

Legal Aid Society

of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberland

INFORMATION FOR RELEASE

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Legal Aid Society's David Kozlowski Takes on New Role as Director of Advocacy

NASHVILLE, Tenn. March 21, 2016 – Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberland, Tennessee's largest non-profit law firm, announced today that David Kozlowski, managing attorney of Legal Aid Society's Columbia office, has assumed the additional role of director of advocacy—a new position at Legal Aid Society.

In this role, Kozlowski will lead and coordinate the non-profit law firm's advocacy work throughout its eight offices and entire 48-county service area. He will continue to serve as managing attorney of the Columbia office.

"Our mission at Legal Aid Society is to enforce, advance and defend the legal rights of low-income and vulnerable individuals. Historically, our efforts have been magnified when we champion big-picture solutions to systemic problems. Creating this position, to be ably filled by David, allows us to build on our past successes in this area," said Gary Housepian, Legal Aid Society's executive director. "David is a skilled lawyer with extensive courtroom experience, and he's shown outstanding commitment to advocacy work. He is —without a doubt— the right person to inaugurate this role."

Kozlowski is a graduate of Vanderbilt University Law School and joined Legal Aid Society, through its predecessor Legal Services of South Central Tennessee, in 1980. In 2001, he worked with the Tennessee Justice Center on several class action cases. The following year, he became assistant general counsel to Legal Aid Society and managing attorney of the Columbia office.

Kozlowski has been lead counsel on many significant state and federal court decisions in Tennessee involving prisoner and juvenile rights and has extensive appellate experience in Tennessee. He is the author of leading reference works on Tennessee unemployment

security law and chapters on appeals from juvenile and general sessions courts in *Tennessee Appellate Practice* and *Tennessee Law of Children*.

In 2014, the Tennessee Supreme Court reappointed Kozlowski to a third three-year term on its Advisory Commission on the Rules of Practice and Procedure. The Tennessee Supreme Court invited Kozlowski and his colleague, Rae Anne Seay, to co-chair the civil subcommittee of the Court Improvement Committee for the purpose of revising the Tennessee Rules of Juvenile Procedures. Seay is an attorney in Legal Aid Society's Tullahoma office.

"David Kozlowski is a true professional," said former Tennessee Supreme Court Justice William Koch, who now serves as the dean for the Nashville School of Law. "He has earned the respect of his colleagues at the bench and bar for being an articulate and effective advocate for the most vulnerable members of our community. This new role will enable him to continue his good work on a broader stage."

"I am looking forward to stepping into this position," said Kozlowski. "This will be a chance for me to work with the lawyers and advocates in each of our offices as we work together to address the most significant problems – domestic violence, healthcare, housing, consumer and financial maintenance – that our client community faces throughout Middle Tennessee and the Cumberland Plateau.

Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands advocates for fairness and justice under the law. The non-profit law firm offers free civil legal representation, educational programs and advice to ensure people in its region are able to protect their livelihoods, their health and their families. It serves 48 counties from offices in Clarksville, Columbia, Cookeville, Gallatin, Murfreesboro, Nashville, Oak Ridge and Tullahoma. Legal Aid Society is funded in part by United Way. Learn more at www.las.org, or by following the firm on [Facebook](#).

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