OCA received many generous donations from individuals and organizations in the community who seek to help OCA provide necessities, as well as life experiences, to the children OCA serves. These donations were primarily offered during the holiday season, when OCA opened its doors to its volunteer attorneys and invited them to “shop” for gifts for their child clients. Delaware’s Melson-Arsht and Richard S. Rodney Inns of Court, the Eastpoint Community Church, Kohls Department Store of Dover, members of the Family Law section of the Delaware Bar, and other individuals provided new toys, clothes, and other items, as well as monetary contributions and gift cards.

In addition, many of OCA’s clients were the beneficiaries of the generosity of several organizations across the state that provided gifts tailored for those children. The Christiana and Hockessin-Greenville Rotary Clubs, the 9th Airlift Squadron and the 436th Maintenance Operations Squadron of Dover Air Force Base, and the Orphan Care Coalition’s 50 Churches-50 Children group each “adopted” some of OCA’s neediest children, generously providing them with gifts and necessities beyond the traditional holiday gift.

These organizations worked with merchants such as JC Penney and Kohls department stores, which donated or significantly discounted some of the gifts for the children, and also devoted employees to helping pick out the toys and clothes on the children’s wish lists. The Christiana Rotary’s efforts in FY09 received coverage from the News Journal. The Christiana Rotary Club has been “adopting” OCA clients for 5 years now, and this was the second year for the men and women of Dover Air Force Base. OCA looks forward to the continued partnerships with these organizations for the benefit of the children represented by OCA.

Also in FY09, Delaware’s Bankruptcy Inn of Court again made a very generous monetary donation in the amount of $2,000 for OCA to use throughout the year to help give children the opportunity to enjoy the life experiences that other children enjoy, such as prom and graduation, school pictures and yearbooks, summer camps, theater, music, and adventure parks.

This money, along with the remaining money from the Delaware Trial Lawyers Association donation in FY08, helped to provide such experiences to several OCA clients throughout FY09. Three children were able to attend and have the necessary supplies for summer camp thanks to these funds. OCA was able to purchase a yearbook for a child to commemorate her first year of high school, and also used the funds to pay the college registration fee for a high school graduate. Another high school-aged client benefited from a series of tutoring sessions through the donations. These funds also supplemented other monetary and in-kind donations made by individuals in FY09 to help support the independent living of OCA clients who have aged out of foster care.

In addition to these monetary donations, children served by OCA also benefited from the generosity of a Sanford School teacher, Michelle Frosina, who contacted OCA in the spring of FY09 and expressed her interest in tutoring children in foster care during the summer. OCA worked diligently with its volunteer attorneys, DFS, and Michelle to establish a tutoring program and to identify appropriate children for the program. At the close of FY09, about 15 children ages 6-13 were served by Michelle’s program. A special thanks is owed to Michelle Frosina and Rodney Brittingham, DFS’ Deputy Director, for their vision and follow through regarding this program.

OCA is extremely grateful to all of the individuals and organizations that support the children served by OCA.
In Memoriam

Jessica Monique Smith

On October 15, 2008, the Office of the Child Advocate and the world lost a beautiful soul when Jessica Monique Smith was prematurely taken from us.

Having spent a number of years in foster care, Jessica knew all too well the hardships that life can bring even to those who are so undeserving of such strife, though you would never have known it given the magnitude of her smile. Jessica was a beautiful young woman who could light up a room with just a glimmer of that smile. And, she was both kind and compassionate when it came to sharing that smile with others.

Jessica believed that it was her job to stand up for herself and others who couldn’t stand alone. She never declined a request to speak to foster youth, offering the perspective of someone who shared their experience, and she inspired everyone around her to be their personal best. In a speech to members of the Delaware State Legislature, she praised those who had given her chance after chance through the years and encouraged us not to give up on the others like her.

Jessica was a proud graduate of Dover High School and attended Delaware State University. She never stopped dreaming and always worked extraordinarily hard to reach her goals.

Above and beyond all of her other accomplishments, endearing qualities and the many gifts she gave us however, we are left with the most cherished gift of all – Jessica’s young son, Trent. The beauty of her spirit will forever remain with us in his bright eyes and that trademark smile.

Farewell to our angel, gone too soon.

By: Angela M. Fowler, Esquire
Office of the Child Advocate Annual Report

OCA extends its heartfelt thanks to the 399 volunteer attorneys who represented children during Fiscal Year 2009:

Derek Abbott  
Michael Abram  
Jon Abramczyk  
Barbara Alexander  
Thomas Allingham, II  
Susan Ament  
Jeremy Anderson  
Melony Anderson  
John Andrade  
David Arndt  
Daniel Astin  
Mary Augustine  
Christine Azar  
John Balaguer  
Doreen Becker  
Jennifer Becnel-Guzzo  
Michael Bednash  
Sean Bellew  
Michelle Berkeley  
Rebecca Beste  
Robert Beste, III  
David Bever  
Arthur Connolly, Jr.  
Bernard Conaway  
Patrick Collins  
Bernard Conaway  
Kelly Conlon  
Arthur Connolly, Jr.  
Todd Coomes  
Margaret Cooper  
Jason Cor nell  
Michael Corrigan  
Victoria Counihan  
Lydia Cox  
Kara Hammond Coyle  
Kristen Cramer  
Brian Crawford  
Laura Crockett  
Laurence Cronin  
Curtis Crowther  
David Culley  
Donna Culver  
Brian Cunningham  
Edward Curley  
Michael Custer  
James Dalle Pazze  
Bart Dalton  
Steven Daniels  
George Danneman  
Danielle Davis  
Christine Dealy  
Kim DeBonte  
Christine Demsey  
David Denham  
John X. Denney, Jr.  
Margaret Desgrosseilliers  
Jill Di Sciuillo  
Sarah DiLauto  
Leslie Case DiPietro  
Tara DiRocco  
Nicole DiSalvo  
Kevin Dobson  
Sean Doan  
Melissa Dominski  
Keith Donovan  
John T. Dorsey  
Meghan Dougherty  
Shawn Dougherty  
W. Harding Drane, Jr.  
Thomas F. Driscoll, III  
Dane Driscoll, III  
James Drnec  
Dale Dube  
Timothy Duddar  
Mary Dugan  
Bradley Eaby  
Edward Eaton  
Jeremy Eicher  
Craig Elsssen  
Richard Ellis  
Margaret England  
Kenneth Enos  
Kelly Ennslin  
Elwood Eveland  
Sherry Fallon  
Amy Feehey  
David Felice  
Stephen Ferguson  
Islanda Finamore  
GianClaudio Finizio  
Enrica N. Finne gan  
Erin Fitzgerald  
Matthew Fogh  
Edward Fornais, III  
Stuart Fullerton  
David Gagne  
Deborah Galonsky  
Meredith Gaudio  
Catherine Gaul  
Frances Gauthier  
Kathleen Geiger  
Kelly Dunn Gelof  
Kristin Gibbons  
Glynis Gibson  
Andrew Gogian  
Andrew Gonser  
William Gonser, Jr.  
Todd Goodman  
Susan Gordon  
Nancy Gorman  
Thomas Gorman  
Brian Gottesman  
Margaret Greecher  
James Green  
Robert Greenberg  
Daniel Griffith  
Christopher Griffiths  
Thomas Grimm  
Geoffrey Grimer  
Jilin Grosb  
Mark Gunderson  
Korber Hadley  
Shauna Hagan  
Gerald Hager  
Patricia Hall  
Joseph Handlon  
Patricia Hannigan  
Jeanne Hanson  
Thomas Hanson, Jr.  
Edwin Harron  
Joyce Hayes  
Theresa Hayes  
Kevin Healy  
Christian Heesters  
Leslie Heilman  
James Higgins  
Suzanne Hill  
Adam Hiller  
Timothy Hitchings  
Michael Hochman  
Thomas Hodukavich  
Victoria Hoffman  
Thomas Horan  
Eric Howard  
Xiaojuan Huang  
Amy Huffman  
David Hunt  
Diane Ibrahim  
Frederick Iobst  
Michael Isaacs  
Chun Jang  
Jennifer Jauffret  
David Jenkins  
Kathleen Jennings  
Clay Jester  
Erika John son  
Richard I. G. Jones, Jr.  
Dawn Jones  
Judy Jones  
Cory Kandestrin  
Matthew Kaplan  
Jennifer Karpe  
Lee Kaufmann  
William Kellerer  
Lynn Kelly  
Felice Kerr  
Eleanor Kiesel  
Shelley Kinsella  
Gretchen Knight  
Nicholas Kondraschow  
Edward Kosnowski  
Carl Kunz, III  
Peter Ladig  
Gregory Ladner  
William Lafferty  
Kathryn Laffey  
Mary Catherine Landis  
Tara Lattomus  
Kimberly Lawson  
Jonathan Layton  
Lewis Lazarus  
Brooke Leach  
Abigail LeGrow  
Timothy Lengkeek  
James Lennon  
Scott Leonard  
Neal Levitsky  
Elizabeth Lewis  
Susan List  
Paul Lockwood  
Gaston Loomis  
Zhun Lu  
Sean Lynn  
Lauren Maguire  
Andrea Malinowski  
Mark Maloney  
Kevin Mangan  
Margaret Manning  
Erie Mariani  
Michelle Marino  
Melanie George Marshall  
Timothy Martin  
William Martin, III  
Dennis Mason, II  
Janice Mater  
Michael Maxwell  
David McBride  
Deirdre McCartney  
Garvan McDaniel  
Michael McDermott  
Susanna McDonald  
Thomas McDonough  
Lexie Shelton McFaskell  
Matthew McGuire  
Megan McKenzie  
John McLaughlin, Jr.  
Marci McNair  
Carolyn McNeice  
Bruce McNew  
Rakesh Mehta  
Reyner Meikle, Jr.  
Pamela Meintner  
Jennifer Mensinger  
Tammy Mercer  
Christopher Messa  
Stephen Milowsky  
Kathleen Miller  
Tiphane Miller  
Lisa Minutola  
Michael Mosca  
Patricia Morgan  
Chanta Brooks Montoban  
Dana Spring Monzo  
Sharon Morgan  
Richard Morse  
Mary Mulloy  
Francis Murphy, Jr.  
D. Fon Mustamara-Walker  
Katherine Nekiirk  
Michael Nestor  
Ryan Newell  
Maria Newill  
Seth Niederman  
Maryellen Noreika  
Joshua Novak  
Stephen Nowak  
K. Tyler O'Connell  
Elizabeth Olsen  
Jonathan O'Neill  
Deirdre O'Shea  
Suzanne O'Brien  
Maria Panichelli  
Jeness Parker  
John Parkins, Jr.  
Pamela Parks  
George Pazniak  
Adam Perza  
Victoria Petrone  
Eilin Phillips  
Marc Phillips  
Sarah Pierce  
Tiffany Plaid  
Francis Pileggi  
Tanya Pino  
Mary Ann Plunkant  
Ciro Poppiti, III  
Susana Poppiti  
Thomas Preston  
Cynthia Pruitt  
Amy Quinlan  
Andrew Rahib  
Sehr Rana  
Leigh-Anne Raport  
Vivian Rapposelli  
Richard Rencik  
Sheldon Reitman  
W. Harding Drane, Jr.  
Dana Reynolds  
Joseph Rhoades  
Helen Richards  
Matthew Riffino  
Courtney Riordan  
Michael Ripple  
David Ripsom  
Elizabeth Rodriguez  
Bruce Rogers  
Brian Rotstokia  
Michael Rushe  
Helena Rychlicki  
Tamara Sampson  
Yvonne Talvorian Saville  
R. Jason Scaggs, Jr.  
Lisa Schmidt  
John J. Schreppler, II  
Pamela Scott  
Suzanne Seubert  
Dana Severance  
Thomas Shellenger  
Brian Shroyer  
James D. Shomper, Jr.  
J. Jackson Shrun  
Sophia Siddiqui  
Daniel Silver  
Christian Singewald  
Nicholas Skiles  
Ariel Philip Sloan  
Deborah Spivak  
Leslie Spotore  
Raj Sripersad  
Lisa Stark  
Kristopher Starr  
Deneen Stewart  
Chad Stover  
Jonathan Strauss  
Frederick Strickland  
William Sudul, Jr.  
Renee Suglia  
James J. Sullivan, Jr.  
Karen Sullivan  
Scott Swenson  
Harry Tashjian, IV  
Amy Taylor  
James Taylor, Jr.  
Gregory Taylor  
John H. Taylor, III  
David Tektis  
Mary Thomas  
Catherine Thompson  
Seth Thompson  
Chad Toms  
Sara Toner  
Gary Tramay  
Melissa Trounter  
Anna Martina Tyreus  
Thomas Uebler  
William Ulrich  
Andrea Unterberger  
Robert Valitura, Jr.  
Patrick Vanderslice  
Jennifer Veet  
Karen Vicks  
Matthew Viganos  
Michael Vild  
Kristi Vitola  
Nicole Walkar  
Malcolm W lastname  
Matthew Ward  
Michael Weidinger  
Gregory Werkheiser  
Benjamin Wetzel, III  
Holly Whitney  
Patricia Widdiss  
David H. Williams  
Dawn Williams  
Gregory B. Williams  
Evan Willford  
Megan Wissmeier  
Josiah Wolcott  
Christian Wright  
Dav Wright  
Laurayngst  
Daniel Young  
Kirsten Zeberkewicz  
Virginia Zrake
Special recognition is required for the 63 attorneys who reached the milestone of volunteering for OCA for five years during Fiscal Year 2009:

Jon Abramczyk, Esquire
Thomas J. Allingham II, Esquire
Christine Azar, Esquire
John Balaguier, Esquire
Denis P. Casey, Esquire
Joseph Cicero, Esquire
Cynthia S. Collins, Esquire
Bernard Conaway, Esquire
Margaret Cooper, Esquire
Jason Cornell, Esquire
Victoria Watson Counihan, Esquire
Brock Czeschin, Esquire
John P. Daniello, Esquire
Sarah DiLuzio, Esquire
John T. Dorsey, Esquire
Craig Eliassen, Esquire
Margaret England, Esquire
Catherine A. Gaul, Esquire
Todd Goodman, Esquire
Brian Gottesman, Esquire
James Green, Esquire
Thomas Grimm, Esquire
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Clay T. Jester, Esquire
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Shelley Kinsella, Esquire
Peter Ladig, Esquire
Gregory Ladner, Esquire
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Lauren Maguire, Esquire
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Matthew B. McGuire, Esquire
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Stephen Milewski, Esquire
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Francis Pileggi, Esquire
Susan Poppiti, Esquire
Vincent Poppiti, Esquire
Richard Renck, Esquire
Sheldon Rennie, Esquire
Bruce Rogers, Esquire
John Schreppler II, Esquire
Leslie Spoltore, Esquire
Karen Sullivan, Esquire
Patricia Uhlenbrock, Esquire
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Nicole Walker, Esquire
Patricia Widdoss, Esquire
Dawn R. Williams, Esquire
Gregory B. Williams, Esquire
Charles Thomas Williams, III, Esquire
Davis Wright, Esquire

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

~ Margaret Mead
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Leah Dickerson
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