

PRO BONO BULLETIN



PROVIDING ACCESS TO JUSTICE

DLA PIPER'S NORTH AMERICAN
PRO BONO WORK



FALL 2018

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“In languages spoken all over the world, the word for ‘home’ encompasses not just shelter, but warmth, safety, family.”

—Matthew Desmond, *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*



Helping Make Home a Reality

Each year, the *Pro Bono Bulletin* gives us a chance to reflect on our accomplishments. Looking back over the past year, we see a common theme connecting our work: the concept of home and the power of pro bono to secure safe and stable homes for the clients we serve.

So much of our pro bono work is focused on addressing basic human needs, like shelter, warmth, safety and family. When these fundamental needs are at stake, too many have no access to legal counsel. We are grateful that our lawyers across North America are working every day to help fill that gap and provide legal counsel to those who would otherwise go it alone.

This year’s North American Pro Bono Award winners, including **Ed Scheideman** (Washington, DC), **Chris Young** (San Diego), **Isabel Gallástegui** (Mexico City), **Cherelle Glimp** (New York), **Vicente Reyes** (San Francisco), **Allissa Pollard** (Houston) and **John Guarin** (New York), are some of the best examples of this spirit of service. They and the more than 40 lawyers and staff who were nominated for the North American Pro Bono Awards represented immigrants seeking safety in the United States; assisted people affected by natural disasters; handled prisoner’s rights and eviction matters; and sought guardianships for children whose parents are deceased, imprisoned or otherwise unable to care for them.

We also salute the work of this year’s Justice Seymour Simon Team Award Winner, the team that reached a positive settlement in *Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission v. San Juan County, Utah* to ensure that Navajo voters will have easier access to the polls.

As Matthew Desmond writes in his book *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*, “The home is the center of life,” a place where “we can be ourselves.” We thank everyone who has helped create safe, stable and productive homes for our clients.

DLA Piper’s North American Pro Bono Team

North American Pro Bono Award Winners

Cherelle Glimp

Associate, Employment, New York

Cherelle represented a student with intellectual disabilities in federal court. After her client failed to receive the educational and developmental resources she needed to succeed in school, the client's mother enrolled her in a private school. Cherelle filed suit on behalf of the client for tuition reimbursement and ultimately reached a favorable settlement. She also filed an amicus brief in the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals on behalf of a group of clinical psychologists to address the psychological and physical trauma stemming from solitary confinement.



Isabel Gallástegui

Associate, Corporate, Mexico City

After a major earthquake rocked Mexico last September, Isabel jumped in to lead the legal efforts related to the reconstruction of houses that had been completely destroyed in the disaster. Through her work, carried out jointly with a Mexican nonprofit dedicated to housing construction, today eight families from the marginalized communities of Malinalco, Mexico are about to occupy their new homes. With Mexico Appleseed, Isabel also prepared legal guides and taught seminars in the shelters established for people who were affected by the earthquake. She also provides legal assistance to a nonprofit organization working to preserve water in the Valley of Mexico.



Ed Scheideman

Partner, Litigation, Washington, DC

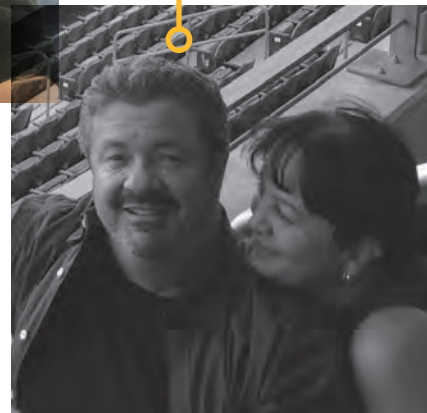
As Washington, DC's Litigation training partner, Ed has encouraged the office's Litigation associates to first-chair pro bono matters, and he works closely with associates on these cases. Over the past year, Ed has focused his pro bono work on supporting the DC Bar's Housing Right to Counsel Project. In every case he has supervised, he and his team prevented eviction. He also has worked with the DC Affordable Law Firm, which provides legal representation to the working poor of the District of Columbia. Ed was involved in supervising trial teams in two separate multi-week trials involving contentious custody issues. Both cases returned favorable verdicts.



John Guarin

Project Manager, Tax, New York

John's pro bono work has focused on helping domestic violence and trafficking survivors resolve their civil and immigration legal needs. During this past year, John participated as a faculty member on the Vital Voices program for the Toluca Justice Institute in Mexico. The program provided members of the police force, the court system and authorities with tools to raise awareness of the particular needs and care that domestic violence victims need. John also traveled to an immigration detention facility in Dilley, Texas to assist mothers and children seeking asylum in the United States.





Chris Young
Partner, Litigation, San Diego

In addition to guiding pro bono activities within the San Diego offices, Chris leads a team of DLA Piper lawyers from four US offices in representing a plaintiff class of inmates seeking to reform major issues related to overcrowding in a state prison system, including ensuring proper medical, mental health and dental care, improving the treatment of disabled inmates and

reducing the use of solitary confinement as a disciplinary tool. Chris has also worked on three guardianship petitions for children whose parents are unable to care for them and represents a former foster youth whose former foster mother allegedly took an inheritance from her.



Allissa Pollard
Associate, Litigation, Houston

Allissa devotes time to pro bono matters relating to immigration, children and civil rights. She spent a week working with the CARA Family Detention Pro Bono Project representing mothers and children seeking asylum. Allissa also co-represented a child who immigrated to the United States, fleeing death threats after witnessing a gang murder. Despite significant procedural obstacles, the team achieved a major victory by securing a state court order which allowed the client to apply for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status and remain in the US. Allissa also served as co-lead counsel representing an inmate who was assaulted by a prison guard. The team filed a civil lawsuit and obtained a favorable settlement just before trial.

Vicente Reyes
Associate, Real Estate, San Francisco

Vicente worked with New Perimeter and Vital Voices to deliver a Justice Institute workshop on gender-based violence in Santiago, Chile. Participants of this workshop included more than 60 local judges, prosecutors, social workers, psychologists and law enforcement officials. Locally, Vicente participated in a project sponsored by Street Law which included leading a group of high school students in discussions regarding US immigration laws. He also helped review commercial leases for small businesses and participated in community seminars for low-income entrepreneurs. Finally, Vicente has worked with immigrant crime victims in the US, assisting them with their U visa applications.



NOMINEES

Liza Akins	Melanie Garcia	Amy Reagan
Gabriela Alaña	Ben Gipson	James Reardon
Camille Álvarez	Julie Gryce	Brad Rock
Ana Maria Barajas	Katie Hausfeld	Jimmy Rusert
Christopher Campbell	Lisa Jacobs	Cary Samowitz
Francisco Cerezo	Justin Kerner	Emily Sanders
Tamika Cummings	Rich Klawiter	Joanne Stone
Lauren Dalton	Alexandra Klingenstein	Lin Stradley
Jeff DeGroot	Chezelle McDade	André Thiollier
Ellen Dew	Gianni Minutoli	Jay Watkins
Karen Fellowes	Stu Morrow	Ray Williams
Rodrigo García Moncada	Rachel Paulose	Jamila Willis
		Sam Zabaneh

HONORING ONE OF OUR PRO BONO CHAMPIONS

Richard Klawiter, a partner in the Chicago office, was surprised when he learned that the firm planned to honor him with the 2018 Global Partner Pro Bono and Community Service Award. The award, announced at the firm's Global Partners Conference, is given to a partner who has demonstrated a commitment to pro bono throughout the course of his or her career. Rich's first response when he learned about the award showed his characteristic reticence and modesty. He did not want, or need, the award, he said. After some consideration, he relented. He would agree to be recognized for his work as long as he could use the award to inspire others to get involved in pro bono work.

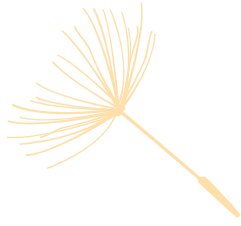
And that's exactly the type of person Rich Klawiter is: a leader who does pro bono work not for the recognition it might bring him, but because of a genuine commitment to helping those in need and to leading others to the same cause.

Indeed, on top of his responsibilities as Vice Chair of DLA Piper's US Real Estate practice, over the past three years Rich has spent more than 650 hours doing pro bono work. He serves as a member of DLA Piper's North American Pro Bono Committee, Chair of the Chicago Pro Bono Committee, and a member of the firm's Global Scholarship Program Board (which oversees a scholarship program open to top students studying law in the 50 least developed countries).

Rich has been committed to pro bono service from the very start. He began his career as a fellow at the Legal Assistance Foundation in Chicago, where he now co-chairs the board. Drawing on his skills as a zoning lawyer, Rich has helped many nonprofit organizations in Chicago with their zoning and real estate needs. But his work also has focused on immigration, juvenile justice, representation of indigent tenants in eviction court, and, still ongoing, a capital appeal for a death row inmate in Mississippi. Throughout, access to justice has been his watchword, and he has sought ways to help those in need of legal representation, while mentoring and guiding others.

Recently, Rich has focused on helping immigrants who are seeking safety and security in the United States. When a translator for the US military was targeted for serving the US government, Rich helped him and his family come to the US. He has represented asylum seekers and volunteered to help an individual apply





for US citizenship. Fluent in Spanish, Rich has volunteered three times to spend a week at a family immigration detention center for women and children. These were grueling weeks, where he worked 12+ hour days inside the detention center interviewing women in Spanish about the trauma that led them to make the journey to the US and helping them prepare for asylum interviews. "The women we met were resourceful, courageous, kind and humane," Rich recently wrote of his experience in an article he co-authored and published in *Crain's Chicago Business* after his first trip. "They wanted the same things we all want: a safe environment for their children and the opportunity to contribute to the society in which they seek safe haven."

Rich is more than a role model. He is a person who believes at his core that it is the responsibility of every lawyer to better the world through pro bono work. He is, in short, a perfect fit for the Global Partner Pro Bono and Community Service Award.



Securing Second Chances

Over 100 million people have criminal records in the United States
(US Department of Justice Survey of State Criminal History Information Systems, 2016)

A criminal conviction can impact a person's life long after formal contact with the criminal justice system. Even minor criminal records can create barriers to employment, public benefits, housing and education. As one client noted, "I know I have been passed over for employment opportunities that I qualified for, and it is humiliating to continually lose job offers because I cannot pass a background check. More importantly, I am very worried about providing for my future family."

Lawyers and staff in several offices are tackling this issue, assisting clients in clearing or expunging past criminal records.

In Northern California, we host and staff a monthly Adult Records Dismissal Clinic in partnership with Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto and HPE. During the clinic, lawyers and staff meet with clients in a dual-step process. The team prepares petitions for records dismissal, a process that includes declarations setting out the challenges presented by a client's past records and the ways the client has moved beyond old convictions. While clients are being served, another group of volunteers conducts a RAP (Record of Arrest and Prosecution) sheet review, the first step in determining whether individuals are eligible for records clearance under California law.

Volunteers have reviewed hundreds of RAP sheets, and this year in San Mateo County alone, 95 percent

of petitions prepared in the clinic were granted. In response to a survey, one client – a single mother who wanted to set a better example for her children by obtaining a better job – noted "I am very hopeful about my future. I feel like I have a real chance at the American dream."

HOPE

"I am very hopeful
about my future.
I feel like I have a
real chance at the
American dream."

In Baltimore, we staffed a community expungement clinic during which our lawyers prepared petitions for over 180 cases in a single evening, and we regularly take on full-scope representation of clients seeking expungement. In San Diego, we assist veterans seeking to expunge records at the city's annual Stand Down event. In New Jersey, where lawyers from DLA Piper and Verizon staff a monthly VA clinic, we regularly advise on criminal

records. **Charles Scheeler (Baltimore)** represents survivors of human trafficking in obtaining vacatur of criminal records related to their trafficking – work we are also doing in California, Washington and Arizona. And, in Seattle, our lawyers worked with Washington Appleseed to prepare a re-entry guide for those released from prison, covering such topics as insurance, housing and employment.

Clearing criminal records, and addressing collateral consequences of the criminal justice system, truly improves the lives of clients. We are proud of our lawyers and staff across the country for assisting those who have worked hard to turn their lives around.



Navajo Voting Rights

JUSTICE SEYMOUR SIMON
TEAM AWARD WINNER

San Juan County is located in the southeastern corner of Utah and is home to Monument Valley and the vast Canyonlands of Utah. One of the largest counties in the United States, San Juan covers more than 8,100 square miles. The distance between San Juan County's northern and southern borders spans 183 miles, and it takes approximately three and a half hours to drive.

Within this huge county lies a substantial portion of the Navajo Reservation. In fact, more than 50 percent of the people who live in San Juan County are Navajo. A large number of the Navajo residents speak only Navajo – an unwritten language – and are unable to speak, write or read English.

In 2014, San Juan County officials implemented a vote-by-mail election process. They closed all polling places, except a single site: the County Clerk's office in Monticello. The population of Monticello, unlike much of the county, is 84 percent white. As a result of the poll closures, Navajo voters who wished to vote in person had to travel, on average, one hour and 45 minutes to vote. By comparison, white voters had to travel an average of just 35 minutes to access the polling facility. Many Navajo citizens live in remote areas of the county, meaning these voters are less likely to receive their mail, including their ballots. Furthermore, Navajo residents live, on average, more than twice as far from the nearest post office than do white voters, and many have to drive up to 40 miles – and cross state lines – to retrieve and send their mail.

In early 2016, the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission and several individual members

of the Navajo Nation filed suit, claiming the decision to switch to the vote-by-mail system and offer in-person voting in only one location, in the majority-white section of the county, was a violation of the federal Voting Rights Act and the United States Constitution.

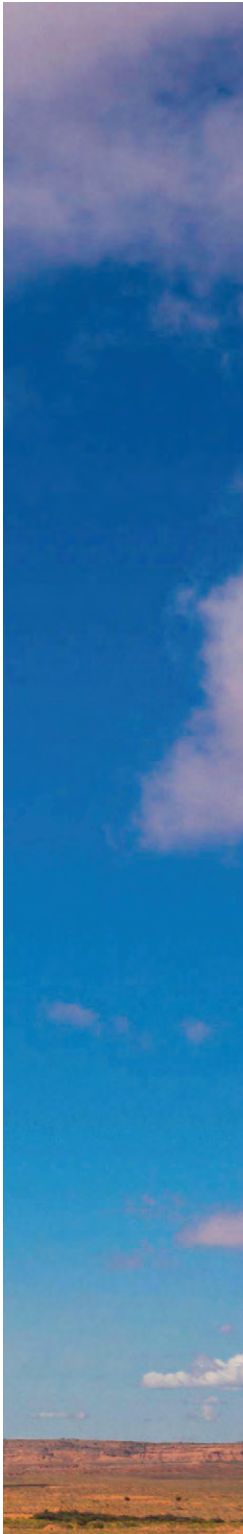
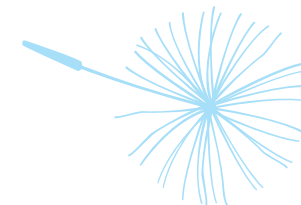
After more than a year of litigation, the parties reached a positive settlement agreement. San Juan County agreed to provide meaningful and effective language assistance to Navajo voters, as well as equal opportunities to access the polls. These measures include:

- Providing in-person voter assistance, including in the Navajo language, at several locations on the Navajo reservation during the 28 days before every election.
- Maintaining three polling places on the Navajo reservation for Election Day voting, all of which will include Navajo language assistance.
- Taking various steps to ensure quality interpretation of election information and materials into the Navajo language.

"We were proud to help Navajo voters gain equal access to the polls," said Ray Williams. "The ability to vote is a fundamental right in this country. For years, Navajo voters – many

of whom live in remote areas and do not speak English – have been fighting to exercise that right. This settlement brings them one step closer." Ezra Rosenberg of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law said, "Native American voters deserve equal access to the ballot box, yet for too long they have faced discriminatory roadblocks that deny them from participating in the political process in clear violation of the Voting Rights Act. [This settlement] will bring about much-needed reform in San Juan County and ensure that Native voters are given an equal opportunity to exercise their right to participate in the electoral process and have their voices heard."

The DLA Piper team was led by partner **Ray Williams (Philadelphia)** and associates **Lauren Wilchek, Brenna Kelly, Jae Kim (all Philadelphia), Nicole Orjiakor (Los Angeles)** and **Harrison Carpenter (Wilmington)**.



TAKING ACTION IN THE WAKE OF A DISASTER

North America experienced historic devastation from natural disasters in 2017, with Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria, wildfires in California and earthquakes in Mexico. According to the National Centers for Environmental Information, the US set an annual record by exceeding \$300 billion in disaster relief costs.

The Legal Services Corporation has observed that “Low-income disaster survivors often face significantly more severe losses and more significant obstacles in their path to recovery than do other community members.” They face legal issues related to housing, food, documents, benefits and navigating confusing and complicated procedures. Furthermore, the need for legal services can continue for years, as families, nonprofits and small businesses rebuild following the devastation. As it has in the past, DLA Piper has been active in supporting communities across North America affected by these disasters.

ASSISTING WITH FEMA APPEALS, HOTLINES AND FOOD BANKS AFTER HURRICANES HARVEY AND IRMA

After Hurricane Harvey hit Houston, there was an outpouring of support from lawyers and staff across the country. Lawyers in Austin and Dallas, as well as Houston, attended legal clinics and staffed hotlines to provide basic legal information to those affected. **Carey Gunn Venditti, Jennifer Cook Purcell (both Austin), Jennifer Dinsmore, Leah Del Percio and Nicki Green Johnson (all Baltimore)** worked with Texas Appleseed to develop a guide on clearing titles for individuals who needed to provide proof of ownership to receive disaster relief. **Glenn Reitman (Houston)** and **J. Pieratt (Austin)** assisted the Houston Food Bank with its emergency needs in the wake of the flooding. Over two dozen lawyers and staff from across the US volunteered to help Texans appeal denials of their applications for FEMA assistance so that they could rebuild their homes.

Partners **Angela Crawford (Miami)** and **Ileana Blanco (Houston)** devoted dozens of hours volunteering on hotlines set up by local legal services providers to help those in need following the hurricanes in Houston and Florida.



RESPONDING TO THE EARTHQUAKES IN MEXICO CITY

Firm lawyers and paralegals, including **Gaby Alaña, Isabel Dosal, Isabel Gallástegui, Joaquín Gallástegui, Rodrigo García Moncada, Yesica Garduño, Pedro Manzano, Aldo Ramírez** and **María Ríos** (all Mexico City), leaped into action to help the victims of the earthquakes in Mexico. They collaborated with pro bono clearinghouses and other law firms to staff legal clinics, know-your-rights presentations and hotlines and prepared self-help guides containing legal information on the topics most relevant to those affected by the earthquakes, including lease agreements, mortgages, labor laws and identification documents.

The Mexico City office, led by Isabel Gallástegui, was also instrumental in providing financial and legal assistance to rebuild eight homes which had been destroyed in the earthquake in the underserved community of Malinalco.

HELPING RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS IN PUERTO RICO

Following the hurricanes that devastated Puerto Rico, **Camille Álvarez, Elena Ortiz-Chiqués, Andrés Fortuna-García, Nikos Buxeda, Miriam Figueroa** (all San Juan), **Arianne Plasencia** (Miami) and **Renee Schoenberg** (Chicago) provided corporate and tax advice to nonprofits engaged in relief efforts, including ConPRmetidos – an organization that engages with the Puerto Rican diaspora to leverage their resources, as well as Habitat for Humanity International.

Francisco Cerezo (Miami) led a team, including **Joseline Rodriguez-Ortiz, Karina DuQuesne, Christine Concepcion** (all Miami), **Manuel López-Zambrana** and **Miriam Figueroa** (both San Juan), to help establish a nonprofit called PRxPR (Puerto Rico por Puerto Rico), a private non-partisan fund that has provided resources for relief and recovery assistance to the island. Since its founding, PRxPR has helped provide food, clean water, renewable energy and other essential relief supplies to some of the most devastated communities in Puerto Rico.



In February 2018, DLA Piper Gallastegui y Lozano received the 2017 Pro Bono Merit Award from the Appleseed Mexico Foundation. The award aims to promote and celebrate pro bono work in Mexico's legal community, while recognizing the people who engage in this work. DLA Piper Gallastegui y Lozano was recognized for its extraordinary contributions to access to justice in Mexico.



In July 2018, DLA Piper hosted the Equal Justice Works' Disaster Recovery Legal Corps (DRLC) kick-off training for 19 Legal Fellows in Houston. The DRLC will focus on increasing access to civil legal assistance for individuals affected by hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria. The three-day training included leadership development, fundamentals of disaster law and opportunities to connect with legal services organizations engaged in disaster relief efforts. Lisa Dewey (Washington, DC) and Ileana Blanco (Houston) spoke with the Legal Fellows during the training on a panel entitled "Pro Bono 101." Lisa Dewey also serves as a member of the Legal Services Corporation's Disaster Task Force.

A CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO HELPING VETERANS



Serving Those Who Serve Our Country, the firm's signature project dedicated to helping service members and veterans, has been a firm Signature Project for more than a decade. Hundreds of lawyers and staff have participated in the project since its inception. The project has many components, including:

Providing Civil Legal Services Clinics at VA Facilities:

Throughout the country, DLA Piper volunteers provide on-site legal assistance to veterans at VA campuses and hospitals. At these clinics, we advise on issues such as child support, divorce, driver's license revocation, expungement of criminal records, housing and consumer law.

Stand Down Events: DLA Piper lawyers and staff volunteer at local Stand Down events around the country. Stand Downs are either single-day or multi-day events that provide critical services to homeless veterans, including medical assistance, job placement, addiction treatment, housing assistance, clothing, showers and food. DLA Piper's involvement has included assisting homeless veterans with expunging criminal records so that the veteran can more easily gain employment. In San Diego, we host and serve dinner to more than 1,500 veterans.

Entrepreneurial Bootcamp for Veterans: The firm provides transactional pro bono assistance to

veterans via the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans, a program that offers practical training to veteran entrepreneurs with disabilities. After completing the nine-day Entrepreneurial Bootcamp program, which includes a legal lesson often taught by DLA Piper lawyers, the firm offers graduates pro bono legal assistance with issues such as formation, contracts or intellectual property protections.

Veteran's Benefits and Discharge Upgrades:

We assist veterans seeking disability benefits or discharge upgrades for those who received an other-than-honorable discharge. We also help veterans seeking Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC). If a veteran is injured in combat, CRSC benefits supplement military retirement pay so that the veteran receives full military retirement pay plus additional VA disability compensation. Each application for CRSC requires analyzing medical records and voluminous VA files and a legal brief supporting the veteran's application.

The process also involves interviewing the veteran and preparing a witness statement describing often horrific combat-related experiences and current domestic problems related to the combat injuries.

Gianni Minutoli (Northern Virginia), with extensive support from **Margaret Austin (Silicon Valley)**, leads the firm's Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) project, and has helped obtain benefits for numerous retired veterans who continue to suffer the consequences of their combat-related injuries. In addition to preparing applications, Gianni has been supervising DLA Piper's nationwide CRSC program since 2016. He has helped obtain CRSC monthly benefits and lump sum back payments for numerous retired Army, Navy and Marine soldiers, most of whom are unemployable because they continue to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) as well as physical impairments resulting from their tours of duty in Iraq or Afghanistan.

CURTAILING SOLITARY CONFINEMENT IN OUR PRISONS

As national attention has shined light on the detrimental effects of solitary confinement, civil rights lawyers have begun to challenge the over-use of solitary confinement in prisons across the nation. **Partner Andrew Valentine (Silicon Valley)** led the charge in several recent amicus efforts, writing on behalf of a team of mental health professionals who are experts on the impact of long-term solitary confinement, especially for those with preexisting mental health issues. Rounding out the DLA Piper team were **Marc Silverman** and **Cherelle Glimp (New York)**, **Katie Hausfield** and **Tony Cerda (Chicago)** and **Ashley Joyce (Washington, DC)**. The goals of these briefs were to provide the courts “with a comprehensive review of the scientific literature and the overwhelming evidence establishing that solitary confinement deprives prisoners of basic human needs and exposes them to atypical and severe psychological and physiological harms.”

In *Finley v. Huss*, before the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, Mr. Finley struggled with significant mental health disorders. He had a history of engaging in self-harm, including swallowing razor blades. After one such episode, the prison transferred Mr. Finley to administrative segregation, even though facility mental health professionals had warned that segregation would likely deteriorate Finley's mental health status. He remained in segregation for approximately three months, where his condition did, indeed, deteriorate.

In another case, *Sanders v. Melvin*, before the US Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, Mr. Sanders had been diagnosed with intermittent explosive disorder and schizoaffective disorder. The Illinois Department of Corrections designated him as “Seriously Mentally Ill” and prescribed several medications to manage his mood disorder. Notwithstanding the diagnosis, Mr. Sanders has been held in “disciplinary isolation” for nearly ten years. In isolation, his mental health has continued to deteriorate; he engaged in self-mutilation and on at least one occasion attempted suicide. In 2016, Mr. Sanders brought a suit in which he alleged that solitary confinement exacerbated his schizoaffective disorder in violation of the Eighth Amendment.

In both *Finley* and *Sanders*, applying the Eighth Amendment, the appellate courts overruled lower court decisions dismissing the inmates' claims for relief. In *Finley*, the



Sixth Circuit felt that solitary confinement was not the appropriate treatment for the inmate's behavior, even if the inmate was receiving medication for his mental health issues. “If the prison psychiatrist states that solitary confinement will exacerbate a mental-health disorder, claiming that the medication makes it permissible is a little like bandaging a person's broken leg but then taking away his crutches.” In *Sanders*, a case of first impression, the Seventh Circuit held that the lower court was too quick to determine that the inmate's physical harm was not imminent because it was self-inflicted. A third case, *Williamson v. Sterling*, is pending an appellate decision.

During the oral argument in *Finley*, one of the judges thanked DLA Piper by name for working on and submitting the amicus brief pro bono.

The Krantz Fellowship

CREATING IMPACT & SHAPING LEADERS

“Remarkable,” “rewarding,” “humbling,” “unparalleled,” “fulfilling,” “empowering,” “invaluable” and “100% worth it!” These are some of the words current and former Krantz Fellows use to describe their first year of practice at DLA Piper. Named in honor of **Sheldon Krantz (Washington, DC)**, a retired partner with a deep and ongoing commitment to pro bono and public service, the Krantz Fellowship allows two new DLA Piper associates to spend their first year at the firm dedicated exclusively to pro bono work. This fall, **Caroline Fish (New York)** and **Lizzy Westrope (Chicago)** will join DLA Piper as the eighth class of Krantz Fellows.

We asked our Krantz Fellows a series of questions about the Fellowship – what they learned, their most memorable matter and how it helped shape them as lawyers. Their answers demonstrate the lasting impact of their work.



Christine Bass – “I am most proud of my clemency victory. During my Krantz Fellowship, I represented a man serving a life sentence for small drug crimes under the three strikes law. As a result of our advocacy, the President granted him clemency and he is now home with his family after 22 years away.”



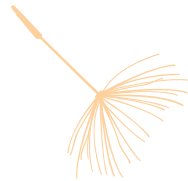
Nicole Daya – “I am most proud of my successful representation of the family of an autistic boy who was not receiving the special education services he needed and who was assaulted by a substitute teacher in a public school special education classroom. Because of our efforts in a due process challenge and mediation, the young boy was granted placement in a private school specifically tailored to children on the autism spectrum.”



Jesse Medlong – “The Krantz Fellowship allowed me the opportunity to work on a variety of matters at a level far above that of a typical first-year associate. My most memorable experience was delivering my first oral argument, which was to a packed courtroom. We secured our client’s right to install patriotic organizations in the San Francisco War Memorial Veterans’ Building – a right guaranteed by a century-old trust.”



Katie Jahnke Dale – “As an inaugural Fellow, I took a leap of faith and I’m so glad that I did. The Fellowship gave me a solid foundation to be a good lawyer, associate and firm citizen. I frequently use the skills I learned as a Krantz Fellow when I lead a team of professionals towards a common goal for a client. I created strong bonds outside the firm with local legal service providers, such as LAF, an organization in which I continue involvement through my service on the executive committee of their Young Professionals Board.”



Jennifer Eldridge – “My most memorable experience was traveling, twice, to Dilley, Texas to work in a family immigration detention center, meeting with recently-arrived women, preparing them for the first step of the asylum process and seeking their release from detention. On my second trip, I met with 41 clients in five days. All clients passed their credible fear interviews such that they were released from detention and able to pursue their full asylum cases. To help these women and their children pursue safe and secure futures was a true privilege.”



Cary Kotcher – “I worked with an LGBT client seeking asylum. The client did not like to speak about the horrors he had experienced as a child and young adult in his home country. I explained to him the importance of sharing as much about his life as possible and that if he did, it might be the last time he would have to dig through those painful memories. He took the advice to heart and two weeks after the asylum interview, we returned to the asylum office to receive a favorable decision.”



DID YOU KNOW?

29,000+

Our Krantz Fellows have contributed more than 29,000 hours to DLA Piper’s pro bono program.



Watch our new video
The Krantz Fellowship: Creating Impact & Shaping Leaders

<https://youtu.be/2GS5GkKsiks>



A Life Without Fear

Tens of thousands of people enter the United States every year seeking safety and security for themselves and their families. They may be requesting asylum from a country that will not allow them to practice their chosen faith, coming forward to help prosecute a human trafficker or stepping out of the shadows to report domestic violence. They want what we all want: protection for their families and life without fear.

DLA Piper has long been committed to helping these individuals find the safety and security that they are looking for, and that commitment has increased in recent years.

HELPING TO REUNITE FAMILIES

Following the recent decision to separate families crossing the Southern border, many of our lawyers asked how they could help. On the eve of the Fourth of July holiday, the firm was asked to help reunite two boys who had been separated from their fathers and flown more than 1,000 miles away. The response was heartwarming. **John Wellschlager (Baltimore)**, **Amy Rubenstein (Chicago)**, **Leeanne Mancari (Los Angeles)**, **Katie Hausfeld (Chicago)** and **Peter Farrell (Minneapolis)** jumped in. Along with co-counsel, the team filed and argued emergency motions over the holiday weekend. Their efforts were successful, and the judge ordered the boys to be reunited with their fathers.

SERVING IMMIGRANTS DETAINED IN REMOTE AREAS

Many of the country's immigrant detention centers are located in rural areas where there is little opportunity to consult with counsel. Our lawyers have volunteered to help fill that gap. Through the CARA Pro Bono Project, our lawyers travel to Dilley, Texas (population 4,000) where up to 2,400 mothers and children seeking asylum are detained. They spend a week offering legal orientation and preparing clients for credible fear interviews – the first step in the asylum process. After returning from one such trip, **Ileana Blanco (Houston)** said, "There's a lot more appreciation of the privileges of living here and the bounty of this country. I don't use the phrase 'life-changing' lightly, but it is the only way to describe the CARA Project."

The firm also sends lawyers to rural detention centers in Georgia and Louisiana, where they volunteer for a week with the Southeast Immigrant Freedom Initiative, a program created by the Southern Poverty Law Center to provide immigration legal services in remote locations. At the detention centers, volunteers help detained immigrants prepare bond petitions, requests for

parole and asylum applications. After returning from a week serving at the LaSalle Detention Center in Jena, Louisiana, **Alison Zirn (Chicago)** said, "There is a profound need for pro bono legal support often in very compelling circumstances. You can help a family stay together while challenging removal."

TEAMING WITH IN-HOUSE COUNSEL

Many of our clients have joined us in our immigration efforts. Working alongside Aon, **Gergana Peeva (Chicago)**, **Rebecca Lock (Philadelphia)**, **Tony Cerda (Chicago)** and **Rosalinda Gonzalez (Chicago)** recently helped secure asylum for a young mother who had suffered cruel sexual and physical violence at the hands of both a former partner and a family member in her home country. We also worked with Pfizer to represent a refugee who had assisted other refugees in escaping the atrocities of war, until the threats against him in his home country became too great. When he learned that he had been granted asylum, the client said, "I feel I was born again today, and I can't thank you enough."

Jad Kazan (Washington, DC) and **Isha Mehmood (New York)** worked under the supervision of **Paolo Morante (New York)** and in collaboration with Ramzi Aboutaam, Pfizer's in-house International Legal Lead for Africa, Middle East and Latin America.

We also team with in-house counsel to serve clients through clinics. We conduct immigration intake clinics in Washington, DC alongside Verizon, as well as in Maryland alongside Morgan Stanley. In New York, we team with Verizon to host naturalization clinics to help immigrants apply for citizenship.



DLA Piper lawyers and staff team with Ayuda and Verizon to host immigration clinics in Washington, DC.

In 2017 and the first half of 2018

300+ lawyers
devoted **17,800+** hours
to helping **300+** clients
seeking safety and security
in the United States

INDIVIDUAL REPRESENTATION

Of course, we have teams of lawyers across the country working every day to represent individuals seeking safety and security. This work is so important, both for the clients we serve, and for the lawyers who represent them.

- **Cara Vasquez, Anna Colin and Ileana Blanco (all Houston)** helped a Latin American mother and daughter obtain a visa based on the severe domestic violence the mother suffered at the hands of her husband.
- **Emily Sanders and Gail Rodgers (both New York)** obtained humanitarian parole, an extraordinary form of relief that is rarely granted, for the young daughter of a US legal permanent resident who was at risk of a forced underage marriage in her native country.
- **Sarah Stanton, David Hurst and Laura Sixkiller (all Phoenix)** obtained release for a young asylum-seeker from Central America who was arbitrarily detained at the Eloy Immigration Detention Center, far from her family in Chicago. With the help of her attorneys, the young woman is now reunited with her family.

DLA Piper lawyers who have assisted immigrants in detention centers include **Denise Rizo-Patron, David Xu (both Austin)**, **Nicole Daya (Baltimore)**, **Bruce Barnett (Boston)**, **Crystal Doyle, Jennifer Eldridge, Rich Klawiter, Sandy Wall, Alison Zirn (all Chicago)**, **Ileana Blanco, Allissa Pollard (both Houston)**, **John Guarin, Natasha Kanerva (both New York)**, **Chelsea Mutual (San Diego)**, **Suzanna Brickman and Ossie Ravid (both Silicon Valley)**.

AN INTERVIEW WITH MARIAH DIGRINO



Mariah DiGrino (Chicago) focuses on real estate development, including land use and zoning, public-private financing, public incentives, historic preservation, and community and economic development.

She represents owners, developers, retailers, investors and public-private partnerships at the local and national levels. She has experience securing annexation, development, zoning and subdivision approvals, negotiating and implementing public-private development and financing arrangements and public incentives, negotiating historic preservation designations and incentives, performing general and zoning due diligence and property evaluation, and negotiating and closing real estate acquisitions and dispositions.

What pro bono experience has been most meaningful to you?

My role as outside counsel to the Greater Chicago Food Depository (GCFD) is incredibly meaningful to me. I really like being engaged in matters that involve fulfilling a basic need, like food, shelter, education or healthcare. And there is nothing more fundamental than the need for healthy and nutritious food. On top of that, the Food Depository is a dream client. They are such a well-run organization, which means that as their counsel, I am able to focus on helping them advance their core mission.

Do you have a favorite pro bono moment?

Yes, definitely. I'll never forget the day we won a case that helped secure housing for 13 chronically homeless individuals. Our client, a local nonprofit, wanted to enter into a public-private partnership with the local housing authority, under which a vacant facility owned by the housing authority would be used to provide permanent housing for homeless individuals. Nearby neighbors objected and filed a lawsuit.

In addition to significant motions practice before the circuit court, we spent roughly nine hours over three days presenting our case. The judge called us in and ruled in our favor. I was so excited that we got this amazing ruling after all of the time and effort we had put in. We finally got what I feel was justice.

In these types of cases, when the neighbors file a lawsuit, it's often enough to kill the deal altogether. Financial backers can walk. Clients can fold because they can't afford the legal fees. Circumstances were different for our client because we were able to provide counsel at no cost. On a small scale, we're talking about 13 individuals who were at risk of losing their housing. Many of them were veterans, suffering from PTSD, who needed the stability of a home. It meant a lot to help them. But on a systemic level, the win validated the public-private partnership approach, and it creates a model for similar developments in the future.

You've been involved in pro bono since day one. What motivates you?

I've been of the mind that I should always have a pro bono matter going on, and if I don't, I had better find one. It's part of the hygiene of being a good practicing lawyer because it gives you the opportunity to exercise new muscles and do something enriching. It can be stressful in a good way, and it can remind you of why you enjoy what you do. It gives you an appreciation for the profession.

I also think that being a part of the Land Use group creates a pull to be involved in pro bono. A lot of what we do in Land Use is, at its core, community development work. We live in an urban environment, so many of our projects raise or bring up issues that impact communities. When we're working on a project, we hear from all kinds of stakeholder groups, and I think that makes us more connected with the needs of the community.

Give us your impressions about the pro bono program at DLA Piper.

Pro bono is an important part of our culture here at the firm. The opportunities for pro bono work, from the allowance you're given as an associate in terms of billable hours, to the invitations to participate in signature projects, are talked about in the same breath as billable opportunities. As a summer associate, you're given a billable assignment, and you're given a pro bono assignment. It's always been part of the culture here to do that.

You're married to a legal aid lawyer, and you're raising two young girls. How does your family impact your approach to pro bono work?

Both my husband and I entered the legal profession because we wanted to save the world. As I mentioned, our values as a firm and our values as a Land Use team are very compatible with my interest in helping the community. My husband's job helps me better understand the perspective of the clients he serves and how difficult it is to live in poverty and to need basic things like food or housing.

And we both talk to our girls about our work. We try to do so in non-judgmental terms, so that they can appreciate both sides of any issue. For example, when I spoke with them about a group of neighbors who filed suit to oppose housing for the chronically homeless, their first question was: "why would someone oppose that?" I tried to explain to them the perspective of those who brought the suit. Doing that helps me as a lawyer be more sympathetic and compassionate to all sides.

As a family, we participate in volunteer activities through the Food Depository, like family repack night and the annual hunger walk. We've talked about what other people do to help out at the Food Depository. The other day, my daughter even told me that her career aspiration is to grow up and work for the Food Depository!

We tell our kids that what a lawyer does is to help people, and we talk with them about being "upstanders" for others. That's the model we try to set for them, and it's a vision that guides both of us every day in our work.



BUILDING CAPACITY IN UNDER-SERVED REGIONS

New Perimeter is DLA Piper's nonprofit affiliate that provides long-term pro bono assistance in under-served regions around the world to support access to justice, social and economic development and sound legal institutions. Founded in 2005 as a result of our firm's commitment to support legal advancement worldwide, New Perimeter's vision is to harness the skills and talents of DLA Piper lawyers to further a more just world for all. One of the important ways New Perimeter helps advance this mission is by engaging in projects designed to build the capacity of nascent legal sectors around the globe.



20

A New Perimeter team of DLA Piper lawyers visits Kathmandu to conduct training for female Nepali lawyers.

Since its inception, New Perimeter has carried out more than twenty major training and capacity building projects in as many countries, from Guyana to Kosovo to Zambia to Nepal. These projects have targeted both practicing professionals and law students. They have involved a variety of topics, developed in response to the specific, articulated needs of each client. New Perimeter recruits teams of lawyers from across the firm's global offices to deliver the trainings, often in collaboration with our corporate clients.

New Perimeter has received very positive feedback from the law students and practicing lawyers it has trained. Particularly for law students, the interaction with our lawyers is often the first and only access they have to international practicing lawyers. In countries like Zambia, where legal education is not supported by any outside organizations, our presence and assistance is particularly well-received and impactful. Many of the countries we target have small legal sectors, and we are able to reach a significant portion of those countries' current and future lawyers. For example, in Nepal, we have reached a large and growing number of women lawyers with training on topics like legal ethics.

One Nepali lawyer who participated in our training said, "The experiences shared by the international trainers during the program has helped me broaden my academic horizon. Specifically, the company-related experiences shared by the trainers shall help me influence the Constitution of Nepal, as I can use their experiences as a supporting framework for issuing corporate law precedents in cases of Nepal."

Capacity building projects also allow New Perimeter to engage a broad spectrum of lawyers from across the firm's global offices and practice areas. In 2017, 160 lawyers from 40 offices participated in 39 New Perimeter projects, many of which were related to capacity building. Many New Perimeter lawyers tell us these experiences are the most meaningful of their legal careers.

DID YOU KNOW?

New Perimeter has engaged hundreds of DLA Piper lawyers from dozens of offices worldwide on global projects.

"Teaching Zambian law students has to be by far one of my greatest achievements in my career as a lawyer, if not in my life generally," said Kaptuiya Tembo, an associate in the Leeds office, who joined New Perimeter and lawyers from GE to teach legal drafting at the Zambia Institute of Advanced Legal Education in February 2018.

The following factors have contributed to the success of New Perimeter's legal education projects:

- **Committed project partners** – New Perimeter does not work alone. Having a local project partner that is supportive offers critical local perspective and insight, as well as on-the-ground support.
- **Individually-tailored training materials** – Our teams have been able to develop strong curricula and teaching materials. The materials are always developed in close partnership with our project clients and often, our local group firms, and are specifically tailored to each audience.
- **Interactive teaching** – We are frequently introducing an interactive teaching methodology that is new to the audience.
- **Strong project management** – New Perimeter staff manage all of our projects closely and accompany the teaching team on the trips to ensure success on the ground.
- **Long-term commitment** – We make long-term commitments to our projects and the organizations with which we work. This allows us to see the impact over time. For example, as part of our five-year review of our ongoing teaching project at the University of Zambia, we surveyed all of the students who took the course, receiving feedback on how it helped them during their law school careers and with the bar exam. In addition, we are developing ways to stay in touch and create supportive networks among students and lawyers to keep the connection going when we are not in-country.
- **Dynamic partnerships** – In Mexico, where New Perimeter has been working for over ten years to help support the culture of pro bono, part of our success has been attributable to having a partnership with both academic institutions and a local organization that can help facilitate the program. This has helped ensure the sustainability of the project.



TRANSACTIONAL PRO BONO

Helping to Increase Financial Inclusion

Consumer protection is critical to promoting financial inclusion, ensuring that under-served populations have increased and equitable access to financial services. At the request of the Partnership for Responsible Financial Inclusion (PRFI), a collaborative effort by the CEOs of ten leading global microfinance organizations, a New Perimeter team of lawyers drafted a model legal framework (MLF) and extensive commentary on financial protection for clients of microfinance and other financial institutions.

The MLF is based on Client Protection Principles developed by the Smart Campaign, a global effort to unite microfinance leaders. The principles address issues such as transparency, responsible pricing and client data privacy. They reflect years of study by the financial inclusion industry regarding minimum standards required to promote responsible delivery of financial services to low-income clients. The MLF translates the Client Protection Principles into legislative language. It is designed to be an adaptable tool to support regulators in drafting and implementing consumer protection laws and regulations.

New Perimeter teamed with lawyers from Accion, the Smart Campaign and PRFI (the Task Force) to develop the MLF. Since its publication in 2015, the MLF has already reached over 650 financial inclusion stakeholders from 85 countries, including over 300 regulators and bank supervisors, through 31 dissemination and training events in 17 countries. The Task Force has established partnerships with regional and national financial authorities in Cambodia, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Uganda and Yemen, where regulators are applying the MLF to develop or revise regulatory frameworks, guidelines or acts. The MLF is available in six languages – including English, French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic and Khmer.

New Perimeter's dedicated team of roughly 20 DLA Piper lawyers has worked with the Task Force for the last four years, contributing 3,400 hours of pro bono time to help draft and refine the MLF. New Perimeter continues to support the project, helping to update the MLF and traveling with Task Force lawyers and financial inclusion experts to train regulators. New Perimeter also developed a diagnostic tool to help assess a jurisdiction's regulatory regime and make country comparisons. The Task Force expects to publish a second edition of the MLF to address shifting consumer protection risks and regulatory challenges.

New Perimeter, Accion and PRFI were recently recognized for their work on the MLF when the project was selected as a finalist for the inaugural Grunin Prize. The prize, administered by the Grunin Center for Law and Social Entrepreneurship at NYU School of Law, celebrates lawyers that develop innovative, scalable and social entrepreneurial solutions using existing law, legal education or the development of new legal structures or metrics.

"While there has been substantial focus on the growth of the microfinance industry around the world, there is always a need to consider how the industry interacts with the people it is intended to benefit: the consumers. The framework sets forth a comprehensive set of protections that consumers need," said **Partner Jay Finkelstein (Northern Virginia)**, who supervised the drafting of the MLF.



Conservation Through Innovation

There are many reasons why DLA Piper is proud to serve and support the mission of The Nature Conservancy. One of those is the organization's solutions-based approach to protecting our natural resources. Recently, our lawyers in Phoenix and Mexico had the opportunity to partner with The Nature Conservancy to make two innovative projects a reality.

MALTING FOR GOOD

In recent years, the flow of the Verde River in Arizona has been threatened by drought and diversions for irrigation. The Nature Conservancy knew that one way to protect this natural resource was to convince local farmers to switch from growing thirsty crops, such as alfalfa and cotton, to barley, which only requires half as much water for irrigation. However, barley is typically used for feed and historically has not been as lucrative as other crops.

Enter the craft beer industry. The Nature Conservancy knew that if it could create an economic incentive to grow barley for beer, then local farmers might be willing to make a switch.

In order to produce beer, the area needed a malting facility, so The Nature Conservancy decided to invest in one. **Jared Jensen, David Hurst** and **Leslie Brault (all Phoenix)** stepped in to advise The Nature Conservancy on an equity investment in Sinagua Malt, a benefit corporation that will own, build and operate a malting facility near the Verde River. This project has included putting in place a convertible note to fund the benefit corporation's startup costs, negotiating the terms of the investment and drafting related documentation. "This project was a win-win," said Jared Jensen. "The Nature Conservancy was able to invest in the community in a way that also supported the organization's mission. As a transactional lawyer, it was great to put my skills to use to promote conservation in my back yard."



AGUA CAPITAL, MEXICO CITY WATER FUND

With a population of 20 million, Mexico City is one of the most highly populated and water-stressed cities in the world. The Latin American Water Funds Partnership (Inter-American Development Bank, FEMSA Foundation, Global Environment Facility and The Nature Conservancy) sought to tackle this problem by creating a water fund to contribute to the city's water security.

A water fund is an organization that designs and enhances financial and governance mechanisms that unite public, private and civil society stakeholders around a common goal to contribute to water security and to the sustainable watershed management through nature-based solutions. A team of lawyers from Mexico City, including **Eduardo Gallástegui, Gabriela Alaña, Isabel Gallástegui** and **Manuel Suarez**, offered to assist The Nature Conservancy in this project, helping to advise on the appropriate structure for and then to set up "Por El Agua de la Ciudad de México, A.C." (doing business as Agua Capital), the legal body of this water fund which will propose sustainable solutions to the main water-related problems for one of the most populous cities in the world.

Since the beginning of 2017, our lawyers have contributed over 850 pro bono hours in support of The Nature Conservancy.

In a letter to the team, Wisla Heneghan, Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel of The Nature Conservancy wrote: "We are very pleased with your vital advice and assistance," and extended her "heartfelt gratitude to everyone at DLA Piper for being so generous with their time and expertise."

I DO PRO BONO BECAUSE...



Camille Álvarez
Associate, Corporate, San Juan

Pro bono work is an opportunity to give back. After Puerto Rico was devastated by Hurricane Maria in September 2017, my pro bono work has focused on relief efforts. Seeing our Island spring back to life, in part because of the efforts of nonprofit organizations across the country that have benefited from pro bono work, is not only rewarding but also inspiring.



Chris Campbell
Partner, Litigation, Atlanta

Pro bono work is rewarding on many levels. Doing pro bono work gives me the opportunity to work with individuals or small charitable organizations and to have an immediate impact on human lives. Whether it is working with the NAACP on fair housing or helping someone whose unemployment benefits were wrongly denied, pro bono work has allowed me to do good while simultaneously expanding my legal skills and building lasting friendships with our clients.



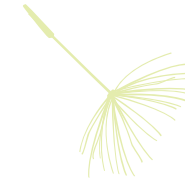
Jeff DeGroot
Associate, Litigation, Seattle

My pro bono work provides me the opportunity to stay connected to the LGBTQ nonprofit and advocacy efforts with which I have been involved since before law school. This work, which is immensely fulfilling, allows me to hone my litigation skills and gives me experience in problem solving for clients – experience that is valuable for my non-pro bono matters.



Karen Fellowes
Counsel, Restructuring, Calgary

Pro bono reminds me of the oath I took when I was first called to the bar. It's a reminder that we can play a role in addressing social issues and improving access to justice. Being with a firm like DLA Piper gives me opportunities to pursue pro bono projects locally, nationally and internationally. It's a huge part of my identity as a lawyer and person.



Melanie Garcia

Associate, Government Affairs,
Washington, DC

Pro bono gives me an opportunity to work directly with people who are facing complex and difficult legal problems. My pro bono work focuses on helping women and children navigate various immigration proceedings here in the United States. As the daughter of immigrants, being able to play a small role in helping other families with their immigration needs is truly rewarding.



Justin Kerner

Associate, Litigation, Philadelphia

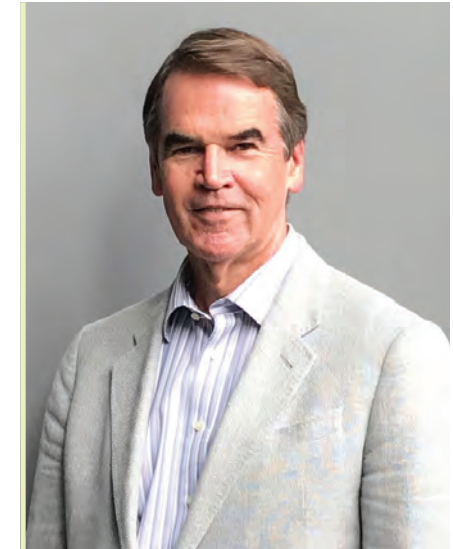
Pro bono work is one of the most rewarding aspects of my practice. Working with indigent clients and local charitable organizations on a wide range of issues has made me be a better lawyer and a more complete person. I cherish the opportunity to continue giving back to the local community.



Brad Rock

Partner, Corporate, San Francisco

I try to be conscious of living my values. There is great satisfaction in making a personal contribution toward causes that have prosocial meaning and that make the world a place that is more just and offers better opportunities for people. My pro bono work tends to be with small nonprofit organizations – they have a lot of legal issues in common with tech startups, and they really appreciate the specialized help.



Lin Stradley

Of Counsel, Real Estate, Atlanta

Pro bono work is an expression of gratitude for the care and opportunities I have received from many people over the years. I am convinced that full and meaningful participation in life requires extending one's self for the benefit of others who are different from us, especially those less fortunate, and that helping them obtain the benefits of law to which they are entitled is a valuable means of offering that assistance.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY PRACTICE

An Interview with Ann Ford

The firm's global Intellectual Property and Technology practice is deeply committed to helping those in need. Their lawyers take a multifaceted approach to pro bono, working not only within their specialty, but also jumping in to help wounded veterans obtain Combat-Related Special Compensation benefits, to train women lawyers in Nepal and to file amicus briefs challenging solitary confinement. Over the past 18 months, the group devoted over 15,000 hours to pro bono in North America alone.

Partner Ann Ford (Washington, DC) advises clients with respect to business and transactional aspects of intellectual property, as well as litigation and pre-litigation protective measures. Ann – who serves as Global Co-Head of Sectors and US Co-Chair of the Intellectual Property and Technology practice – is former US Chair of DLA Piper's Trademark, Copyright and Media practice, a member of the firm's Executive and Policy Committees and a member of the Steering Committee for DLA Piper's National Leadership Alliance for Women (LAW) Program. She has been instrumental in supporting the IPT group in its pro bono efforts. Ann also takes leadership roles in the community, and has served as chair and member of the DC Bar Pro Bono Committee and DC Bar Board of Governors.

You have always made pro bono a priority while also building a successful practice at a global law firm and serving in various firm, bar association and community leadership roles. How do you do it?

I have always found pro bono work that speaks to me and that I enjoy doing. There is pro bono work out there for everyone. I tell our lawyers that you should find pro bono work that energizes you and makes you feel a part of a community. Doing pro bono often makes us feel happier, more fulfilled and healthier than we might be otherwise with the day-to-day stressors of a busy practice.



While leading a global IP practice at the firm, you also are a leader in the local Washington, DC community. Why is this important to you?

It is important to be engaged locally. We have a commitment to those who live and work in our own backyards. You can look out the window and see so much need – there is a huge gap and so many who do not have access to basic resources. I volunteer at the Advice & Referral Clinic run by the DC Bar Pro Bono Center and there is a spiritual element to being there – you immediately feel like you've been able to help someone in need. It's a modest commitment of time and everyone can do it. There are so many issues that people need help with – navigating complicated government forms, agency procedures and just knowing where to go for certain needs. When I chaired the Pro Bono Committee for the DC Bar Pro Bono Center, I went to every pro bono program run by the Center, and I learned a great deal about the needs in our Washington, DC community as well as the wonderful opportunities we have to help. I met many legal service providers doing amazing work in our city, and I was inspired by their efforts. Several of our lawyers have volunteered with the DC Bar Pro Bono Center, including **Rick Marks** and **Ryan Compton (both Washington, DC)**, both of whom have assumed leadership roles with the Center. I also had the opportunity to help rewrite the DC Bar rule on limited scope representation with the Access to Justice Commission in DC. This change will help

lawyers who may not be able to take on a full scope matter still engage in pro bono. So yes, I'm part of a global law firm, but pro bono reminds you that our firm also is a part of every local community where we have an office.

As a leader of the IPT group, you are a role model for how lawyers can do good while also doing well. What tips would you give other leaders?

Tom Zutic (Washington, DC), who sits on our North American Pro Bono Committee and has an active pro bono practice, works with me to encourage everyone in our group to do pro bono. We demonstrate our commitment by not only doing pro bono ourselves, but also by supporting the efforts of everyone in our group. There are always competing pressures, but we help associates achieve the right balance. Doing pro bono also gives me the opportunity to work with others in our group, which I enjoy.

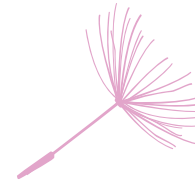
What pro bono experience are you most proud of and why?

First, the work that Tom Zutic and I did with New Perimeter, teaming with the United States Department of Commerce's Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP), to help the government of Pakistan strengthen its intellectual property laws was very fulfilling. The project involved consulting with local stakeholders and reviewing and updating the Pakistani laws related to patents and trademarks. In doing so, we helped get Pakistan off the priority watch list by the office of the United States Trade Representative. The impact of this work is, and will be, great, and will contribute to the economic development of the country. It was also completely in our wheelhouse.

Second, a day at the Advice & Referral Clinic gives hope to so many people at a time when they come in feeling hopeless about their individual situations. When you do something that is larger than yourself, like pro bono, you bring your best self to it – it helps us become more caring and compassionate with everyone around us.

Any words of advice you would give to the younger generation of lawyers about doing pro bono?

Jump in with both feet. It can be a little overwhelming to join a law firm and it can take time to feel comfortable. As soon as you can, however, take on a pro bono matter – it will add to your ease and learning curve and provide perspective on your life, including your career. Doing pro bono will make you happier while also giving you great professional development opportunities.



RECENT HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE IPT PRACTICE

- **Tim Lohse (Silicon Valley)** was recognized by the United States Patent and Trademark Office with a 2017 Patent Pro Bono Achievement Certificate.
- **Larissa Park and Kris Lange (both Boston)** helped a nonprofit negotiate the terms of a license agreement for a summer camp program for children in foster care.
- **Josh Schwartzman (New York)** assisted a veteran who started his own credit repair and tax preparation business, helping him change and trademark a new name.
- **Eduardo Blanco, Erin McLaughlin and Brent Yamashita (all Silicon Valley)** obtained an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) for a student who was facing the possibility of expulsion, enabling the student to graduate from high school.
- **Susan Acquista (San Diego)** provided trademark assistance to an organization advocating for and serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- **Norman Leon (Chicago)** is Vice-Chairman of the Board for the Greater Chicago Food Depository, which provides 164,000 meals a day for the people of Cook County.
- **James Stewart, Devika Persaud, and Thomas Holguin (all Washington, DC)** have volunteered on various immigration matters.



Our Appellate Practice: Making a Difference

DLA Piper's Appellate practice is committed to pro bono, with lawyers who put their skills to use by drafting amicus briefs on behalf of public interest organizations in matters before the US Supreme Court and federal circuit courts around the country.

The group has handled over a dozen matters in the past year, touching on critical civil and criminal rights issues. "The firm is pleased to have expanded pro bono representation not only in courts of appeals, but also in the US Supreme Court," said **Partner Ilana Eisenstein (Philadelphia)**, Co-Chair of the Appellate practice. "We are happy to have partnered with preeminent, national public advocacy and civil rights organizations in our representation, and we plan to continue to build on these efforts in the coming years."

MATTERS BEFORE THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT:

- ***Masterpiece Cakeshop, Ltd. v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission***: The team submitted a brief on behalf of nine national civil rights organizations urging the Court to conclude that it is unlawful for businesses to discriminate against vulnerable populations. The brief expressed concern that the petitioners' proposed free speech exemption to anti-discrimination public accommodation laws could pave the way for businesses to lawfully discriminate against racial and other minorities. **Ilana Eisenstein (Philadelphia)**, **Courtney Saleski (Philadelphia)** and

Washington, DC), **Ethan Townsend (Wilmington)**, **Paul Schmitt (Washington, DC)**, **Adam Steene (New York)** and **Jeffrey DeGroot (Seattle)**.

- ***Dahda v. United States***: The team drafted a brief on behalf of the Electronic Frontier Foundation and the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers arguing, among other things, that new technology has transformed the power and pervasiveness of wiretapping, making the territorial limits imposed upon it by relevant law that much more important. **Ilana Eisenstein (Philadelphia)** and **Marc Silverman (New York)**.
- ***Al-Nashiri v. Trump***: Our team helped the American Bar Association draft an amicus brief in support of the petition for writ of certiorari in a case involving a Guantanamo detainee. The amicus brief urged the Supreme Court to review the case to clarify concerns surrounding federal habeas review of matters before military commissions. **Thiru Vignarajah (Baltimore)**, **Adam Steene** and **Isha Mehmood (both New York)**.
- ***United States v. Shockley***: Our team submitted a brief on behalf of six former Missouri state court judges and a former chief justice of the Missouri

Supreme Court, urging the Supreme Court to grant a petition for certiorari filed by death row inmate Lance Shockley. In 2009, after a jury deadlocked on the question of whether Mr. Shockley should be sentenced to death, the judge overseeing his case unilaterally sentenced Mr. Shockley to death, as allowed by Missouri law. The amici argued that under the US Constitution, only a unanimous jury – and not a single judge – can carry the weighty responsibility of deciding life or death. The brief highlights several problematic aspects of Missouri’s sentencing scheme, including the fact that elected judges are far more likely than juries to bend to political pressure and to hand down death sentences. **Ilana Eisenstein (Philadelphia)**, **Ardith Bronson** and **Maia Sevilla-Sharon (both Miami)**, **Paul Schmitt (Washington, DC)** and **Ethan Townsend (Wilmington)**.

- **United States v. Brice:** Our team drafted a petition for a writ of certiorari on behalf of an indigent prisoner. The petition raises claims under *Brady v. Maryland* based on the government’s suppression of evidence that the only other potential perpetrator had a motive to commit the crime, as well as a claim that confessions by the only other potential perpetrator were inadmissible. **Ilana Eisenstein (Philadelphia)**, **Ethan Townsend (Wilmington)**, and **Charles Wayne (Washington, DC)**.
- **Bhwanani v. United States:** Our team drafted a petition for writ of certiorari on behalf of two clients denied restitution under the Mandatory Victims Restitution Act. The clients had been harmed by a criminal defendant’s 13-year scheme during which the defendant fraudulently obtained and diverted funds intended for real estate investments. **Ilana Eisenstein (Philadelphia)**, **Ethan Townsend (Wilmington)** and **Lindsay Barnes (Washington, DC)**.
- **United States v. Branch:** The team submitted a brief on behalf of three former justices of the Florida Supreme Court, two former Florida judges and the former chair of the Florida House Judiciary Committee and former President of Florida State

University, in favor of a petition for certiorari filed by death row inmate Eric Branch. Amici argued that a prior Supreme Court case, *Hurst v. Florida*, which struck down Florida’s capital sentencing statute, should be considered retroactive. When Branch was sentenced to death, the Florida judge imposed the death penalty based on the advisory recommendation of a bare majority of the jury. In *Hurst*, the Supreme Court held that advisory jury death determinations violated the Sixth Amendment, which “requires a jury, not a judge, to find each fact necessary to impose a sentence of death.” **Ilana Eisenstein (Philadelphia)**, **Stanley Panikowski (San Diego)**, **Ardith Bronson** and **Maia Sevilla-Sharon (both Miami)**.

AT THE FEDERAL APPEALS COURT LEVEL:

- **Ilana Eisenstein (Philadelphia)** and **John Leitner (Washington, DC)** assisted in the preparation of amicus briefs filed by the International Bar Association in cases before the Ninth Circuit and the Fourth Circuit challenging the legality of the presidential administration’s travel bans.
- **Andrew Valentine (Silicon Valley)**, **Kenneth Schmetterer** and **Katie Hausfeld (both Chicago)**, **Cherelle Glimp** and **Marc Silverman (both New York)** drafted amicus briefs in matters before the US Courts of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, Sixth Circuit and Seventh Circuit highlighting the psychological and physical trauma caused by solitary confinement.
- **Ethan Townsend (Wilmington)** and **Charles Wayne (Washington, DC)** are representing an indigent prisoner in an appeal to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, asserting claims for violations of *Brady v. Maryland*, the Sixth Amendment right to a public trial and the Fourth Amendment right against unreasonable search and seizure.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2017 and 2018, DLA Piper and its lawyers received

22

awards and honors
for pro bono work in
North America.



1 | ALBANY – Jeffrey Kuhn traveled to Zambia to participate in New Perimeter's ZIALE Legal Education Project.

2 | ATLANTA – Chris Campbell and Mike Lewis (New York) defended a client regarding a fraudulent deed transfer. The client owned a home until a stranger registered a fake deed to the house and took possession of it for almost a year. When the client finally got her house back, Chris and the team helped bring a successful suit to hold the city accountable.

3 | ATLANTIC CITY – Joanna Sykes-Saavedra represents a young woman who was abandoned by her parents and is seeking Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS).

4 | AUSTIN – For the third year, Austin lawyers worked with University of Texas Law School to provide a legal clinic for low-income artists and musicians in the Austin area.

5 | BALTIMORE – The Baltimore office is working with the Baltimore Creatives Acceleration Network to provide local artists and entrepreneurs with legal assistance in launching their small businesses.

6 | BOSTON – Katie Insogna, Steve Hassink and Matt Holian secured a judgment to modify a guardianship order for a 28-year-old woman who, as a result of her mental health issues and homelessness, lost custody of her seven-year-old son.

7 | CALGARY – As part of the UNAIDS global project, Malinda Yuen, Kara Davis and Hayden Sawchuk analyzed the laws in Canada relating to HIV/AIDS and at-risk populations, such as criminalization and HIV non-disclosure, medical rights, violence, drug and solicitation laws, and immigration and travel restrictions.

8 | CHICAGO – A team, including Rebecca Lock, Gergana Peeva and Gail Rodgers (New York), helped a 21-year-old victim of gender-based violence and her young son receive asylum.

9 | DALLAS – Marc Katz, Meagan Dyer Self and Betsey Boutelle (Houston) represented a local disability rights organization in an amicus brief concerning the use of handcuffs on a very young student with a disability.

10 | EDMONTON – Craig Brusnyk volunteers at the Edmonton Community Legal Centre, offering legal advice to low-income individuals. He also participates in the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta's Amicus Program, assisting self-represented litigants in court.

11 | HOUSTON – Courtney Wade and Sam Zabaneh helped a veteran form and obtain tax-exempt status for a nonprofit.

12 | LOS ANGELES – Paul Wassgren led a team advising a nonprofit on the most beneficial corporate structure for a group of entrepreneurs who are survivors of domestic violence.

13 | MEXICO CITY – Lawyers supported UNICEF in conducting research on food labeling laws in Mexico in order to address child obesity.

14 | MIAMI – Greg Weigand and John L. Murphy have been providing pro bono assistance to the Legal Services of Greater Miami Neighborhood Entrepreneurs Program, which provides pro bono support to low-income small business owners in under-served neighborhoods.

15 | MINNEAPOLIS – A group of lawyers received training on applying for US citizenship and are now staffing monthly citizenship clinics.

16 | MONTREAL – Marc Philibert assisted The Nature Conservancy in connection with the creation of Les Fonds Haïtien pour la Biodiversité (FHB), whose mission includes the promotion of biodiversity in Haiti.

17 | NEW YORK – Emily Sanders assisted several clients with immigration matters, including affirmative asylum applications, fighting removal in New York City immigration courts, U Visa petitions and children applying for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS).

18 | NORTHERN VIRGINIA – In addition to advising several nonprofit clients on employment matters, Cathryn Le Regulski, Michelle Sumner and Joe Ardito worked with Corporate Pro Bono, United Way of the National Capital Area, Verizon and Oath to provide training for Clinic in a Box® volunteers on harassment policies.

19 | PHILADELPHIA – Lisa Jacobs participated in two New Perimeter projects. She traveled to Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia, where she trained students on legal, business and financial aspects of agreements, and to Rwanda to train East African public sector lawyers and law professors on international business transactions.

20 | PHOENIX – Stephanie King, Emily Johnson and Leslie Brault have provided ongoing assistance to an organization dedicated to preventing teen dating abuse through education, advocacy and youth-led activism.

21 | PUERTO RICO – Miriam Figueroa and Elena Ortiz-Chiqués have assisted a children's shelter in Puerto Rico with issues related to the adoption of the children under its care.

22 | RALEIGH – Laura Sirianni and Andrew Davisson have represented affiliates of Susan G. Komen in consolidation efforts, including multiple dissolutions of and mergers between entities across the country.

23 | SACRAMENTO – David Richardson, Ian Boardman and Tulin Gurer provide mentorship and limited scope corporate and transactional advice to student entrepreneurs.

MAPPING

24 | SAN DIEGO – Julie Gryce represented an elderly woman who was the caretaker of her grandson and great-granddaughter. Julie was able to secure a victory for her client so that she and her family were able to remain in their home.

25 | SAN FRANCISCO – The office hosted clinics in which firm lawyers, in-house lawyers and summer associates assisted immigrants facing deportation with their asylum applications and declarations.

26 | SEATTLE – Jeff DeGroot serves as outside legal counsel to a national nonprofit organization that builds community for people with an LGBTQ parent.

27 | SHORT HILLS – James Noblett represented three different veterans seeking Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) benefits.

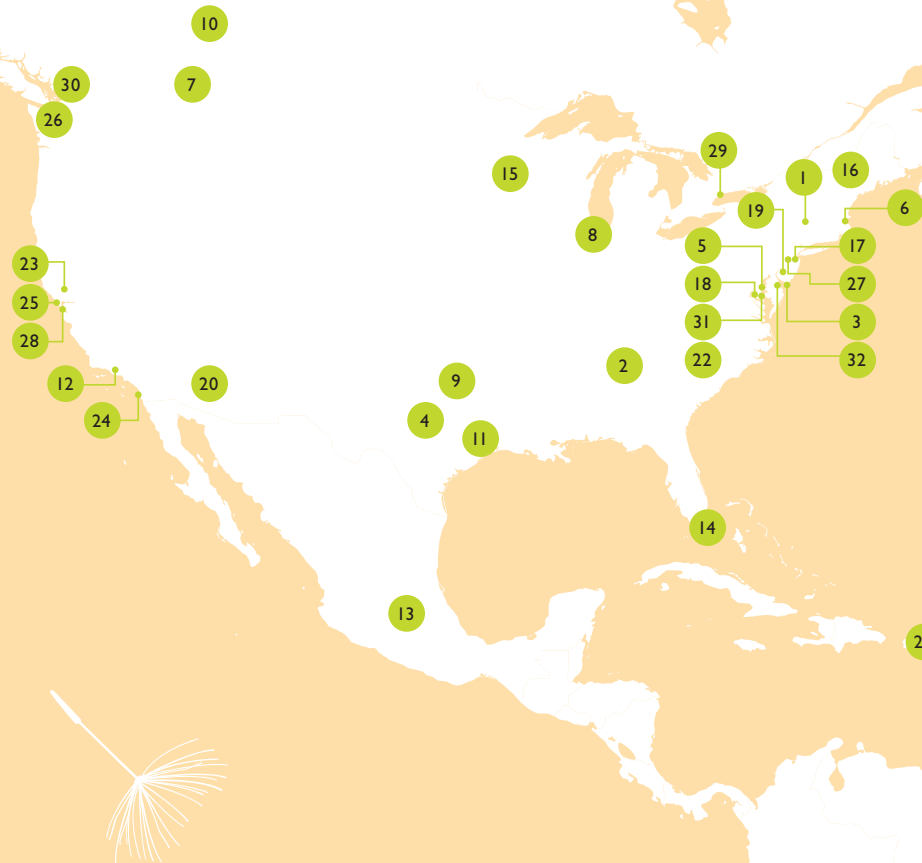
28 | SILICON VALLEY – Carrie Williamson and Chelsea Mutual (San Diego) secured a victory on behalf of a survivor of human trafficking under a new law that permits courts to vacate nonviolent arrests and convictions of trafficking victims.

29 | TORONTO – Brendan Clancy and Nivi Ramaswamy volunteer with Law Help Ontario to assist low-income individuals in resolving disputes.

30 | VANCOUVER – Roger Lee, Taryn Urquhart, Michael Megali, Stephanie Ovens and Sara Schuchat have assisted the MS Society by counseling low-income individuals on issues such as drafting a will and representation agreement, assisting with disputes, and assisting with an appeal of a determination that a person was not disabled.

31 | WASHINGTON, DC – Mary Gately and Ben Boyd work closely with the DC Affordable Law Firm, a nonprofit which provides legal services to DC residents who do not qualify for legal aid. Mary and Ben provide valuable mentoring and counseling on family law matters in DC Superior Court.

32 | WILMINGTON – Through a program run by Delaware's Office of the Child Advocate, Peter Kyle represents the interests of abused, neglected and dependent children during proceedings relating to, among other things, termination or limitation of parental rights.



IMPACT

NORTH AMERICAN PRO BONO COMMITTEE

ATLANTA

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Corporate

AUSTIN

Sam Zabaneh
Corporate

BALTIMORE

Jordan Bailowitz
Tax

Ray Earnest
Pro Bono

Nicole Daya
Pro Bono

Jim Mathias
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Heather Treacy
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Real Estate

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Intellectual Property and
Technology

WASHINGTON, DC

Lisa Dewey
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Pro Bono

Stasia Kelly
Firm Management

Rick Marks
Corporate

Michael Morgan
Pro Bono

Tom Zutic
Intellectual Property
and Technology

WILMINGTON

John Reed
Litigation



NORTH AMERICAN PRO BONO TEAM

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2017, our North American lawyers and staff contributed nearly 120,000 hours to pro bono and community engagement work.



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FOCUS ON EVICTIION REFORM

As is the case in many cities, Chicago's eviction court is a formidable place for tenants, almost all of whom appear on their own. With over 30,000 eviction actions filed every year, 95 percent of tenants in eviction court receive no access to counsel before losing their homes.

Even worse, they receive no information about the eviction process, their rights or what will happen to them in court. As a result, too many tenants agree to settle their cases without understanding the terms of the settlement. These settlements may have far-reaching impact on tenants' credit, abilities to access public rental subsidies or ability to rent in the future – but the litigants may not be aware of that potential impact when they agree to a settlement. Furthermore, the need to handle cases expeditiously means that it can be difficult for unrepresented parties to raise other issues, like conditions, that may affect the outcome of their cases.

While DLA Piper cannot alone solve all the problems facing litigants in eviction court, we are working closely with the local legal aid community, including LAF and the Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing, to pilot a brief advice project that we hope to expand to other lawyers in the community. This new Eviction Brief Advice Desk engages volunteers to sit in eviction court during a busy morning court call and to offer assistance to unrepresented tenants appearing in court that morning. Although in its pilot phase, the project already has been a success, as volunteers have helped preserve housing for tenants during every shift.

Chicago associates **Nick Beard** and **Liz Butler** have volunteered to lead this pilot project, with significant help from **Deronda Terrell**.

"So many tenants go without representation in eviction court," said Liz Butler about the project. "The Brief Advice Desk gives tenants the opportunity to level the playing field, by equipping them with information about the process that they are facing."

"This work is so important," said Nick Beard. "In just a few hours, we're able to help tenants avoid entering into settlements that do not serve them or, better yet, to find a lawyer who can help them through the process."

In DC, we participate in the Housing Right to Counsel Project. Launched in 2015, the project aims to dramatically increase access to counsel for tenants with housing subsidies who are facing eviction. It addresses the overwhelming imbalance of power in the Landlord and Tenant Branch of DC Superior Court, where about 90 percent of landlords are represented, while 90-95 percent of tenants are unrepresented and face the possibility of eviction. The project is a collaborative effort between the Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia, Bread for the City, Legal Counsel for the Elderly and the DC Bar Pro Bono Center, as well as 14 major law firms and the Federal Government Pro Bono Program.

DID YOU KNOW?

DLA Piper is involved in efforts around the country to bring legal counsel to individuals and families facing eviction.



Through our Boston office's signature project with Greater Legal Services of Boston (GBLS), we help run a housing clinic for low income people. Co-led by **Thanos Matthai** and **Geoff Howell**, we work with GBLS once a month, consulting with individuals who are at risk of eviction. The volunteers provide guidance to pro se litigants on how to successfully navigate the challenges of housing court.

