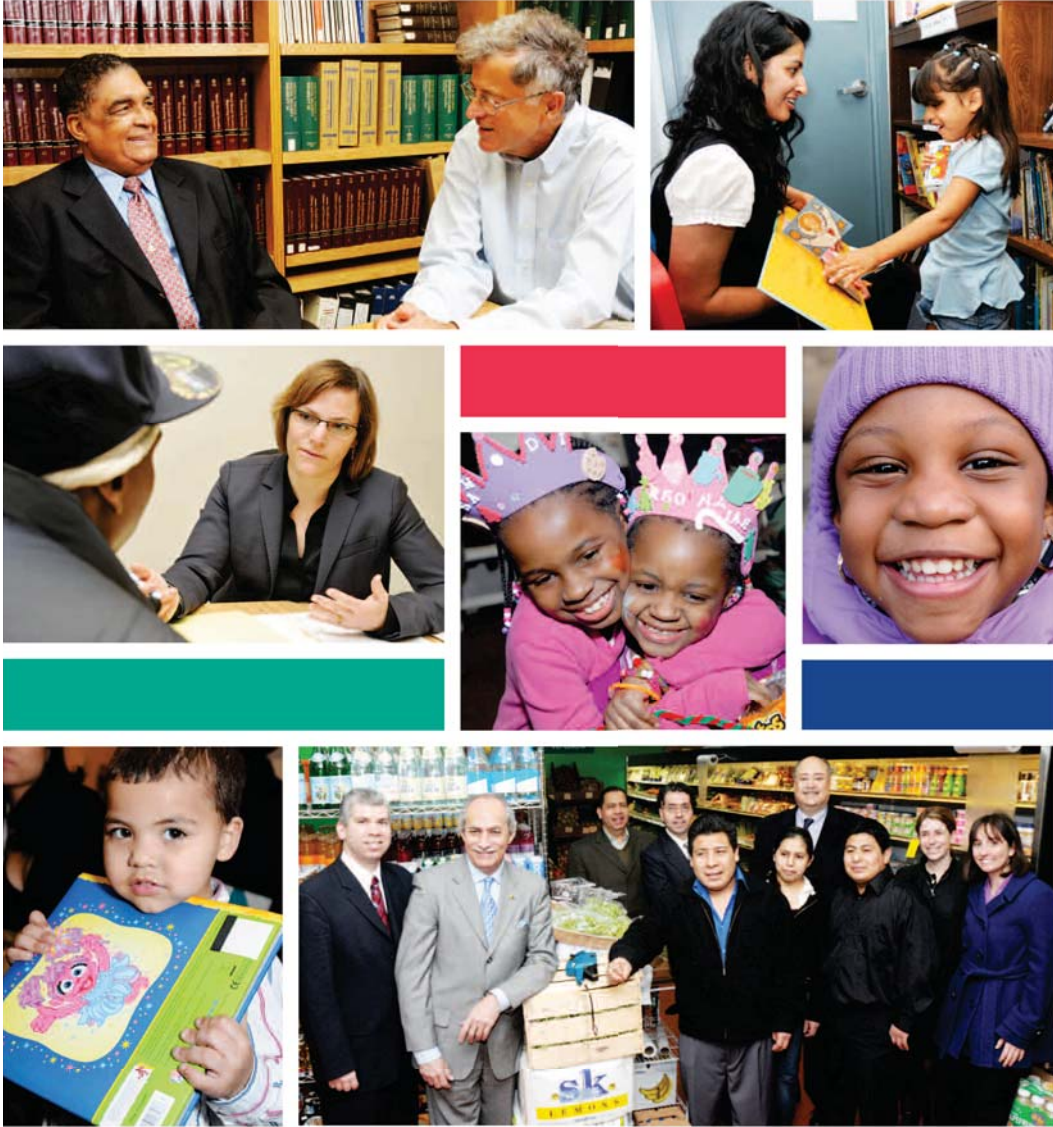




MAKING THE CASE FOR HUMANITY



**The Legal Aid Society
2009 Pro Bono Awards
Monday, October 26, 2009**

PROGRAM

Monday, October 26, 2009 at Espace

**Welcome from the Chairman of The Legal Aid Society
Alan Levine**

**Introduction of Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman
Alan Levine**

Remarks by Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman

**Greetings from the President of The Legal Aid Society
Blaine (Fin) V. Fogg**

Recognition of Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP

**Master of Ceremonies
Steven Banks
Attorney-in-Chief**

**Presentation of the 2009 Pro Bono Publico Awards
Chief Judge Lippman and Steven Banks**

*The Legal Aid Society expresses its appreciation to Espace for hosting
the 2009 Pro Bono Awards ceremony and to William Curran
of Curran Affair Events (wcurranaffair@aol.com)*

*The Pro Bono Staff includes Marlene Halpern, Supervising Attorney;
Katie Niejadlik, Pro Bono Administrator; and Rosemary Hare-Bey,
Pro Bono Coordinator*



THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY'S 2009 PRO BONO PUBLICO AWARDS

**Presented by The Honorable Jonathan Lippman,
Chief Judge of the State of New York**

For more than 130 years, the major New York City law firms have served as partners with The Legal Aid Society in securing the fundamental legal rights of low-income New Yorkers in critical need of counsel but unable to afford it. The Legal Aid Society's 2009 Pro Bono Publico Awards epitomize the enduring strength of this partnership, delivering life-changing legal assistance to our City's most vulnerable residents—homeless and imminently homeless children and adults, immigrants, senior citizens, unemployed and low-wage workers, chronically ill children and adults, survivors of domestic violence, neglected or abused children, persons living with HIV/AIDS, and inmates in the jails on Rikers Island and prisoners in correctional facilities throughout the State of New York.

PRO BONO PUBLICO AND PUBLIC SERVICE LAW FIRM AWARD

Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP is honored for its exceptional pro bono commitment to The Legal Aid Society and its clients. The firm has expanded its pro bono commitment by serving as co-counsel on four major class action reform cases in the areas of subsidized housing for low-income tenants, public assistance benefits for low-income families, health and safety concerns of children in residential treatment centers and mental health issues of children in foster care. The firm has also handled a large number of individual cases in a variety of civil legal matters and participated in community outreach and education efforts in the Civil Practice.

In a major lawsuit affecting low-income tenants living in subsidized housing, **Clay J. Pierce, Joseph Abraham, Christopher Y. Miller, and David Slarskey** worked with the Civil Law Reform Unit to stave off massive evictions from a 1,000 unit former federally and state subsidized housing complex. As co-counsel with staff from the Civil Practice, Patterson Belknap also helped develop litigation intended to ensure that low-income families and individuals who are subject to durational sanctions of their public assistance benefits receive legally sufficient notice and a meaningful opportunity to challenge the duration of their sanction. In individual cases, **Claude Platton** and **Nicholas Suplina** provided outstanding representation

to existing tenants with Section 8 vouchers who were being harmed and threatened with eviction by their landlords' illegal practice in refusing the vouchers. Their advocacy compelled the landlords to comply with a local law that prohibits discrimination against tenants with governmental subsidies. **Russell Wohl** and **Karen Berry** developed and led community education workshops and counseled low-income nonprofits and micro entrepreneurs challenged by the economic downturn. Patterson Belknap has also provided invaluable law reform assistance to the Juvenile Rights Practice in addressing health and safety concerns of children who are placed in residential treatment centers, the rights of children with mental health needs and the improper removal of kinship foster children from their families.

The firm's support of The Legal Aid Society dates back to the early 1930s and several partners have served on the Society's Board of Directors and as officers. **Rochelle Korman**, a partner, currently serves on the Board of Directors.

MAKING THE CASE FOR HUMANITY

Alan Siegel, Chairman and CEO of **Siegel & Gale** was the prime mover in the creation of the re-brand of The Legal Aid Society. He was an integral part of the team he established to refine the Society's message about the essential client services provided in the City of New York by The Legal Aid Society in its three Practice Areas and the unique role the Society plays in the social fabric of New York City.

(Staff: Pat Bath)

Commitment To Represent Clients Involved in the Criminal Justice System

The Legal Aid Society's Criminal Practice is the largest public defender organization in the country and serves as the primary defender in New York City, handling more than 232,000 cases annually. The Criminal Defense Pro Bono Project, which began last year as a pilot project, provides additional and much needed legal resources to assist Legal Aid attorneys with their enormous caseload. Volunteer lawyers allocate a third of their time over a nine-month period or serve as full-time externs for up to a year. The six law firms that initiated the project in the Manhattan Trial Office of the Criminal Practice are recognized for their outstanding commitment to the representation of clients involved in the criminal justice system. They are: **Cooley Godward Kronish LLP, Davis Polk & Wardell LLP, Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP, Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP, and White & Case LLP.**

Rachel Kane of Cooley Godward, **Christopher Roche** of Davis Polk, **Naana Frimpong** of Debevoise & Plimpton, **Jennifer Diana** and **Darren LaVerne** of Kramer Levin, and **Adam Burton** of White & Case are the project's outstanding

associates and are recognized for their conscientious and excellent representation of clients in misdemeanor matters, assistance with felony trials, and the dedication of extra hours to the project. **Lisa Card** of Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP, is honored for her tireless work on behalf of our clients during her six month externship with the Criminal Defense Practice

(Staff: Irwin Shaw)

In addition to its commitment to the Criminal Practice, Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP provided a full-time fellow, **Elizabeth Cate**, in the Brooklyn Office of the Juvenile Rights Practice, who represented children accused of juvenile delinquency. Ms. Cate quickly became fully integrated into the juvenile delinquency team, has carried a caseload comparable to a full-time staff attorney, and successfully has handled all aspects of litigation

(Staff: Karen Yazmajian)

OUTSTANDING PRO BONO COUNSEL

Scot Fishman of Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP is honored as the outstanding pro bono counsel for his exceptional dedication to the clients of The Legal Aid Society. Mr. Fishman has been instrumental in expanding the firm's multifaceted pro bono partnership with the Society. He has provided co-counsel for law reform cases, has recruited attorneys and paralegals for the immigration practice, and has promoted the creation of a criminal defense externship and juvenile rights public interest fellowships.

(Staff: Marlene Halpern, Rosemary Hare-Bey, and Katie Niejadlik)

EXPANSION OF CRIMINAL DEFENSE COUNSEL

Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP is recognized for its extraordinary commitment in providing a high level legal team to assist The Legal Aid Society in conducting innovative data research and investigation in preparation for the implementation of the landmark State criminal defense case cap law to address the excessive criminal defense caseload issues facing the Criminal Practice. The firm's groundbreaking work with the Society will improve the quality of criminal defense representation in New York City as well as throughout the country. The Davis Polk team includes **Daniel Kolb, Andrew Krause, Jennifer Marcovitz, Daniel O'Neill, Lara Samet, and David Steinberg.**

(Staff: Seymour James, William Gibney and Amanda Moretti)

Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP is also honored for sponsoring a Juvenile Delinquency Appeals Project on behalf of the clients of the Juvenile Rights Practice.

(Staff: Judith Waksberg)

PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF IMMIGRANT ADULTS AND CHILDREN

Several firms have provided pro bono assistance in the area of immigration matters in a variety of ways, including direct representation of immigrant adults who face deportation and of abandoned and abused youth who have no ties to their native countries, staffing an immigration hotline, and serving as co-counsel for complex litigation.

Cooley Godward Kronish LLP, under the leadership of **Alan Levine**, Partner in Charge of the New York office and Chair of the Society's Board of Directors, has expanded the traditional boundaries of its excellent pro bono immigration practice to include preparation and filing of tax returns for immigrants seeking to stay in the United States. Led by partners, **Lesse Castleberry** and **Alan Cohen**, a cadre of attorneys that included **Stanley Barsky**, **Kathleen DeLaney Thomas**, **Michael Estreicher**, **Maureen Hannon**, **Gustavo Ordonez**, **Scott Pashman**, and **Franny Wang**, assisted in more than 20 cases in which the well-prepared tax returns helped clients to secure legal status.

(Staff: Olivia Cassin, Yvonne Floyd-Mayers, Sarah Gillman, Shannon McKinnon, Maria Navarro, and David Stern)

In addition to the firm's pro bono assistance in criminal defense and immigration matters, **Rachel Kane**, **William Schwartz** and **Karen Won** provided outstanding and enthusiastic co-counsel in a challenge to the routine use by the Office of Children and Family Services of handcuffs, leg shackles, and belly chains on every child placed in its juvenile facilities when children are brought to the Family Court and other New York City courthouses

(Staff: Nancy Rosenbloom)

William O'Brien is recognized for his dedicated and excellent pro bono assistance to The Legal Aid Society in a matter involving immigration.

Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP is recognized for staffing The Legal Aid Society's Detention Defense Hotline for detained immigrants. Each week, associates and paralegals answer calls and conduct phone interviews, providing indispensable assistance to the Civil Practice's Immigration Unit. **Carl W. Mills** and **Beatriz Biscardi** (formerly with the firm), successfully represented an HIV positive, multiple amputee, who faced almost certain torture and death if deported to Haiti. **Tina Elfenbein**, **Heather Koffman**, and **Sarah Cave** provided outstanding representation that enabled an HIV positive Haitian immigrant with tuberculosis to remain in the United States and receive appropriate medical treatment.

(Staff: Sarah Gillman, Maria Navarro, and Olivia Cassin)

Hughes Hubbard also provides the Society with a wide range of pro bono assistance, including representation of disabled individuals. **Samuel McCoubrey, Allison Bowles** (formerly with the firm), and summer associates **Parker Hutchinson** and **Jaime Hernandez** provided outstanding representation in a complex Social Security Disability case that involved a charge of overpayment.

(Staff: Helen Frieder)

For a number of years, **Latham & Watkins LLP** has represented abused, abandoned, and neglected immigrant youth, who have no ties to their native country, to obtain permanent legal status so they can remain in the United States. Latham's team, led by **Blair Connelly** and associate coordinators **Lillian Gutwein** and **Casey Hinkle**, works with the Civil Practice's Immigration Unit. **Mason Barney, Melissa Baumgartner, Katherine Brown, John Castiglione, Isorys Dilone, Irmak Ince, Brendan Kelleher, Sarah Lightdale, Aaron Singer**, and former Latham attorneys **Donna Bunbury** and **Julie Shapiro** represented immigrant youth on multiple special status cases and obtained legal status for abused, abandoned, or neglected youth from Argentina, Belize, the Dominican Republic, Guinea, Haiti, and Honduras.

(Staff: Katherine Fleet)

Casey Hinkle and **Allegra Wiles** also provided outstanding assistance in U.S. district court for a low-income wage earner seeking unpaid wages.

(Staff: Hollis Pfitsch)

Olga Urbieta, formerly of **Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP**, is as an invaluable member of The Legal Aid Society's Immigration Youth Representation Project. She assisted numerous immigrant youth to achieve permanent residency, strengthened the Project's case handling capacity, and worked on a number challenging cases in Family Court and before the United States Customs and Immigration Service.

(Staff: Katherine Fleet)

In addition, a legal team from **Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP**, consisting of **Ryan Andreoli, Anthony Antonelli, Gillian Groarke, Daniel Melman**, and **Ronit Setton**, provided outstanding representation to 30 indigent tenants, some of them immigrants, in the first reported decision holding that, in accordance with a newly enacted City law, landlords must accept Section 8 vouchers from existing tenants.

(Staff: Judith Goldiner)

Steven H. Schulman and **John W. Berry** of **Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP** established a representation project to assist detained immigrants facing de-

portation. **Sylvie Goursaud** and **Joseph L. Sorkin** have taken on leadership roles in making the project a success.

(Staff: Maria Navarro and Shannon McKinnon)

In addition to the immigration project, **Akin Gump** also represented clients in other areas. **Raya Doyle, Ryan Marks,** and **Thomas O'Reilly** provided appellate counsel for a public housing tenant, who was denied succession rights to her life-long home after her mother's death

(Staff: Sateesh Nori)

Nelson Boxer of **Alston & Bird LLP** is recognized for his persistent and zealous representation of the Society's Immigration Law Unit attorneys in a protracted lawsuit against employees of the U.S. Bureau of Prisons who secretly audio taped attorney-client conferences between the Society's attorneys and 9/11 detainees.

(Staff: Olivia Cassin, Yvonne Mayers, and Janet Sabel)

Edward D. Tolley, of **Cook Noell Tolley & Bates LLP**, and **Mark Yopp, Judith O'Brien,** and **Charles Lester, Jr.** of **Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP**, were successful in representing a long-term permanent resident on a Motion for Sentence Clarification in Georgia which prevented her removal from the United States and allowed her to be re-united with her family after months of detention.

(Staff: David Stern)

Dr. Matthew D. Anderson and **Dr. Homer D. Venters** provided invaluable expertise and support for HIV/AIDS clients facing deportation to Jamaica, El Salvador, and Hati where appropriate medical treatment is not available. The doctors demonstrated great sensitivity, traveling to detention centers to conduct medical examinations and advocating for detained clients to receive proper medical care.

(Staff: Sarah Gillman)

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP is honored for providing outstanding pro bono service to immigrants involved in Immigration Court proceedings. **Juan Arteaga, Paul Gluckow, William Golden, Maria Gonzalez, Christina Mauricio, Julissa Reynoso, Eric Sarabia,** and former Simpson attorneys **Carlos Lopez** and **Jonathan Lieberman**, are recognized for their successful representation of lawful permanent residents with families who are now being permitted to remain in the United States because of their advocacy.

(Staff: Shannon McKinnon)

Simpson lawyers **Bryan Herzbach** and **Thomas Lamprecht** are recognized for providing a full range of legal services that enabled low income Mexican immigrants to open a small grocery store in Washington Heights.

(Staff: Community Development Project)

ACCESS TO JUSTICE THROUGH EXTERNSHIP PROGRAMS

Externships provide exceptional client representation and pro bono assistance to The Legal Aid Society. **Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP** initiated a corporate externship during the past year joining **Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP**; **Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP**; and **Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP**, whose long-standing externship programs continue to make an enormous difference in the Civil and Juvenile Rights Practices. Last year, **White & Case LLP** created a General Counsel extern program providing a full-time attorney on a three-month rotation to work directly with **Janet Sabel**, General Counsel and Chief Administrative officer, and **Dewey LeBoeuf LLP** established an externship in the Manhattan Criminal Defense office. Both of these programs have been very successful as well. **Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP** and **Dechert LLP** provided one-time externships in the Harlem Community Law Office.

Ana M. Navia and **Benjamin Wolf**, the first Simpson Thacher externs, expanded the outreach of the Civil Practice's Community Development Project by assisting with the creation and presentation of Spanish Language workshops and representing nonprofits on various corporate governance issues.

(Staff: Community Development Project)

White & Case externs **Hessam Ghadaki**, **Jonathan Ng** and **Eunice Rho** (formerly with the firm) provided invaluable assistance on a full range of corporate, real estate, insurance, contract, and ethics issues.

(Staff: Janet Sabel)

Fried Frank externs **Omri Flicker**, **Tatyana Levina** and **Lauren McEntegart** provided excellent business law assistance to the Community Development Project.

(Staff: Community Development Project)

In addition, Fried Frank lawyers **Arianne de Govia**, **Henry Lebowitz** and **Julie Newman** provided crucial corporate and intellectual property advice to a Harlem artist, assisting him with the legal complexities of retaining the rights to his original works.

(Staff: Susan Chase)

Externs from Milbank, Tweed served in various practice areas and provided outstanding representation to a substantial number of clients: **Abbey Mansfield** and **Nicole Vasquez** worked in the Juvenile Rights Practice; **Sonja Andersen** has continued to work with the Immigration Unit's Detention Project; and **Matthew**

Thiel worked beyond his four-month externship with the Community Development Project.

(Staff: Community Development Project, Immigration Law Unit, and Juvenile Rights Practice)

Jessica Blaine Lee, Shari Graham, and James Leonard of Skadden, Arps provided excellent representation to clients in the Civil Practice's Harlem Community Law Office in a variety of litigated matters in diverse administrative and judicial forums during their her four-month externship.

(Staff: Harlem Community Law Office)

Andrew Weprin (formerly of Dechert LLP), served as the Community Development's real estate expert during his five-month externship, advising clients affected by the economic downturn on lease surrenders, re-negotiations, low-income co-op financial issues.

(Staff: Community Development Project)

Weil Gotshal externs **Priya B. Adhinarayanan** and **Timothy O'Grady** expanded the capacity of the Community Development Project and the Low Income Taxpayers' Clinic in the Harlem Community Law Office to serve additional non-profits, low-income microentrepreneurs, and low-income housing cooperatives and to represent clients in disputes with the IRS and the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance.

(Staff: Community Development Project and Low Income Taxpayer Clinic)

PRISONERS' RIGHTS PROJECT LITIGATION BENEFITS SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS

Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP is recognized for its exceptional pro bono contributions to protect prisoners from violence and physical abuse. **Melissa Colon-Bosolet, Diana Eng, Lucia Freda, Leason Holett, Cheryl James, Consuelo Kendall, Lavell Malloy, Tamika Montgomery, Matthew Powers, Kimberly Rosensteel, Mili Sam, Nicole Swaney** and **Carol Ventura** comprise the legal team assisting the Prisoners' Rights Project to stave off likely action by the City to terminate the class action injunction, obtained in *Fisher v. Koehler*, which requires measures to reduce inmate-inmate and staff-inmate violence at the Erick M. Taylor Center on Rikers Island. They have worked on all aspects of trial preparation including the creation of a database for the voluminous records of violent incidents. **Vernon Broderick, Jason Lichter,** and **Cecilia Silver** (formerly with the firm) won a jury verdict of \$200,000 in compensatory damages and \$550,000 in punitive damages for an abused inmate who was beaten brutally, while handcuffed,

by five corrections officers at the Fishkill Correctional Facility.

(Staff: John Boston and Veronica Vela)

Debevoise & Plimpton LLP is recognized for its outstanding work as co-counsel with the Society's Prisoners' Rights Project in *Amador v. Andrews*, a class action on behalf of women prisoners who have been sexually abused by male correctional officers in the New York jails. The firm's steadfast representation continues on a discretionary interlocutory appeal to the Second Circuit of the district court's dismissal of all injunctive claims, requiring women who had complained to the Inspector General and been informed prison grievances were not necessary to exhaust prison administrative grievance procedures. The firm's support of the appeal and prosecution of the six damage claims pending in district court is led by a legal team including **Maev O'Connor, Stephanie Brannen, John S. Craig, Svetlana M. Eisenberg, Donna Krouzman, Alison Mikkor, Claudio D. Salas, Jennifer E. Spain, Shubhra Shivpuri, Jenna Swiergula, Robert Tebbenkamp** and **Sarah Wolff**.

(Staff: Dori Lewis and Lisa Freeman)

Larkin Morton, Jeffrey Simes, and Kathryn Starnella (formerly with the firm) of **Goodwin Procter LLP** successfully litigated a damage case brought on behalf of an incarcerated mother who wrongfully was separated from her baby at the Rikers Island nursery and later was denied the right to live with her baby upon transfer for a year to a State prison. Ms. Starnella also successfully litigated an Article 78 proceeding that reunited mother and child after a five-month separation.

(Staff: Dori Lewis)

Thomas Meriam of **Goodwin Procter LLP**, and **Brooke Connell** (formerly of Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP) worked diligently to help an HIV/AIDS peer counseling and support nonprofit on the brink of insolvency to reorganize and form a strategic alliance with another nonprofit providing complementary services.

(Staff: Susan Chase)

O'Melveny & Myers LLP is honored for the firm's work with the Prisoners' Rights Project to protect hospitalized inmates from barbaric shackling practices and to challenge the abuse of prisoners by correction officers. **Christine Bustany, Shiva Eftekhari, Brad Elias, Andrew Frackman, Peter Herrick** and **Clara Pugsley** comprise the outstanding legal team that is co-counsel in opposing New York City's motion to terminate the Consent Judgment in *Reynolds v. Horn*. The judgment in this class action limits the practice of shackling medically ill Rikers Island inmates confined in civilian medical wards in municipal hospitals and requires Constitutional treatment be provided to prisoners confined in jail psychiatric

wards at Bellevue and Elmhurst Hospitals. **Brendan Dowd, Zack Gross, Mark Racanelli, Asher Rivner, and Justin Siegel** successfully litigated a federal civil rights action on behalf of a former Rikers Island inmate who was brutally beaten by a Department of Correction supervisor and sustained severe injuries. **Mark Germann, Bradley Rice, Jonathan Rosenberg and Alexandra Lewis-Reisen** and **Stephanie Sarzana** (formerly with the firm) successfully litigated a federal civil rights case on behalf of a Rikers Island prisoner who was brutally beaten by jail guards and supervisors on two occasions.

(Staff: Dori Lewis, Jonathan Chasan, and Mary Lynne Werlwas)

Dee Ann Dorsey, Matthew Freimuth, and Paul Stephan of **Hunton & Williams LLP** provided outstanding representation to a prisoner who was assaulted by officers at Wende Correctional Facility and suffered severe multiple injuries.

(Staff: John Boston and Milton Zelermyer)

Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP is recognized for its exemplary representation of abused prisoners. **Roberto Finzi** and **Julie Romm** have been instrumental in the Society's continuing efforts to ensure that young people confined at Rikers Island obtain general and special educational services as required by law. They continue as dedicated co-counsel as we seek to have the district court enforce the Second Circuit mandate for educational services. **Moses Silverman, Jane O'Brien, and Benjamin Warlick** (formerly with the firm) successfully settled a civil rights action arising from the 2005 brutal beating of a Rikers Island prisoner. **Rebecca Carvalho** and **Julie Fink** provided outstanding representation in a federal civil rights action on behalf of a brutally beaten Rikers Island prisoner.

(Staff: Dori Lewis, Jonathan Chasan, and Mary Lynne Werlwas)

In addition to the pro bono advocacy for prisoners, Paul Weiss has represented a number of low-income wage earners. **Issa Mikel** is recognized for invaluable work as co-counsel in the representation of two restaurant workers who for many years were not paid the minimum wage or overtime.

(Staff: Hollis Pfitsch)

CAPITOL DEFENSE WORK

Covington & Burling LLP and **Dechert LLP** are honored for their extraordinary work on two Alabama death penalty cases, adding vital legal and expert resources to supplement the pro bono work of The Legal Aid Society's attorneys. **Elizabeth Arens, Kimberly Gould, Michelle Garcia, and Richard Rainey** of Covington have done a Herculean job, opposing on short notice the State's motion to dismiss a Habeas Corpus proceeding in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama. **David Bigge** and **Benjamin Rosenberg** of Dechert, worked

tirelessly as co-counsel on a death row prisoner's post-conviction hearing in the Circuit Court of Marshall County Alabama, presenting a complex claim of ineffective assistance by trial counsel at the penalty phase of the proceeding.

*(Staff: Mitchell Briskey, Katheryne Martone, Robert Newman,
and Steven Wasserman)*

Dechert LLP is recognized for its outstanding pro bono contributions to protect the rights of prisoners to receive adequate medical care and to provide persons with mental illness suffering from substance abuse with access to alternatives to incarceration. **David Hoffner** and **José Almonte** are honored for their excellent contribution as co-counsel with the Prisoners' Rights Project to preserve the 20-year consent judgment in *Milburn v. Goord*, a class action to ensure that prisoners at Green Haven Correctional Facility receive adequate care. The State has completed the re-retrofitting of the Unit for the Physically Disabled, enabling more than 20 wheelchair bound inmates to be housed — many closer to their homes — and affording them greater access to appropriate programmatic and medical services, including 24-hour nursing care.

(Staff: Dori Lewis)

SAVING HOMES AND JOBS FOR LOW INCOME NEW YORKERS

Dechert LLP is honored for its outstanding representation of existing tenants with Section 8 vouchers who were being harmed and threatened with loss of their homes because of the illegal and discriminatory practices of their landlords who refused the subsidies. The firm worked with the Civil Law Reform to initiate plenary actions on behalf of the tenants. Under the direction of **Thomas Munno**, Managing Partner of the law firm's New York office, and **George Wukoson**, the firm represented 19 clients.

(Staff: Civil Law Reform Unit)

Davin Hall and **Glenn Siegel** of Dechert LLP are recognized for their tenacious and creative legal work on behalf of four low-income workers trying to enforce a 2005 U.S. district court judgment against a former employer who had hidden his assets.

(Staff: Marlen Bodden)

Morrison & Foerster LLP has provided pro bono counsel in housing matters for large numbers of low-income families. Michael Gerard of is honored for his extraordinary work as co-counsel for the tenant's association of a 454 unit federally-subsidized Mitchell-Lama building, one of two remaining State subsidized projects on Staten Island. Tenacious litigation strategy and governmental relations advocacy

convinced HUD to deny the owner's request to pre-pay the mortgage and sell the building to a notorious predatory equity speculator. HUD's decision was upheld by the DC district court.

(Staff: Ellen Davidson)

In other housing matters, **Shiri Bilik** and **Stacy Kaplan** of **Morrison & Foerster LLP** are recognized for the stalwart defense of low-income families who borrowed money to purchase condominiums and were threatened with foreclosure for their failure to pay inflated and unsubstantiated surcharges and assessments.

(Staff: Sateesh Nori)

In addition, Morrison & Foerster lawyers **Edward Blatnik**, **Emily Hutters** and **Mark Ladner** are recognized for their excellent and diligent representation of a hearing impaired prisoner who is asserting that he is not receiving reasonable accommodation in compliance with *Clarkson v. Coughlin*, a federal class action protecting hearing impaired inmates.

(Staff: John Boston and Milton Zelermyer)

Kaye Scholer LLP provided outstanding pro bono service to a large number of clients in need of assistance with housing and wage problems as well as other matters. **DaShondra Brown**, **Dionne Fraser** and **Lori Leskin** provided diligent representation for a group of tenants made homeless because of a fire that occurred in an empty apartment in their building. The legal team persevered in obtaining crucial Fire Department documents that substantiate the fire might have been caused by the landlord's negligence.

(Staff: Sateesh Nori)

Michael Bullerman, **Thomas Fleming**, **Ericka Fowler**, **Tzung-Lin Fu**, **Matthew McFarlane**, **Jeanna Wacker**, and **Ryan Miller** (formerly with the firm), are recognized for their outstanding legal work as co-counsel on behalf of 14 restaurant workers whose employer closed the restaurants and re-opened them under a new corporate name when a fair wage and labor complaint was filed with New York State Department of Labor. This dedicated legal team has provided talented leadership throughout the litigation and Mandarin language capacity to facilitate client interaction.

(Staff: Hollis Pfitsch and Amy Hong)

Larissa Eustice and **Ericka Fowler** provided outstanding advocacy and secured Social Security Disability benefits for a large number of disabled clients. In addition to their own pro bono cases, they supervised colleagues and **Ms. Eustice Larissa** co-coordinated the firm's summer associate disability advocacy program.

(Staff: Lori Brooks)

Jacqueline Arana, formerly of Kaye Scholer LLP, continues to provide extraordinary representation to a 58-year-old United States military veteran who had been denied parole five times and was serving his 19th year in a State correctional facility. Ms. Arana was able to persuade the State Supreme Court that the Parole Board had engaged in perfunctory evaluation of his entitlement to release. Upon release from the New York State system, the federal Bureau of Prisons immediately incarcerated the client on a 22-year-old parole warrant. Ms. Arana zealously is challenging his denial of federal parole and is working to secure his much delayed release from incarceration.

(Staff: Jonathan Chasan and Steven Wasserman)

Allie Cheatham, Brian de Haan, and Andrew Rhys Davies of **Allen & Overy LLP**, dedicated countless hours and expertise on behalf of two women who suffered sexual harassment in their workplace.

(Staff: Hollis Pfitsch)

Lawrence Dany, Natanyah Ganz, Allegra Lawrence-Hardy, and David Langlois of **Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP** were zealous co-counsel for a disabled worker who was discriminated against, and subjected to a hostile workplace, because of his disability and perceived sexual orientation

(Staff: Amy Hong)

David Haber of **Kirkland & Ellis LLP** provided excellent representation, on short notice, at a Social Security Disability hearing and continues to advocate zealously for disabled clients.

(Staff: Lori Brooks)

ENCOURAGING COMMUNITY GROWTH AND PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF LOW-INCOME CO-OP TENANT/SHAREHOLDERS

Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP is recognized for its long-term pro bono commitment to The Legal Aid Society through representation of low-income tenants, taxpayers and community partners. **Mia Korot** and **Adam Marlowe** are recognized for tirelessly representing four low-income families who should have been shareholders of a low-income housing cooperative, but were being denied their rights by a runaway board of directors. The homes of these families have been preserved and the malfeasant board kept in check. In another case, **Dennis O'Donnell** and **Jeremy Sussman** provided crucial bankruptcy counsel for a debt-burdened low-income cooperative housing project in Harlem. As a result of their efforts, the building's occupants fought off their creditors and retained their homes.

(Staff: Sateesh Nori)

Bruce Kayle, Kurt Avarell, Nicole Leyton, Joseph Persinger, and Andrew Walker provided outstanding assistance on two United States Tax Court cases, obtaining relief for an innocent spouse and reduction of a young musician's tax liability. Without their assistance, both individuals would have been facing devastating tax debts for years.

(Staff: Low Income Taxpayer Unit)

Jeremy Steckel demonstrated unusual skill and dedication in handling a number of immigrant matters, including a Second Circuit motion for a stay of deportation on behalf of an El Salvadorian whose cooperation with local law enforcement placed him in grave danger if deported. Mr. Steckel also helped initiate a petition to the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights on behalf of the same client.

(Staff: Amy Meselson)

Matthew Barr, Lisa Brabant, Rachel Fink, Alan Lawn, Joseph Genova, Tyson Lomazow, Stephanie Sklar, Jay Spader, and John K. White, Jr. are recognized for their outstanding legal work and unstinting efforts in furtherance of the Corn Exchange Project to establish the nonprofit Harlem Culinary Institute, and thereby provide affordable culinary degrees and professional career opportunities to low-wage New Yorkers. Milbank's commitment of time and resources to the project has been exemplary.

(Staff: Susan Chase)

AFFIRMATIVE LITIGATION

Keith Bradley, Joyce Chen, and Matthew Draper of **Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP** provided extensive assistance in evaluating potential legal claims to stop a plan by the City Department of Homeless Services to close the Manhattan intake center for homeless men and woman and move it to an inaccessible location in Brooklyn.

(Staff: Steven Banks, Joshua Goldfein, Judith Goldiner, Amanda Moretti, and Scott Rosenberg)

Antony L. Ryan, Rebecca R. Silber, and Aaron Feigenbaum of **Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP**, have provided extensive and enormously valuable assistance in *Messiah S. v. Alexander*, a class action on behalf of mentally ill State prisoners who are discharged without the assistance and services necessary for successful parole and to obtain public benefits, housing, medical and case management services.

(Staff: Ken Stephens, Katie Kelleher, John Boston, Scott Rosenberg, and Veronica Vela)

Ronald Tabak of **Skadden, Arps** is honored for his major contribution to the successful settlement of *Blatch v. NYCHA*, a landmark case that mandates the appointment of guardians to represent mentally disabled residents in tenancy termination proceedings. These are the only administrative hearings in the country that are required to make such an appointment.

(Staff: Judith Goldiner)

In addition to the settlement in the Blatch case, **Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP & Affiliates** is being honored for the firm's invaluable help in researching problems involving attorney access to incarcerated clients in the new Bronx Hall of Justice. **Michael Battaglia, Rita Belin, Linda Cenedella, Kurt Gerry, and Kamali Willett** spent innumerable hours at the courthouse, conducted an investigation that documented the lack of confidentiality, and showed a repeated pattern of failure to produce clients for interviews in a timely manner.

(Staff: William Gibney)

Cory Alpert, Karen Hoffman Lent, and Hermann Schneeweiss of Skadden Arps have provided steadfast representation to a disabled senior citizen who was found by the governing administrative agency to have been illegally overcharged in her monthly rent for the past four years by her landlord.

(Staff: Amy Hong)

PRESERVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS

Dori Ann Hanswirth, Katie Lachter, Collin J. Peng-Sue, of **Hogan & Hartson LLP**, are recognized for obtaining a hard won and considerable settlement for 25 tenants who had been made homeless because of their landlord's illegal alterations to the building.

(Staff: Sateesh Nori)

Sumit Som and **Michael J. Volpe** of **Venable LLP** are recognized for their diligent representation of an indigent immigrant tenant who was evicted illegally from his home and had all of his property destroyed or damaged by the landlord's actions. **Doreen Martin** and **Heather Maly** of Venable LLP are honored for their outstanding work on behalf of current low-income tenants whose landlords were refusing, in violation of a new City law, to accept their Section 8 housing subsidies.

(Staff: Judith Goldliner)

E. Ann Gill, of **Seyfarth Shaw LLP**, provided excellent representation to ensure that current low-income tenants could use their Section 8 housing subsidy and not be illegally discriminated against by their landlords.

(Staff: Judith Goldliner)

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF VULNERABLE YOUNG CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND TEEN-AGERS WITH MAJOR PROBLEMS

Maureen Fitzgerald and **Jennifer Murray** of **Sullivan & Cromwell LLP** provided outstanding assistance to a homeless woman and her toddler who the City unlawfully subjected to months of late-night “overnight” shelter placements and expulsion from the shelter altogether, although the City had been ordered to provide shelter to the family. Their extraordinary efforts not only obtained a new apartment and cash settlement for the family, but also got the City to revise its procedure for compliance with State administrative decisions.

(Staff: Joshua Goldfein)

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP and **Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP** are honored for their juvenile justice pro bono initiatives in which attorneys from both firms are working in the Manhattan and Brooklyn offices of the Juvenile Rights Practice to represent children accused of juvenile delinquency. The attorneys are engaged in motion practice, trials and negotiations with probation and other agencies. **Scott Stimpson**, a partner with Morgan Lewis, is recognized for his excellent representation in achieving court determinations for a number of children.

Proskauer Rose LLP has been the leading firm in providing appellate counsel to young clients of the Juvenile Rights Practice who are awaiting permanent homes. Working in conjunction with the Juvenile Rights Appeals Bureau, the firm’s representation has removed legal barriers that have freed dozens of children each year for adoption.

(Staff: Judith Waksberg)

In addition, Proskauer lawyers **Steven Kayman** and **A. Nicole Spooner** successfully negotiated a favorable settlement for a former Rikers Island inmate who was brutally beaten while in handcuffs.

(Staff: Jonathan Chasan)

Stuart Fleischmann, a partner at **Shearman & Sterling LLP**, steadfastly advocated for four years for disability benefits for an adolescent boy suffering from bilateral gynecomastia (enlarged breasts), a condition that Social Security regarded as merely cosmetic. Mr. Fleischmann’s efforts were successful and the young man received retroactive benefits, obtained medical care for his condition and is pursuing a college education.

(Staff: Elizabeth Hay)

CRIMINAL APPEALS

Karen Hart, Alexander Marcopoulos, Curtis Scribner, Ashley Walker, and Douglas Miller (formerly with the firm) of **Shearman and Sterling LLP**, provided zealous representation on two cases supervised by partner **Brian Polovoy**. The Shearman legal team effectively litigated for an evidentiary hearing to vacate a 17.5 years to life sentence that was imposed on the client because trial counsel failed to research settled New York law and encouraged him to refuse a favorable guilty plea. The team also provided exceptional representation on a complex direct appeal, which the Appellate Division denied by a 3-2 vote and will now be reviewed by the Court of Appeals.

(Staff: David Crow, Richard Joselson, and John Schoeffel)

Noah Bishoff of **Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP** represented a client who was an informant and played a limited role in the underlying robbery charge.

(Staff: Andrew Fine)

PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF HOMELESS FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND SPECIAL NEEDS OF OTHER VULNERABLE CLIENTS

Stephen Dobson of **Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP** is recognized for his diligent and skillful representation that enabled a long-term public housing tenant to keep her home and permitted her disabled daughter to continue to reside with her.

(Staff: Carmine Annunziato)

Diego Ibarquen of **Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP** is recognized for his diligent advocacy on behalf of four foster children who now have individualized education plans, the tools to develop academically, and stabilized foster care placements.

(Staff: Cara Chambers)

Nicole Spence provided invaluable assistance in the *McCain/Ebony Boston v. New York* lawsuits, working diligently to help obtain the more than \$5 million in fines still owed to homeless families. As a volunteer lawyer, she set up systems to monitor the fines claims, analyzed payment data, counseled dozens of clients, and advocated on their behalf.

(Staff: Jane Sujen Bock)

PREDATORY LENDING AND MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

David J. Abrams and Kimberly Mack Rosenberg of **Kasowitz, Benson, Torres**

& Friedman LLP provided invaluable assistance in developing litigation to challenge the failure of a large mortgage servicing company to comply with the Obama Administration's Home Affordable Modification Program HAMP, causing many low-income homeowners in New York City to face foreclosure and possible homelessness.

(Staff: Oda Freidheim, Judith Goldiner, Scott Rosenberg)

Jared Brown-Rabinowitz demonstrated extraordinary commitment to The Legal Aid Society's Foreclosure Project, contributing generously of his time to develop affirmative litigation to challenge mortgage loan servicers' failure to comply with the federal loan modification program.

(Staff: Oda Friedheim)

Craig Rokuson is recognized for his invaluable assistance to the Predatory Lending and Foreclosure Prevention Project, helping with client interviews and investigations, performing independent research projects, staffing our open "walk in" courthouse, and maintaining a high level of enthusiasm, concern, and passion for client needs.

(Staff: Gail Mendez and April Newbauer)

SECOND ACTS® LEADERSHIP AWARD

Roger J. Hawke, a retired partner at **Sidley Austin LLP**, is an exemplary model for continuing a lifetime of dedication to the law while serving the public good. In 2009, Mr. Hawke volunteered two days a week with the Brooklyn Office of the Aging, representing clients on a variety of matters. He recently represented a client and helped him to regain the deed to his home and his life savings which were fraudulently taken from him. The New York Daily News carried an article on the case.

(Staff: Diane Lutwak, Civil Practice)

HIV/AIDS REPRESENTATION

Sidley Austin LLP is an invaluable partner with the HIV/AIDS Representation Project (HARP) in the Harlem Community Law Office, providing legal services to low-income individuals who have the HIV/AIDS virus. Under the leadership of **Peter Brensilver**, Sidley associates accompany HARP attorneys to Roosevelt Hospital's Infectious Disease Clinic on a monthly basis, conduct interviews, and accept individual cases for representation.

(Staff: Diane LaGamma, Civil Practice)

PRO BONO SUPPORT FOR THE BROOKLYN NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICE

Michael Burros expanded his two-day-a-week two-month externship into a five-day-a-week nine-month one, providing invaluable help to the Brooklyn Neighborhood Civil office. He worked on a case of first impression that stopped the imminent eviction of a group of women and prevented the eviction of numerous long term tenants.

(Staff: Stephen Myers)

Nadia Zaidi and **Neha S. Choudary** volunteered almost full-time with the Family/DV Unit of the Brooklyn Neighborhood Office since mid May 2009. They have been indispensable, and have expertly handled difficult matrimonial and Family Court matters.

(Staff: Emily Ruben)

ASSISTING THE LOW INCOME TAXPAYER UNIT

Joseph Hodler has volunteered with the Low-Income Taxpayers Clinic since 2007, expanding the unit's capacity to assist clients. This past year he obtained a settlement that relieved a client of more than \$6,000 of tax, penalties, and interest and convinced the IRS to release a levy against a low-income taxpayer's Social Security benefits.

(Staff: Low Income Taxpayer Unit)

REVITALIZING COMMUNITIES

Thanks to the efforts of **Jung Ju**, **Gina Rebollar**, and **Katherine Schulte** of Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP, a low-income Mexican immigrant family realized their dream of owning and operating an organic produce store in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn.

(Staff: Rolando Gonzalez)

William Lang of **Nixon Peabody LLP** provided outstanding counsel and community education through the representation of low-income tenants in a co-op conversion that created 20 units, assistance with a property transfer that created seven units of affordable housing, and participation in a community education workshop attended by participants from more than 40 low-income co-ops.

(Staff: Stephen Falla-Riff)

Alycia Green and **Naz Khan** of **Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP** conducted crucial real estate negotiations that allowed the survival of an East Harlem arts organization that trains women of color to use the media to confront social injustice themes and increase their representation in the media.

(Staff: Stephen Falla-Riff)

Brian Donnelly, Mary Zulack and Conrad Johnson of Columbia Law School are recognized for the partnership between the law school's Lawyering in the Digital Age Clinic and the Community Development Project ("CDP") that created the website <http://www.2.law.columbia.edu/cdp/>, an excellent description of CDP's work and a compendium of resource materials. The website would not have been completed without Peter Lee's dedication, who continued to work on it after his clinical semester.

(Staff: Community Development Project)

MAJOR TECHNOLOGY ADVANCES

IntApp, Inc. is recognized for donating essential software to synchronize The Legal Aid Society's different data bases and that will become a crucial component of the new Law Manager Case Management System.

(Staff: Edward Braunstein)

SERVICE TO THE SOCIETY

Jane Hanson, Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP

Christopher Mansfield and Craig Reicher, CBRichard Ellis

Ira Rosenstein, Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

Steven Rosenzweig, Menna Tesfatsion, and Anthony Tortora, Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP

James R. Stovall of Morvillo, Abramowitz, Grand, Iason, Anello & Bohrer, P.C

Stephen Warnke, Ropes & Gray LLP

(Staff: Steve Banks and Janet Sabel)

PRO BONO HONOR ROLL

In recognition of the outstanding pro bono commitment of the following law firms and corporations to The Legal Aid Society and its clients.

LAW FIRMS

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

Allen & Overy LLP

Alston & Bird LLP

Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP

Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP

Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP

Cook Noell Tolley & Bates LLP

Cooley Godward Kronish LLP

Covington & Burling LLP

Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP

Davis Polk & Wardell LLP

Day Pitney LLP

Debevoise & Plimpton LLP

Dechert LLP

Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP

Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP

Goodwin Procter LLP

Hogan & Hartson LLP

Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP

Hunton & Williams LLP

Kasowitz, Benson, Torres & Friedman LLP

Kaye Scholer LLP

Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP

Latham & Watkins LLP
Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP

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THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY
199 Water Street
New York, NY 10038
www.legal-aid.org