



## First Quarter 2023 Highlights

### Outreach

#### NLS in the Community

01/03/2023	Pershing County Senior Center	Pershing
01/04/2023	Laughlin Pro Bono Ask-A-Lawyer	Clark
01/06/2023	Article re: Criminal Record Sealing for January 2023 Clark County Bar Association Communique	Clark
01/06/2023	Basics of Records Sealing Class	Clark
01/09/2023	Huntridge AAL	Clark
01/09/2023	Operation HOME Working Group	Clark
01/10/2023	Pahrump Pro Bono Ask-A-Lawyer	Nye
01/12/2023	Southern Nevada Association of Women Attorneys Family Law Panel CLE Event	Clark
01/13/2023	Summerhill Apartments Resource Partner Meeting	Clark
01/13/2023	Our Center Name & Gender Marker Change Forms Clinic	Washoe
01/13/2023	Basics of Records Sealing Class	Clark
01/16/2023	Record Sealing Class	Clark
01/20/2023	Basics of Records Sealing Class	Clark
01/21/2023	Community Care - Cupcake Girls Event	Clark
01/24/2023	Nevada Homeless Alliance Pop-Up Project Homeless Connect Resource Fair at the Bonneville Transit Center	Clark
01/24/2023	Outreach Carson City Farms and Local Businesses	Carson City
01/25/2023	Ryan White Part A Planning Council Presentation	Statewide
01/25/2023	VA Hospital Ask-A-Lawyer	Clark
01/26/2023	Street Law Presentations 2023	Washoe
01/27/2023	Basics of Records Sealing Class	Clark
01/28/2023	Human Trafficking Awareness	Clark
02/01/2023	Reno Community Court	Washoe
02/01/2023	Laughlin Pro Bono Ask-A-Lawyer	Clark
02/01/2023	Pathway from Poverty Provider Meeting	Clark
02/01/2023	Rapid Response Employ NV Presentation for Custom Ink	Washoe
02/03/2023	Basics of Records Sealing Class	Clark
02/04/2023	UNR-Migrant Worker Rural Outreach Clinic Event	Churchill

02/04/2023	UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law Community Law Day - Guardianship & Supported Decision Making	Clark
02/06/2023	Outreach Winnemucca Farms and Local Businesses	Humboldt
02/06/2023	National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Community Dinner and Resource Fair	Clark
02/07/2023	Pahrump Pro Bono Ask-A-Lawyer	Nye
02/07/2023	National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Community Health Fair	Clark
02/08/2023	UNLV Diversity Program SNAP Presentation	Clark
02/08/2023	Law Library Ask A Lawyer	Clark
02/09/2023	Investiture of Judge Deborah Westbrook	Clark
02/10/2023	Opportunity Alliance Nevada Advisory Call	Statewide
02/10/2023	Basics of Records Sealing Class	Clark
02/11/2023	Beau-T Spa Day at The Centers	Clark
02/13/2023	Operation HOME Working Group	Clark
02/13/2023	Outreach St. Peter, St. Michael's, St. Albert, Immaculate Conception, Holy Cross, and St. Therese of Little Flower Catholic Churches	Washoe
02/15/2023	Howard D. McKibben Inn of Court February Meeting - Speed Networking Event	Clark
02/16/2023	LVMPD Enterprise Area Command Apartment Manager's Meeting	Clark
02/17/2023	Basics of Record Sealing Class	Clark
02/17/2023	Rapid Response - Presentation	Washoe
02/22/2023	Reno Law Fair	Washoe
02/24/2023	Basics of Records Sealing Class	Clark
02/25/2023	UNR-Migrant Worker Rural Outreach Clinic Event	Pershing
02/27/2023	ECDC African Community Center	Clark
02/28/2023	VA Hospital Ask-A-Lawyer	Clark
03/01/2023	Laughlin Pro Bono Ask-A-Lawyer	Clark
03/01/2023	Pathways from Poverty Provider Meeting	Clark
03/02/2023	Reno Sparks Gospel Mission Presentation	Washoe
03/03/2023	Basics of Records Sealing Class	Clark
03/03/2023	Rapid Response - Presentation EmployNV	Washoe
03/03/2023	NAACP	Washoe
03/07/2023	Community Services Agency (CSA) Eviction Presentation	Washoe
03/07/2023	Pahrump Pro Bono Ask-A-Lawyer	Nye
03/08/2023	Law Library Ask A Lawyer	Clark
03/08/2023	Nevada Homeless Alliance Provider Meeting	Clark
03/09/2023	Wilson Elser WAVE Event	Clark
03/09/2023	BWLAVEGAS-Meet and Greet	Clark
03/09/2023	Street Law Presentations 2023	Washoe
03/10/2023	Basics of Records Sealing Class	Clark

03/14/2023	Wells Senior Center 2023	Elko
03/14/2023	Nevada Homeless Alliance Pop-Up Project Homeless Connect at Super 8 Non-Congregate Shelter	Clark
03/14/2023	People First of Nevada Winnemucca Chapter Presentation: NLS and Supported Decision Making	Humboldt
03/15/2023	VA Hospital Ask-A-Lawyer	Clark
03/16/2023	Reno Initiative for Shelter and Equality	Washoe
03/16/2023	SNRHA FSS Landlord/Tenant Basics Workshop	Clark
03/16/2023	ADSD TeMoak Presentation	Elko
03/17/2023	Basics of Records Sealing Class	Clark
03/18/2023	UNR-Migrant Worker Rural Outreach Clinic Event	Lyon
03/22/2023	Veterans Stand Down	Clark
03/23/2023	Supported Decision Making Workshop for Individuals with Disabilities with Clark County School District	Clark
03/23/2023	Silver State Housing	Washoe
03/24/2023	Basics of Records Sealing Class	Clark
03/24/2023	Outreach with Awaken	Washoe
03/25/2023	GenderFest 2023	Clark
03/27/2023	HSA, Men's Crossroads	Washoe
03/28/2023	Reno OMLA Veterans Ask A Lawyer	Washoe
03/29/2023	Reno Community Court	Washoe
03/29/2023	Nevada Homeless Alliance Pop-Up Project Homeless Connect at New Beginnings	Clark
03/30/2023	Farmworker Awareness Day Outreach Event	Lyon
03/31/2023	Basics of Records Sealing Class	Clark
03/31/2023	The Las Vegas Trans Pride	Clark

## New YouTube Videos

01/13/2023 NLS Update: Landlord-Tenant Ask A Lawyer  
01/01/2023 YouTube Law School: Episode 5: Appeal

## Project Updates

### PRO BONO

New Cases Placed:

Pro Bono Advice: 139

Pro Bono Extended Services: 50

Judicare: 15

New Cases Accepted for Assistance: 224

Cases waiting for placement: 45

New Volunteers: 17

Our Lawyer in the School Project is up and running and getting ready for summer school at Myrtle Tate elementary school. Our staff are at the school 2 days a week now, but we hope to expand our services in the next school year. We also attended the Family Law Conference in Stateline this year during the amazing snowstorm!

CLEs	
1/20/2023	Probate Basics
3/10/2023	Rights of Unsheltered Individuals
3/28-30/2023	Principles of Fair Housing Litigation

## CORE SERVICES

We are starting a new initiative within our Core Services in Reno to assist homeless and at risk individuals in Washoe County. We have staffed a Case Manager to assist in meeting our client's non-legal needs and look at the whole client when devising a legal strategy to help a client. Often legal solutions are bandages over a much deeper issue, and we hope to meet our client's needs more holistically through our Holistic Lawyering Project. We are currently conducting outreach at Reno Community Court and hope to expand our outreach efforts over the summer.

### Case Stories

*\*All client names disguised with aliases for the purpose of this report.*

Subsidized Housing:

Anan\* originally from Laos, is an elderly disabled man with limited English proficiency (LEP). Anan lives in a public housing unit owned and operated by the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority (SNRHA). He lives with disabled adult son and a live-in-caregiver (another adult son). Anan was facing eviction for foot traffic, noise and a smoking violation. He did not understand the meaning of "foot traffic," a common term used by housing authorities to alleged illegal activity without having to prove the illegal activity; thus, he did not fully understand why SNRHA was trying to evict him. NLS assisted him in appealing the notice by requesting an informal hearing and a Laotian interpreter for the hearing. NLS represented him at the informal hearing enforcing his Title VI right to an interpreter during any conference with SNRHA, documenting this in his housing file. We asked they provide Anan with a second chance because of his LEP and that reasonable accommodation be considered due to his son's disability. SNRHA agreed and client is still in his unit. NLS made sure client fully understood the conditions of the agreement.

### Subsidized housing:

Steve\* is a resident at a 55+ community managed by the SNRHA. Steve contacted our office seeking representation at an eviction hearing scheduled at the Henderson Justice Court. Sadly, at the age of 61, Steve started caring for his two small grandchildren (3 and 1 year old). Unfortunately, his son and mother of his grandchildren posted a video on Facebook of them fighting in front of his grandchildren. This was reported to Child Protective Services and the children were placed with Steve, likely long term. The SNRHA sought to evict him based on a violation of his lease due to additional occupants and on the basis that it is a 55+ community. NLS stepped in and represented Steve at the eviction hearing. We were able to successfully argue on his behalf, and the Judge denied the eviction.

### Unemployment Benefits/Pandemic Unemployment Assistance:

Marie\* is a mental health nurse and was terminated from her employment after 11 years. She was terminated for alleged misconduct due to continued tardiness. Cathy admitted that she was tardy but explained that she was involved in a car accident, sustained injuries to her back, which caused her pain/discomfort with everyday activities – especially in the morning, when trying to get ready for work. She also explained that her employer was aware of her injuries, that she notified her supervisor when she would be late and, on the days, she was late, she stayed longer to finish her job. She applied for unemployment over a year ago, she has not received benefits, she had to deplete her 401K & borrow money while trying to find another job. NLS helped her set an appeal hearing in April and we represented her at the appeal hearing. The referee determined that the employer did not establish misconduct in connection with her job. She was awarded unemployment benefits and she has already received \$9,600.00. She has regained financial independence and has been able to repay the money she borrowed.

By the Numbers – Core Services	
New cases accepted during the quarter	425
Total cases worked by advocates during the quarter	611

## CLEAN SLATE PROJECT

Through our Clean Slate project, NLS provides education and legal assistance to Clark County residents seeking a fresh start by sealing their criminal records. NLS conducted outreach with The Source, Hope For Prisoners, law enforcement agencies and continue with our regular Basics of Record Sealing Classes while ramping up the number of clients we are able to serve through our record sealing efforts.

### Community Education Series

Basics of Record Sealing – Community Education Series – 161 attendees

By the Numbers – Clean Slate Project	
New cases accepted during the quarter	64
Total cases worked by advocates during the quarter	110

## CONSUMER LAW PROJECT

### Case Stories

One area in our rural communities which is a common issue and concern is the use of land sale installment contracts. Sellers often don't understand their responsibilities under Nevada law or the contract. Barry\* came to use because he received a 30 day no cause eviction notice for the home he was in the process of purchasing. He had previously rented the home but entered into a sale agreement with the owner to purchase the home and land. He missed a few payments under the land sale installment contract due to a loss of income but was able to make partial payments. He also found employment and would be able to get fully caught.

NLS assisted Barry in contesting the eviction notice. As he had entered into a contract to purchase the land, he was no longer a tenant and had an ownership interest in the property. We also argued that certain terms of the contract were void as deceptive trade practices as they did not comport with Nevada law regarding foreclosure and termination of land sale installment contracts. The eviction was dismissed at the hearing and our client was able to stay in his home.

Dave\* and his son reached out because they received a notice of default on their reverse mortgage home loan. Dave had put the house in a trust but did not notify the mortgage lender of the change in ownership. Dave then went into the hospital and the mortgage lender sent a notice of default due to the technical change in ownership. Dave's son and NLS worked with the mortgage lender to supply the necessary documents to avoid default on the home.

By the Numbers – Consumer Law Project	
New cases accepted during the quarter	104
Total cases worked by advocates during the quarter	181

## HIV IMPACT LAW PROJECT AND LGBTQ+ LEGAL INITIATIVE

Our HIV Impact Law Project has launched a new LGBTQ+ legal initiative in addition to our continued services to persons living with HIV. We continue to expand our partnerships with Ryan White Part B providers while also conducting legal clinics with our LGBTQ+ partners, including a name and gender marker change clinic with the Center.

By the Numbers – HIV Law Project	
New cases accepted during the quarter	36
Total cases worked by advocates during the quarter	73

## INDIAN AND FARMWORKER LAW PROJECT

We have developed a new partnership with the San Manuel Band to expand our ability to serve tribal members across Nevada and look forward to developing a long term partnership to continue to broaden our assistance to tribal members statewide.

### Case Story

NLS represented a defendant in the Tribal Court on various felony charges and was being held in County Jail on a drug related charge. Due to successful negotiation, the prosecutor agreed to defer the cases for a year so the client could receive long-term rehabilitative treatment. Our client was able to enter treatment and stayed out of trouble for the year period. His cases were dismissed or closed with credit for time served so that he could work on getting his life back on track.

By the Numbers – Indian and Farmworker Law Project	
New cases accepted during the quarter	32
Total cases worked by advocates during the quarter	136

## SENIOR LAW PROJECT

### Case Story

Sue's family contacted NLS after the nursing facility in which she lived discharged her without notice and simply dropped her off at the hospital where one of the family members worked. The long term care facility followed none of the proper procedure to evict or discharge a resident from the facility. NLS co-counseled with counsel from ADSD in challenging the facility's action in an administrative proceeding before the Department of Administration. NLS and ADSD were successful in arguing the facility violated its responsibility to secure a safe placement for Sue prior to her discharge and ordered the facility to accept and allow her to return to the facility.

By the Numbers – Senior Law Project	
New cases accepted during the quarter	43
Total cases worked by advocates during the quarter	116

## TENANTS' RIGHTS CENTERS

### Case Story

Our client contacted NLS for advice regarding an eviction. She received a notice to pay rent or quit for two months of rent. The tenant has applied for and received rental assistance to pay for those 2 months. As landlord had refused to continue accepting rent, she had, but was unable to pay, the next month's rent. After we advised her not only on her legal defenses to the eviction, but provided guidance on how to address the court and advocate for herself, she was able to get the serious issues with the eviction before the judge despite the attorney for the landlord arguing against her. She was able to show the judge the notice applied to the months covered by rental assistance and not the month following where the landlord refused the rent. The eviction was denied and the tenant was able to stay in her home despite the landlord's failure to properly maintain the ledger.

By the Numbers – Tenants' Rights Center	
Total Cases Worked	621

## VETERANS LAW PROJECT

Our Veterans Law Project will expand this year to include a grant awarded by the VA to assist veterans at risk of homelessness. We are continuing our partnerships with the VA hospital and reinvigorating the OMLA program with the Attorney General's Office to provide legal services to veterans across Nevada.

### Case Story

George\* came to NLS from a referral from the Salvation Army's SSVF program – the Supporting Services for Veteran Families program assists homeless or at risk of homeless veterans. He had been evicted from his apartment for failing to pay rent because he did not file his Tenant's Affidavit on time. The SSVF program had paid the rental amounts at issue and he needed the eviction sealed in order to find a new place to live. NLS file a motion to seal the eviction and the court signed the order prior to the hearing on the matter. Our client was able to move forward with his life without having this record affect his ability to find housing.

By the Numbers – Veterans Law Project	
New cases accepted during the quarter	63
Total cases worked by advocates during the quarter	98