

**Attachment: Post Adoption Contact Agreement Representation (PACA)**

**Goal**

Provide legal representation to low-income adoptive parents as they negotiate with relinquishing parents for post adoption contact with their children.

**Project Activities**

Using the VBA's low-bono project model, private attorneys will represent adoptive parents in an estimated 40 PACA matters each year. The PACA attorneys' work is limited to negotiating and drafting terms of PACA agreements. Those attorneys who choose to be paid will receive a stipend of \$75 per hour for up to 3 hours for each matter. Client eligibility will be determined by court staff in the related TPR matter which typically triggers the PACA request.

**Project Budget**

The partnership is seeking an annual appropriation of \$12,000 to cover private attorney stipends and administrative costs.

Payments to private attorneys @ \$225 per case for 40 cases	\$ 9,000
VBA administrative costs to cover attorney recruitment and training, case placement and payments, tax and grant reporting, professional liability insurance coverage and client satisfaction monitoring	\$ 3,000
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$ 12,000</b>

**Contact**

Mary C. Ashcroft, Esq. Legal Access Coordinator  
Vermont Bar Association  
PO Box 100  
Montpelier, VT 05601-0100  
[mashcroft@vtbar.org](mailto:mashcroft@vtbar.org)  
(802) 223-2020