

**UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS
AND FOOD EMPLOYERS LABOR RELATIONS ASSOCIATION
LEGAL BENEFITS FUND
THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT
JANUARY 1, 2017 - DECEMBER 31, 2017**

**AKMAN & ASSOCIATES, LLC
Creighton, Circa 1832
1402 Front Avenue
Lutherville, MD 21093**

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INTRODUCTION

Enclosed herewith is the Thirty-Sixth Annual Report submitted by Akman & Associates for the United Food & Commercial Workers and Food Employers Labor Relations Association Legal Benefits Plan; however, this is the second Annual Report for the combined Locals 27 and 400 as prepared by the firm of Akman & Associates. On April 1, 2016, Akman & Associates became the prepaid legal services provider for those members of Local 400, in addition to the membership of Local 27, for which Akman & Associates has been providing prepaid legal benefits since 1981. The enclosed statistical data encompasses the reporting period of January 1, 2017-December 31, 2017.

FACILITIES

Akman & Associates has spent considerable time researching the area of prepaid legal benefits. Our research has shown that in order to assure the delivery of adequate and competent legal services, the services must be easily accessible to participants. Presently, the firm maintains seven offices across the State of Maryland, one office in the District of Columbia and one office in the State of Virginia for the participants' convenience. They are as follows:

MARYLAND

Lutherville/Towson

1402 Front Avenue
Lutherville, Maryland 21093

Landover

8400 Corporate Drive, Suite 230
Landover, Maryland 20785

Baltimore

300 E. Lombard Street, Suite 1100
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Salisbury

208 W. Main Street, Suite 212
Salisbury, Maryland 21801

Frederick

410 W. Patrick Street
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Bel Air

3 Vale Rd #200
Bel Air, Maryland 21014

Annapolis

1997 Annapolis Exchange Parkway
Suite 300
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

VIRGINIA

2560 Huntington Avenue, Suite 202
Alexandria, Virginia 22303

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

20 F Street, NW, 7th Floor
Washington, DC 20001

REFERRAL PROVIDERS IN CENTRAL VIRGINIA

Local 27 and Local 400 membership in Virginia is mostly concentrated in the Northern Virginia area; however, Akman & Associates has found that there are members who reside or have legal matters in Virginia outside of the Northern district. As a result, Akman & Associates has established retainer or fee or services agreements with a law firm that maintains five offices in the Central area of Virginia:

CRAVENS & NOLL, PC

Chesterfield Office:

9011 Arboretum Parkway
Suite 200
Richmond, VA 23236

Henrico Office:

4551 Cox Road
Suite 120
Glen Allen, Virginia 23060

Tri-Cities Office:

456 Charles Dimmock Pkwy
Suite 7
Colonial Heights, VA 23834

Luray Office

7 Campbell Street
St. Luray, VA 22835

Harrisonburg Office:

1400 South Main Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

REFERRAL PROVIDERS OUTSIDE OF MARYLAND, DC & VIRGINIA

Local 27 and Local 400 membership is geographically located in three states outside of Maryland, the District of Columbia and Virginia. Local 27 and Local 400 participants are also eligible for services in Pennsylvania, Delaware and West Virginia. Therefore, Akman & Associates has established retainer or fee for services agreements with attorneys in those States to provide quality and accessible services to participants. The following is a list of the out of state providers:

DELAWARE

David D. Finocchiaro, Esquire
7 W. Commerce Street
Smyrna, Delaware 19977

Michael F. McGroerty, Esquire
110 N. Pine Street
Seaford, Delaware 19973

Philip J. Facciolo, Jr., Esquire
Figliola & Facciolo
1813 Marsh Road
Wilmington, Delaware 19810

Vivian A. Houghton, Esquire
800 N. West Street, 2nd Floor
Wilmington, Delaware 19801

Jayce R. Lesniewski, Esquire
1073 S. Governors Avenue
Dover, Delaware 19904

PENNSYLVANIA

Kevin Robinson, Esquire
60 E Middle Street
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Greg Hazlett, Esquire
7 West Main Street
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania 17055

WEST VIRGINIA

Patricia Kurelac, Esquire
603 Morton Avenue
Moundsville, West Virginia 26041

CHS, LLC
CASES OPENED
JANUARY 1, 2017 - DECEMBER 31, 2017

	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	TOTAL	2016 TOTAL
Family	98	90	102	120	97	101	101	99	117	97	85	96	1203	1065
Probate	14	21	15	10	15	23	16	15	13	10	17	10	179	134
Estate Planning	114	89	108	88	87	99	102	95	79	89	100	102	1152	1005
Negligence	16	22	17	18	17	12	13	16	15	17	24	16	203	172
Real Estate	19	27	32	45	43	48	48	48	42	31	25	24	432	304
Consumer	122	129	107	110	119	116	123	116	139	126	108	96	1411	1012
Criminal	27	22	27	26	22	18	27	23	21	24	21	22	280	246
Traffic	35	34	36	27	32	25	35	30	27	27	30	34	372	364
L/T	32	24	23	27	30	32	24	25	17	21	24	25	304	217
Admin	13	15	15	21	18	17	21	19	23	18	17	11	208	292
Juvenile	7	10	9	7	8	13	8	7	7	10	9	6	101	110
TOTAL	497	483	491	499	488	504	518	493	500	470	460	442	5845	4921

CHART II

PERCENTAGE OF UTILIZATION BY CATEGORY OF LAW
JANUARY 1, 2017 - DECEMBER 31, 2017

Category of Law	Total Number of Cases	Percentage	2016 Percentage
Family	1203	20.58%	21.64%
Probate	179	3.06%	2.72%
Estate Planning	1152	19.71%	20.42%
Negligence	203	3.47%	3.50%
Real Estate	432	7.39%	6.18%
Consumer	1411	24.14%	20.56%
Criminal	280	4.79%	5.00%
Traffic	372	6.36%	7.40%
Landlord/Tenant	304	5.20%	4.41%
Admin	208	3.56%	5.93%
Juvenile	101	1.73%	2.24%
TOTAL	5845	100.00%	100.00%

CHART III

ATTORNEYS' HOURS
JANUARY 1, 2017 - DECEMBER 31, 2017

CATEGORY	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	TOTAL	2016 TOTAL
Family	548.10	607.60	664.65	654.35	643.10	659.55	660.05	650.95	708.60	618.20	597.70	590.00	7602.85	6591.95
Probate	86.70	58.20	45.75	41.55	59.05	67.00	54.90	59.25	41.95	52.85	52.70	58.15	678.05	943.45
Estate Planning	221.10	193.70	233.55	190.85	195.05	221.55	224.85	213.85	191.95	210.05	228.30	238.25	2563.05	2117.00
Negligence	67.85	46.90	50.85	54.75	56.40	47.70	43.80	45.55	40.95	47.15	63.20	45.95	611.05	747.80
Real Estate	98.00	92.00	104.05	182.95	181.95	160.90	177.35	186.95	166.80	113.40	100.40	83.20	1647.95	1288.75
Consumer	744.35	692.65	606.45	620.10	654.90	663.30	664.05	648.50	654.15	666.00	611.15	562.45	7788.05	6689.65
Criminal	204.20	168.70	200.00	189.65	174.80	152.70	188.35	177.25	180.25	188.50	160.85	168.30	2153.55	2278.15
Traffic	262.25	219.10	221.60	189.35	221.80	188.05	216.25	201.50	199.65	185.50	205.45	202.15	2512.65	2275.70
L/T	108.75	83.65	62.70	64.90	66.30	75.00	64.00	84.80	64.50	69.45	82.85	75.40	902.30	685.50
Admin	48.55	53.55	56.10	41.15	46.00	51.50	41.45	49.10	61.95	58.40	50.60	40.95	599.30	428.15
Juvenile	41.95	48.65	43.15	41.80	40.30	60.15	36.00	35.05	29.50	57.00	45.10	42.75	521.40	468.05
TOTAL	2431.80	2264.70	2288.85	2271.40	2339.65	2347.40	2371.05	2352.75	2340.25	2266.50	2198.30	2107.55	27580.20	24514.15

CHART IV

PARALEGALS' HOURS
JANUARY 1, 2017 - DECEMBER 31, 2017

CATEGORY	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	TOTAL	2016 TOTAL
Family	510.15	448.55	499.40	500.10	465.90	448.10	463.05	416.90	456.45	481.10	443.15	473.50	5606.35	5762.90
Probate	82.60	89.25	71.75	90.25	87.20	101.55	83.65	71.60	59.45	84.20	95.20	90.50	1007.20	1296.20
Estate Planning	215.05	181.25	214.10	216.95	196.05	223.85	222.25	221.00	198.85	208.70	213.00	249.10	2560.15	2262.50
Negligence	66.00	71.10	64.85	62.20	72.20	47.40	55.25	61.75	53.10	73.75	80.65	68.80	777.05	861.50
Real Estate	58.50	43.50	59.25	107.25	89.90	80.10	83.70	84.25	110.90	60.10	55.85	54.15	887.45	795.75
Consumer	471.65	494.00	397.50	416.35	429.65	443.55	429.45	477.55	515.90	493.20	455.20	409.00	5433.00	4567.40
Criminal	25.75	23.35	28.90	14.20	29.30	29.90	26.60	22.60	26.50	30.90	27.90	27.50	313.40	315.00
Traffic	34.15	46.90	35.65	18.45	32.80	34.20	42.10	36.70	32.45	28.10	29.40	40.55	411.45	376.50
L/T	43.10	29.65	29.40	25.55	25.55	25.55	25.55	29.30	29.80	37.65	41.80	48.45	391.35	304.35
Admin	16.65	15.10	14.10	3.30	15.85	17.95	16.65	13.35	17.15	15.80	23.35	14.65	183.90	204.45
Juvenile	5.50	6.95	9.25	2.70	4.90	11.20	6.80	5.20	5.75	9.95	7.10	4.95	80.25	88.20
TOTAL	1529.10	1449.60	1424.15	1457.30	1449.30	1463.35	1455.05	1440.20	1506.30	1523.45	1472.60	1481.15	17651.55	16834.75

CHART V

PERCENTAGE OF ATTORNEYS' HOURS
BY CATEGORY OF LAW
JANUARY 1, 2017 - DECEMBER 31, 2017

Category of Law	Total Number of Hours	Percentage	2016 Percentage
Family	7602.85	27.57%	26.89%
Probate	678.05	2.46%	3.85%
Estate Planning	2563.05	9.29%	8.64%
Negligence	611.05	2.22%	3.05%
Real Estate	1647.95	5.98%	5.26%
Consumer	7788.05	28.24%	27.29%
Criminal	2153.55	7.81%	9.29%
Traffic	2512.65	9.11%	9.28%
L/t	902.30	3.27%	2.80%
Admin	599.30	2.17%	1.75%
Juvenile	521.40	1.89%	1.91%
TOTAL	27580.20	100.00%	100.00%

CHART VI

PERCENTAGE OF PARALEGALS' HOURS
BY CATEGORY OF LAW
JANUARY 1, 2017 - DECEMBER 31, 2017

Category of Law	Total Number of Hours	Percentage	2016 Percentage
Family	5606.35	31.76%	34.23%
Probate	1007.20	5.71%	7.70%
Estate Planning	2560.15	14.50%	13.44%
Negligence	777.05	4.40%	5.12%
Real Estate	887.45	5.03%	4.73%
Consumer	5433.00	30.78%	27.13%
Criminal	313.40	1.78%	1.87%
Traffic	411.45	2.33%	2.24%
L/T	391.35	2.22%	1.81%
Admin	183.90	1.04%	1.21%
Juvenile	80.25	0.45%	0.52%
TOTAL	17651.55	100.00%	100.00%

CHART VII

SURCHARGES

JANUARY 1, 2017 - DECEMBER 31, 2017

	FAMILY	OTHER	TOTALS	2016 TOTALS
JANUARY	\$3,744.75	\$0.00	\$3,744.75	\$2,126.75
FEBRUARY	\$2,872.50	\$0.00	\$2,872.50	\$1,950.00
MARCH	\$2,980.00	\$0.00	\$2,980.00	\$1,197.50
APRIL	\$2,182.50	\$0.00	\$2,182.50	\$2,182.50
MAY	\$2,667.50	\$0.00	\$2,667.50	\$2,870.00
JUNE	\$3,177.50	\$0.00	\$3,177.50	\$2,634.20
JULY	\$2,506.25	\$0.00	\$2,506.25	\$2,587.15
AUGUST	\$2,961.49	\$0.00	\$2,961.49	\$2,920.00
SEPTEMBER	\$2,320.06	\$0.00	\$2,320.06	\$4,341.65
OCTOBER	\$2,320.06	\$0.00	\$2,320.06	\$3,028.50
NOVEMBER	\$2,122.50	\$0.00	\$2,122.50	\$3,659.00
DECEMBER	\$2,412.50	\$0.00	\$2,412.50	\$2,726.25
YEAR TOTAL	\$32,267.61	\$0.00	\$32,267.61	\$32,223.50

CHART VIII
STATISTICAL COMPARISON
BY YEAR

YEAR	TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		MEMBERS	
	ATTORNEY HOURS	MONTHLY AVERAGE	PARALEGAL HOURS	MONTHLY AVERAGE	CASES	MONTHLY AVERAGE	MONTHLY AVERAGE	MONTHLY AVERAGE	MONTHLY AVERAGE	UTILIZATION AVERAGE
2008	11529.05	960.75	9095.60	757.97	1575	131	7372	18.17%		
2009	11516.80	959.73	9103.75	758.65	1422	119	7350	18.22%		
2010	14150.20	1179.18	11228.05	935.67	1675	140	7673	21.47%		
2011	13401.70	1116.81	11208.98	934.08	1526	127	7029	22.53%		
2012	12216.95	1018.08	10163.02	846.92	1770	148	5927	24.32%		
2013	11874.35	989.53	9732.90	811.08	1975	165	5218	26.74%		
2014	10553.35	879.45	8695.35	724.61	1799	150	5570	22.22%		
2015	10059.80	838.32	7871.60	655.97	1847	154	5272	22.14%		
2016	24514.15	2042.85	16834.75	1402.90	4921	410	11934	19.44%		
2017	27580.20	2298.35	17651.55	1470.96	5845	487	14728	20.60%		

CHART IX

UTILIZATION AND CAP FIGURES PER MONTH - 2017

MONTH	UTILIZATION	CAP
JANUARY	21.81%	\$88.94
FEBRUARY	20.13%	\$95.44
MARCH	20.11%	\$95.08
APRIL	20.30%	\$94.00
MAY	21.04%	\$90.83
JUNE	20.85%	\$94.22
JULY	20.88%	\$93.54
AUGUST	20.97%	\$89.97
SEPTEMBER	21.00%	\$89.36
OCTOBER	20.65%	\$90.65
NOVEMBER	20.04%	\$93.09
DECEMBER	19.44%	\$89.00
YEAR AVERAGE	20.60%	\$92.52