

Steve Sharpe

Steve Sharpe is a Senior Attorney at the Legal Aid Society of Southwest Ohio (LASSO) who represents homeowners in foreclosure, renters in subsidized housing, and taxpayers facing disputes with the IRS. Steve started his career in 2005 at Indiana Legal Services with a Skadden fellowship focused on representing borrowers with predatory loans.

Since the beginning of the housing crisis, Steve and his colleagues at LASSO have worked with NCLC, legal aid programs, and other housing advocates to protect the rights of homeowners with FHA-insured loans (and other government guaranteed loans) through the use of litigation, coordinated policy advocacy, and public records requests. In response to the rise of predatory land installment contracts, Steve and LASSO engaged in strategic litigation in partnership with the City of Cincinnati while also successfully advocating for a local ordinance to curb predatory activity. In all of these cases, Steve teams up with advocates from across the country to maximize the impact of their work. In addition to this work, Steve coordinates state and national advocacy related to the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) rental subsidy program to ensure that the LIHTC provides fair housing choice and that LIHTC owners maintain long-term housing affordability.

Steve frequently presents at local, state, and national conferences on consumer and housing issues and is a contributing author of the NCLC's *Foreclosure and Mortgage Servicing* manual. He is cohort member of the Shriver Center's Racial Justice Institute and a Consumer Fellow with the American Bar Associates Consumer Financial Services Committee.