

IN JUST TIMES

a publication of the

**NATIONAL LAW CENTER
ON HOMELESSNESS & POVERTY**



*Changing Laws,
Changing Lives*

News and Commentary for
August 2013

We use the power of the law to end homelessness by:

- Advocating for families and individuals that need access to housing
- Ensuring homeless children have access to school
- Protecting the human and civil rights and dignity of all

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Dear Friends,

Earlier this month, the Columbia, South Carolina, city council approved a plan to effectively evict the city's homeless population from the downtown area. This action is example of a national trend, documented in our report *Criminalizing Crisis*, in which cities criminalize the public presence of visibly poor people. In the New York Times coverage of the Columbia action, NLCHP Executive Director Maria Foscarinis calls the city's plan extreme and highly disturbing. Read the Times story [here](#).



**Maria
Foscarinis Executive
Director**

Maria was interviewed on the Columbia plan by MSNBC on Tues, August 27, at 2.30 PM ET. You can watch the segment [here](#).

As part of our national work to counter the criminalization of homelessness and poverty and to promote constructive solutions to homelessness, we are working in partnership with local groups in Columbia, SC, to fight that city's disturbing new initiative. We're heartened that the [City's police chief has expressed opposition to the plan](#). Please join us by [supporting our work](#).



NATIONAL LAW CENTER
ON HOMELESSNESS & POVERTY

**CHANGING LAWS,
CHANGING LIVES**

Save the Date

**MCKINNEY-VENTO AWARDS
& RECEPTION (Buffet Dinner)**

RSVP events@nlchp.org

WHEN:
OCT 30, 2013 | 6pm

WHERE:
Renaissance Downtown Hotel
999 Ninth Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty | 2000 M Street NW, Suite 210, Washington, DC 20036
www.nlchp.org

Changing Laws. Changing Lives.

The Law Center is the only national legal advocacy organization dedicated to ending and preventing homelessness in America. It fights in the halls of power for laws and policies that protect homeless people's rights and help them rise out of poverty.

www.nlchp.org