

CONTACTS:

Julia Floyd, Senior Connections, (770) 216-2574; (404) 992-5939 (cell); jfloyd@srconn.org
Ellie Crosby, Atlanta Legal Aid Society, (404) 657-0217; elliecrosby@yahoo.com

Mobile Law Unit Connects Seniors with Legal Advice

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE) Atlanta, Ga.—The Georgia Senior Legal Hotline, a project of the Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Inc., and Senior Connections announce the Mobile Law Unit (MLU), a project to provide free legal advice and self-help information to metro area seniors. The MLU will enable lawyers to meet with and to assist potential clients at community sites. The project is the first in the nation to offer advice and assistance through mobile legal clinics.

The project, which begins September 5, 2003, was made possible through funding from the Legal Services Corporation (LSC). Ellie Crosby, the Atlanta Legal Aid attorney who will supervise the unit, is enthusiastic about the project's potential: "The Mobile Law Unit will use technology to enable us to bring services to more seniors and have a greater presence in the community. Seniors do not always aggressively pursue legal advice, even when it is desperately needed. By bringing the advice to them, we hope to make them more comfortable in asking for the help that only the law can provide."

Steven Brazen, Executive Director of Senior Connections, is looking forward to getting the new project off the ground. "We at Senior Connections are really excited about this partnership," Brazen stated "We think that the legal services provided by the Mobile Law Unit are very important for seniors, since this age group is often victimized by scams and may be unaware of the legal resources available to them. The Mobile Law Unit will provide much needed support for seniors within their communities."

Senior Connections Central Service Facility in Chamblee will host the Mobile Law Unit on the first and third Friday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

It will be open to seniors in metro Atlanta who are sixty years of age or older and all services are free of charge. New sites and hours will be unveiled as the project progresses.

The Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Inc. provides civil legal services to persons with very low income in Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Clayton and Cobb counties. Last year, Legal Aid attorneys assisted over 50,000 people and opened nearly 20,000 cases, primarily involving housing, family, and senior citizens issues. Begun in 1924 by 17 idealistic young attorneys, Atlanta Legal Aid has meant access to the justice for countless individuals who might otherwise be lost to an increasingly complex legal system.

For nearly 30 years, Senior Connections, a community-based non-profit organization and its volunteer force have helped seniors throughout the Atlanta area maintain their independence and quality of life. Senior Connections manages Senior Centers throughout DeKalb County and provides programs and services such as Meals on Wheels, Home Repair, Transportation, In-Home Care, and Case Management. For more information on Senior Connections services, call (770) 455-7602 ext 150 or visit us on the web at www.srconn.org.

###