

JUSTICE FOR ALL TASK FORCE **PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The judicial system exists to protect rights, liberty, and property. But for almost 1 million Alabamians who live in poverty, the judicial system seems largely inaccessible. Many Alabamians either cannot afford or cannot find an attorney to assist with basic legal needs—things like a simple will, a child custody or child support problem, a housing eviction, or an uncontested divorce.

The State Bar is launching a collaborative initiative with other organizations in the access to justice effort that seeks to leverage technology to connect those in need with resources that already exist. The goal is to create a new internet hub for citizens needing access to justice resources. The new *Justice for All* website will be designed—not for lawyers—but for people who do not know a lawyer. It will be a one-stop shop for obtaining legal assistance and accessing the court system. With easy to navigate prompts, a user should be able to find courthouse information, an attorney directory searchable by location and practice area, information about the Volunteer Lawyers Program, Legal Services Alabama, the Lawyer Referral Service, Free Legal Answers, self-help court forms, and many other resources.

The component of the *Justice for All* initiative is to make it readily available to the people who need it, when they need it, wherever they are. To achieve that goal, a *Justice for All QR Code* should be developed. Posters and placards promoting the *Justice for All QR Code* will be strategically placed throughout our State in courthouses, libraries, shelters, community centers, schools, and anywhere else someone might be seeking assistance with a legal problem. Citizens can simply scan the *Justice for All QR Code* to access the website. The goal is for the *Justice for All* site to become the virtual gateway to the legal system.

This task force will undertake to do the following:

- Identify access to justice resources to be included in the *Justice for All* website;
- Select the content and resources to be incorporated into the *Justice for All* website
- Oversee the design and development of the *Justice for All* website (review floridalawhelp.org as a potential model)
- Design the *Justice for All QR Code* posters, placards, handouts and video boards
- Develop a plan for the dissemination of the *Justice for All QR Code* throughout Alabama
- Develop a plan for the maintenance, update, and enhancement of the *Justice for All* website;
- Develop a communication plan for the *Justice for All* project, and
- Identify potential sources of funding (grants, etc.) for the development, enhancement, and continuation of *Justice for All*.

The task force may divide itself into such working groups as may be necessary to effectively carry out its functions. The chairperson shall appoint a chair for any working group. The task force shall elect from its membership a secretary who shall be responsible for a written record of its actions. The secretary, or a designee, shall keep minutes of all meetings of the task force, and of all working groups thereof. The original of the minutes shall be filed with the Alabama State Bar within 14 days after each meeting to be made a part of the task force's file.

The task force shall submit a written report of its progress to the Alabama State Bar President and Executive Director on or before December 31, 2023. The task force shall have a goal of launching the Justice for All site and widely disseminating the Justice for All QR Codes by June 1, 2024.

The Alabama State Bar, through its designated staff liaisons, will assist the task force in carrying out its purpose.

Done this 2nd day of August, 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Brannon J. Buck". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

Brannon J. Buck, President
Alabama State Bar