

December 6, 2017

Name  
Firm  
Address 1  
Address 2  
City, ST Zip

Dear [Salutation]:

During this giving season, **I hope you will join me in supporting a special organization – Georgia Justice Project.** [If applicable: I am honored to serve on its Board of Directors.]

Georgia Justice Project (GJP) is an anchor in our community which has been providing poor people accused of a crime with first-class, pro bono criminal defense for thirty years. This organization makes a deep, holistic commitment to their clients, working with them, over time, to overcome their challenges and to help them chart a healthier path forward. GJP is also leading the way in helping the 4.2 million Georgians who have a criminal record overcome obstacles to employment and housing, and ultimately, help break the cycle of recidivism.

#### **What GJP Does**

##### **GJP provides zealous criminal defense with on-going social service supports.**

- GJP provides pro bono criminal defense for about 75 clients annually.
- Fewer than 5% of GJP's clients receive jail or prison time, compared to 80% nationwide.
- Clients served for about \$2,500 per person. In Georgia, the annual incarceration cost is \$21,039.

##### **GJP works to reduce the collateral consequences of a criminal record.**

- GJP attorneys provide assistance with record restriction, pardons, and record corrections for about 500 individuals annually.
- It provides educational sessions about current and new laws throughout the state, reaching over 3,000 legal professionals, court staff, directly affected individuals and other service providers each year.
- GJP leverages approximately \$318,000 worth of donated legal services annually through its monthly *Criminal Records Clinic*.

##### **GJP advocates for better laws and policies to improve opportunities for second chances.**

- GJP advocates for laws to reduce barriers to reentry for the 4.2 million Georgians with a criminal history.
- GJP's staff provides data and policy recommendations to the Governor's Criminal Justice Reform Council.
- GJP's advocacy has resulted in 17 new laws including: expanded access to record restriction for non-convictions; the removal of questions about criminal history on state employment applications ("ban the box"); and the ability to get certain convictions restricted.
- GJP was successful in Georgia Supreme Court case upholding record restriction law in 2016 (*Mosley v. Lowe*).

**Georgia Justice Project is the rare organization which creates lasting, impactful change on both the individual and state levels.** It is efficient and nimble, using its resources – including volunteers – smartly. GJP relies on private foundations and caring individuals to fund its work.

**Please join me and our colleagues at [NAME OF FIRM] in supporting Georgia Justice Project’s 2017-2018 Lawyer to Lawyer Campaign.** This organization is trusted, effective and impactful. I am proud to be leading the effort at our firm to generate generous support for them.

**There are several ways that you can give:**

1. Write a Check: Make it payable to “Georgia Justice Project” and return it to me. I will gather all the checks from our firm and mail them in.
2. Deduction against your Firm Account: Use the following link: [insert link] **[NOTE TO FIRM CAPTAINS: INCLUDE IF APPLICABLE. THIS HAS BEEN A VERY EASY WAY TO COLLECT DONATIONS AT MANY FIRMS.]**
3. Donate Online: Go to [www.GJP.org](http://www.GJP.org) and click the “Donations” button – and you can use your credit card. Be sure to enter our firm name in the field for “Law Firm” – I want to be sure we get the credit!

Again, however you give, be sure to indicate that you work for **[NAME OF FIRM]**. All donations are tax-deductible.

I hope you will give generously to this very worthy organization.

Many thanks,

**[Signature]**  
**YOUR NAME**