

## For Immediate Release

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## South Brooklyn Legal Services Launches City-Wide Coalition to Improve Resources for Low-Income New Yorkers Affected by Identity Theft

### ***Initiative made possible with funding from the Identity Theft Victims Assistance Network Project***

November 17, 2011, Brooklyn, NY— South Brooklyn Legal Services (“SBLS,” a program of Legal Services NYC) has launched the New York City Identity Theft Coalition (NYCITC), the first local initiative that responds to the growing problem of identity theft in the New York City. SBLS will leverage its longstanding experience addressing consumer and employment law issues, as well as our established network of legal and community-based organizations to focus on identity theft issues.

NYCITC will build a network of diverse service providers to coordinate and improve access to information and services for low-income victims of identity theft. NYCITC will focus on the areas of identity theft most commonly reported by low-income New Yorkers, including employment, tax, consumer debt, domestic violence, and public benefits issues.

This initiative is made possible by a grant from the Identity Theft Victims Assistance Network Project (ITVANP), with funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office for Victims of Crime. ITVANP seeks to expand and improve the outreach and capacity of victim service programs to better address the rights and needs of victims of identity theft nationwide.

Current NYCITC partners include the Volunteer lawyers project at the Brooklyn Bar Association, the Fordham Law School’s Feerick Center for Social Justice; the Legal Aid Society; and the Neighborhood Economic Advocacy Project (NEDAP). **Organizations interested in learning more about NYCITC are encouraged to contact SBLS for details on membership and upcoming trainings and other events.**

South Brooklyn Legal Services is a not-for-profit law firm that provides a broad range of legal services, including individual advocacy and broad based litigation, to low-income people in Brooklyn. SBLS works in various practice areas that impact low-income communities such as housing, foreclosure, worker’s rights, government benefits, HIV rights, family law, and consumer law. SBLS is a program of Legal Services NYC. Learn more at [www.sbls.org](http://www.sbls.org).

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Towards justice and dignity for all – Por la Justicia y Dignidad de Todos



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