



Self-Represented Litigation Network

Principal Products

This document describes the primary products developed and made available by the Self-Represented Litigation Network, a broad grouping of organizations working together on access to justice for those without lawyers. Many of these products were developed with support from the State Justice Institute, with additional assistance from the California and Maryland Administrative Offices of the Courts. The Network is hosted by the National Center for State Courts.

- www.selfhelpsupport.org. This networking website has over 2,500 individual pieces on content on access to the justice, and over 3,000 members. Registration is required, and membership is open to access to justice professionals. Unless indicated otherwise, all the materials in this document can be located on the site.
- ***Directory of Court-Based Self-Help Centers.*** This directory is available in two versions. The public one which includes detailed listings of services, and the one published only on the password protected site, which includes contact information for the individuals for networking and support purposes.
- ***“Case For” Advocacy Materials.*** These are a set of six documents designed to make the case to a variety of stakeholders of the value of innovation in support of access for the self-represented.
- ***Best Practices in Court-Based Self-Represented Litigation Innovation.*** This document, now in its second version, summarizes forty two best practices in this area of innovation, with descriptions of each practice, suggested attributes, examples and contacts.
- ***Effectiveness of Courtroom Communication in Hearings Involving Two Self-Represented Litigants.*** These materials are the product of research conducted by the Network and its partners into the effectiveness of, and best practices in, communication between judges and the self-represented. They include a 30 minute DVD in which a judge summarizes the results of the research, and in which the litigants and judges studied comment on their cases. The DVD is available from the National Center for State Courts, for judicial education purposes only.
- ***Court Self Assessment Toolkit.*** These materials are a comprehensive packet of surveys and tools designed to help courts assess how well they deal with the self-represented, and to make improvements in their practices.

Self-Represented Litigation Network Materials

- ***Federal Funding Opportunities For Self Represented Litigation Innovation Programs.*** This document lists a wide variety of federal funding opportunities, and suggests the areas of innovation to which they might be relevant.
- ***Judicial Education Curriculum Package.*** This package includes curricula on *Access to Justice in the Courtroom for the Self-Represented* (Introductory and Comprehensive versions) and *An Overview of Judicial Leadership in Access to Justice for the Self Represented.* Each curriculum includes a PowerPoint with detailed faculty notes, and an integrated Activity Guide and Resource Handbook. The package includes an integrated DVD of *Courtroom Best Practices*, based on courtroom research. The materials are intended for judicial educational purposes only, and the DVD is available upon request from the National Center for State Courts.
- ***Court Leadership Package for Self-Represented Litigation Innovation.*** This leadership package includes fifteen Solutions Modules each highlighting a different innovation. Each Module includes a PowerPoint including preparation notes, a chapter of an integrated Activity Guide, a chapter of an integrated Resource Handbook, a set of brief Program Profiles that provide additional detail on programs discussed in the PowerPoint, and a selection of video segments from the accompanying DVD. The Leadership Package was launched at the Court Solutions Conference in Baltimore Maryland in September 2008.
- ***Public Libraries and Access to Justice Packet.*** This set of materials was developed to assist public libraries and their partners develop programs of informational assistance to the self-represented. The package of training PowerPoints and support materials includes a FAQ template that can be used to develop a sent customized set of links to key access to justice information. Ethical issues concerning how public librarians can appropriately assist the self-represented are also included.

For Additional Information, Contact

Network Coordinator: Richard Zorza, Esq. richard@zorza.net

Knowledge Management Analyst: Greg Hurley, ghurley@ncsc.org

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