

OUR MISSION

The Citizen Advocacy Center is dedicated to building democracy for the 21st century by strengthening the citizenry's capacities, resources, and institutions for self-governance.

CAC issues include:

- Open Meetings Act (OMA)
- Public record requests (FOIA)
- First Amendment rights
- Public record retention
- Economic development
- Tax increment financing (TIF)
- Zoning/Land Use
- Procurement
- Home Rule
- Ethics
- Ballot access/Elections
- Campaign finance regulations
- Census/Redistricting
- Lobbying
- Governmental Law



I support Citizen Advocacy Center because it helps citizens understand and utilize tools of democracy.

JOSH SILVERSTEIN, CAC Board of Directors

YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL TO OUR MISSION

All CAC services are free.

CAC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

CAC is funded through the philanthropic support of individuals, foundations, corporations, and law firms.

Help CAC strengthen democracy:

- Donate at our office or website
- Provide event sponsorship
- Sponsor a student intern
- Make a bequest
- Contribute from a donor-advised fund or family foundation
- Double your gift through an employer's matching gift
- Donate stocks or securities
- Make a charitable gift from an IRA
- Designate cy-pres funds

CONTACT CAC

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BUILDING DEMOCRACY
FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

PROGRAM AREAS AND IMPACTS



PROGRAM AREAS

THE IMPACTS

COMMUNITY LAWYERING

CAC is a public interest legal organization. Free legal counsel and community organizing is at the heart of CAC's work. Community lawyers empower citizens to know their rights, assist citizens who seek to civically engage, and offer citizens guidance through the complex rules and regulations that govern our local, state, and federal institutions.



Individuals and community groups understand the government decision-making process, utilize the laws that ensure access to government, organize community campaigns, and effectively advocate for a cause.

CIVIC EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Civic education is integral to CAC's mission. Community lawyers provide civic education through: one-on-one counsel, public programs, free civics lesson plans, free Citizen Guides, professional development for teachers, journalist trainings, and student internships for high school, college, law school, and public policy students.



Citizens, students, educators, journalists, and public officials become educated, informed, and engaged.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

CAC monitors governments for accountability under the First Amendment and laws such as the Freedom of Information Act, the Open Meetings Act, the Election Code, etc.



State and local government bodies adopt better laws, policies, and practices.

ISSUE ADVOCACY

CAC advocates for laws and policies that support government accountability and public participation in government processes. CAC seeks to dismantle anti-democratic laws and policies.



Citizens become aware of issues affecting government accountability and public participation. Public officials adopt best practices to support civic engagement.