

NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION



**2017
President's
Pro Bono
Service Awards**



President's Message

Every year on Law Day, we celebrate the ideals of democracy, equality and justice under the rule of law. The Law Day theme this year is the 14th Amendment, the guarantor of equal protection and due process throughout our country.



With that in mind, I cannot think of a better way to observe Law Day 2017 than by celebrating the extraordinary pro bono contributions made by the recipients of this year's President's Pro Bono Service Awards. At the State Bar, serving the public is one of our core values. One of the ways we do that is through ceremonies like today's that encourage and highlight the important efforts of New York attorneys who work so hard to make a difference in people's lives. The honorees – individual attorneys, law firms, an in-house counsel group, a law student and a law school group – have given freely of their time and talent to ensure that those in need get full and fair access to justice.

The scope of their contributions is truly remarkable. It runs the gamut from protecting people facing domestic violence, consumer debt and foreclosure, to helping not-for-profits, to expanding medical-legal partnerships, to addressing legal issues faced by the homeless. Several of the honorees focus on helping transgender individuals change their names – and their birth certificates. Not surprisingly, the number of attorneys and firms assisting New Yorkers with immigration issues has grown, covering everything from limited-scope representation to appellate work.

In addition to directly helping New Yorkers in need, the honorees also understand the value of mentoring and share a desire to assist others to volunteer. One volunteer attorney, who was new to a particular area of law, said that her mentor had made it easy. Some honorees train and mentor new volunteers, and make themselves available to answer questions. A great indication of passion and commitment to pro bono work is making the effort to teach others – and it's a great way to inspire them.

It is right that we take the time to celebrate today's honorees and the good lawyers do. The need is great, and public recognition raises awareness in our profession and our communities of the vital role lawyers play in ensuring access to justice and encourages other lawyers to volunteer. So today, while we publicly recognize the pro bono contributions of some, we are celebrating all New York attorneys who give so much to help others. On behalf of the entire Association, I applaud your generosity and commitment to pro bono service.

Thank you to all the 2017 President's Pro Bono Service Award recipients for accepting the challenge to do the public good – and taking it to extraordinary levels. Congratulations and best wishes to you all.

AGENDA

Introductory Remarks

Sharon Stern Gerstman
President-Elect and

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

Welcome and Introduction of Judge Rivera

Claire P. Gutekunst
President

Keynote

Hon. Jenny Rivera
Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals,
State of New York

Luncheon

Presentation of Awards

Claire P. Gutekunst

Closing Remarks

Sharon Stern Gerstman

May 1, 2017

Albany, New York

A WORD OF THANKS

Nominating Committee members review the nominations submitted in each of the award categories. The Association is deeply grateful to each of them for their thoughtful and careful review of each nominee's pro bono contributions. Members of the Nominating Committee are:

Sharon Stern Gerstman

President-Elect and
Co-Chair, President's Committee on Access to Justice

William T. Russell, Jr.

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

Bryan D. Hetherington

Keisha A. Williams

Co-Chairs, Committee on Legal Aid

CRITERIA

Honorees are selected based on the depth, breadth and scope of the pro bono service rendered during 2016 and in consideration of the following criteria:

Number of pro bono clients served;

Number of pro bono hours donated;

The impact of pro bono service on clients;

The impact of service on a pro bono program; and

The influence of their service on others to do pro bono.



First Judicial District

Adam Hunt

Morrison & Foerster LLP
New York, NY

Nominator

Jennifer Brown
Morrison & Foerster LLP
New York, NY

Adam Hunt is a senior litigation associate at Morrison & Foerster LLP, where his practice focuses on

class action and complex commercial litigation. In his pro bono work, Hunt has represented numerous clients in a wide range of cases.

Since 2011, Hunt has represented a survivor of torture from the Republic of Congo who has sought asylum in the United States. He also has been the lead attorney in ongoing litigation aimed at bringing the state into compliance with the Child Welfare Act's mandate that the state provide monetary support to foster parents sufficient to cover the cost of caring for their foster children.

Along with co-counsel at the New York Civil Liberties Union and other attorneys at Morrison & Foerster, Hunt spent 450 hours working to achieve a landmark settlement to reform solitary confinement in New York State prisons. And with co-counsel at the American Civil Liberties Union and the C.L.E.A.R. Project at CUNY School of Law, Hunt represented two mosques, an imam, and a Muslim student group in a civil rights case that resulted in a settlement that will protect New York Muslims and others from discriminatory and unjustified police surveillance.

Hunt is a graduate of Swarthmore College and New York University School of Law.



Second Judicial District

Victor N. Piacente

Street Bishops of New York
Yonkers, NY

Nominator

Louis M. Spizzirro
Law Offices of
Louis M. Spizzirro
Yonkers, NY

Victor N. Piacente is a Yonkers solo practitioner who focuses his practice on family law, criminal law, and personal injury cases. He began his legal career working as an intern for the Administration of Children's Services in the Bronx and then transitioned into private practice in 2001 working for the Law Office of Louis Spizzirro in Yonkers. In October of 2004, he opened his own law practice.

In 2006-07, Piacente was deployed overseas with the Connecticut Army National Guard to Afghanistan where he helped local Afghan governments rebuild their legal system. Upon returning home from deployment in 2007, he began doing pro bono work representing women and children involved in domestic violence cases. He was the recipient of the 2008, 2009, and 2010 NYSBA/Empire State Counsel for providing over 50 hours of free legal services to indigent clients.

In 2011, Piacente started a 501(c)(3) corporation called Street Bishops of New York which is dedicated to providing free legal services to women and children involved in family law cases in the areas of domestic violence, child support, and child custody cases.

Third Judicial District

Byrgen Finkelman

Solo Practitioner
Slingerlands, NY

Nominator

Lillian Moy
Legal Aid Society of
Northeastern New York
Albany, NY



Byrgen Finkelman is a solo practitioner in Slingerlands whose practice focuses on name changes for transgender individuals throughout the state. She also helps transgender individuals navigate name and gender corrections on their identity documents. To date she has filed over 125 petitions for change of name for transgender individuals in 27 New York counties.

Finkelman is co-founder of Affirming Transgender Rights, an advocacy group that works for transgender equality through outreach, education, and political activism. In her work with ATR, she has presented transgender competency programs to judges, library staff, medical staff, and others. She is also a co-founder and author of posts on Transgender Talk, a blog on TimesUnion.com about transgender people and issues facing transgender individuals.

She has provided pro bono representation for clients through Legal Aid of Northeastern New York, Legal Aid of Mid-New York, and Legal Aid of the Hudson Valley. She has received numerous awards for her pro bono work with the community including from NYSBA, Albany Law School, the Legal Aid Society, and In Our Own Voices in Albany.

She is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Texas School of Law.



Fifth Judicial District

Todd M. Long

City of Syracuse
Department of Law
Syracuse, NY

Nominator

Sally Curran
Volunteer Lawyers
Project of Onondaga County
Syracuse, NY

Todd M. Long is an assistant corporation counsel for the City of Syracuse, serving in this position since January 2015 when he was admitted to the New York State Bar.

Long has been a volunteer with the Onondaga County Volunteer Lawyer’s Project (OnVLP) since bar admission, primarily assisting with the Homeless Advocacy and Prevention (HAP) Program’s “Ask A Lawyer” locations at the Catholic Charities Men’s Shelter, the Samaritan Center, the Rescue Mission, and the Salvation Army Family Shelter.

He played a role in establishing the first HAP location at the Catholic Charities Men’s Shelter after a transformational experience volunteering there, and has continued to provide support as the HAP program developed and grew over the past two years. His initial objective with HAP was to bring “Ask A Lawyer” clinics to shelters in order to aid those in need where they reside — equal parts education, awareness, and service to the community of those who are housing insecure.

Long earned his undergraduate degree from Fordham University and then earned a Master of Arts degree in U.S. Foreign Policy from American University’s School of International Service. He is a 2014 graduate of the Syracuse University College of Law.

Sixth Judicial District

Hon. Eugene E. Peckham

Levene Gouldin &
Thompson, LLP
Vestal, NY

Nominator

Arlene Sanders
Legal Aid Society
of Mid-New York
Binghamton, NY



Hon. Eugene E. Peckham is a former Broome County Surrogate and Acting Supreme Court Justice. He retired in 2010, when he turned 70, the age of mandatory retirement for a New York judge. Peckham is currently a partner at Levene, Gouldin & Thompson in Vestal. He handles matters of estate planning and administration, guardianship, charitable corporations and taxation. He is also a frequent lecturer and author on these topics.

Peckham was an adjunct professor of taxation at SUNY Binghamton for 30 years and treasurer of the Legislative Advisory Committee on the Estates, Powers and Trusts Law and Surrogate's Procedure Act. He is a past chair of NYSBA's Trusts & Estates Section. He is a member of the American College of Trusts & Estates Counsel.

Since 2014, Peckham has logged more than 150 pro bono hours for the Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York. Most recently he counseled clients at the annual Broome County Senior Legal Clinic where he met with seniors to provide advice on various end of life planning issues including living wills, health care proxies, and powers of attorney. Also, last year he completed the two-year pro bono representation in a foreclosure matter in which he saved the client's home.

Peckham is a graduate of Wesleyan University and Harvard Law School.



Seventh Judicial District

Paul B. Watkins

Law Offices of Paul B. Watkins
Fairport, NY

Nominator

Shelia Gaddis
Volunteer Legal Services Project
Rochester, NY

Paul B. Watkins of Rochester is a solo practitioner focusing on Family and Matrimonial Law

After moving to Rochester in 2004, Watkins began pro bono work at the Volunteer Legal Services Program, staffing the Family Law Clinics and representing clients in divorce and family law cases in the Courts.

Paul B. Watkins graduated from Oberlin College in 1975, and received his law degree from the University of San Francisco in 1982. Mr. Watkins moved to the Rochester area in 2004, and started his own law firm, specializing in Family and Matrimonial Law.

In 2006, he received the William E. Mc Knight Volunteer Services Award.

Eighth Judicial District

Lawlor F. Quinlan III

Connors LLP
Buffalo, NY

Nominator

Sophie Feal
Erie County Bar Association
Volunteer Lawyers Project
Buffalo, NY



Lawlor F. Quinlan III is a trial attorney and a partner in the firm Connors LLP in Buffalo. Quinlan has a broad-based litigation practice. He has successfully represented severely injured individuals, defended physicians in medical malpractice lawsuits, and represented individuals, corporations, and municipalities in a wide variety of litigated matters. In 2003 he obtained a \$58.6 million verdict in favor of an injured athlete. The award remains the largest unreduced verdict in the history of Erie County.

Quinlan has provided pro bono representation to indigent refugees seeking relief from the immigration courts. For instance, he represented an elderly and disabled permanent resident who had come to the US as a refugee from Vietnam in 1993 after serving with the U.S. allied South Vietnamese armed forces during the war. While that matter was pending, he agreed to handle the second half of an asylum trial at the immigration court in the Batavia Federal Detention Facility for a young Honduran man who had been shot five times and left for dead at the side of the road by the violent gangs in his native country for denouncing their extortion. Quinlan's work eventually led to the immigrant being granted asylum and protection under the United Nations Convention Against Torture. Last year, Quinlan agreed to take on the asylum case of an Iraqi Christian who had fled Mosul after his parents disappeared at the height of the violent war and then made a harrowing and costly trek to the U.S. In the past two years, Quinlan has volunteered over 250 hours to represent these clients.

He is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and the University of Virginia School of Law.



Ninth Judicial District

Robert J. Nahoum

The Law Offices of Robert J.
Nahoum, P.C.
Nyack, NY

Nominator

Sherri Rozansky
Legal Services of
the Hudson Valley
White Plains, NY

Robert J. Nahoum is the principal attorney at the Law Offices of Robert J. Nahoum, P.C. in Nyack, where he is primarily engaged in civil litigation, including debt defense, debt collection harassment and abuse, consumer protection and bankruptcy. He has spent the last 16 years litigating debtor and creditor cases in both state and federal courts across the state.

Nahoum's career began as an in-house debt collection attorney and then as an associate attorney at two New York City law firms working on commercial debt cases, bankruptcy litigation and defending debt collection agencies in Fair Debt Collection Practices Act litigation. In 2009, Nahoum opened his firm devoted to defending consumers in debt collection cases and suing debt collectors for violations of consumer protection laws.

He is a volunteer pro bono attorney for Legal Services of the Hudson Valley representing low income consumers in debt collection cases. He also provides training and mentoring to legal services pro bono attorneys on debt collection defense and consumer protection.

He is a graduate of SUNY Plattsburgh and Albany Law School.

Tenth Judicial District

Henry M. Mascia

Rivkin Radler LLP
Uniondale, NY

Nominator

Andrea Jones
Rivkin Radler LLP
Uniondale, NY



Henry M. Mascia is a civil litigator and immigration attorney at Rivkin Radler in Uniondale. As a litigator, Mascia drafts and argues appeals, and litigates a variety of civil matters in federal and state courts. Henry's appellate advocacy has resulted in seminal decisions from New York State's highest court. As an immigration attorney, he helps corporations and individuals navigate the labyrinth of U.S. immigration law.

Before joining Rivkin Radler, Henry worked as an attorney advisor at the U.S. Department of Justice's Executive Office for Immigration Review, colloquially known as the "Immigration Court." As an attorney advisor, Henry drafted opinions and memoranda for all three immigration judges at the Varick Street Immigration Court and for the immigration judge of the Institutional Removal Program.

Mascia serves on the NYSBA Committee on Courts of Appellate Jurisdiction and is a member of the Pro Bono subcommittee and volunteers for the committee's moot court program. Mascia recently spent a year-and-a-half working on a case referred by the non-profit New York for Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) in which he represented a teenage girl who fled to the U.S. to escape persecution from a gang in El Salvador. Mascia was able to obtain asylum for the client and will help her with her application for permanent residence when she becomes eligible.

Mascia is a graduate of Messiah College and the Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University.



Eleventh Judicial District

Thomas Wojtaszek

Solo Practitioner
Brooklyn, NY

Nominator

Mark Weliky
Queens Volunteer Lawyers
Project, Inc.
Jamaica, NY

Thomas E. Wojtaszek is a solo practitioner with a general practice in Brooklyn and has extensive experience in personal injury law. Previously, Wojtaszek was trial counsel for the law office of Barry Siskin, an associate in the Appeals Unit of the Public Service Commission and an independent contractor in the Tort Division of the Long Island Rail Road Law Department.

Wojtaszek has done pro bono work for the Queens County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project since 2014, representing defendants at mandatory Stop Foreclosure Conferences in Queens County Supreme Court. He has taken cases to represent homeowners on short notice and has helped mentor other pro bono volunteer attorneys appearing at the foreclosure conference. In the past he's also been a volunteer at the CLARO Consumer Debt Clinic at Kings County Civil Court. In addition to his pro bono efforts, Wojtaszek tries to provide "low bono" services to neighbors and small business owners in his Brooklyn neighborhood.

Wojtaszek is a graduate of SUNY Stony Brook and Rutgers School of Law and comes from a family of lawyers. His father, who is almost 90 years old still keeps his law license current. His brother Paul is a state Supreme Court judge in Erie County; his brother Henry is currently the president and CEO of Western Regional OTB; his sister Kathleen Wojtaszek-Gariano is a Niagara County Family Court Judge and his sister-in-law Caroline is the Niagara County District Attorney. Thomas would like to thank his father, who will always be the gold standard for what a lawyer is supposed to be, and his mother, who in the midst of raising 12 children still had the time and presence of mind to help with Latin homework.

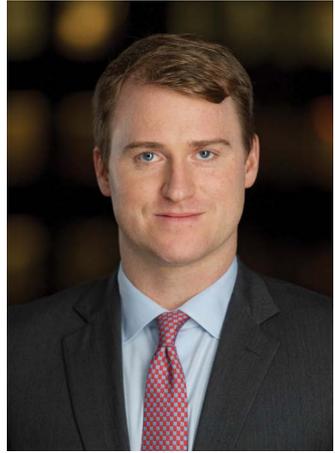
Young Lawyer

Paul Q. Andrews

Arnold & Porter Kaye
Scholer LLP
New York, NY

Nominator

Elly Spiegel
Arnold & Porter Kaye
Scholer LLP
New York, NY



Paul Q. Andrews practices law at Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP in New York City representing corporate clients, financial institutions, and individuals in a broad range of commercial suits.

Andrews is an active member of the firm's Pro Bono Committee and co-chairs its Transgender Name Change Project. In 2016, he devoted over 250 hours to pro bono work. Andrews, through the Transgender Name Change Project, assists clients seeking a legal name change in preparing and presenting their applications, and in navigating the system generally.

This project led to the firm taking on NYC's gender-identity policies. It joined the NYC birth certificate litigation, which was originally a pro se suit filed in 2009 that sought to eliminate NYC's requirement for proof of "convertive surgery" for birth certificate gender changes. Andrews led their efforts to recover fees by drafting the briefs and arguing the motion. In May 2016, the Court held that the firm was entitled to fees under the New York City Human Rights Law.

He earned a B.A. in government and politics and an M.A. in public policy from the University of Maryland. Andrews earned his law degree from Northwestern University School of Law.



Law Student

Lauren Henry

Syracuse University
College of Law
Syracuse, NY

Nominator

Michaela K. Rossettie Azemi
Legal Assistance of Western New
York, Inc.
Bath, NY

Lauren Henry is a third year law student at Syracuse University College of Law. At Syracuse, she is a 3L Senator for the Student Bar Association and chair of the Communications Committee.

In addition, she is an ambassador with the Office of Admissions, and the Spring Events Coordinator for the Syracuse Public Interest Network, which raises money to fund fellowships. The fellowships are given to Syracuse law students who obtain unpaid summer internships in the public interest sector. Henry is also a student member of the Cold Case Justice Initiative, which works to re-open and re-investigate Civil Rights era murder cases and was a student attorney in the Elder Law Clinic.

During both of her summers, Henry interned at Legal Assistance of Western New York where she worked on matters in the Veterans and Health Law Units. With the supervision of LawNY advocates, she managed cases including evictions, public benefits issues, health insurance issues, wills, and employment discrimination. She drafted pro se documents for clients the agency was unable to take on, and worked on grant writing to secure funding for upcoming projects.

Henry plans to stay in Upstate New York after taking the bar examination and hopes to pursue a career in civil legal services. She is a 2014 graduate of the University of Rochester.

Senior Lawyer

Barbara Weiner

The Legal Project
Albany, NY

Nominator

Susan S. Pattenau
The Legal Project
Albany, NY



Barbara Weiner is an Attorney Emeritus in the Public Benefits and Immigration Units at Empire Justice Center's Albany office and at The Legal Project, a nonprofit legal services provider in Albany focusing on the legal needs of domestic violence victims, among its many other activities.

Weiner has spent her career working in legal services, first in the Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York in Albany and then in 1990 she joined the staff of the Greater Upstate Law Project (GULP), a statewide nonprofit public law office. She remained with GULP, which eventually changed its name to the Empire Justice Center, until she retired a year ago.

Since retirement, with the Empire Justice Center, she is continuing her work on public benefits issues as they impact immigrants. Among other activities, she is continuing as counsel in *Karamalla v. Devine*, a case that established the right of individuals with temporary protected status to have access to the state's public assistance program.

With The Legal Project, Weiner has worked on several family court cases representing proposed guardians for young undocumented children fleeing the violence in their home country, the first step in their petitioning for special immigrant juvenile status. She also spends one day a month providing immigration consults to people calling The Legal Project for assistance with their immigration problems. Last year she provided 150 hours of pro bono work in at least nine cases for The Legal Project alone.

Weiner is a graduate of Golden Gate University College of Law in San Francisco.



Law School Group

The Immigration Advocacy Project (IAP) at Fordham Law School is a student-run organization dedicated to advocating for underrepresented immigrant communities in the New York City area, as well as working toward the goal of ending family detention. With the support of Fordham's Feerick Center for Social Justice, IAP has organized four volunteer service trips since the Spring of 2016 to the South Texas Family Residential Center (STFRC) in Dilley, Texas.

The STFRC is an immigration detention facility that exclusively holds recently arrived asylum-seeking women and their children. In Dilley, IAP members assisted the CARA Family Detention Pro Bono Project in providing limited-scope legal representation to detained women. In each of the one-week service trips, IAP students prepared detained women for their Credible and Reasonable Fear Interview, a crucial first-step in the protracted asylum process.

IAP supports CARA's work remotely by conducting data entry from New York and occasionally conducting preparation interviews over the phone. IAP has spent over 1,000 hours providing pro bono legal service to detained asylum seekers and has raised awareness of family detention by speaking on panels in New York City. Additionally, IAP has partnered with the Fordham Law Immigration Preparedness Project to coordinate and conduct know-your-rights presentations for New York City public school students, teachers and administrators on how to respond to stops, requests for information, or raids by immigration enforcement officials.

FRIED FRANK

Large Law Firm

Fried Frank's (Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP) pro bono program is focused on providing representation to people of limited means, to worthy public interest and entrepreneurial organizations, and to both individuals and organizations in the civil rights area.

The New York City firm's work for needy individuals includes representing domestic violence survivors in divorce and other family law related matters; representing people from around the globe seeking asylum or other lawful status, permanent residence and citizenship in a wide range of immigration matters; and representing indigent individuals accused of crime.

In addition, the firm represents nonprofit organizations in governance, contract, real estate and dissolution matters, and low income entrepreneurs in formation and governance, finance and tax matters. The firm's civil rights work includes work in fair housing, voting rights, reproductive freedom and LGBT rights.

The firm is a signatory to the Pro Bono Principles of the New York City Bar Association and the Pro Bono Institute's Law Firm Pro Bono Challenge. Its institutional support for pro bono service is made clear by the firm's requirement that all associates and counsel perform at least twenty hours of pro bono service annually to be considered in good standing and eligible for any discretionary bonus.

BARCLAY DAMON LLP

Mid-Sized Law Firm

Lawyers from Barclay Damon, LLP in Buffalo showed their commitment to pro bono legal service by handling 156 pro bono cases in 2016 for the Erie County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP).

The firm's attorneys represent VLP clients in ongoing legal matters involving immigration, not-for-profit, wills and estates, matrimonial and family law, employment, torts, and civil rights. They also help with VLP's limited-scope programs, including Attorney of the Morning, the Pro Se Assistance Program (PSAP), and Say Yes Legal Clinics.

For the Attorney of the Morning eviction defense program, seven of the firm's attorneys represented 50 clients, working to save them from imminent homelessness. For PSAP, nine low-income clients were assisted by three of the firm's attorneys in the areas of employment discrimination and civil rights. Last year the PSAP began expanding to Rochester.

Fourteen of the firm's attorneys helped with the Say Yes Legal Clinics in the Buffalo Public Schools, assisting 51 clients in non-criminal matters such as adoption, bankruptcy, child custody, child support, divorce, eviction/foreclosure, government benefits, housing, immigration and income tax.

Since 1991, the firm's attorneys have handled 44 immigration cases for VLP totaling 1203 hours.

Robert P. Heary, a partner at the firm, is the Buffalo office's Pro Bono Partner. Heary volunteers at the PSAP and Say Yes Legal Clinics regularly. He also coordinates the pro bono activities of the firm's 101 Buffalo office attorneys. In addition, he serves on VLP's Board of Directors.



In-House Counsel

NBCUniversal Media, LLC's Legal Department is led by Executive Vice-President and General Counsel Kimberly D. Harris and is comprised of approximately 340 attorneys worldwide. In addition to advising the company on a range of media issues, the lawyers and legal staff are actively engaged in a variety of pro bono projects. The department's pro bono efforts are coordinated by its Community Engagement Committee, whose mission is to identify and facilitate opportunities for members of the NBCUniversal Legal Department to engage in community service activities, particularly those that provide pro bono legal and other assistance to underserved populations.

Each year, all members of the department are invited to take the "Community Engagement Challenge," which encourages employees to participate in at least one pro bono activity during the year. In 2016-2017, the 65 lawyers in NBCUniversal's New York office took to that challenge, and worked with a number of organizations on a range of issues, including: transactional assistance and advice for non-profit organizations and small businesses, legal name changes for transgender clients, uncontested divorces for domestic violence survivors, benefit upgrade petitions for veterans, clemency petitions, immigration assistance for unaccompanied children, and interview skills for low-income women working towards financial empowerment.

Counties in the 13 Judicial Districts

- First:** New York
- Second:** Kings
- Third:** Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Schoharie, Sullivan, Ulster
- Fourth:** Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Montgomery, St. Lawrence, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren, Washington
- Fifth:** Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego
- Sixth:** Broome, Chemung, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Madison, Otsego, Schuyler, Tioga, Tompkins
- Seventh:** Cayuga, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Yates
- Eighth:** Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans, Wyoming
- Ninth:** Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Westchester
- Tenth:** Nassau, Suffolk
- Eleventh:** Queens
- Twelfth:** Bronx
- Thirteenth:** Richmond County at St. George, Staten Island

Previous Recipients of the President's Pro Bono Service Awards

2016

Stephen C. Lessard – 1st Judicial District

None Selected – 2nd Judicial District

Denise M. Resta-Tobin – 3rd Judicial District

Charles R. Harding – 4th Judicial District

Michael Palczewski – 5th Judicial District

James G. Cushman – 6th Judicial District

Andrew L. Martin – 7th Judicial District

Raymond N. McCabe – 8th Judicial District

Wendy Marie Weathers – 9th Judicial District

S. Robert Kroll – 10th Judicial District

Daniel A. Costigan – 11th Judicial District

None Selected – 12th Judicial District

None Selected – 13th Judicial District

Oswaldo Garcia – Young Lawyer

Frederick Stephen Marty – Senior Lawyer

Jessica Persaud – Law Student

Touro Law Disaster Relief Center – Law School Group

DLA Piper LLP (US) – Large Law Firm

Phillips Lytle LLP – Small/Mid-sized Law Firm

2015

Marjorie J. Peerce – 1st Judicial District

None Selected – 2nd Judicial District

Lynne A. Papazian – 3rd Judicial District

Natasha B. Hill – 4th Judicial District

Emilee Lawson Hatch – 5th Judicial District

William L. Gibson, Jr. – 6th Judicial District

Sandra M. Williams – 7th Judicial District

John L. Trigilio – 8th Judicial District

Sarah Sulkowski – 9th Judicial District

Harold M. Somer – 10th Judicial District

Brandy A. Beltas – 11th Judicial District

Eric Faragi – 12th Judicial District

Jack Yoskowitz – 13th Judicial District

Josie M. Sheppard – Young Lawyer

Janet Axelrod – Senior Lawyer

Shelby Maroselli – Law Student

Society for Immigrant and Refugees Rights – Law School Group

Shearman & Sterling LLP – Large Law Firm

Hodgson Russ LLP – Mid-Sized Law Firm

The Law Offices of Remy R. Perot LLP – Small Law Firm

2014

David A. Sausen – 1st Judicial District

Sarah Levin & Christopher Strong – 2nd Judicial District

Robert P. Mascali – 3rd Judicial District

Joel P. Peller – 4th Judicial District

Thomas E. Myers – 5th Judicial District

Kevin H. Yeager – 6th Judicial District

Kevin T. Saunders – 7th Judicial District

Joshua E. Dubs – 8th Judicial District

Robert H. Hermann – 9th Judicial District

Evelyn Kalenscher – 10th Judicial District

Bernadette M. Crowley – 11th Judicial District

Eric C. Woglom – 12th Judicial District

Tracy Lynn Sullivan – Young Lawyer

Frank Longo – Senior Lawyer

Joshua Bennett – Law Student

Hofstra University Veterans Legal Assistance Project –
Law School Group

Dechert LLP – Large Law Firm

Ashcraft Franklyn Young and Peters LLP – Small Law Firm

2013

Proskauer Team – 1st Judicial District

James Maleady – 2nd Judicial District

Michelle Wildgrube – 3rd Judicial District

Andrew Moses – 4th Judicial District

Anthony P. Marshall – 5th Judicial District

Mary Jo Long – 6th Judicial District

Michael S. Schnittman – 7th Judicial District

Matthew B. Herdzik – 8th Judicial District

Daniel A. Schlanger – 9th Judicial District

Michael Aronowsky – 10th Judicial District

Julia Maeng – 11th Judicial District

Jeffrey Alfano – 13th Judicial District

Lindsay Moilanen – Young Lawyer

Michael O'Brien – Senior Lawyer

Catherine (Cady) Sinnwell Gerlach – Law Student

Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP – Large Law Firm

Morrison & Foerster LLP – Mid-sized Law Firm

Ehrlich & Arcodia PC – Small Law Firm

Theresa K. Mohan – In-House Counsel

Seventh Judicial District Help Center – Government Office

2012

Caroline Heller – 1st Judicial District

Weil Advantage Team – 2nd Judicial District

Alyssa Talanker – 3rd Judicial District

Jessica H. Vinson – 4th Judicial District

Jill O'Sullivan – 4th Judicial District

Susan N. Esce – 5th Judicial District

Carol Ann Malz – 6th Judicial District

Lucien A. Morin, II – 7th Judicial District

Peter C. Obersheimer – 8th Judicial District

Julia M. Santiago – 9th Judicial District

Barry M. Smolowitz – 10th Judicial District

Mohammad Saleem – 11th Judicial District

Noah Liben – 12th Judicial District

Daniel C. Marotta – 13th Judicial District

Natalie Fleming Nolen – Young Lawyer

Benjamin Pomerance – Law Student

Syracuse University College of Law Pro Bono Advisory Board –
Law School Group

Noemi Fernandez – Small Law Firm

Bond Schoeneck & King PLLC Syracuse Office – Mid-sized Firm

Gibson Dunn & Crutcher – Large Law firm

Daniel F. Kolb – Senior Lawyer

Ronnie Abrams – Government Office

Lesley Rosenthal – In-House Counsel

2011

Eric H. Blinderman – 1st Judicial District

Larissa Eustice – 2nd Judicial District

David A. Price – 3rd Judicial District

Bethany Schumann-McGhee – 4th Judicial District

John G. Powers – 5th Judicial District

Kurt D. Schrader – 6th Judicial District

Shaleeya B. McFadden – 7th Judicial District

Michael Anton Sciortino – 8th Judicial District

Elizabeth King – 9th Judicial District

Leah Belfort – 10th Judicial District

Ned Kassman – 11th Judicial District

Sheila T. McGinn – 13th Judicial District

Hon. Hugh C. Humphreys – Senior Attorney

Angela C. Winfield – Young Lawyer

Maria Martinez – Law Student

Brooklyn Law School's CLARO – Law School Group

Lansner Kubitschek Schaffer – Small Law Firm

Phillips Lytle LLP – Mid-sized Law Firm

Davis Polk & Wardell LLP – Large Law Firm

Supreme Court of the State of New York, Appellate Division –
Government Office

2010

Anne S. Raish – 1st Judicial District

Christopher Rio – 2nd Judicial District

Daniel J. Hurteau – 3rd Judicial District

Emily Muller – 4th Judicial District

David M. Hayes – 5th Judicial District

Peter A. Orville – 6th Judicial District

David Tennant – 7th Judicial District

Catherine E. Nagel – 8th Judicial District

Guy Fairstein – 9th Judicial District

Stuart P. Gelberg – 10th Judicial District

Hilary Gingold – 11th Judicial District

Michael S. Davi – 12th Judicial District

Serena M. Stonick – 13th Judicial District

Hagit Elul – Young Lawyer

Shirley Adelson Siegel – Senior Lawyer

Levene Gouldin & Thompson LLP – Small/Mid-sized Law Firm

Hiscock & Barclay LLP – Large Law Firm

Gary B. Cohen – In-House Counsel

Ryan Shannon – Law Student

Suspension Representation Project (SRP) –
Law Student Group/Organization



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