

**UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS
AND FOOD EMPLOYERS LABOR RELATIONS ASSOCIATION
LEGAL BENEFITS FUND
THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT
JANUARY 1, 2020 - DECEMBER 31, 2020**

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

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INTRODUCTION

Enclosed herewith is the Thirty-ninth Annual Report submitted by Akman & Associates, LLC for the United Food & Commercial Workers and Food Employers Labor Relations Association Legal Benefits Plan; however, this is the fourth 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, 2020- December 31, 2020. This year has been unlike any year in the history of Akman & Associates, LLC's tenure as attorneys for the UFCW. With the onset of COVID-19, states imposed stay-at-home orders and lockdowns, resulting in court closures and modifications to in-person hearings. The members of the UFCW were considered essential employees and they continued to work since their stores remained open. These members continued to have legal needs, and they continued to engage Akman & Associates, LLC to assist with those needs, although utilization has decreased substantially. Our firm is still able provide outstanding services to each member, even if client conferences take place by telephone, many communications occur through email, or hearings take place remotely by telephone and Zoom meetings. What we remind ourselves is that this is a temporary situation, and we look forward to a return to increased utilization of the legal benefit as life begins to return to normal in the not too distant future. Akman & Associates, LLC stands prepared to address any questions or comments the Board of Trustees may have.

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

11032 Nicholas Lane, Suite A202
Berlin, Maryland 21811

Frederick

410 West Patrick Street
Frederick, MD 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

Dittmar, Taylor & Makricostas, PLLC
320 Penco Road
Weirton, WV 26062

CHART I

CASES OPENED

JANUARY 1, 2020 - DECEMBER 31, 2020

	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	TOTAL	2019 TOTAL
Family	99	107	77	46	41	61	73	84	100	87	75	88	938	1226
Probate	11	17	16	10	6	13	11	14	15	15	16	14	158	176
Estate Planning	95	104	76	69	60	58	77	80	77	72	83	84	935	1082
Negligence	20	15	17	5	5	8	9	12	14	14	16	18	153	202
Real Estate	17	38	29	27	29	24	31	27	27	23	18	16	306	369
Consumer	124	103	85	64	69	82	84	97	102	92	103	111	1116	1317
Criminal	23	18	20	12	11	15	18	16	20	12	10	10	185	246
Traffic	25	30	27	13	12	17	19	22	22	19	16	16	238	364
L/T	22	21	22	16	19	16	15	17	20	17	17	17	219	260
Admin	10	17	13	4	3	8	6	9	13	11	14	14	122	196
Juvenile	10	8	6	3	4	5	6	7	9	6	5	5	74	106
TOTAL	456	478	388	269	259	307	349	385	419	368	373	393	4444	5544

CHART II

PERCENTAGE OF UTILIZATION BY CATEGORY OF LAW
JANUARY 1, 2020 - DECEMBER 31, 2020

Category of Law	Total Number of Cases	Percentage	2019 Percentage
Family	938	21.11%	22.11%
Probate	158	3.56%	3.17%
Estate Planning	935	21.04%	19.52%
Negligence	153	3.44%	3.64%
Real Estate	306	6.89%	6.66%
Consumer	1116	25.11%	23.76%
Criminal	185	4.16%	4.44%
Traffic	238	5.36%	6.57%
Landlord/Tenant	219	4.93%	4.69%
Admin	122	2.75%	3.54%
Juvenile	74	1.67%	1.91%
TOTAL	4444	100.00%	100.00%

CHART III

ATTORNEYS' HOURS
JANUARY 1, 2020 - DECEMBER 31, 2020

CATEGORY	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	TOTAL	2019 TOTAL
Family	578.40	616.55	457.65	292.75	273.15	375.85	441.15	537.10	579.35	536.10	487.15	514.40	5689.60	7210.35
Probate	49.80	58.35	49.40	36.35	45.70	53.85	52.75	47.30	58.65	55.30	60.80	64.25	632.50	579.55
Estate Planning	230.15	259.40	168.60	229.65	194.45	175.35	230.70	215.40	222.25	212.55	241.50	241.40	2621.40	2546.85
Negligence	54.80	40.85	37.60	13.25	24.30	33.55	28.45	36.70	45.65	46.95	49.35	60.35	471.80	496.25
Real Estate	55.35	100.65	70.85	88.45	93.20	101.60	100.70	94.50	106.60	91.60	73.60	73.60	1050.70	1066.65
Consumer	519.45	558.75	438.85	356.85	364.80	477.90	498.15	553.20	525.95	501.20	514.20	539.90	5849.20	6762.20
Criminal	181.85	141.80	120.45	37.65	33.45	45.00	79.10	85.15	138.40	110.30	77.70	77.70	1128.55	1828.70
Traffic	176.00	203.15	139.05	36.60	38.55	70.85	89.00	100.85	123.05	120.45	101.40	101.40	1300.35	2400.80
L/T	65.85	62.95	60.35	38.10	41.00	36.00	43.60	46.90	74.10	79.05	67.10	67.10	682.10	777.15
Admin	41.55	51.80	46.30	13.35	10.50	22.20	17.95	23.75	39.80	47.60	50.80	50.80	416.40	586.85
Juvenile	48.30	43.80	33.10	9.90	11.05	14.55	22.60	29.50	43.10	42.15	33.15	33.15	364.35	539.70
TOTAL	2001.50	2138.05	1622.20	1152.90	1130.15	1406.70	1604.15	1770.35	1956.90	1843.25	1756.75	1824.05	20206.95	24795.05

CHART IV

PARALEGALS' HOURS
JANUARY 1, 2020 - DECEMBER 31, 2020

CATEGORY	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	TOTAL	2019 TOTAL
Family	444.85	461.95	352.75	247.20	230.30	249.75	333.50	379.35	407.30	359.20	367.40	372.15	4205.70	5434.90
Probate	58.10	73.20	75.50	79.05	70.80	89.80	80.55	77.65	66.20	73.10	95.10	102.05	941.10	840.50
Estate Planning	220.70	255.65	187.65	190.35	173.70	159.15	211.35	192.65	179.45	204.50	214.05	217.85	2407.05	2522.30
Negligence	69.90	63.35	127.35	100.75	88.60	74.25	52.35	50.90	57.70	54.35	66.20	74.20	879.90	750.65
Real Estate	27.80	60.80	51.15	52.00	53.35	51.75	53.15	50.60	50.60	47.80	45.10	45.10	589.20	680.40
Consumer	426.35	451.40	329.75	296.00	308.85	352.75	387.30	433.10	424.35	429.25	419.55	413.30	4671.95	4891.25
Criminal	27.10	26.20	17.70	10.95	13.10	19.10	19.25	21.65	26.45	18.15	12.65	12.65	224.95	310.40
Traffic	27.15	38.65	24.55	16.70	11.35	20.50	19.30	23.90	29.90	25.70	20.10	20.10	277.90	404.25
L/T	34.55	36.55	29.50	22.75	27.60	24.05	23.20	20.60	34.05	35.10	28.50	28.50	344.95	422.60
Admin	14.45	24.95	13.80	5.10	3.20	12.55	5.70	9.20	18.75	19.05	25.15	25.15	177.05	216.50
Juvenile	9.35	7.40	8.35	4.15	3.65	5.00	6.45	7.30	9.55	8.65	6.60	6.60	83.05	107.65
TOTAL	1360.30	1500.10	1218.05	1025.00	984.50	1058.65	1192.10	1266.90	1304.30	1274.85	1300.40	1317.65	14802.80	16581.40

CHART V

PERCENTAGE OF ATTORNEYS' HOURS BY CATEGORY OF LAW JANUARY 1, 2020 - DECEMBER 31, 2020

Category of Law	Total Number of Hours	Percentage	2019 Percentage
Family	5689.60	28.16%	29.08%
Probate	632.50	3.13%	2.34%
Estate Planning	2621.40	12.97%	10.27%
Negligence	471.80	2.33%	2.00%
Real Estate	1050.70	5.20%	4.30%
Consumer	5849.20	28.95%	27.27%
Criminal	1128.55	5.58%	7.38%
Traffic	1300.35	6.44%	9.68%
L/t	682.10	3.38%	3.13%
Admin	416.40	2.06%	2.37%
Juvenile	364.35	1.80%	2.18%
TOTAL	20206.95	100.00%	100.00%

CHART VI

PERCENTAGE OF PARALEGALS' HOURS
BY CATEGORY OF LAW
JANUARY 1, 2020 - DECEMBER 31, 2020

Category of Law	Total Number of Hours	Percentage	2019 Percentage
Family	4205.70	28.41%	32.78%
Probate	941.10	6.36%	5.07%
Estate Planning	2407.05	16.26%	15.21%
Negligence	879.90	5.94%	4.53%
Real Estate	589.20	3.98%	4.10%
Consumer	4671.95	31.56%	29.50%
Criminal	224.95	1.52%	1.87%
Traffic	277.90	1.88%	2.44%
L/T	344.95	2.33%	2.55%
Admin	177.05	1.20%	1.31%
Juvenile	83.05	0.56%	0.65%
TOTAL	14802.80	100.00%	100.00%

CHART VII

SURCHARGES

JANUARY 1, 2020 - DECEMBER 31, 2020

	FAMILY	OTHER	TOTALS	2019 TOTALS
JANUARY	\$3,855.25	\$0.00	\$3,855.25	\$2,575.50
FEBRUARY	\$3,899.25	\$0.00	\$3,899.25	\$3,217.40
MARCH	\$3,149.71	\$0.00	\$3,149.71	\$3,038.75
APRIL	\$1,726.25	\$0.00	\$1,726.25	\$3,384.45
MAY	\$2,791.50	\$0.00	\$2,791.50	\$3,057.50
JUNE	\$2,897.45	\$0.00	\$2,897.45	\$3,492.25
JULY	\$3,413.25	\$0.00	\$3,413.25	\$3,356.60
AUGUST	\$1,973.00	\$0.00	\$1,973.00	\$3,412.00
SEPTEMBER	\$4,296.25	\$0.00	\$4,296.25	\$3,483.75
OCTOBER	\$3,980.50	\$0.00	\$3,980.50	\$4,184.50
NOVEMBER	\$4,152.90	\$0.00	\$3,950.00	\$3,950.00
DECEMBER	\$4,152.90	\$0.00	\$4,152.90	\$3,412.00
YEAR TOTAL	\$40,288.21	\$0.00	\$40,085.31	\$40,564.70

CHART VIII
STATISTICAL COMPARISON
BY YEAR

YEAR	TOTAL ATTORNEY HOURS	MONTHLY AVERAGE	TOTAL PARALEGAL HOURS	MONTHLY AVERAGE	TOTAL CASES	MONTHLY AVERAGE	MEMBERS MONTHLY AVERAGE	UTILIZATION AVERAGE
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	18.04%
2017	27580.20	2298.35	17651.55	1470.96	5845	487	14728	20.60%
2018	25646.10	2137.18	17340.13	1445.01	5628	469	14552	19.65%
2019	24795.05	2066.25	16581.40	1381.78	5544	462	14574	18.92%
2020	20206.95	1683.91	14802.80	1233.57	4444	370.33	14022	16.42%

CHART IX

UTILIZATION AND CAP FIGURES PER MONTH - 2020

MONTH	UTILIZATION	CAP
JANUARY	18.66%	\$92.96
FEBRUARY	20.23%	\$85.48
MARCH	15.67%	\$110.19
APRIL	11.71%	\$147.17
MAY	11.42%	\$150.06
JUNE	13.70%	\$125.07
JULY	15.65%	\$109.00
AUGUST	17.46%	\$98.12
SEPTEMBER	18.97%	\$90.29
OCTOBER	17.99%	\$94.88
NOVEMBER	17.57%	\$97.02
DECEMBER	18.04%	\$89.00
YEAR AVERAGE	16.42%	\$104.57

