

**The George Washington University Law School**  
**Equal Justice Foundation**  
720 20<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20052

**EJF AUCTION FACT SHEET**

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**EVENT FACTS**

- The EJF Auction is a student-run event, with a history of over 10 years of providing grants to students working in public interest summer positions. EJF grant recipients work in the D.C. community and throughout the country, serving the legal needs of the nation's neediest citizens.
- The event is one of the largest on the law school's campus, drawing over 1,000 attendees, including students, faculty, and administrators.
- Each year, the Auction raises between \$20,000 and \$30,000.
- Last year, proceeds from the Auction allowed EJF to provide 8 grants of \$2,400.
- The Auction is supported entirely by donations from the local and law school communities.
- Law school professors demonstrate their power of persuasion and comedic talent as our Auctioneers at the event.
- Each year, the Auction continues to grow, which means that each year, GW students can make an even greater contribution to their communities through the public interest work the auction funds. With your help, this year will be an even greater success!

**PUBLIC INTEREST FACTS**

- In 2001 almost 12% of the U.S. population lived below the federal poverty level, earning less than \$19,000 a year for a family of four.<sup>1</sup>
- A nationwide survey of third-year law students last spring showed that 94% of respondents financed their legal education through loans. 50% of the students surveyed who graduated last spring had law school loan debts of \$75,000 or more.<sup>2</sup>

A survey conducted by Equal Justice Works indicated that the majority of the 300+ employers responding report significant difficulty in recruitment and retention of public interest attorneys, mostly attributed to low salaries and educational debt.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Paper Chase to Money Chase: Law School Debt Diverts Road to Public Service, available at [www.napil.org](http://www.napil.org).

<sup>2</sup> Id.

<sup>3</sup> Equal Justice Works News Release, Release 5-2002, April 18, 2002.