



## NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 20, 2015

**CONTACT:** Allison North Jones

Allison@northpublicrelations.com

(850) 320-6167

# Legal Services of North Florida awards the Jack McLean Champion for Legal Services award

**TALLAHASSEE, FL.** - Legal Services of North Florida, Inc. (LSNF) awarded the Jack McLean Champion for Legal Services award to Chief Judge, Charles A. Francis, at the organization's annual fundraising event, Jazz for Justice Sunday.

The prestigious award recognizes an individual, business, firm, governmental entity, or organization that has fulfilled the mission of LSNF by enhancing the provision of services and/or strengthening LSNF's ability to provide services.

"Judge Francis was chosen for this prestigious award because of his ongoing efforts to provide an avenue for justice for all in North Florida," said Kris Knab, LSNF's executive director.

Judge Francis is Chief Judge of the 2nd Judicial Circuit consisting of Leon, Gadsden, Wakulla, Franklin, Jefferson, and Liberty counties. He has received several awards and recognitions for his service to the judiciary and legal system, including the Richard W. Ervin Equal Justice Award in 2009. Prior to his appointment to the circuit bench in 1999, Judge Francis worked in private practice in Tallahassee for 27 years. As an attorney he served on numerous committees and workgroups of the Florida Bar and Tallahassee Bar Association.

"It was such an honor to be included at Jazz for Justice by congratulating Judge Francis with the Jack McLean Champion for Legal Services award. Florida would not be the same without the lifelong dedication to access to justice that he is committed to providing," said Commissioner Lindley, chairman of Leon County Commission.

Jazz for Justice is an annual event that benefits LSNF and their continued services. This year's event featured regional and national musicians at three music venues on Adams Street in downtown Tallahassee.

LSNF is a non-profit organization providing no cost civil legal services to low-income individuals and families in 16 counties since 1976. The organization's diverse and dedicated staff serve over 6,500 clients each year from five office locations throughout the Florida Panhandle.

About LSNF

*Legal Services of North Florida (LSNF) is one of seven legal services organizations in Florida funded by the Legal Services Corporation (LSC). LSC is a private, not-for-profit Corporation created by an Act of Congress to ensure low-income people have equal access to the courts nationwide. LSNF receives financial assistance primarily from the following sources: Legal Services Corporation, The Florida Bar Foundation, Department of Justice, Internal Revenue Service, the Area Agency on Aging, United Way, the Attorney General, local governments and private contributions. For more information about LSNF, visit [lsnf.org](http://lsnf.org).*

###