

An enduring legacy

To sustain MCLE's role as the leading provider of continuing education for the Massachusetts legal community.

Because the professional skills that lawyers learn at MCLE stay with them for their entire careers, the impact of scholarships is enduring. Helping endow a scholarship in perpetuity will ensure that impact will continue, now and for coming generations of lawyers and their clients.

And by entrusting your gifts to MCLE, you are supporting a nonprofit institution that has proven itself for over 50 years. With roots in the New England Law Institute, and in the Massachusetts and Boston Bar Associations, MCLE represents the highest ideals in ensuring the professionalism of the Commonwealth's legal community.

You may contribute any amount to the general scholarship endowment or to an existing named scholarship fund, or use this opportunity to create a personal and lasting legacy by contributing a minimum of \$25,000 to establish a named scholarship in honor of a colleague, mentor, or family member whose life and work exemplifies the best of Massachusetts' rich legal heritage. We recognize honorees on our Wall of Tribute and by honoring them in a lasting and meaningful way through the provision of scholarships in their names every year. In this way, they are recognized and remembered in perpetuity.

We express our appreciation for your contributions in various ways. Each gift of \$2,500 supports one scholarship annually and will be recognized by a plaque bearing the donor's name on a seat in Milstein Hall. For gifts of \$500 or more, donors are recognized by giving level on our Donor Honor Roll. For cumulative gifts of \$25,000 or more, donors are recognized as Senior Partners for CLE to honor those who have demonstrated a leadership commitment to continuing legal education.



Let's work together

To sustain the values of fairness, access, and professional legal representation for future generations.

A true legacy combines commitment to others, selflessness, and practicality—supporting

solutions that will sustain the values you uphold for future generations. MCLE will always work to create a stronger justice system and to ensure that competent, trained lawyers are available to help those most in need of legal representation.

Together, we can create a better future.

This brochure only touches on the potential of charitable giving to meet personal goals. MCLE would be pleased to talk with you in strict confidence about your situation or consult with your financial advisors. The result will be a gift plan that allows you to do more than you hoped to help others—and leave a legacy for the future.

For more information, please contact:

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THE SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN

Making a Legacy Gift

Raising the bar—
by lowering barriers.

Why support MCLE?

To ensure that the Commonwealth's most vulnerable citizens have access to well-trained lawyers.

Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education is the Commonwealth's premier provider of legal education and training for practicing attorneys. However, there is more to MCLE than a resource for keeping lawyers competent and current in their fields.

For decades, MCLE has worked to educate lawyers in such areas as government benefits, family and child welfare, elder law, affordable housing, and immigration. **Yet, more than half of income-eligible persons seeking representation in Massachusetts are turned away—there are still too few lawyers who are trained to help.**

MCLE helps lower the barriers to access to the legal system for the most vulnerable members of our society—people like battered spouses, children in need, incapacitated elders, the homeless, and refugees seeking asylum—by providing scholarships to MCLE programs to the lawyers who serve them. MCLE lowers barriers to access by:

- providing needs-based scholarships to solo and small-firm practitioners, who have little or no budget for continuing education;
- offering scholarship vouchers to every legal services staff attorney in the Commonwealth, freeing up legal services funds for direct client representation; and
- working with *pro bono* organizations throughout the state to make available scholarship vouchers as a tool to recruit, train and retain *pro bono* volunteers.

The demand for these scholarships, however, continues to grow. You can make a difference by contributing to MCLE's Scholarship Endowment. MCLE scholarships support the training of those lawyers who otherwise would not be able to attend MCLE programs, lawyers who are vital to ensuring that our justice system is fair and accessible to everyone.

And you will be supporting the MCLE mission—to educate better lawyers to better serve.

M C L E
Keep raising the bar.®



How can I help MCLE? How can MCLE help me? Here are 8 easy ways...

Charitable giving can help donors make a larger difference in the lives of others.

By making a gift to the MCLE Scholarship Endowment, you help lawyers put knowledge and skills to work for clients from all walks of life, including the Commonwealth's most vulnerable citizens. At the same time, gifts to MCLE can work for you in many ways:

- To meet financial needs, especially in retirement
- To provide for family and loved ones
- To build wealth and security

All this is possible through charitable gift planning. In fact, by working with MCLE to turn the tax advantages of charitable gifts to your benefit, you can often make a larger contribution—helping even more—than you may have imagined.

Here are eight ways to make a gift to MCLE.

1 Give cash

Your cash gift goes to work immediately to fund MCLE scholarships, and you get an immediate tax deduction.

2 Transfer securities

Appreciated stocks harbor high capital gains, especially if they have been in your portfolio for years. Often, they pay small dividends, too. Funding your scholarship through stocks avoids tax on capital gains and gives an immediate deduction at current market value. Just be sure to transfer stocks directly to MCLE. If you sell them first, you will owe capital gains tax.

3 Make a bequest

For many donors, a bequest is best: You maintain control of your assets. Consider creating a charitable bequest to MCLE whenever you create a new will or add a codicil. MCLE may receive a specific amount, a percentage, or the balance of your estate. Or you may use MCLE as the contingent beneficiary in case your loved ones do not survive you. Your lawyer can guide you in the choice.

4 Buy a charitable gift annuity

This, and the example to follow, are superb ways to ensure a constant income.

- A charitable annuity is a contract between you and MCLE to give you—and your spouse or beneficiaries you wish to provide for—regular fixed payments (an annuity) for life. Especially if funded with low-paying stocks, a gift annuity can increase income and make retirement more secure. And you get an immediate tax deduction as well as reduced ongoing taxes.

- Annuities and trusts are “deferred gifts,” meaning MCLE receives the gift only after the donor and beneficiaries have passed on. Nevertheless, these gifts ensure MCLE’s future and the future of our vital legal services programs.



5 Create a charitable remainder or lead trust

Charitable trusts allow highly personalized use of tax benefits to strengthen estate planning. Their flexibility makes them the preferred choice of individuals with complex financial goals. Fundamentally, remainder trusts pay a predetermined or otherwise an annually-determined amount during your (and/or a beneficiary’s) lifetime and then pass the principal to MCLE. In the case of a lead trust, the trust pays to MCLE the annual amount and then returns the principal to your heirs at the end of a specified term. Your financial advisor can help you determine which is best. The tax savings can be enormous.

6 Be smart with retirement assets

There is a hidden secret in retirement plans—if not protected, when the surviving spouse dies, combined taxes on benefits can reach 80 percent! Making MCLE the beneficiary of your retirement plan can be the most cost-effective way of funding a scholarship. And, until December 31, 2007, individuals who are at least 70-1/2 years of age can now transfer, tax-free, up to \$100,000 directly from their IRA to a qualified charity (such as MCLE) and count the transferred amount towards the required minimum distribution. This is a complex area, so be sure to consult your financial advisor or MCLE.

7 Leverage life insurance

Making MCLE the owner of a paid up, unneeded life insurance policy can be a painless way to fund a gift. Consider also naming MCLE as contingent



beneficiary in current policies. Or, you may want to take out new life insurance, with your family as beneficiaries, to replace the value of your MCLE gift in your estate.

8 Solve real estate problems

Ever wondered “what to do with the house?” If children have moved away, your principal home or vacation spot can be a burden. You can give your house to MCLE—retaining the right for you and your spouse to live there for your lifetimes. You gain an immediate tax deduction and peace of mind.

Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education, Inc. (MCLE), a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit institution, has been the leading provider of hands-on seminars and practical reference materials for the Massachusetts legal community for over 50 years. Originally begun as a committee of the Massachusetts Bar Association, MCLE was incorporated in 1969 as a joint venture of the MBA and the Boston Bar Association. In 1976, MCLE merged with the New England Law Institute, bringing to the organization a history of CLE dating from 1953.