



# Veterans Legal Services, Inc.

P.O. Box 8457 Boston MA 02114

**Incorporation Year:** 1994

<http://www.veteranslegalservices.org>

**Organization Contact:** sarah@veteranslegalservices.org Sarah Roxburgh  
Civil Rights, Social Action, Advocacy Civil Rights, Social Action, & Advocacy N.E.C.

**Current**

**CEO/Executive Director:** Ms. Sarah E. Roxburgh Esq.

**Board Chair:** Mr. Allan Ryan Esq. Harvard Business School Publishing

**Mission Statement:** Veterans Legal Services' mission is to promote self-sufficiency, stability, and financial security of homeless and low-income veterans through free and accessible legal services.

**Needs Statement:** Our primary need is for funding that will sustain responsible growth of our staff so that we can assist more veterans and their families with resolving legal issues that pose a barrier to self-sufficiency. Specifically, VLS is seeking to retain an experienced staff attorney to fill the role of its current Skadden Fellow, whose fellowship ends in September 2017, and who currently maintains a case load of approximately 75 cases and who supervises VLS's walk-in legal clinics at the New England Center and Home for Veterans and the Chelsea Soldiers' Home. The retention of an experienced staff attorney will enable VLS to continue to expand services to meet the growing and critical need for civil legal services for homeless and low-income veterans in the greater Boston area. VLS is also in need of a part-time development specialist to assist with the growing fundraising needs of the organization.

**Impact Statement:** Veterans Legal Services (VLS) is proud to have been awarded a \$100K for 100 grant from the Cummings Foundation and a two-year challenge grant from Robert K. Kraft in fall 2015, which funded the retention of a Pro Bono Director with 30 years of experience in the field. Since starting with the organization, the VLS Pro Bono Director has helped grow the list of volunteer attorneys from 40 to more than 140.

VLS also retained its first Skadden Fellow to work with the organization as a staff attorney for two years at no cost to VLS. VLS recently retained a second Skadden Fellow, whose fellowship will begin in September 2017. VLS has also retained a full time Paralegal & Office Manager who assists with case management, fundraising/development, and administrative tasks.

The additional staff has allowed VLS to expand services to include legal clinics at the Bedford VAMC and the Norfolk County Veterans Treatment Court, in addition to continuing its clinics at the New England Center and Home for Veterans, the Chelsea Soldiers' Home, Massachusetts Veterans Stand Down, yellow ribbon events for deploying and returning troops, and various veterans' fairs and expos throughout Massachusetts as needed. The organization now provides assistance on more than 500 veterans' cases annually, addressing a variety of legal issues, and is on track to provide assistance on more than 550 veterans' cases in the fiscal year ending in August 2017. VLS has successfully diversified its funding sources for sustainability in a difficult economy.

Goals for the coming year include the execution of a major capital campaign that will significantly increase the long-term sustainability of the organization, and the enhancement of existing client services.

**Full-time Staff:** 5

**Volunteers:** 175

(excludes part-time staff)

## Programs Detailed on Profile

Veterans Program

**Projected Revenue:** \$740,832.00

Projected Expenses: \$665,859.00

Fiscal Year	2015	2014	2013
Total Revenue	\$409,619	\$285,575	\$322,259
Total Expenses	\$267,705	\$237,623	\$249,246

**Top Funding Sources**

Fiscal Year	2015	2014	2013
Top Funding Source & Dollar Amount	--	--	--
Second Highest Funding Source & Dollar Amount	--	--	--
Third Highest Funding Source & Dollar Amount	--	--	--