Approved NACA 2-Year Fellowship Projects

Gulf Coast Legal Services

During the first year of this project, the fellow will work in the Financial Stability unit of GCLS and represent the program's low-income consumer clients. In the second year, the fellow will be assigned to Swift Law where they will work on affirmative consumer protection cases.

Jacksonville Area Legal Aid

During the first year of this project, the fellow will work in the consumer protection unit of JALA and represent the program's low-income clients. In the second year, the fellow will be assigned to two different Florida based private consumer protection law firms (for six months each), Craig E. Rothburd, PA and Varnell & Warwick.

Kansas Legal Services

During the first year of this project, the fellow will primarily represent low-income consumers across Kansas against unfair and abusive debt collection practices, with a focus on preventing wage garnishments from bank accounts and on medical debt collections by non-profit hospitals. In the second year, the fellow will be assigned to Bell Law where they will continue to work on debt collection matters, and also may work on cases involving Tenant Rights, Identity Theft, Military/SCRA Protection, Elder Financial Exploitation and Whistleblower Matters.

Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee

During the first year of this project, the fellow will be placed in LASM's Consumer Protection Project with a focus on work with the program's eviction defense project, Eviction Free MKE. In the second year, the fellow will co-counsel cases (under the supervision of LASM) with two Wisconsin private consumer attorneys, <u>Heidi Miller</u> and <u>Mary Fons</u>.

Legal Aid Society of Southeast and Central Ohio

During the first year of this project, the fellow will work with LASCO's Consumer unit and represent the program's low-income clients. In the second year, the fellow will build on the skills learned at LASCO and work with <u>Burdge Law Office</u> in bring affirmative consumer protection cases.

New Mexico Legal Aid

During the first year of this project, the fellow will work in the consumer protection unit of New Mexico Legal Aid and represent the program's low-income clients on various consumer protection issues. In the second year, the fellow will be assigned to the private law firm, Fefferman, Warren and Mattison where they will work on affirmative consumer protection litigation.

Pine Tree Legal Assistance (Maine)

During the first year of this project, the fellow will work at PTLA and focus on representing Maine residents victimized by predatory auto sales, financing, and repossession conduct. In the second year, the fellow and PTLA will partner with John Steed at <u>Island Justice Law</u>, who will regularly meet, co-counsel cases and mentor the fellow in building and sustaining a successful private consumer law practice.

Virginia Poverty Law Center

During the first year of this project, the fellow will work with VPLC's Center for Economic Justice (Center) and represent the program's low-income clients. In the second year, the fellow will build on the skills learned at the Center to work with Kelly Guzzo where they will bring affirmative cases and other impact litigation to help consumers all while they continue direct representation of clients.

Western New York Law Center

WNYLC would be the host organization for the fellow's first year, providing legal representation to low-income clients within their Consumer Debt Defense department. In the second year, the fellow will build on the skills learned at WNYLC and work with the Schlanger Law Group to bring affirmative consumer protection cases and grow their skills as a consumer lawyer.