

NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Pro Bono News

2014 Empire State Counsel® Spotlight Edition



PRO BONO VOLUNTEERS ARE...

P

Professionally persistent.

R

Reliable. Always ready, willing and eager to serve.

O

Optimistic, even when the odds appear to be stacked against the client.

B

Believers in justice, fairness, and that where there is a will, there must be a way!

O

Outgoing and enthusiastic.

N

Needed. They never give up and are tenaciously creative.

O

On call and available to tackle the most difficult cases.



David P. Miranda

President-elect

Co-chair, President's Committee on Access to Justice

Serving the public through pro bono legal work is one of the core principles of our legal profession. The New York State Bar Association has a long-standing commitment to the goal of equal access to justice for all New Yorkers. When justice is served for the poorest among us we are all served for the better. As attorneys we have the privilege and special responsibility to serve our communities through pro bono service. The New York State Bar Association's Empire State Counsel® program recognizes the work of members who contribute 50 hours or more in a year to pro bono work, shining a light on some of our members' best work and encourages others to get more involved in pro bono work.

The members and law firms featured in this Spotlight have made pro bono work – sharing their talent and time with people in need – an integral part of their professional lives. Indeed, for many, their pro bono cases have become passionate causes. How else to explain the work of Susan Corcoran and Lisa A. Coppola – the two attorneys honored as Outstanding Pro Bono Volunteers? As a partner in the White Plains office of Jackson Lewis PC, Ms. Corcoran has developed tremendously valuable expertise in employment law. Over the past 17 years, she has generously shared this expertise to work on 44 different legal matters for the Pro Bono Partnership, which provides free legal advice to nonprofit organizations in the tri-state area. The

Partnership fields more than 1,500 calls for help a year on employment law issues, and Ms. Corcoran gave the nonprofit expert help on matters ranging from accommodating an injured employee to employee leave under the Fair Labor Standards Act. Lisa A. Coppola is a seasoned litigator with more than 25 years of experience who volunteered last year, for the first time, with the Erie County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project. She took on her first immigration case, that of an Eritrean family with young children, facing detention after having fled religious persecution in their country. The mother of immigrant children, Ms. Coppola ended up spending more than 250 hours on the case and won the family's asylum. Ms. Coppola now donates her time training other volunteers for asylum cases.

In 2014, participation increased significantly in the Empire State Counsel® program: 94 more members participated over 2013, for a total of 1,460 attorneys. Further, the number of pro bono hours donated rose by 40,513 hours – to almost 270,000 hours. This level of generosity and commitment is even more inspiring when you consider how hard most attorneys work to meet their professional obligations and juggle the needs of their families and other responsibilities.

The legal help recognized in the Empire State Counsel® represents lives given a second chance, families kept safe, critical medical and food stamp assistance received, housing code violations that will be remedied, and nonprofits helped with legal and regulatory questions freeing up these nonprofits to help people in need. This year's Empire State Counsel® attorneys helped the elderly and chronically ill with advance planning needs. They helped develop critical knowledge for the rights of children worldwide for the Child Rights International Network. They helped low-income homeowners preyed on by mortgage scammers, even developing a nationwide model for anti-scamming cases.

The role of the pro bono lawyer is even more critical today, as our state and country continue to work towards recovery and more veterans are returning from overseas. Our Association continues to advocate for increased funding for legal services at both the state and federal level. Our Association tries to address areas of specific need through programs like the Lawyer Referral Service program helping veterans last year and our Association's Pro Bono Appeals Program, providing free appellate representation to eligible responders in cases involving essential human needs.

On behalf of the New York State Bar Association, I extend my thanks and congratulations to every Empire State Counsel® member and to the firms whose work is honored here. The work you have done, so well and so generously, has made a tremendous difference in people's lives.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "David P. Miranda". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "D" at the beginning.

2014 Participating Firms

Alston Bird LLP attorneys donated **2226** hours
Arnold & Porter LLP attorneys donated **4010** hours
Ballard Spahr LLP and **Ballard Spahr Stillman & Friedman LLP** attorneys donated **803** hours
Bond Schoeneck & King PLLC attorneys donated **404** hours
Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft LLP attorneys donated **6247** hours
Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP attorneys donated **679** hours
Crowell & Moring LLP attorneys donated **3605** hours
Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP attorneys donated **9836** hours
Day Pitney LLP attorneys donated **1185** hours
Dentons US LLP attorneys donated **2308** hours
DLA Piper (US) attorneys donated **7804** hours
Duane Morris LLP attorneys donated **748** hours
Fish & Richardson P.C. attorneys donated **742** hours
Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP attorneys donated **11215** hours
Goodwin Procter LLP attorneys donated **2474** hours
Harris Beach LLP attorneys donated **278** hours
Harter Secrest & Emery LLP attorneys donated **952** hours
Hiscock & Barclay LLP attorneys donated **1131** hours
Hogan Lovells US LLP attorneys donated **10276** hours
Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP attorneys donated **8178** hours
Hunton & Williams LLP attorneys donated **2943** hours
Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP attorneys donated **1574** hours
Kaye Scholer LLP attorneys donated **3622** hours
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP attorneys donated **572** hours
Kirkland & Ellis LLP attorneys donated **10175** hours
Kramer Levin Naftalis Frankel LLP attorneys donated **10384** hours
Linklaters LLP attorneys donated **1373** hours
Lowenstein Sandler LLP attorneys donated **5878** hours
Manatt Phelps & Phelps LLP attorneys donated **909** hours
Mayer Brown LLP attorneys donated **1423** hours
Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy LLP attorneys donated **10249** hours
Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP attorneys donated **1896** hours
Nixon Peabody LLP attorneys donated **4689** hours
O'Melveny & Myers LLP attorneys donated **2665** hours
Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP attorneys donated **8720** hours
Perkins Coie LLP attorneys donated **1807** hours
Phillips Lytle LLP attorneys donated **2359** hours
Proskauer Rose LLP attorneys donated **5088** hours
Ropes & Gray LLP attorneys donated **1683** hours
Schulte Roth Zabel LLP attorneys donated **12043** hours
Seyfarth Shaw LLP attorneys donated **1169** hours
Shearman & Sterling LLP attorneys donated **4965** hours
Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP attorneys donated **1423** hours
Simpson Thacher & Barlett LLP attorneys donated **6432** hours
Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP attorneys donated **19527** hours
Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP attorneys donated **1013** hours
Steptoe & Johnson LLP attorneys donated **1697** hours
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP attorneys donated **18984** hours
Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP attorneys donated **387** hours
Thompson & Knight LLP attorneys donated **247** hours
Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP attorneys donated **13957** hours
White & Case LLP attorneys donated **10296** hours
Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP attorneys donated **4471** hours
Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP attorneys donated **13788** hours

Law Firms New to the Empire State Counsel® Program

The Association owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to the law firms, pro bono volunteer programs, and local bar association volunteer lawyers projects for their generous support of the Empire State Counsel® Program over the past eight years. We also extend a warm welcome to each of the law firms joining the program for the first time in 2014:

Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP
Manatt Phelps & Phelps LLP
Seyfarth Shaw LLP
Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP

Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP
Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP
Thompson & Knight LLP
Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP
Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

Thank you for participating in the Empire State Counsel® Program!

2014 Empire State Counsel® Outstanding Pro Bono Volunteers and Law Firm Sponsors

Susan Corcoran
Partner
Jackson Lewis PC

Lisa A. Coppola

Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP
Platinum Sponsor

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP
Platinum Sponsor

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP
Gold Sponsor

Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP
Gold Sponsor

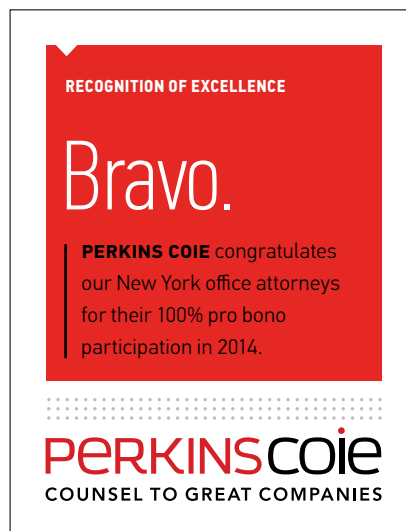
White & Case LLP
Silver Sponsor

Hogan Lovells US LLP
Silver Sponsor

Kirkland & Ellis LLP
Silver Sponsor

Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP
Bronze Sponsor

Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
Bronze Sponsor





On behalf of the New York State Bar Association, **I would like to thank the 1,460 members** honored in the 2014 Empire State Counsel® program, who generously **donating 269,873 hours of pro bono service** to those in need. Without the efforts of attorneys like you, countless more individuals who are unable to afford an attorney, would not have received the assistance they needed. I would also like to thank the 54 law firms who, through their dedication to pro bono service, encouraged pro bono service by their attorneys. Pro bono service is very important to the Association, and we are grateful to be able to honor all of you.

Congratulations to the 2014 Empire State Counsel®!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Glenn Lau-Kee".

Glenn Lau-Kee
President
New York State Bar Association



Susan Corcoran
Partner, Jackson Lewis PC

A partner in the White Plains, New York office of Jackson Lewis PC, Ms. Corcoran has volunteered her employment law expertise with the Pro Bono Partnership since 1997. The Pro Bono Partnership provides free legal advice and consultation to non-profit organizations throughout New York, New Jersey and Connecticut that serve the disadvantaged or provide important services in our communities. The organizations receiving this free assistance are unable to pay for legal counsel without substantially jeopardizing their ability to provide essential services to the low-income communities they serve.

Throughout the past seventeen years Ms. Corcoran's dedication and enthusiasm for performing pro bono has never waned. During her volunteer tenure she has worked on 44 different legal matters for Partnership clients; spoken at Partnership workshops on employment law issues; answered numerous employment resources calls from the nonprofit community; been a tireless advocate for pro bono with her firm; and served as an invaluable resource to the Partnership's in-house staff on labor and employment issues.

Most Partnership volunteers accept one or at most two pro bono matters a year. However, Ms. Corcoran accepted five projects during 2014 on a range of employment issues, including advising a nonprofit regarding accommodation for an injured employee; counsel about an employee leave under the Fair Labor Standards Act; and three other matters for different nonprofits involving particular issues with individual employees. This past June, the Partnership turned to Ms. Corcoran for pro bono assistance when their New York employment staff attorney needed to take an unexpected leave of absence for several months. Employment law is the largest area of practice for the Pro Bono Partnership and they routinely field more than 1,500 resource calls each year. Employment law matters often require immediate attention. In addition to continuing her work on long term projects, Ms. Corcoran responded by developing a protocol within her firm to ensure that these resource calls were handled promptly and efficiently.



Lisa A. Coppola

First time volunteer with the Erie County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project in Buffalo, New York, Lisa A. Coppola rose to the myriad challenges presented by her first immigration case on behalf of an Eritrean family. Although inexperienced in immigration law, Ms. Coppola was a seasoned litigator with more than 25 years of experience. She was moved to accept the family's case because she also is a mother of immigrant children.

Having fled their homeland to avoid persecution on account of their Christian religion and their refusal to serve in their country's brutal "national service", for a time the family was held in a U.S. detention center located in Becks, PA pending removal proceedings. The clients included a husband, wife, and two young daughters ages 2 and 3 years old. The mother did not know she was pregnant with a third child when she filed the asylum petition.

Despite the language barrier, Ms. Coppola took the time necessary to learn as much as possible about the details of the family's situation. Thanks to her patience and skill as an experienced litigator, Ms. Coppola discovered an important fact which had not been included in the family's asylum application – the mother had been the victim of female genital mutilation and, if the family were returned to Eritrea, her daughters would be forced to undergo the same horrific procedure.

Ms. Coppola was able to prepare the evidence she need to make a compelling record for asylum. She also prepared her clients to testify about highly private and personal details of their lives, convincingly coaxing them to relate the facts and emotions that established a valid claim for asylum.

Ms. Coppola spent over 250 hours, including a two day hearing, which spanned six weeks to win her client's asylum. But her work on behalf of this family did not end in the courtroom. Five days, before the family's hearing the apartment they lived in burned down, a truly tragic turn of events. Undeterred, Ms. Coppola and her paralegal legal coordinated the assistance efforts.

Having won her first asylum case, Ms. Coppola now donates her time to train other volunteers to handle these types of case. Describing her volunteer experience with VLP, Ms. Coppola said, "It all comes back to meaningful work and the opportunity to live one's integrity by advocating for deserving people who faced their misfortune with nothing by courage, fortitude and gentle tenacity." According to Ms. Coppola, this pro bono experience has been one of the highlights of her career and she "literally cannot wait for [her] next case."

**Hogan
Lovells**

Hogan Lovells celebrates its 65 attorneys who became 2014 Empire State Counsel® Honorees.

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Ballard Spahr is proud to be
a part of the Empire State
Counsel Program.

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LLP

www.ballardspahr.com

Pro Bono
Creating Windows of Opportunity

Lowenstein Sandler
congratulates its 27 Empire
State Counsel Honorees who
collectively dedicated more
than 5,000 hours to pro
bono legal services in 2014.

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Sandler**



Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP

Platinum Sponsor

Seventy-Seven Empire State Counsel® Honorees Donated

19,181* Pro Bono Hours

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP and affiliates strongly encourages its lawyers, summer associates, and legal assistants to do pro bono work for those individuals and groups unable to afford legal services. The firm is a charter signatory to the Law Firm Pro Bono Challenge, pledging to commit time equivalent to at least 3% of its annual billable hours to work on pro bono matters. In 2014, New York office lawyers and summer associates reached 4.4% of billable time. Firmwide, Skadden attorneys, summer associates, and legal assistants recorded 144,550 hours of pro bono legal work in 2014.

Deeply ingrained in the firm's culture, pro bono provides vital help to a wide variety of individuals and organizations in need of legal assistance. Skadden attorneys regularly assist those seeking asylum in the United States and elsewhere in their attempts to escape persecution due to religious or political beliefs, or sexual orientation. Attorneys also handle many cases for death row inmates and take on numerous matters involving wrongful imprisonment and prosecution, housing disputes, and family law, and frequently provide legal assistance to legal services organizations and other nonprofits, as well as micro-entrepreneurs. On November 6, 2014, the Pro Bono Institute presented Skadden with the John H. Pickering Award in recognition of the Firm's "long-standing and remarkable commitment to pro bono." In 2013, the firm received the New York State Bar Association's President's Pro Bono Service Award, as the winner in the "Large Firm" category. The firm was jointly nominated by Lawyers Alliance for New York, the Legal Aid Society, New York Lawyers for the Public Interest, and Legal Services NYC, through each of which the firm's lawyers have done substantial amounts of pro bono work.

SULLIVAN & CROMWELL LLP

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

Platinum Sponsor

One Hundred Empire State Counsel® Honorees Donated

18,984 Pro Bono Hours

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP is committed to the communities in which we practice, to those unable to afford legal representation, and to the legal profession itself. We seek to maintain this role of corporate and social leadership by supporting pro bono work and creating partnerships outside the Firm that promote legal justice and equality of conditions. The Firm regularly represents clients on a pro bono basis in significant matters and has also undertaken important community building and community service efforts. The Firm's lawyers work on a wide variety of pro bono matters that cover issues ranging from criminal appeals and constitutional law to asylum and domestic violence. In addition, our lawyers serve on boards of more than 300 not-for-profit philanthropic, cultural, educational and civic organizations.



Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

Gold Sponsor

Fifty-Four Empire State Counsel® Donated

13,788 Pro Bono Hours

A steadfast commitment to pro bono representation has been a hallmark of WilmerHale since the early 20th century, when our partner Reginald Heber Smith—considered the father of legal aid in the United States—authored the seminal book *Justice and the Poor* and galvanized the organized bar nationally to secure equal justice for those unable to afford counsel. More than seven decades later, in 1992, our partner John Pickering led the effort to establish the Pro Bono Institute's Law Firm Pro Bono Challenge and ensured that we were its charter signatory. Today, as measured by *The American Lawyer*, our pro bono program ranks third out of the more than 170 reporting firms.

WilmerHale maintains a strong commitment to pro bono representation and to providing a voice for the least powerful, demonstrated by pro bono contributions that range from cases of national importance before the US Supreme Court to litigation on behalf of individuals who lack the means to secure necessities as fundamental as housing, adequate medical care and a safe home environment. In 2014, WilmerHale secured a significant victory in the US Supreme Court for pro bono client Freddie Lee Hall, an inmate on death row in Florida. The court's decision in *Hall v. Florida* will help ensure that mentally disabled inmates will not be unconstitutionally executed. Also this past year, post-conviction DNA testing in a 30-year murder case exonerated WilmerHale's client Henry Lee McCollum, an inmate under sentence of death for a 1983 murder he did not commit. Additionally, WilmerHale and its co-counsel, the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, secured a landmark civil rights victory when the US District Court for the Southern District of Texas struck down Texas's highly restrictive voter photo identification law on the grounds that it violated the federal Voting Rights Act and the US Constitution. Lastly, in 2014, three groups—Prisoners' Legal Services, the Center for Public Representation and the ACLU of Massachusetts—joined WilmerHale to file a federal class-action suit challenging the imprisonment of Massachusetts women who are civilly committed for addictions to drugs or alcohol.

The firm strongly believes that we have a responsibility to help strengthen our communities and is proud to work with numerous legal aid and nonprofit organizations across the globe that are working diligently on behalf of their clients.

GIBSON DUNN

Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Gold Sponsor

Forty-Five Empire State Counsel® Donated

11,215 Pro Bono Hours

At Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, we approach our long tradition of service to the community with the same passion, creativity and motivation we apply to all our work. Over the last several years, Gibson Dunn's New York office has dedicated enormous resources to its pro bono efforts in a variety of different areas, including advocacy on behalf of trafficking victims, victims of domestic abuse, asylum seekers, nonprofits, and a variety of low income individuals seeking access to the court system. In addition to these types of individual representations, the office has gotten behind several larger-scale causes, including one case to assist a group of disabled New Yorkers obtain disaster food stamp benefits (so-called "D-SNAP" benefits) that they were unable to apply for in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, and another case on behalf of low-income, disabled New Yorkers who were wrongly denied their social security benefits. And over the course of the last year, a number of attorneys have volunteered for, and help spearhead, the Eastern District of New York's Alternatives to Incarceration Program. In all of these instances, and the countless others not referenced here, Gibson Dunn has been proud and privileged to represent its community and the citizens of New York, and has strived to help in the fight to provide meaningful access to justice.

The firm strongly believes that we have a responsibility to help strengthen our communities and is proud to work with numerous legal aid and nonprofit organizations across the globe that are working diligently on behalf of their clients.

WHITE & CASE

White & Case LLP

Silver Sponsor

Fifty Empire State Counsel® Donated

10,296 Pro Bono Hours

White & Case has been taking on important pro bono work since the firm was founded in 1901, and today we are one of the largest providers of pro bono legal services in the world. Under the leadership of Brussels partner and EU-law litigator Ian Forrester, QC, our Global Pro Bono Practice focuses on three areas – providing access to justice, promoting good governance and the rule of law and serving the world's leading non-governmental organizations. More than 110 partners worldwide serve as Pro Bono Leaders who help guide and develop the practice.

Pro bono is the centerpiece of our social responsibility initiative. Our social responsibility programs also encompass our legal education work – such as our sponsorship of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition – our volunteer programs, charitable contributions and Firmwide Green Initiative.

White & Case's integrated global footprint is distinctive and gives shape to our pro bono work. We offer many cross-border projects that provide all our lawyers the opportunity to work on international issues regardless of where they sit. Our largest project in 2014 was researching the rights of children in every country in the world for Child Rights International Network. More than 230 lawyers and legal staff across 32 offices participated in this global pro bono matter. Among other cross-office projects, we have also:

- *Prepared a brochure to raise awareness among Syrian refugees about the importance of officially registering births and marriages with the government of the country to which they have fled, to ensure legal protections. The brochures will be distributed to refugees in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.*
- *Conducted legal research to support the South Sudan peace process by examining the use of sanctions by regional authorities to promote peace or mitigate conflict and on the successful design and implementation of national dialogues during peace processes.*
- *Researched laws in five countries establishing criminal injury compensation for one of the first NGOs in China specializing in advocating legal aid for women. The research will be used by the organization to advocate for stronger legislation in China.*

In the United States, we expanded our work on pro bono criminal matters including appeals, direct representations, hearing and civil-criminal issues. We also took on criminal representations around the world and addressed important policy issues in the criminal-justice system.

We believe that pro bono work is an excellent way to accelerate a young lawyer's training and development. All first-year and summer associates are assigned at least one pro bono matter. We encourage all of our lawyers to propose pro bono matters to the Firm and to work at least 20 pro bono hours a year.

To read more about our pro bono work and social responsibility initiatives please visit <http://srreview.whitecase.com>.

KRAMER LEVIN

KRAMER LEVIN NAFTALIS & FRANKEL LLP

We would like to congratulate 46 of our attorneys who became 2014 Empire State Counsel® Honorees. Our firm is committed to pro bono to help make the legal system work for all.

www.kramerlevin.com

WILLKIE FARR & GALLAGHER LLP

Congratulates our 29 attorneys who were named

2014 Empire State Counsel® Honorees

Thank you for your tireless efforts in serving the underprivileged and promoting social justice.

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www.willkie.com

Katten



Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP

Through Katten's pro bono program, our attorneys serve those in need, engage in important national litigation, and partner with local legal service providers to ensure access to the justice system.

ATTORNEY ADVERTISING

www.kattenlaw.com



Hogan Lovells US LLP

Silver Supporter

Sixty-Five Empire State Counsel® Donated

10,276 Pro Bono Hours

Providing pro bono legal services to those most in need is an integral part of being a lawyer at Hogan Lovells. We have a longstanding and extensive pro bono program that focuses on improving the lives of those without adequate legal representation and providing legal services to charities and nonprofit organizations with social justice as their core missions. The formation of Hogan Lovells in 2010 brought together two leading pro bono practices, both with strong legacies on either side of the Atlantic. In the United States, we have a 40-year history of recognizing pro bono as a practice group and were the first legal practice in the world to do so.

Our pro bono practice has been honored with tributes such as the American Bar Association's Pro Bono Publico Award, and we were the only legal practice named to The National Law Journal's Pro Bono Hot List in both 2012 and 2013. Most recently, The American Lawyer honored us with its Lifetime Achievement Award for Citizenship for our pro bono work in Liberia.

Hogan Lovells takes seriously our commitment to providing high-quality legal services to those most in need and least able to pay. Annually, we deliver tens of thousands of hours of free legal services and mobilize hundreds of volunteers to work on projects in areas such as human rights, poverty alleviation, public health law, education, environmental activism, and international development.

In the past year, attorneys in Hogan Lovells' New York office have secured the safety of vulnerable and marginalized individuals through the grant of protective orders, asylum, U-visas, administrative closure of removal proceedings, and other legal protections; assisted low-income tenants in compelling landlords to make necessary repairs to their apartments to remedy violations of the state housing code; and helped the elderly and chronically ill with advance planning needs. We also advised a variety of New York nonprofit organizations regarding tax, real estate, and corporate/transactional matters and provided legal assistance to a number of low-income artists and inventors regarding contract, trademark, copyright, and patent issues.

Hogan Lovells also tackled issues at the forefront of current events in 2014, including authoring a ground-breaking publication that provides much-needed guidance to hospitals on best practices for the care of transgender patients and obtaining a final judgment in a discriminatory zoning case, *MHANY Mgmt. Inc. v. Garden City (E.D.N.Y.)*, requiring a village in New York to remedy the effects of its prior intentional discriminatory conduct which had blocked affordable housing for minority residents.

These pro bono matters are central to our firm's mission. To learn more, please visit www.hoganlovells.com/probono.

KIRKLAND & ELLIS

A LAW FIRM SERVING GLOBAL CLIENTS

Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Silver Sponsor

Fifty-Nine Empire State Counsel® Donated

10,175 Pro Bono Hours

Kirkland & Ellis is a 1,600-attorney law firm representing global clients in complex litigation, dispute resolution and arbitration, corporate and tax, restructuring, and intellectual property matters. Attorneys across all of the practice groups in the firm participate in the firm's Pro Bono Program, dedicating well over 100,000 hours of time each year to pro bono service. Kirkland is committed to providing legal services without charge to those who cannot afford counsel, with the goals of improving lives, bettering communities and deepening our attorneys' professional experience. The Firm has offices in Beijing, Chicago, Hong Kong, Houston, London, Los Angeles, Munich, New York, Palo Alto, San Francisco, Shanghai and Washington, D.C.

Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP

Bronze Sponsor

Sixty-Five Empire State Counsel® Donated

9,836 Pro Bono Hours

Pro bono work has always been a core responsibility of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP. Davis Polk has a long and distinguished history of providing pro bono legal services to those who could not otherwise obtain representation and we dedicate considerable resources to our pro bono program. Over the past year our work has included: representing low-income homeowners against mortgage scammers and developing a nationwide model for anti-scamming cases, assisting many of our corporate pro bono clients to comply with the New York Nonprofit Revitalization Act, successfully representing wrongfully convicted individuals; helping victims of domestic violence obtain divorces from their batterers; obtaining U visa and green cards for many crime victims; gaining asylum for individuals fleeing persecution in their home countries; drafting policy papers on human rights issues; serving as counsel for microfinance organizations; providing IP, tax and corporate advice to numerous non-profit organizations and embarking on two new programs, the first to assist victims of sex trafficking with immigration issues and the second to assist individuals in submitting applications for clemency to President Obama as part of the U.S. government's efforts to address the number of federal inmates serving unjust and disproportionately long sentences.



Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

Bronze Sponsor

Thirty-Five Empire State Counsel® Donated

8,720 Pro Bono Hours

Pro bono is a critical aspect of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP and its lawyers. Orrick strategically allocates its pro bono resources to ensure that each lawyer's work has the maximum impact for the clients and our communities. In recognition of this strategy, Orrick was named one of the pro bono law firms of the year by Who's Who Legal, one of Law360's Pro Bono Firms of 2014, placed 9th nationwide in The American Lawyer's 2014 Pro Bono Survey, was recognized on the 2015 National Law Journal's Pro Bono Hot List, and was cited by the New York Law Journal for our pro bono contributions. Orrick's pro bono program has been praised for the dedication of its lawyers to supporting diverse causes with tangible results—including high-profile immigration disputes, civil rights litigation and grassroots global development through an innovative impact finance initiative.

We focus our efforts on the important poverty law work for which there are many more clients than pro bono attorneys, specifically, in the areas of housing, family & matrimonial, consumer, immigration and public benefits laws. However, our reach is even more extensive, and includes cutting edge public international law work for NGOs developing and strengthening legal systems, and extends to work performed at the U.S. Supreme Court making law.

We are honored and delighted to be selected as the recipient of the Empire State Counsel Bronze Supporter Award.

**Note: Firm hours listed were as of January 12, 2015 and the number of hours that appears on there award. For the final number of hours please see page 4.*



EMPIRE STATE COUNSEL®

2014 PHOTO GALLERY



Raul Emilio Martinez, Esq.
60 Pro Bono Hours

It only takes desire to help the legally underserved. The necessary expertise quickly follows. Thanks to Volunteer Legal Services Project of Monroe County for helping me to help others.



Ryan A. Lema, Esq.
187.1 Pro Bono Hours

In 2014 I worked pro bono on two appeals, one a criminal from a state-court drug conviction, and the other a civil appeal in a federal Section 1983 prisoner's rights case.



Larry P. Schiffer, Esq.
81.3 Pro Bono Hours

My pro bono service in 2014 is divided between my service as a volunteer mediator for the Southern District of New York's Mediation Program, working on voter protection issues for the Election Protection Coalition through the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law; including acting as a call center co-coordinator for the 2014 general election and acting as pro bono litigation counsel for a nonprofit that provides shelter to battered and abused women; and other services for the community in a contract dispute with a contractor who failed to perform its contract and kept the nonprofit's down payment. Providing a variety of pro bono service in different capacities and on different issues allows me to expand my experience and my ability to provide services to others.



Patrick A. Sheldon, Esq.
134.5 Pro Bono Hours

Representing indigent persons on direct appeal of their convictions to the Appellate Division and the Court of Appeals



Spencer L. Durland, Esq.
612.7 Pro Bono Hours

My pro bono work this year has consisted of prisoners' rights, and immigration in the Second Circuit Court of Appeals and the Appellate Division, Fourth Department.



Dr. Paul Jay Edelson, Esq.
219 Pro Bono Hours

I'm fortunate to have the time, inclination and resources enabling me to contribute pro bono legal services on Long Island through the Nassau Suffolk Law Services Committee. It is challenging work, but the dividends are enormous. I applaud the NYSBA for exploring how the criteria for pro bono can be broadened so that many of my colleagues can also contribute.



Marc A. Lieberstein, Esq.
135 Pro Bono Hours

Pro bono work is something I find very rewarding, as it is an opportunity to provide legal representation to someone who ordinarily would not have counsel. And this provides hope, and hopefully more equality where it may not have ever existed.



Ryan Saasto, Esq.
56 Pro Bono Hours

I am privileged and honored to provide legal advice services to the non-profit and social enterprise communities; and help further their excellent services to society.



Adam W. Silverman, Esq.
134 Pro Bono Hours

I represent victims of domestic violence in family law matters in order to provide guidance and assistance to those who may otherwise lack the support necessary to navigate the judicial system during what is very often a deeply traumatic point in their lives.



Ira L. Herman, Esq.
101 Pro Bono Hours

Tikkun Olam (translated roughly as-improving the world) is an important element of my Jewish upbringing. Since I earn my living as a lawyer, it feels right to use what I know "to advance the ball".



Joshua E. Dubs, Esq.
64.63 Pro Bono Hours

There is no higher calling for people of learned professions than doing good for those who need it most, but can afford it least. Our justice system was never designed to be something which only the most wealthy and powerful could avail themselves. By doing pro bono legal work, I feel like I am helping further our fundamental American ideals. We, as individual lawyers, may not be able to change the world, but if we help someone who might otherwise not be able to afford our services, we can change the world for that client.



Richard Mancino, Esq.
100 Pro Bono Hours

Working on and supervising pro bono cases has become an integral part of my litigation practice. Not only are the cases challenging, they give me and my colleagues an opportunity to promote positive change in deserving individuals' lives, in the law and in society. For me, there's nothing more rewarding than persuading a three-judge federal court to redraw New York's congressional districts based not on partisan self-dealing and incumbent protection, but on the basis of non-partisan, neutrally applied principles, or in mentoring associates who are working to obtain political asylum for families who risked everything to come to our country to escape religious or political persecution.



Linda Du, Esq.
83 Pro Bono Hours

It is particularly rewarding as I can help people who would otherwise have no access to legal assistance



Lisa A. Coppola, Esq.
140 Pro Bono Hours

This past year I had the honor of working with a family who was seeking asylum in the United States. The parents had made profound sacrifices for the safety of their young children. When they reported to the U.S. border, they learned that without proving entitlement to asylee status, they would be returned to the persecuting nation. My role was to advocate for them in Immigration Court, so my years of litigating in other courts and contexts became a springboard for successfully serving this well-deserving family and for engaging in meaningful work.



Eric T. Glynn, Esq.
55 Pro Bono Hours

I think we all chose to become lawyers because we want to help people. Pro bono work provides the opportunity to do that in the purest sense, to help those who truly need it, while using and developing our legal knowledge and talents. I cannot think of a single reason not to do it.



Justin L. Salkin, Esq.
75 Pro Bono Hours

I perform pro bono legal services because, from a young age, I have always believed that it is important to lend a hand to those who need help, when in a position to provide that help. Many members of my and other communities are in need of legal representation, and should not be denied the help they need because they cannot afford it. Being an attorney puts me in a position where I can make my community better, and help individuals with a problem, solve that problem. Nothing makes a person feel better than a good deed, and the comfort of knowing that their concerns are being cared for. I have the ability to make my community a better place by providing pro bono legal services, and providing that help to others brings me tremendous satisfaction.

JUSTICE FOR ALL LUNCHEON



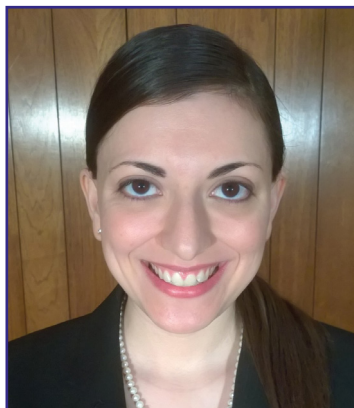
January 29, 2015 – Honoring the 2014 Empire State Counsel®





Karim A. Abdulla, Esq.
73.7 Pro Bono Hours

Why I do pro bono? It's a great opportunity to give back to the community and do good for others who might not ordinarily be able to afford representation.



Amy G. Davis, Esq.
225 Pro Bono Hours

I contribute to the New York State Courts Access to Justice Program by providing information to pro se litigants involved in landlord-tenant actions. Pro bono work gives me the opportunity to dive in and gain experience with meaningful, socially beneficial legal work early in my career - plus it creates good karma!



Corey A. Auerbach, Esq.
98.6 Pro Bono Hours

Pro bono is my way to "pay it forward" for all those who have helped me in times of need.

THE NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

CONGRATULATIONS to our
2014 Empire State Counsel®
for your **269,873 hours** of dedicated
pro bono work!!

Thank you for doing the public good and
for your **NYSBA membership** support!

Thank You

Glenn Lau-Kee
President

David R. Watson
Executive Director





Jonathan S. Press, Esq.

117 Pro Bono Hours

Almost everyone in the US is just a job loss, major medical issue, or a major storm away from facing possible foreclosure and/or bankruptcy. I feel blessed that I am able to provide assistance to hard working people who are facing tough times due to no fault of their own. For those who need assistance and cannot afford counsel pro bono legal help provides the assistance and peace of mind they otherwise would not have. That is why I enthusiastically volunteer for The Nassau County Bar Association at their Superstorm Sandy/Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention/Bankruptcy clinics twice a month and frequently serve as the "Attorney-of-the-Day" at mandatory foreclosure settlement conferences.



Jeffrey A. Wadsworth, Esq.

211 Pro Bono Hours

"Doing pro bono work is a great way to give back to the community and help ensure that all have access to our justice system. It's also personally and professionally rewarding. I'm proud of the constitutional law arguments that I've had the privilege of advancing on behalf of my pro bono clients over the years."
-- Jeffrey A. Wadsworth, Partner, Harter Secrest & Emery LLP



Emily C. Ayers, Esq.

194 Pro Bono Hours

"Pro bono legal work is important to me because it takes quality legal representation and makes it accessible to all. This work positively impacts our communities and allows attorneys to focus on service, which is at the core of our profession." -- Emily C. Ayers, Associate, Harter Secrest & Emery LLP.



F. Paul Greene, Esq.

51 Pro Bono Hours

Pro bono work keeps you sharp. It keeps you grounded. It underscores the special nature of our profession, and the privilege it is to practice law. -- F. Paul Greene, Esq., Partner, Harter Secrest & Emery LLP



Maura C. McGuire, Esq

429 Pro Bono Hours

I am fortunate to be a member of a firm that is committed to providing legal services and access to the justice system for individuals who cannot afford legal representation. In 2014, my pro bono service was primarily dedicated to handling criminal appeals through Monroe County Public Defender's Appellate Pro Bono Program and representing clients referred to my firm through the Volunteer Legal Services Project of Monroe County. Pro bono service has given me the opportunity to grow both professionally and personally while assisting those in our community in their time of need -- Maura C. McGuire, Esq., Associate, Harter Secrest & Emery LLP



John G. Horn

67 Pro Bono Hours

"The opportunity to advocate on someone's behalf is a gift, particularly where the client would otherwise have no one to speak for him or her. Unfortunately, the voices of those with limited means are increasingly unheard in our courts. The courtroom was conceived by the founders of our country to be the most level of playing fields. It is only through meaningful pro bono representation that their vision can be realized." -- John G. Horn, Partner, Harter Secrest & Emery LLP



Nelson A. Castillo

155 Pro Bono Hours

"Through my pro bono work, I strive to empower people, positively change their lives, and help them obtain justice."



Chris Lewarne

237 Pro Bono Hours

I grew up in subsidized housing without a lot of money. I saw my family and the people around me work very hard to succeed, and sometimes struggle just to get by; I saw the great power of getting a little help along the way. I see pro bono as a chance to empower others along their way, to pay back a little of what's owed, what's helped me to get where I am today.

Department of Pro Bono Affairs Awards

Empire State Counsel®

Empire State Counsel® Program recognizes NYSBA members who, during the calendar year, performed 50 hours or more of pro bono legal services to low-income/vulnerable individual and/or the organizations who serve them. For more information visit www.nysba.org/empirestatecounsel. Deadline February 28th.

Presidents Pro Bono Service Awards

These awards recognize outstanding pro bono contributions made by individual attorneys, law students, law firms, corporate counsel and/or government offices. Although nominees do not have to be members of the New York State Bar Association, they must be admitted to practice and rendered their service in New York State. To learn more visit www.nysba.org/PBAwards. Deadline March.

Denison Ray Criminal Defender Award

Named in memory of Denison Ray, a career legal activist who led legal services programs in New York and other states, this award is intended to recognize attorneys with institutional providers who exemplify the highest level of professionalism in providing skilled and zealous representation to indigent clients in criminal proceedings. To learn more visit www.nysba.org/DenisonCriminal. Deadline April odd years.

Outstanding Achievements in Promoting Standards of Excellence in Mandated Representation

To encourage adherence to the standards for Criminal and Family Courts this award honors those who do not merely comply with the standards, but exceed them, setting an example for all to follow. To learn more visit www.nysba.org/MandatedRep. Deadline April odd years.

Denison Ray Civil Award

Named in memory of career legal activist Denison Ray, who led legal services programs in New York and other states, a total of four (4) awards will be presented. Two awards honor staff attorneys employed by nonprofit entities that provide free civil legal services to low-income clients. One award honors a director of a civil legal services program or a pro bono volunteer program. A nonprofit organization that provides or facilitates the provision of civil legal services to low-income clients will also be honored. To learn more visit www.nysba.org/DenisonCivil. Deadline July even years.

National Pro Bono Week

Honoring Attorneys for Outstanding Pro Bono Service Assisting Low Income Individuals with Civil Legal Services, the New York State Bar Association is pleased to recognize the generous contributions made by members of the Capital District legal community in furtherance of access to justice. Launched in 2009 by the American Bar Association, National Pro Bono Week affords the Association an opportunity to raise awareness about the ever-growing unmet legal needs of vulnerable persons and to encourage more attorneys to volunteer to help meet some of their diverse needs. To learn more visit www.nysba.org/NPBW. Deadline September.

More information about these awards; events and trainings; pro bono opportunities and the Department of Pro Bono Affairs, please visit www.nysba.org/probono



EMPIRE STATE COUNSEL®

2014 SHOWCASE

Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP is proud of its longstanding commitment to pro bono work. From our unique Pro Bono Fellowship program, which enabled 45 first-year associates to participate this year, to our minimum pro bono hours requirement for all attorneys, pro bono isn't just something we do at Milbank – it's part of who we are.



Elizabeth Figueira, Esq.

440 Pro Bono Hours

Elizabeth Figueira devoted many hours to the Firm's representation of a death row inmate. Liz helped to prepare for and present evidence at an evidentiary hearing in the inmate's case regarding the impact of Brady evidence that had not been turned over to trial counsel by the government in the client's original trial and newly analyzed DNA evidence. The team is still awaiting the results of this hearing that took place in Ohio state court in 2014. Liz also represented a tenant in defending an eviction action by her landlord, who has aggressively pursued the case because the apartment is rent-controlled. **–Crowell & Moring LLP**



Jim Kellett, Esq.

306 Pro Bono Hours

Jim Kellett, for the past two years, has devoted many hours to representation of a nonprofit human services organization that serves the poor in defending wage and hour litigation filed by one of its employees. Jim was successful in settling the matter on behalf of the client shortly before trial. In addition, Jim advises several nonprofit organizations on a pro bono basis on employment law issues, assisted a nonprofit in revising its personnel manual and supervises non-employment law pro bono matters in the New York office that are being handled by associates and counsel. For instance, during 2014 Jim supervised the work of an associate in her representation of an Iraqi refugee seeking resettlement status. Jim has continued to promote and develop pro bono opportunities in the New York Office and has zealously encouraged associates to fulfill their pro bono commitment. In addition to his active participation on the Firm's Public Service Committee, Jim has shown leadership in the Labor Practice group, encouraging his group to achieve 100 percent pro bono participation. Jim provides excellent mentoring and litigation experience to associates and counsel who have worked with him. **–Crowell & Moring LLP**



Glen McGorty, Esq. **424 Pro Bono Hours**

Glen McGorty has devoted significant time, talent and energy to pro bono criminal justice matters and has enabled and inspired the participation of a number of associates and counsel whom he has enlisted to help on criminal defense cases. Early in the year, Glen registered with the Criminal Justice Act ("CJA") program in the Southern District of New York and picked up five criminal defense cases and two witness defense representations through the CJA process, recruiting associates and counsel to assist him on these cases. Glen helped to fill a void in the New York office's pro bono offerings for associates and counsel who had clamored for criminal defense cases similar to those offered in the D.C. office. In addition, on referral of Human Rights Watch, Glen is representing an inmate in petitioning for clemency and has agreed to supervise attorneys who pick up cases as part of Clemency Project 2014. Glen is also supervising an immigration matter in which the Firm is assisting an Iraqi refugee in seeking special refugee status. **—Crowell & Moring LLP**



Erik M. Zissu, Esq. **336 Pro Bono Hours**

Erik Zissu is a volunteer member of the Criminal Justice Act panel for the Southern District of New York, and regularly provides pro bono legal representation to defendants appointed by the Court. In 2014 alone, Mr. Zissu contributed 345 pro bono hours to matters assigned by the Court in defense of charges of murder, racketeering, gang violence, conspiracy, and narcotics.

Mr. Zissu is also participating in the Clemency 2014 Project, the U.S. Department of Justice's unprecedented clemency program, announced in April 2014. <http://www.justice.gov/pardon/newclemency-initiative.html>. Under that program he is reviewing clemency petitions and representing individuals eligible for commutation under the Justice Department Program that seeks to reduce the sentences of long-term, non-violent federal offenders serving lengthy sentences under harsh and outdated laws.

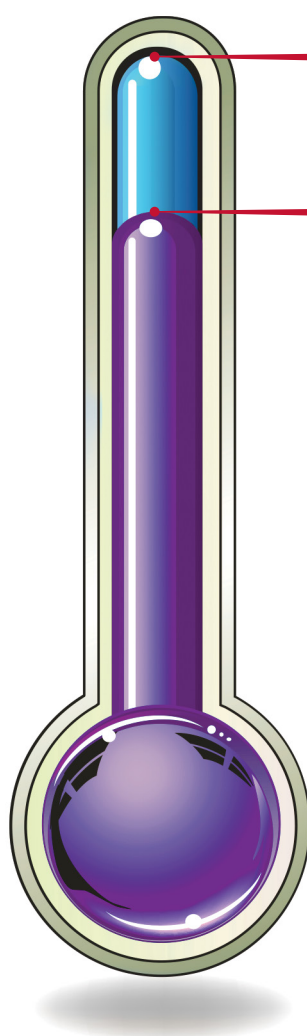
Mr. Zissu is Of Counsel at Ballard Spahr, and serves as the New York Office's representative on the firm's Pro Bono Committee. His practice focuses on criminal and civil litigation, representing clients in federal and state courts both at the trial and appellate level. Mr. Zissu represents clients in investigations brought by the U.S. Attorney, New York County District Attorney, New York State Attorney General, Securities and Exchange Commission, and Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice. His clients include corporate officers and executives, financial analysts, closely held corporations, banks, charitable and nonprofit organizations, an insurance company, investment banks, and a multinational pharmaceutical company. Mr. Zissu has litigated cases involving fraud, securities violations, breach of contract, product liability, and legal malpractice. **—Ballard Spahr LLP**



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**Pro Bono
Hours
Donated**



Goal: 2,000,000
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EMPIRE STATE COUNSEL®

2014 HONOREES

Pro Bono changes lives. The Empire State Counsel® Program recognizes our members' pro bono contributions. By generously donating their time and expertise our members help low-income and vulnerable persons, who otherwise could not afford an attorney, gain access to the civil justice system. Since the program launched in 2006, our members have donated more than 1.7 million pro bono hours. The program also recognizes the law firms who support and encourage pro bono. Congratulations to the 2014 Empire State Counsel® honorees and their law firms.

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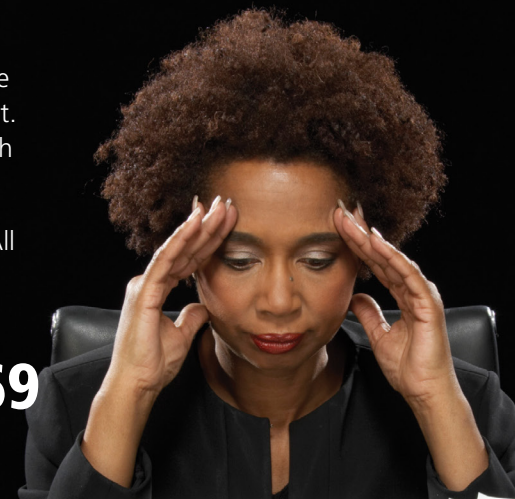
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