



PRO BONO MATTERS

A Catalyst for Justice | **2018 ANNUAL REPORT**



NEAL GERBER EISENBERG

An aerial view of a city skyline at sunset, with three data callouts overlaid. The callouts are: 1. An orange-bordered box containing '100%' in white, with 'of practice groups participated in pro bono matters' below it. 2. A yellow-bordered box containing '4,985' in white, with 'Pro bono hours worked' below it. 3. A cyan-bordered box containing '\$2.6M' in white, with 'Value of pro bono hours worked' below it. The background shows a dense cityscape with many skyscrapers under a cloudy, orange-hued sky.

100%

of practice groups participated
in pro bono matters

4,985

Pro bono
hours worked

\$2.6M

Value of pro bono
hours worked

**reporting period defined as 10/2017 – 9/2018*

Scott J. Fisher, Managing Partner



Our profession recognizes that everyone stands equal before the law and is entitled to equal access to justice. This universal declaration of human rights and dignity is at the core of Neal Gerber Eisenberg, and I am continually impressed with the myriad ways our attorneys ensure a fair justice system for all people regardless of their income or circumstances.

We donate both our voices and our time to ensure that justice is accessible for all. The depth and breadth of pro bono matters and board service highlighted throughout this year's *Report* is another testament to the firm's commitment to our community. We handled pro bono matters spanning nearly every area of public interest law, representing immigrants, homeless individuals, children and families, prisoners, individuals with disabilities, non-profit organizations, and more. Our attorneys also partnered with firm clients to leverage our resources and further bridge the access to justice gap. It is fulfilling to see each of our unique perspectives, life experiences, and skills used for the public good.

Again this year, I was honored to join other legal-industry leaders to encourage Congress to maintain its bipartisan support for funding the Legal Services Corporation. LSC continues to partner closely with stakeholders in the legal community across the U.S. to deliver high-quality legal assistance to low-income Americans. For the first time in eight years, both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees approved level funding, which is essential for LSC to continue its ongoing critical mission.

I am energized constantly by our efforts to give a voice to the most vulnerable members of our community. Thank you for taking your time to learn more about these accomplishments.

“
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– *Managing Partner Scott J. Fisher*

Steven F. Pflaum, Pro Bono Committee Chair



This year's *Pro Bono Report* once again chronicles the remarkable range of pro bono engagements undertaken by Neal Gerber Eisenberg attorneys and the many ways in which those representations have made a difference in the lives of our pro bono clients. In that sense, although the names of the clients and types of specific representations may have changed, this *Report* resembles those that we have issued year after year.

There is, however, one respect in which this year's *Report* departs from previous editions by highlighting a particular defining feature of NGE's pro bono activities and, indeed, a defining feature of the firm itself. To a greater extent than most years, this *Report* recounts the pro bono efforts of partners in the firm who are at the peak of their careers, their productivity, and their professional achievements and recognition. As exemplified by Jonathan Quinn, the recipient of this year's NGE Excellence in Pro Bono Service award (see feature on pages 14-15), as well as the many partners and firm leaders who

exceeded the firm's target of at least 50 hours of pro bono per year (see list of Pro Bono All Stars on page 19), ours is a firm in which pro bono is not just for associates and other lawyers at the beginning of their careers.

This is significant for several reasons. For starters, associates and other young lawyers have more incentives to do pro bono work. For purposes of compensation and promotion, our firm treats pro bono hours worked by associates the same as hours worked for paying clients. Moreover, pro bono can provide young lawyers with in-court or other hands-on experience that can be difficult for lawyers to obtain early in their careers—an opportunity that experienced partners do not need.

In short, without meaning to diminish the commendable idealism that often inspires younger lawyers to do pro bono work, that done by partners is sometimes even more altruistic. In the finest tradition of the legal profession and our firm, such partners lead by example, simultaneously heeding the call of the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct "to use their training, experience, and skills to provide services in the public interest for which compensation may not be available," and showing by their actions what it truly means to be a successful lawyer and a successful member of our firm.

“

...this *Report* recounts the pro bono efforts of partners in the firm who are at the peak of their careers, their productivity, and their professional achievements and recognition.”

– Partner Steven F. Pflaum

Securing Justice in the Schools



Thomas J. Campbell

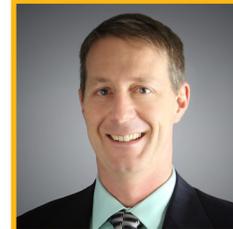
A child who had suffered a traumatic brain injury in a car accident desperately needed an appropriate therapeutic placement in a school that could provide specialized curriculum and services for social-emotional and behavioral learning. After getting nowhere with the local school district, the child's grandmother sought help from Equip for Equality, an Illinois-based

non-profit that advocates for people with disabilities. Contacted through Equip's robust pro bono program, Neal Gerber Eisenberg Partner **Thomas J. Campbell** agreed to dive in. After extensive negotiations, Tom convinced the school district to provide funding for the student's placement in and services from a therapeutic day school that specializes in serving students suffering from traumatic brain injuries.



I am so very happy and cannot possibly say how much we appreciate your hard work over these few months. Our prayers have been answered in more ways than one. It has been a true pleasure working with and having your knowledgeable insight throughout this process. Yes, it was mind boggling for me at times, but we prevailed in the end. I could not have accomplished her IEP process if not for you and Equip for Equality."

– A note from the client's grandmother to Tom Campbell



Mike R. Turner

Partner **Mike R. Turner** and Associate **Tanvi B. Patel** represented a student with dyslexia during negotiations with a local school district. As often proves to be the case, having legal representation made the difference between a student receiving the services required by law and going without. Thanks to Mike and Tanvi's advocacy, the student was able to obtain the

specialized reading services that she needed. But Mike and Tanvi did not stop there. When they uncovered evidence that the school district was systematically failing to give students with reading issues the services to which they were legally entitled, Mike and Tanvi connected caregivers and parents in the district and began working for systemic change.

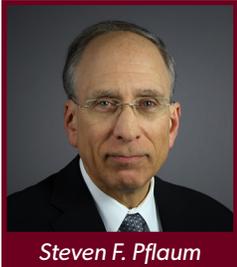


Tanvi B. Patel



Paving the Way for **Change**

Statutory Court Fee Task Force



Steven F. Pflaum

Partner **Steven F. Pflaum**, co-chair of the Litigation practice group and chair of the firm's Pro Bono Committee, was appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court to chair the Statutory Court Fee Task Force. Comprised of legislators, judges, court clerks, and attorneys, the Task Force was created by statute to study problems and recommend solutions relating to court fees

and costs imposed on litigants in civil lawsuits and on defendants in criminal and traffic proceedings.

Under Steve's leadership and following extensive research, the Task Force released a report documenting that skyrocketing fees and costs were (1) interfering with civil litigants' access to justice, and (2) imposing excessive and inconsistent financial burdens on defendants in criminal and traffic proceedings. To remedy these issues, the Task Force proposed legislation, which was passed by the General Assembly and recently signed into law by the Governor.

Effective July 1, 2019, the new law dramatically reforms the current system of court fees and costs and will improve access to justice for civil cases, bolster transparency of fees and costs in all court proceedings, authorize the waiver of fees for indigent defendants in criminal proceedings, and expand the availability of fee waivers to the working poor in civil cases.

Notarization Task Force on Best Practices and Verification Standards to Implement Electronic Notarization

Associate **Meredith Mays Espino** was nominated by the Chicago Bar Association and appointed by the Illinois Secretary of State to serve on the Notarization Task Force on Best Practices and Verification Standards to Implement Electronic Notarization.

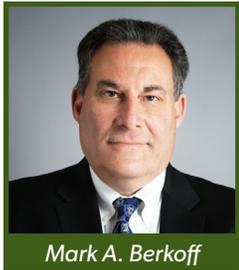


Meredith Mays Espino

Comprised of Illinois legislators and industry leaders, the Task Force is reviewing national standards for electronic notarization best practices, with particular attention to security concerns and fraud prevention. The Task Force is especially focused on enabling Illinois to successfully implement electronic notarization to make transactions easier for people, such as those without bank accounts, who do not have access to traditional notary services.



Providing a **Fresh Start**



Mark A. Berkoff

Mark A. Berkoff, chair of the Financial Restructuring and Bankruptcy practice group, was appointed by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois to represent a client who filed a handwritten *pro se* complaint alleging excessive force by various City of Harvey police officers. Mark recruited Associate **Kevin G. Schneider** to assist.

After defeating the defendants' motion to dismiss, the Neal Gerber Eisenberg team was able to negotiate a favorable settlement on behalf of the client.

Though their court-appointed representation was concluded, Mark and Kevin went beyond the call of the court appointment to ensure a just outcome for their client. A check was tendered to the client for the settlement amount, which a currency exchange subsequently cashed. However, prior to the check being presented for payment, the City of Harvey's bank account had been frozen, and the currency exchange demanded that the client return the funds. After lengthy negotiations with the currency exchange and a further court hearing, the judge ultimately closed the case without requiring the client to return the settlement funds. Thanks to Mark and Kevin's efforts, the client was able to realize the intended benefit of the settlement of his lawsuit.



Kevin G. Schneider

National Immigrant Justice Center

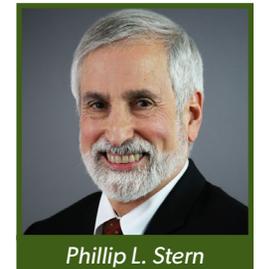


Tina L. Winer

Neal Gerber Eisenberg is partnering with its client, BMO Financial Group (through their *pro bono* program), to represent asylum seekers. The teams include NGE attorneys in Chicago and BMO attorneys throughout North America, each with unique skill sets and expertise that have fueled a collaborative and effective partnership. The

teams are representing clients seeking refuge from oppressive conditions associated with civil unrest or war, persecution of religious or ethnic minorities, and domestic or gender-based violence.

NGE Senior Counsel **Phillip L. Stern** and **Tina L. Winer** and BMO attorneys Jeremy Zuba and Jamie Benjamin represented a transgender woman from Mexico seeking asylum in the United States. The client fled to the U.S. after suffering many years of abuse while living in Mexico due to her sexual orientation and gender identity. She has been living in the U.S. since 2005 but failed to seek asylum within one year of entering the U.S. as required by law. She first applied for asylum in 2013. The team spent the last few years diligently working on her matter, and after a trial this year, her asylum application was granted. Notwithstanding her failure to timely file for asylum, the court found exceptional circumstances warranting a grant of asylum. She may now remain safely in the United States without an ever-present fear of being returned to Mexico.



Phillip L. Stern

International Refugee Assistance Project

Counsel **Julie A. Fournier** and Partners **William J. Lenz** and **Lisa S. Zebovitz** represented an Afghan translator who worked with the U.S. armed forces for seven years. The client began translating for American-led forces in 2011 when he was 17 by supporting U.S. Army Special Operations teams trying to help local villages rid themselves of the Taliban. He later applied for a Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) to the United States available to interpreters. However, since the rollout of the SIV program in 2009, there have been extensive delays that have left thousands of former interpreters, including the client, waiting to leave countries where they are exposed to danger and violence. The average processing time for a SIV is now more than 900 days.

After the client learned of the delays, and fearing for his life, he reached out to his former U.S. Army Captain. His Captain recruited the International Refugee Assistance Project which, in turn, recruited the Neal Gerber Eisenberg team to represent him with regard to his SIV application. Thanks to the NGE team's efforts, our client was able to secure his SIV and relocate to the U.S. After years of waiting, he safely arrived in Houston where he now lives independently, is employed, and is pursuing an education.



Julie A. Fournier



William J. Lenz



Lisa S. Zebovitz

Cabrini Green Legal Aid



Andrew G. May

Associate **Andrew G. May** and Associate Counsel **Matthew R. Tanke** participated in Cabrini Green Legal Aid's Second Chances Clinic by representing a client who had received two criminal convictions over thirty years ago. He has since dramatically reformed his life, pursued an education and has been seeking job opportunities in the Information Technology field. However, he repeatedly struggled to obtain a full-time position due to his criminal record. Andrew, a veteran volunteer through the Second Chances program, supervised Matt in preparing a petition and arguing on behalf of the client at his hearing. Thanks to the team's advocacy, the judge granted the client's petition for a Certificate of Good Conduct, agreeing that he has been fully rehabilitated in the eyes of the law.



Matthew R. Tanke



From left to right: The client proudly displaying his Certificates of Good Conduct alongside Andrew G. May and Matthew R. Tanke

On the **Pro Bono Frontline**

LAF

To celebrate National Pro Bono Week, Neal Gerber Eisenberg attorneys **Daniel L. Organ**, **Nawshaba M. Siddiquee**, **Daniel M. Terhune** and **Xuehui “Cassie” Zhang**, and LAF staff attorneys visited Inspiration Corporation in the Uptown neighborhood of Chicago.



Daniel L. Organ



Nawshaba M. Siddiquee



Daniel M. Terhune



Xuehui “Cassie” Zhang

Inspiration Corporation is dedicated to helping individuals who are affected by homelessness and poverty improve their lives and increase self-sufficiency through the receipt of social services, employment training and placement, and housing. The NGE teams met with several clients and helped draft and execute powers of attorney for property and healthcare and living wills.



I’ve always been hesitant about signing up for pro bono matters because, as a patent prosecutor, I am highly specialized in a field that is of little use to most people. LAF’s ADAPT program was perfect for me because we received all the legal training we needed right before the actual clinic, and I was reminded that certain skills translate across all practices: listening to your clients, explaining the options, and following through until the task is complete. Our ADAPT clients were so appreciative of our help and so happy and relieved to have these important documents completed before it was too late.”

– Associate Counsel Nawshaba M. Siddiquee



Equip for Equality

Both Illinois law and the federal Americans with Disabilities Act require polling places to be accessible to voters with disabilities. The Chicago Board of Election Commissioners retained Equip for Equality to canvass over 1,800 polling locations beginning with the November 2016 election. Equip for Equality mobilized volunteers to identify any conditions at the polling sites that interfered with the ability of voters with disabilities and older voters to exercise their franchise rights. Chicago election officials have agreed to address the deficiencies identified and make all polling sites accessible to people with disabilities by 2020.

Neal Gerber Eisenberg has proudly participated each election cycle since the initiative's inception, hosting training sessions and deploying pro bono volunteers to dozens of polling locations to complete ADA surveys based on their observations. In 2018, NGE expanded its participation in this initiative by partnering with AbbVie. Several NGE attorneys attended a training session at AbbVie's office prior to venturing to the polling sites. Partner **Jonathan S. Quinn** teamed up with AbbVie attorney, Bryan Pennington. Armed with tape measures, levels, and other tools, they ensured that the polling sites satisfied the ADA's requirements bearing on everything from curb cuts and ramp angles to the amount of pressure needed to open doors.



Jonathan S. Quinn

The work that we were doing was very important, and it was fun to be able to get to know Bryan at the same time and to learn more about his work at AbbVie. It was a win-win all the way around."

— Partner Jonathan S. Quinn

Leveraging Our Expertise for the Greater Good

Video Game Art Gallery



Meredith Mays Espino

Founded in 2013 in Chicago, Video Game Art Gallery seeks to increase appreciation by the public and the media of the artistic merit of video games. The organization hosts a variety of educational programs, exhibits, and events featuring the work of significant artists and game developers from around the world. Associate **Meredith Mays Espino** counsels

the gallery on privacy and online legal issues, with a particular focus on their website policies.

The Cradle



Jerry H. Biederman

The Cradle is an Illinois adoption agency that advances the well-being of children through compassionate delivery of education, guidance, and lifelong support to families. Partner **Jerry H. Biederman** chairs the Cradle's board and Neal Gerber Eisenberg provides a variety of pro bono services to the organization. This year, **Bruce A. Fox**, a partner in the Corporate practice group, represented the Cradle's Adoption Learning Partners division in negotiations with third-party owners of copyrighted materials and secured the right to use their content in online training materials that will soon be available to prospective foster parents and adoptive parents.



Bruce A. Fox

Feel Memory



Michael G. Kelber

Michael G. Kelber, co-chair of the Intellectual Property practice group, and Associate **Kara Smith** represented a producer in negotiations to obtain various third-party rights needed to produce a documentary film, *Feel Memory*. The film weaves together three stories of daughters who each go

on a quest to uncover their parents' mysterious past and explores our intimate relationship to memory and how we reframe our memories to understand who we are.



Kara Smith

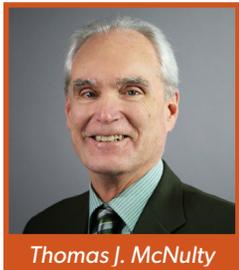
Carl Stewart's Drums for Drummers



James P. Muraff

Partner **James P. Muraff**, an avid drummer, is helping Carl Stewart's, Drums for Drummers establish and protect its intellectual property portfolio. This client is a non-profit organization that collects percussion instruments and provides them to underfunded music programs in schools and interested individuals in need. The organization is dedicated to and named after the co-founders' father, Carl Stewart. Carl was a lifetime jazz drummer who was always interested in and supported music education.

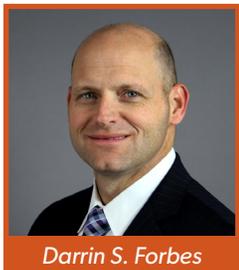
Chicago Low-Income Housing Trust Fund



Thomas J. McNulty

The Chicago Low-Income Housing Trust Fund works to meet the permanent housing needs of Chicago's low-income residents and provides rental subsidies to thousands of individuals and families across the city each year. The Trust Fund is managed by a volunteer board and administratively supported by the City of Chicago. Partner **Thomas J. McNulty** is the

President of the board and an original member since its inception in 1989.



Darrin S. Forbes

The firm also provides pro bono services on a wide range of matters, including providing financing for the construction and operation of an innovative domestic violence shelter, the first one to open in Chicago in over a decade. This year, **Darrin S. Forbes**, a partner in the Real Estate practice group, is helping the organization negotiate a new lease for their

headquarters. Indicative of the Fund's growth in recent years, the move to the new headquarters is a milestone for the organization as it will be the first time that it has office space that is independent from the City of Chicago's offices.



From left to right: Judith Haasis, Executive Director of CommunityHealth, Senator Dick Durbin and John Koenigsknecht before speaking at the All In Chicago thought leadership event organized by CommunityHealth.

CommunityHealth



John J. Koenigsknecht

Partner **John J. Koenigsknecht** currently serves as Vice President and a board member for one of the firm's longstanding pro bono clients, CommunityHealth. CommunityHealth is the largest free health clinic in the United States and is dedicated to providing essential medical and dental services and a medical home to low-income and uninsured individuals in the Chicago area. CommunityHealth provides more than 15,000 appointments to thousands of patients each year thanks to more than 1,000 volunteers, including 350+ medical professionals. NGE, a member of the CommunityHealth Corporate Hall of Fame, is proud to provide the ongoing legal support to CommunityHealth so that it can focus on its

mission. This year, for example, **Leah A. Schleicher**, a partner in the Real Estate practice group, helped CommunityHealth sublease one of its facilities to another non-profit organization in Chicago.



Leah A. Schleicher

Awards

Sigma Gamma Rho



Karl R. Barnickol



Lee J. Eulgen

Neal Gerber Eisenberg is thrilled to have been recognized by Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., one of the oldest African-American national collegiate sororities in the country, for the firm's continued commitment to providing pro bono legal services on behalf of the organization. Partner **Lee J. Eulgen** recently accepted the service award on behalf of the firm from Debra Hughes, Sigma Gamma Rho legal advisor and member and Assistant General Counsel at the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Lee, alongside Partner **Karl R. Barnickol** and Counsel **Margaret L. Hudgins**, have counseled the sorority on various legal and intellectual property matters, namely trademark and corporate governance issues. The award recognizes individuals who have supported the organization's mission of "Greater Service, Greater Progress."



Margaret L. Hudgins



Lee J. Eulgen (right) receiving the Sigma Gamma Rho Award from Debra Hughes



We are honored to be recognized by Sigma Gamma Rho and are proud to have been able to provide pro bono legal services in areas that align with the organization's vision and service to the community. We look forward to continuing to assist the organization and remain steadfast to supporting its mission of 'Greater Service, Greater Progress.'

– Partner Lee J. Eulgen

Federal Court Awards for Excellence in Pro Bono Service

Neal Gerber Eisenberg recognizes that members of the bar have a special obligation to assist the courts' administration of justice by answering the call to serve as appointed counsel. We are proud to report that in five of the last eight years, NGE attorneys have been selected by the Chicago chapter of the Federal Bar Association and the judges of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois to receive the prestigious Excellence in Pro Bono Service Award. This year, three NGE attorneys were selected.

NGE Partner **Olivia Luk Bedi** and Associate **Collette A. Woghiren**, together with Jonathan Bedi and Dena Singer, were selected for their representation of a Cook County jail inmate in a civil rights case against Cook County based on the county's provision of inadequate medical care for a hip injury from a fall. This is the second consecutive year in which Collette has been selected by the Northern District of Illinois for a pro bono award.

Counsel **Jason A. Frye** was also selected to receive a 2018 Award for Excellence in Pro Bono Service for his representation of a plaintiff in an excessive force case against the Chicago Police Department. This marks the second time in the past three years that Jason has been selected by the Northern District of Illinois to receive a pro bono award.



Pictured from left to right: Collette A. Woghiren, Jason A. Frye, Olivia Luk Bedi

All Stars Project of Chicago

Partner **Jeffrey J. Bakker** was honored at the All Stars Project of Chicago Benefit Luncheon for his commitment to giving thousands of Chicago's inner-city youth pathways to grow, develop, and create success in their lives. Jeff is a founding member of the All Stars Project of Chicago Board, where he served for 10 years and was recognized along with former Neal Gerber Eisenberg employee, David Cherry, who launched the All Stars Chicago chapter in 2007. Through Jeff's leadership, NGE employees have partnered with the youth of All Stars by hosting professional workshops, conducting mock job interviews, supervising students in paid summer internships, and making personal donations to support 100% privately-funded All Stars programs. The All Stars Project is a national leader in after school development, a new way of engaging inner-city youth. Its programs transform the lives of youth and poor communities using the developmental power of performance, in partnership with caring adults.



Jeffrey J. Bakker (left) receiving the All Stars Award from David Cherry (right)

Neal Gerber Eisenberg **Pro Bono Award Winner**

Each year, Neal Gerber Eisenberg honors one of its attorneys who has demonstrated exceptional dedication, commitment, and skill in ensuring access to justice for the most vulnerable members of our community. This year, **Jonathan S. Quinn**, a partner in our Litigation practice group, was the deserving recipient of the firm's Pro Bono Excellence in Service Award.



Jonathan S. Quinn

Jonathan has been steadfastly committed to using his law degree to serve the public since he graduated from law school in 1985. He began his career in the Manhattan District Attorney's office and has made pro bono work an integral part of his practice over the succeeding decades.

In the last five years alone, Jonathan has dedicated over 1,750 hours to pro bono service. He has represented an Illinois inmate whose constitutional rights were violated, was involved in the successful grass-roots effort to enact marriage equality in Illinois, and most recently, served as lead counsel on a murder retrial. After serving eight years behind bars for a crime she did not commit, the defendant returned home to her family thanks to Jonathan and his team's advocacy.

In addition to fighting in the trenches, Jonathan has assumed leadership roles in organizations that advance civil rights and access to justice, such as the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and Equip for Equality. Serving as the regional chair for the ADL, Jonathan advocated for the First Amendment rights of individuals and communities faced

with discrimination and established the organization's Summer Associate Research Program in Chicago. Under Jonathan's guidance, Chicago law firm summer associates provided cutting-edge legal research regarding civil rights issues to the ADL, with their work being used to support the mission of the organization. The project helped instill summer associates from Chicago's leading law firms with a passion for pro bono work and an understanding that they can make a difference as a private practice attorney dedicated to pro bono service.



Jonathan S. Quinn (right) receiving the 2018 Pro Bono Award from Steven F. Pflaum (left)

In addition to his work with law students, Jonathan has played a critical role in involving and inspiring attorneys to do significant pro bono work. He has seized the opportunity to use pro bono service to train members of the next generation of trial attorneys, while simultaneously setting an example for his junior colleagues by dedicating himself to his pro bono clients with the same zeal with which he represents his other clients. These efforts extend beyond just our firm. Jonathan previously served on the governing board of directors of Equip for Equality and continues to advance its mission. He played an integral role this year in helping firm client, AbbVie, launch Equip for Equality's Special Education Clinic Helpline and Voting Access Chicago initiative with the members of its legal department. Jonathan truly exemplifies a life-long commitment to public service and is a model for us all.

“

I worked on two pro bono matters with Jonathan that ultimately went to trial. In both instances, Jonathan demonstrated a strong commitment not only to our clients, but also to my personal development as an attorney. He has provided me with substantial litigation experience that is unheard of for an associate at my level, and he made sure I was prepared for each task through his guidance and mentorship.”

– Associate Collette A. Woghiren



Collette A. Woghiren

“

Jonathan never hesitates to take on an important cause when someone is in need, but unable to afford, sophisticated legal services. I have worked side-by-side with him on multiple pro bono matters and watched him tirelessly advocate for his clients and fully invest himself in the outcome of their cases. I've personally had some of my most memorable experiences working with Jonathan.”

– Partner Eric Y. Choi



Eric Y. Choi

Board Service



Associate **Bari L. Nathan** is a board member of the Jennifer Lynn Snyder Teen Heart Foundation, a non-profit organization that places automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) in parks and fields around the Chicago suburbs and raises awareness about sudden cardiac arrest in young adults. The foundation was started by the mother of Bari's friend, a young woman who passed away suddenly in high school due to cardiac arrest while playing soccer.



Bari L. Nathan



The South Asian Bar Association Foundation focuses on providing financial support and pro bono legal aid to the South Asian community. In particular, the foundation works with the Indo-American Center neighborhood legal clinic and funds summer fellowships for qualifying law students who wish to work with public interest or non-profit organizations serving the South Asian community at large. **Tanvi B. Patel**, an associate in the Intellectual Property practice group, serves on the foundation's board.



Tanvi B. Patel



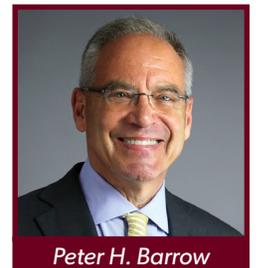
Partner **Wesley G. Nissen** is a founding member of the Chicago branch of Help For Children (HFC), formerly known as Hedge Funds Care. HFC is a global foundation dedicated to fighting child abuse and supported by the generosity of the alternative investment community. Wes has served on the HFC Chicago founding committee for 16 years helping grow the branch into HFC's 3rd largest grant-making region. The foundation provides grants to the most effective child abuse prevention and treatment interventions in seven countries, making the world a safer place for children.



Wesley G. Nissen



Of Counsel **Peter H. Barrow** is a board member and Treasurer of the Family Service Center, a non-profit mental health agency based in Wilmette. The agency provides individual and family counseling, group therapy, student safety assessments, crisis response, ongoing support groups, and community education to over 3,200 individuals and families annually on the greater North Shore.

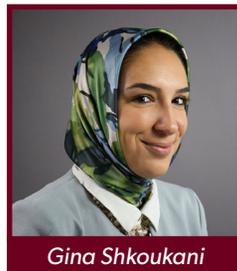


Peter H. Barrow



Muslim Foster Care Association (MFCA) was established to improve the lives of foster children and provide a support network for foster parents. **Gina Shkoukani**, an associate in the Private Wealth Services practice group, serves on MFCA’s advisory board and assists with legal matters.

Through introductions Gina made between the organization and the Department of Health and Human Services, MFCA now has an effective working relationship with the department. When Muslim children enter the foster care system, the department immediately calls MFCA, and MFCA provides the children with welcome packages and provides the foster parents with documents outlining information about Muslims, such as religious practices and dietary restrictions.



Gina Shkoukani



Joshua A. Klein

The Inner-city Education Program (ICE) was established in 2003 to help low-income children obtain educational and hockey opportunities not otherwise available to them. Partner **Joshua A. Klein** is a founding director and the secretary of ICE and has helped the organization grow substantially since its formation. ICE currently hosts several semi-weekly hockey sessions throughout the year, and each session includes approximately 150 children who participate in hockey lessons with certified coaches and mandatory tutoring with volunteers. The organization also annually awards approximately 30 academic scholarships, and recipients are paired with mentors.

ICE measures the program’s impact in two key areas of youth development: academic engagement and behavior, and specifically, social-emotional learning. The participant feedback is indicative of the significant impact that the program has on the children’s lives.

As a result of the ICE program:

- 91%**

of players agreed that they are excited about their futures.
- 86%**

of players agreed that their behavior at school has improved.
- 96%**

of players’ parents agreed that their child’s social interactions have improved.

Neal Gerber Eisenberg attorneys serve as leaders in the community through service on a variety of charitable, civic, and education boards.

Charity/Social Service

- All Stars Project
- Aurelio M. Caccamo Family Foundation
- Carol Lavin Bernick Family Foundation
- CeaseFire Illinois
- Chicago Cares
- Chicago Low-Income Housing Trust Fund
- The Cradle
- Debicki Foundation
- Family Services Center of Wilmette
- Foundation for Hearing and Speech Rehabilitation
- Girls on the Run Chicago
- HCS Family Services
- Help for Children
- The Hillels of Illinois
- Inner-City Education Program
- James R. Jordan Foundation
- John R. Halligan Charitable Fund
- Kenneth Young Center
- Keshet
- Kid Support, Inc.
- Lakeview Pantry
- Leslie J. Raffel Foundation
- Margot and Thomas Pritzker Family Foundation
- Matthew and Carolyn S. Bucksbaum Family Foundation
- Muslim Foster Care Association
- Nick's Network of Hope
- Square One Foundation

Education

- Alliance Francaise de Chicago
- American Friends of Hebrew University
- American Technion Society-Chicago Chapter
- DePaul University College of Law Dean's Advisory Council
- Glenview Education Foundation
- Kehillah Fund
- Kid Support, Inc.
- Oak Park Education Foundation
- PEAK
- Princeton Club of Chicago
- Step Up
- Theta Xi Foundation
- Yale Club of Chicago
- Zeta Beta Tau Foundation

Young Professionals

- Chicago Bar Association
- Equip for Equality
- Jewish United Fund
- Lawyers for the Creative Arts
- Museum of Contemporary Art

Civic

- American Friends of Versailles
- American-Israel Chamber of Commerce Chicago
- American Jewish Committee
- American Writers Museum
- Art Institute of Chicago
- Chicago Festival of Israeli Cinema
- Chicago Symphony Orchestra
- City of Highwood Board of Fire & Police Commissioners
- The Civic Federation
- Coalition of Women's Initiatives in Law
- Congregation Beth Shalom
- Field Museum
- French American Chamber of Commerce
- Gorton Community Center
- Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights
- Korean American Bar Association
- Mid-North Association
- Pathways Projects Institutes Limited
- Runcible Theater Company

Medical Services and Research

- CommunityHealth
- Jennifer Lynn Snyder Teen Heart Foundation
- Lynn Sage Cancer Research Foundation

Administration of Justice

- Anti-Defamation League
- CARPLS
- Chicago Legal Aid Clinic
- Chicago Volunteer Legal Services
- Equip for Equality
- Federal Defender Program for the Northern District of Illinois
- Illinois Judicial Ethics Committee
- Illinois Legal Aid Online
- Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Access to Justice
- The Institute for People with Criminal Records
- The John Marshall Law School Business Externship Law Clinic
- Lawyers for the Creative Arts
- National Women's Law Center
- Notarization Task Force on Best Practices and Verification Standards to Implement Electronic Notarization
- Richard Linn American Inn of Court
- South Asian Bar Association of Chicago Foundation
- Statutory Court Fee Task Force

2018 Pro Bono **All Stars**

The firm's Pro Bono Policy aims to improve the lives of citizens in our community and help make our societal goal of "justice for all" a reality. The Policy calls upon each Neal Gerber Eisenberg attorney to contribute a minimum of 50 hours of pro bono legal service per year.

Please join us in congratulating our 2018 Pro Bono All Stars who met and surpassed this challenge:



James Baldwin



Eric Choi



Alex Dominguez



Abigail Flores



Darrin Forbes



Julie Fournier



Bruce Fox



Jason Frye



Andrea Fuelleman



Robert Gerber



Aidan Gilbert



Gerald Golden



Margaret Hudgins



Michael Kelber



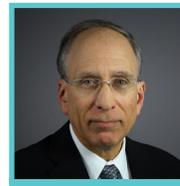
John Koenigsnecht



Thomas McDonough



Earl Melamed



Steven Pflaum



Jonathan Quinn



Sonya Rosenberg



Kevin Schneider



Audrey Selin



Phillip Stern



Matthew Tanke



William Tarnow



David Weldon



Tina Winer



Collette Woghiren



Lisa Zebovitz

Pro Bono Policy and Committee

Neal Gerber Eisenberg embraces its responsibility, as set forth in the Preamble to the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct, “to create an environment that is hospitable to the rendering of a reasonable amount of uncompensated service by lawyers practicing in [the Firm].” The Firm likewise recognizes and reaffirms the responsibility of its lawyers “to use their training, experience, and skills to provide services in the public interest for which compensation may not be available.”

By proclaiming the Firm’s commitment to providing pro bono publico legal services, and providing a framework for supplying Firm lawyers with abundant pro bono opportunities and managing those engagements effectively, the Firm’s pro bono Policy and Procedures are designed to enable the Firm and its lawyers to discharge their respective pro bono responsibilities in a manner that maximizes the achievement of the ultimate objective of any pro bono publico program worthy of its name: furthering the public good.

As a gold-level member of The Chicago Bar Foundation Law Firm Leadership Circle, the Firm has established, and hereby reminds its lawyers of, the goal that each of the Firm’s attorneys will devote at least 50 hours per year to “pro bono legal service,” as defined by Illinois Supreme Court Rule 756(f)(1). Recognizing that varying responsibilities and practice areas will make this goal more readily attainable by some Firm lawyers than others, and seeking to increase the Firm’s overall level of pro bono service without relieving any lawyers of their responsibility to strive to achieve the individual annual target, the Firm has established an additional goal of providing pro bono legal service that averages at least 50 hours per Firm lawyer per year.

The primary objectives of the Firm’s pro bono policy are to improve the lives of citizens in our community and help make our societal goal of “justice for all” a reality. Important secondary goals of this policy include (1) enhancing Firm attorneys’ satisfaction with their work, (2) providing Firm attorneys with valuable practice experience, and (3) attracting to the Firm attorneys who share the Firm’s commitment to providing pro bono legal service.

Meet Our Pro Bono Committee Members



Steven Pflaum

*Chair, Pro Bono Committee
and Co-Chair, Litigation*



Jerry Biederman

*Partner,
Corporate & Securities*



Katie Blouin

*Professional Development
& Pro Bono Manager*



Darrin Forbes

*Partner,
Real Estate*



Marlon Lutfiyya

*Director of
Talent & Diversity*



Andrew May

*Associate,
Litigation*



Nicholas Miller

*Partner, Financial
Restructuring & Bankruptcy*



Sonya Rosenberg

*Partner,
Labor & Employment*



Mike Turner

*Partner,
Intellectual Property*



Collette Woghiren

*Associate,
Litigation*



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