

Get Ready for Your Day in Court @ Your Library

This is an **LSTA** grant that has been awarded to the Eastern Shore Regional Library by **MSDE** (Maryland State Department of Education) through **DLDS** (the Division of Library Development & Services).

The grant cycle runs from October 2006 through August 31, 2007.

The grant award from **MSDE/DLDS** is \$51,868.72. The local match is \$55,389 for a total of \$107,257.84

The primary audience for this grant is adults and library staff in rural areas.

The purpose of the grant is to help adults make informed decisions about representation in court for civil cases. In other words, by visiting a public library on the eastern shore, adults will be able to acquire information that will help them to decide whether or not they need to seek legal counsel before going to court regarding a civil matter.

Library staffs will be trained in how to effectively use legal materials to help library users find answers to their questions. The grant will purchase a series of legal books, enhance and develop websites, and market the project.

One of our partners, **MLAN (MD Legal Assistance Network)** will develop an online diagnostic tool for landlord-tenant law. **MLAN** will work with library staff to create a resource guide/how to guide/pathfinder. MLAN will also assist with training library staff to use the legal materials

The project goals will be implemented through partnerships with **MLAN**, and other legal agencies.

To learn more about our partner **MLAN** and their award winning website called **The People's Law Library**, please visit :www.mdjustice.org/public/mlan.html (MLAN's website; and www.peoples-law.info/Home/PublicWeb (People's Law Library/PLL).

The project is expected to get off the ground for library staff in early December with training programs. We expect the public to start seeing the impact of the grant no later than mid-January, 2007.

Please feel free to contact Kathleen MacCubbin, Project Director at Kathleen@esrl.lib.md.us or call at 410.742.1537