



Analyzing Court Services to Assist Defendants in Debt Collection Court

Summer Associate Project Exchange

Project Title

Analyzing Court Services to Assist Defendants in Debt Collection Court

Scope of Work

Timing

The project must be completed by the end of the summer.

Jurisdiction

PA

Contact Information

Please contact Paul Lee (plee@Step toe.com) and Guerby Noel (guerby@lawfirmantiracismalliance.org) to claim this project as part of the 2024 Summer Associate Project Exchange.

Description

In Philadelphia, debt collection court judgments disproportionately affect people of color, who are typically unrepresented. The organization seeks reform to the court's procedures, however, it has realized that the solution is largely centered on financial literacy. Many defendants enter into settlements without any assistance in determining if it is feasible. As a result, many settlements lead to breaches and enforcement proceedings, often for the original claim amount or more.

Some jurisdictions offer financial counseling and other support to defendants as part of the court process. This project seeks to compile what those efforts are and outline their successes.

Subtasks (0)