

Nurturing Communities Mintz Levin Pro Bono Journal



Nurturing Communities

Within our corporate culture, the success of our firm is wholly reliant on the collective and collaborative nature of our greatest assets—our people. In no facet of our business is this more true than in our pro bono program. With creative thinking and a sense of purpose, we are able to formulate model projects that can be replicated to expand our reach, and inspire others to participate.

With that bigger picture mindset comes the responsibility—and desire—to nurture and promote those ideas that have the potential for exponential positive impact. The reward comes in the words and on the faces of those we are able to help.

Year after year, we are moved by the incredible stories of the deserving individuals and organizations that reap the benefits of the firm's dedication to pro bono work. This journal is a reflection of that commitment—one that is as much about providing legal services to those most in need, as it is about planting and cultivating the seeds that, over time, create a vibrant landscape of thriving communities.

R. Robert Popeo Chairman Robert I. Bodian

Managing Member

Susan M. Finegan
Chair, Pro Bono Committee







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Collaborating for Communities

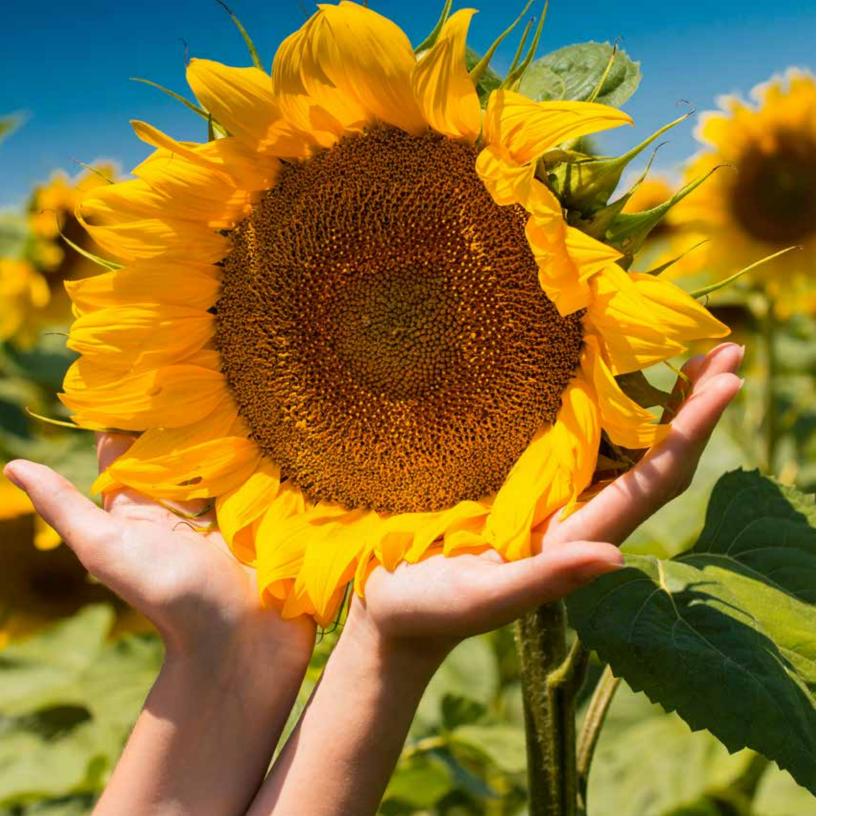
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The Bigger Picture



Chelsea Inspires Positive Change

At California's Poway High School, senior Chelsea King loved competing on the cross-country team, playing French horn, and mentoring other students—all while earning straight A's and working for causes like environmental sustainability. When Chelsea went for a run in broad daylight in 2010 and didn't return, San Diego rallied to find her. Five days later her remains were discovered in a shallow grave. Chelsea had been raped and strangled by a known sexual predator who had served time for molesting a 13-year-old girl. After DNA evidence tied him to Chelsea's murder, he also confessed to the rape and murder of 14-year-old Amber Dubois, who'd been missing since 2009.

Following Chelsea's death, her parents, Brent and Kelly King, established a nonprofit charitable foundation in her name and helped pass a California law that increases penalties, parole provisions, and oversight for violent sexual predators convicted of attacking children. Since the passage of that legislation, Chelsea's Law, the Kings have pushed for similar legal reforms across the nation.

Chelsea's Light Foundation empowers individuals to help safeguard children, sponsors youth programs, and provides scholarships to high-school seniors who share Chelsea's commitment to positive change. Funds for these initiatives are generated through community activities such as Finish Chelsea's Run, an annual San Diego 5K run/walk that the Kings hope to take nationwide.

Attorney Andrew Skale started working with Chelsea's Light shortly after its founding. Soon he joined the board, and Mintz Levin attorneys began providing pro bono services. "We are incredibly honored to work with an organization that is so focused on saving kids' lives," Andrew says.

"They just get it," Brent says of the legal team, "and working with attorneys who understand our needs gives us peace of mind."

The firm's commitment to Chelsea's Light extends across our offices and up to New York–based Managing Member Bob Bodian, who participated in Finish Chelsea's Run in 2015. Legal Specialist Jacobo Dib registered the foundation's trademarks, and Andrew has handled agreements with sponsors. The attorneys also registered a right of publicity to protect Chelsea's name. In addition, they helped compile a report that confirms that Chelsea's Law is protecting children from convicted offenders, and worked to complete an analysis of sex offender laws across the nation.

In 2014, attorney Katy Ward helped draft new conflict-of-interest and whistleblower policies and updated the organization's document-retention policy and other guidelines. Mintz Levin also helped with a documentary created by Chelsea's brother, Tyler King. *Chelsea's Light: A Brother's Journey* tells Chelsea's story from Tyler's perspective while raising awareness about sexual violence against children and looking at how the criminal justice system often fails to protect them. Attorney Anthony Hubbard reviewed everything from the film's participant release forms to contracts with its distributor and its Emmy Award—winning director and producer, Bruce Caulk.

The Kings are moved by the dedication and results that Chelsea has inspired. "Once engagement occurs, change can happen," Brent says.

"To have our legal worries taken off of our plates allows us to spend our time protecting the innocence of children."

Brent King *Chelsea King's Father*



Social Enterprises Leverage Their Impact in Developing Countries

"Dolores" makes beaded jewelry to sustain herself and her sister in Santiago, Guatemala. "Virginia" in Kenya learned how to sew and make decorative pillows to provide for her extended family. Consumers in places like the United States can purchase what Dolores and Virginia make through retailers, like Ten Thousand Villages, that buy and resell fair trade products from artisans.

It's a business model that works best when Dolores and Virginia offer products that US consumers want to buy. That's what got Kim Ogden, founder and managing director of the nonprofit Ventures for Hope, thinking about how she could use her consulting skills, honed at Bain & Company, to help social enterprise nonprofits on the frontlines of job creation and other issues in developing countries.

"Her consulting work is something she could get paid for, and has been paid for in the past," says Mintz Levin attorney Lindsay Leone, who along with attorney Anthony Hubbard helped Kim form and establish the nonprofit social enterprise," but Kim chooses to use her skills to benefit nonprofits."

With the help of Mintz Levin, Ventures for Hope achieved its 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status in July 2014, and has since been working closely with several nonprofits, providing valuable consulting and marketing services at no cost or for a nominal, contingent fee, including the production and distribution of a catalog to help these fair trade goods reach the right market.

"What was interesting about this project," says Anthony, "was helping this nonprofit knowing that it would have a positive multiplier effect for many nonprofits."

Another nonprofit social enterprise that Mintz Levin helped this past year is Sanergy. Sanergy builds healthy, prosperous communities by making hygienic sanitation accessible and affordable to residents in the slums of Nairobi by franchising its locally manufactured Fresh Life Toilets to individuals who run them as viable businesses. The lack of hygienic sanitation in informal settlements severely threatens the health of residents. Sanergy has safely removed over 6,600 tons of waste from these neighborhoods. Sanergy then processes the waste into usable by-products, including organic fertilizer, for use by local farmers.

The nonprofit helps the franchisees launch the toilets and provides ongoing training, marketing, and other support. Once in operation, franchisees, a large portion of whom are women, charge a nominal fee for use, creating a steady source of income for their families.

The Mintz Levin team included attorneys Kristin Gerber, Hannah Coman, and Tom Burton, who counseled Sanergy on its corporate governance and development efforts.

"Sanergy is not only raising awareness of the global sanitation crisis," says Kristin, "but it also is solving this systemic problem in a sustainable way."

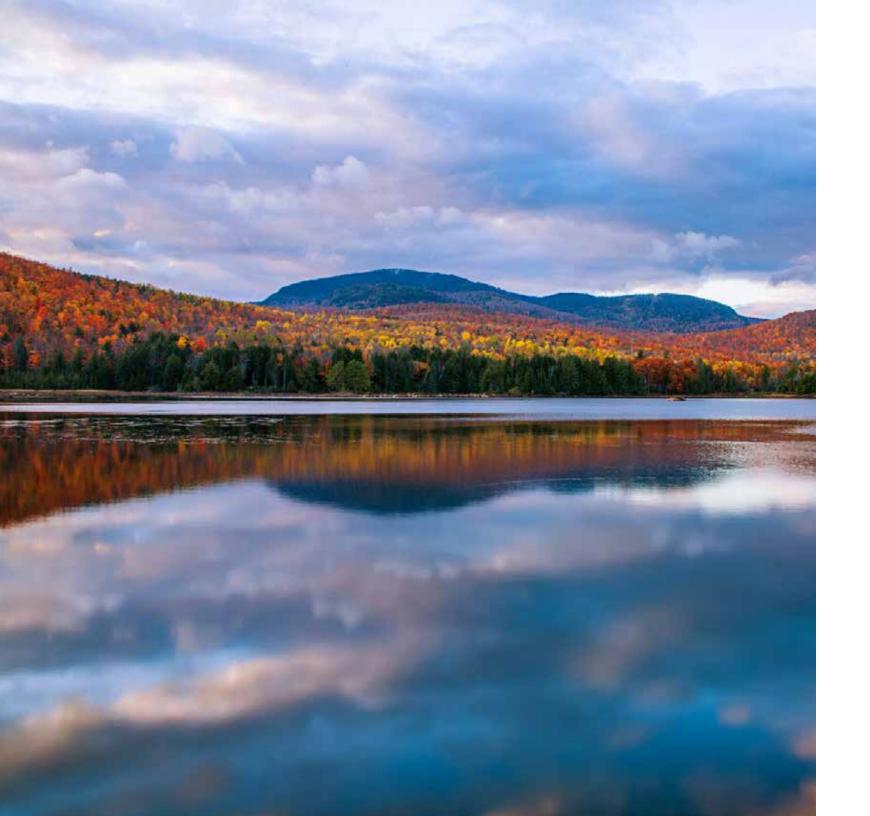
We have changed the names of some individual clients in our journal to ensure confidentiality and their safety.

"I can't say enough good things about working with Mintz Levin.

The attorneys have provided a lot more than legal advice—
they've provided support and encouragement, which is so critical for a start-up."

Kim Ogden

Founder & Managing Director Ventures for Hope



Stewards Stand Up for the Adirondacks

Under New York's constitution, state land within the Adirondacks must be kept "forever wild." Yet in 2013, New Yorkers approved a ballot proposal to enact a constitutional amendment allowing exploratory drilling in the Jay Mountain area. In exchange for 200 acres of pristine forest to mine wollastonite—a mineral used in industrial ceramics, plastics, paints, and adhesives—NYCO Minerals would give the state land of equal value outside the forest. NYCO also agreed to restore the land to its original condition. The problem? Old-growth trees can't be replaced, and mining would destroy wildlife habitat for generations.

Through New York Lawyers for the Public Interest, a pro bono legal clearinghouse, Mintz Levin attorneys John Delehanty and Todd Rosenbaum agreed to serve as co-counsel with Earthjustice to represent environmental groups seeking to mitigate the ballot vote's outcome. Post-referendum, the State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Adirondack Park Agency planned to allow NYCO to pursue its agenda on an accelerated schedule. With the legal team's help, Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve, Atlantic States Legal Foundation, Protect the Adirondacks, and Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter sued NYCO and the state agencies. The environmental groups wanted to ensure that an impact study was completed and other safeguards implemented prior to drilling.

In July 2014, Mintz Levin and Earthjustice obtained a Temporary Restraining Order delaying tree-cutting, road-building, and any other preparations by NYCO until the court could rule on a preliminary injunction to halt the drilling.

The Mintz Levin team established their clients' legal standing, demonstrating that they would be injured by the drilling, and, with Earthjustice, prepared the preliminary injunction papers. John, Todd, and former Mintz Levin attorney Daniel Woofter researched and drafted briefs on complex constitutional issues and NYCO's and the state's failure to comply with statutes and regulations protecting rare plant, bird, and animal species, the area's oldgrowth trees, and sensitive environmental features such as vernal pools.

The Temporary Restraining Order remained in effect until October, giving the state agencies time to analyze environmental impacts and place conditions on mining activities. While the environmental groups eventually lost the motion for preliminary injunction, NYCO implemented many of their recommendations. Its revised permit reduced the number of drill sites by half and eliminated a final stage, meaning that fewer roads will be built, fewer trees cut, and less of the wilderness disturbed. In addition, all exploratory drilling will stop for the bird breeding season.

Significant publicity generated by the court challenge has helped the organizations rally support for legislative action. "I cannot overstate our clients' devotion to the Adirondacks and how much work they do on its behalf," John says. He and Todd plan to hike the Adirondacks with them in the near future.

"We are proud to be associated with Earthjustice and the team at Mintz Levin. John Delehanty and Todd Rosenbaum performed crucial work on behalf of an important cause."

Dave Gibson

Partner

Adirondack Wild

"I truly respect and appreciate
the exemplary work of all at
Earthjustice and of John Delehanty
and his team at Mintz Levin.
Your diligence, professionalism,
and spirit for saving our wild
places were so beneficial to the
Adirondack Park's future."

Dan PlumleyPartner
Adirondack Wild



Six String Saves At-Risk Youth

"Sara" did not speak to anyone since coming to a therapeutic day school for at-risk kids in Washington, DC. But when Sara started taking guitar lessons with Gregg Hammond, president of the DC chapter of Guitars Not Guns and a popular guitar teacher in the area, she started talking to Gregg. "Miraculous," is how the school therapists described it, and in fact, they said all the students in Gregg's guitar class were doing better in school and doing their homework.

The music lessons Gregg and other volunteer music teachers from Guitars Not Guns bring to afterschool programs that serve at-risk youth in the DC area generate many stories like this: kids gain self-esteem, learn how to express themselves through music, and begin to live better lives, attending school and staying out of trouble. What's more, the kids get to perform on stage, and those who stick with their lessons get to keep their guitars.

About 10 years ago, Gregg was jumped by a gang of kids, and it happened a second time a couple of years later. Then he was held up at gunpoint, again, by troubled kids. He managed to escape these incidents, but they got him thinking about how he could help. "I want to be part of the solution," he says. "Guitars Not Guns fuses my love of music and mentoring youth."

Guitars Not Guns is a national nonprofit with 19 chapters in 12 states that has been in operation for 15 years. Gregg started the DC chapter in 2008.

"A few years ago, I decided to get my Eric Clapton on, and I started to take lessons from Gregg," says Mintz Levin attorney David Barmak, now vice president of the DC chapter. Through those lessons David also learned about Guitars Not Guns and about some branding issues it was having with a similar nonprofit in the area.

Mintz Levin began advising the DC chapter on the use of its content, website, and social media as well as on compliance with Maryland, Virginia, and DC laws. Led by David, the Mintz Levin team included attorneys Susan Weller, Andrew Skale, and Thomas Boisvert, who has since left the firm. Paralegal Jacobo Dib and project analyst Katherine Fox also assisted. The team also trademarked the Guitars Not Guns name for the national organization.

For Guitars Not Guns, which is all volunteer run, its name and reputation are key to getting the support it needs to buy guitars, picks, straps, strings, and paper fliers for concerts. "Guitars Not Guns is doing very good things on a relatively small scale," says David. "It's as grass roots as it gets."

"My experience working with
Mintz Levin has been tremendous.
Guitars Not Guns can move
forward now that we know our
trademark is protected.

Gregg Hammond

President
Guitars Not Guns –
National Capital Area

It's fantastic."



Buzzards Bay Team Follows the Flow

The coastal waters around Marion, Massachusetts are popular with swimmers and boaters, and are home to a variety of vegetation, fish, and shellfish. But in recent years, the area's lovely coves and harbors have experienced elevated levels of nitrogen, which promotes the growth of algae. Over time, if nitrogen levels continue to rise, the water will get murkier and less suitable for sea life—compromising the ecosystem and limiting opportunities for fishing and recreational activities.

Since 1971, Marion has used three unlined sewer lagoons as part of its wastewater treatment system. As noted in a 2011 environmental report, nitrogen from these lagoons, which stretch over 20 acres, appears to be leaking into the groundwater. From there, it makes its way to Marion's coastal waters and Buzzards Bay.

In 2013, Korrin Petersen, a senior attorney with Buzzards Bay Coalition, contacted Mintz Levin for help. Working with Korrin and others from the nonprofit, attorneys Katy Ward and Colin Van Dyke developed an effective legal strategy to require more stringent pollution limits. With assistance from summer associates Matt Karambelas and Kaoru Suzuki, now attorneys at the firm, and legal specialists Katie Durham and Travis Leach, Katy and Colin conducted extensive preliminary research on how the use of Marion's lagoons could be regulated by state and federal law.

"When Katy volunteered to represent a regional environmental nonprofit on coastal water quality issues, I'm not sure she anticipated becoming both a legal and technical expert in nitrogen pollution, wastewater treatment, and the various ways the federal government regulates (or fails to regulate) the management of sewage sludge," Korrin says. "I'm happy to report that she is today."

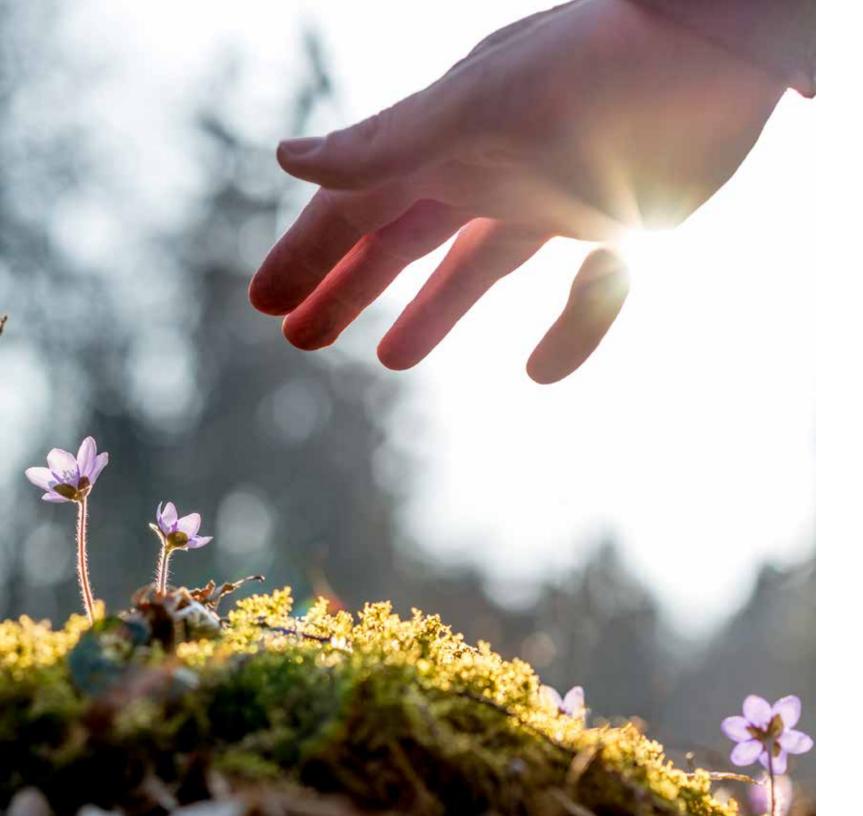
Consulting with senior environmental attorneys Ralph Child and Jeff Porter, Katy and Colin then developed a strong legal argument under the federal Clean Water Act and Massachusetts groundwater discharge regulations. Their efforts culminated in the preparation of a letter to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and the federal Environmental Protection Agency that requested action within 60 days.

In response, the agency agreed to issue a renewed National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit that will require Marion to reduce the nitrogen emitted from its lagoons within a specified time frame.

"Taking on raw sewage and sludge issues for a nonprofit isn't the most glamorous pro bono work," Korrin says, "but it's important to protect water quality for the use and enjoyment of all." The Mintz Levin team was proud to play a role in helping Korrin and the Buzzards Bay Coalition safeguard the health of the bay's ecosystem.

"Katy Ward and Colin Van Dyke
have positioned the Buzzards
Bay Coalition in the best possible
posture to ensure that this source
of pollution is cleaned up. It makes
a real difference for nonprofit
advocates to have attorneys like
Katy and Colin share their energy
and expertise."

Korrin Petersen Senior Attorney Buzzards Bay Coalition



Enterprise Empowers Adults on the Spectrum

Dougie Flutie is much like any other 23 year old, though his autism limits his job prospects. He works on basic living skills every day that will help him become more independent. Though he may never live completely on his own, Dougie is making progress and has the potential to complete basic tasks that could earn him a paycheck.

Dougie's parents, former NFL star quarterback Doug Flutie and his wife Laurie, are fortunate enough to be able to provide the support he needs as he enters adulthood. Recognizing that other families need the same care and support for their children and may not have the resources to provide them, they founded the Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism after Dougie was diagnosed with autism at age three. Watching Dougie grow into a young man, his parents also saw the need to have a program for adults with autism spectrum disorders. According to the foundation, it's estimated that 90% of adults with autism spectrum disorders are unable to obtain employment.

Through its long-standing relationship with Mintz Levin attorneys Tom Burton and Dan Bleck, the foundation turned to the firm last year to help them set up what is now Flutie Spectrum Enterprises, LLC, a nonprofit social enterprise that will create micro-businesses to employ adults from across the entire autism spectrum. Tom, along with attorney Katy Ward, handled the corporate aspect of setting up the social enterprise. Attorney Gauri Punjabi did the employment law work, and attorney Anthony Hubbard oversaw the corporate governance.

"Flutie Spectrum Enterprises is a new and innovative way to provide services and also help these adults be productive," says Tom, who as a law student lived and worked with his wife in a group home for adults with special needs. While living there, Tom witnessed first-hand how important having a job and feeling empowered are to the quality of life of adults with special needs.

The social enterprise takes care to find projects that make use of the "employees' attention to detail and rhythmic structure" as well as provide a platform to improve their motor and social skills and stamina. The first of its micro-businesses is FSE Office Solutions.

"Our first employee, Justin, has been hard at work since June, shredding documents, stuffing envelopes, and packaging t-shirts for various customers of FSE Office Solutions," says Brittany Collins, managing director of Flutie Spectrum Enterprises. "For the first time in his life, he is receiving a paycheck for his work."

"We are incredibly grateful for all of Mintz Levin's help with Flutie
Spectrum Enterprises and have no doubt that this work will go a long way in helping us create meaningful employment for many adults with autism."

Brittany Collins

Managing Director

Flutie Spectrum Enterprises



A Vulnerable Child Secures a Home

In August 2013, Patricia and Brian Martel lost their daughter, Jennifer, to domestic violence. Jennifer, who was only 27 years old, was murdered by her boyfriend, Jared Remy.

The tragedy of Jennifer's death was compounded by the impact on the Martels' four-year-old granddaughter, "Lisa." With her father being held in custody for her mother's homicide, the four year old was placed in the care of the Massachusetts Department of Children & Families until the question of her guardianship could be resolved.

Mintz Levin agreed to represent the Martels pro bono in their efforts to continue to play a role in Lisa's life.

The representation was a fairly complicated one, involving several courts, including Probate and Family Court, Juvenile Court, and the Massachusetts Appeals Court. In addition, the attorneys were constrained by time. "We faced an extremely expedited schedule," Pro Bono Chair Sue Finegan says.

Luckily Sue was assisted by a capable team, including attorneys Alec Zadek, Kim Parr, and Rebecca Zeidel. The team also included Nancy Sterling—vice president of strategic communications at ML Strategies—as well as former project analyst Kyle Crawford and former Mintz Levin legal assistant Ken Nee. Working hand in hand with co-counsel Naomi Mann from the Boston University School of Law Litigation Program, her law student Amelia Leas-Alback, and co-counsel Paula Mangum, they completed discovery in four weeks.

Ultimately the parties reached an agreement that they believed would be in the best interest of the child and provide her with a stable home.

Following the resolution of the case, Jared pled guilty to first-degree murder and was sentenced to life in prison. The Martels, who uprooted their lives in Virginia following Jennifer's murder—moving to Massachusetts to be closer to Lisa—devote themselves to fundraising efforts for organizations such as Taunton, Massachusetts—based New Hope, a nonprofit working to end domestic and sexual violence.

"The litigation was challenging, but it was a privilege to represent the Martels," Alec says. Many of the attorneys on the team stay in touch with the Martels and continue to represent victims of domestic violence and their families.

"Alec Zadek's life was devoted to us for over a year. I don't know what we would have done without him."

Patty Martel *Jennifer Martel's mother*



KIND Efforts Give Teen Something to Sing About

Three years ago in Guatemala, "Alexi," then 13, was in rough straits. His mother had moved to the United States to earn a living, leaving him with her parents. But soon it became clear that Alexi's aging grandparents couldn't care for him. His grandmother developed a serious illness, and his grandfather urged the boy to quit school and go to work.

In 2012 Alexi's mother paid someone thousands of dollars to lead her son north. Soon after entering the United States, however, the boy was detained by US Citizenship and Immigration Services. Alexi remained in custody for several months before the agency sent him to Maryland to live with his mother, pending a decision on his legal status.

In early 2014, Mintz Levin reached out to Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) and offered to help with a case requiring pro bono legal services. KIND referred Alexi to the firm, and soon a legal team, led by Helen Kim, began working to help him secure Special Immigrant Juvenile Legal Status (SIJS). Through SIJS, a child who has been abused, abandoned, or neglected by at least one parent in his or her country of origin, and in whose best interests it is not to return there, can remain in the United States legally and eventually become a US citizen. But Alexi would be deported if the firm's efforts fell short.

The first step was to help Alexi's mother file for legal custody. To pursue custody and SIJS, Alexi and his mother needed to appear at a hearing in Maryland Juvenile Court. Helen and her team—including attorney Farrah Short, former Mintz Levin project analyst Alice Kilpatrick, and records assistant Lorena Bonilla—worked to prepare Alexi, then 16, and his mother for the court appearance. Farrah provided ongoing assistance, while Alice and Lorena—fluent in Spanish—overcame the language barrier.

The team's legal argument rested on the impossibility of returning Alexi to his father in Guatemala. Alexi had met the man only three times. He provided his son with very minimal financial assistance and maintained no relationship with him. At the hearing, responding to Helen's direct examination, Alexi and his mother explained these circumstances clearly to the judge. During the previous year, with project analyst Katherine Fox providing research assistance and coordinating documentation, the firm had filed motions and memoranda to support their testimony.

The judge granted Alexi's mother custody and approved Alexi's SIJS petition. That decision turned the case over to the federal Immigration Court, which terminated Alexi's removal proceedings. The firm has recently helped Alexi file for permanent residency and is awaiting a decision on his status. Alexi's English has greatly improved. After graduating from high school, he hopes to become a singer.

"Mintz Levin's attorneys made an enormous difference in this child's life by helping him through the complex process of obtaining Special Immigrant Juvenile Status. With his legal status stabilized, he can move forward with his life in a safe and secure environment and will no longer be facing the threat of deportation."

Christie Turner-Herbas Supervising Attorney for Pro Bono Programs - DC Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)



Same-Sex Couples Get Adoption Support

Across the United States, 100,000 children wait to be adopted. Yet in some states that banned same-sex marriage and allowed only married couples to adopt children jointly, gay couples have been discouraged or prevented from adopting. Children that were adopted by same-sex couples had legal ties to only one parent, and that left them vulnerable financially, psychologically, and in other ways.

With the connection between marriage equality and the well-being of children in mind, Donaldson Adoption Institute decided to partner with other child welfare organizations to present an amicus curiae brief in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, the landmark US Supreme Court case that challenged the constitutionality of state same-sex marriage bans. The firm got involved when Lambda Legal and the American Civil Liberties Union, which represented separate sets of plaintiffs in the case, contacted former Mintz Levin attorney Aaron Tidman about working on Donaldson's brief.

Aaron reached out to attorneys Jonathan Shapiro and Chip Phinney—both of whom have extensive appellate backgrounds—for help in crafting a plan. Associates Kelly Frey and Mina Nasseri, and project analyst Katherine Fox, took on the bulk of the research and writing. The three divvied up the brief's topics, prepared outlines for Aaron's feedback, and then drafted their respective sections. "Our research showed great variation across jurisdictions in the laws affecting children adopted by same-sex couples," Kelly says, "and that made it challenging to present comprehensive and cohesive arguments to the Court."

Aaron edited the brief and sent it to Jonathan and Chip for further review. Edits flew back and forth, and the team completed the brief in about three weeks. The final, well-researched document presents a compelling argument that laws banning same-sex marriage harm adopted children in both concrete and psychological ways, and deter the adoption of children into stable, safe, and loving homes.

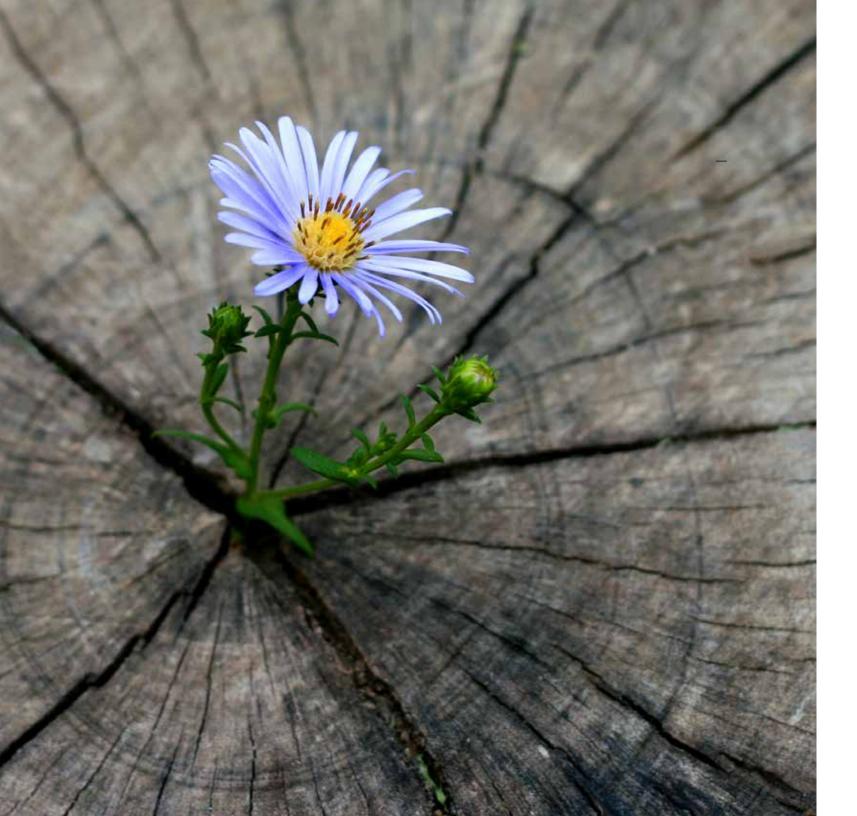
In delivering the Court's majority opinion overturning same-sex marriage bans, Justice Kennedy noted that hundreds of thousands of children are currently being raised by same-sex couples, and that bans against same-sex marriage harm and humiliate the children of these couples.

Aaron, who now works as in-house counsel for a company in the San Francisco Bay area, expressed his gratitude in playing a small part in the historic case, saying, "It was a privilege to help draft a brief presenting the impact of same-sex marriage bans on adopted children, an issue of particular concern to Justice Kennedy and thousands of families across the country."

To Jonathan, the team's work not only resulted in an exceptional product, but demonstrated the firm's depth of talent. "Like raising a child, superior legal advocacy," he says, "takes a village."

"What I loved about this brief is that it gave us an opportunity to show how important marriage equality is for families and children."

Chip Phinney
Attorney
Mintz Levin



Abuse Survivor Beats the Odds and Prevails

When police officers in Peru saw "Adolfo" and his male partner hand in hand in the park after a game of volleyball, they drove the young men to a remote location against their will and beat and sexually assaulted them. This was the culmination of many years of physical and psychological abuse Adolfo endured from strangers, classmates, and his father and brother. Although Peru's laws and machismo culture are evolving, gay men and boys are subject to attack, and there's nowhere to turn when it happens. "Police take part, and the government turns a blind eye," Mintz Levin's Todd Rosenbaum says.

Human Rights First, an international advocacy organization, referred Adolfo's case to the firm after his application for asylum was denied and he was placed in removal proceedings. Although Adolfo's application was strong, he hadn't filed it in the required time frame—within a year of his last entry into the United States. Now Adolfo would need to go before an immigration judge and demonstrate that he qualified for one of two narrow exceptions. It didn't help that he had missed the deadline by at least four years.

Todd and attorney John Sefick, then first-year associates, started working with Adolfo in January 2012, and met with him several times to understand his story. Adolfo spoke some English but found it easier to provide the details of his trauma in Spanish. Anthony Arias, a former project analyst at the firm, served as his interpreter, allowing Adolfo to describe his ordeal and reveal his severe emotional, physical, and psychological scars. With no access to therapy or medication when he arrived in the United States, he'd had a hard time functioning and was too traumatized to file his application.

To build a strong case, Todd and John consulted with Human Rights First attorney Lori Adams and Mintz Levin's Muriel Liberto. They also conducted interviews, drafted affidavits, and secured other evidence to corroborate Adolfo's story of persecution and confirm his trauma, even accompanying him to a forensic medical examination. Anthony and former project analyst Carly Newhouse organized the case materials, Muriel assisted with drafting the brief and with supporting materials, and Narges Kakalia—an experienced litigator—offered advice.

At the start of the hearing, the judge noted that proving Adolfo qualified for an exception to the one-year rule would be an uphill battle. But Adolfo's sincere testimony moved everyone present. His partner's testimony, testimony from a doctor who treats torture victims, and written testimony from a psychiatric nurse supported Adolfo's story of abuse and survival.

The judge granted asylum, and later congratulated the team on their case presentation.

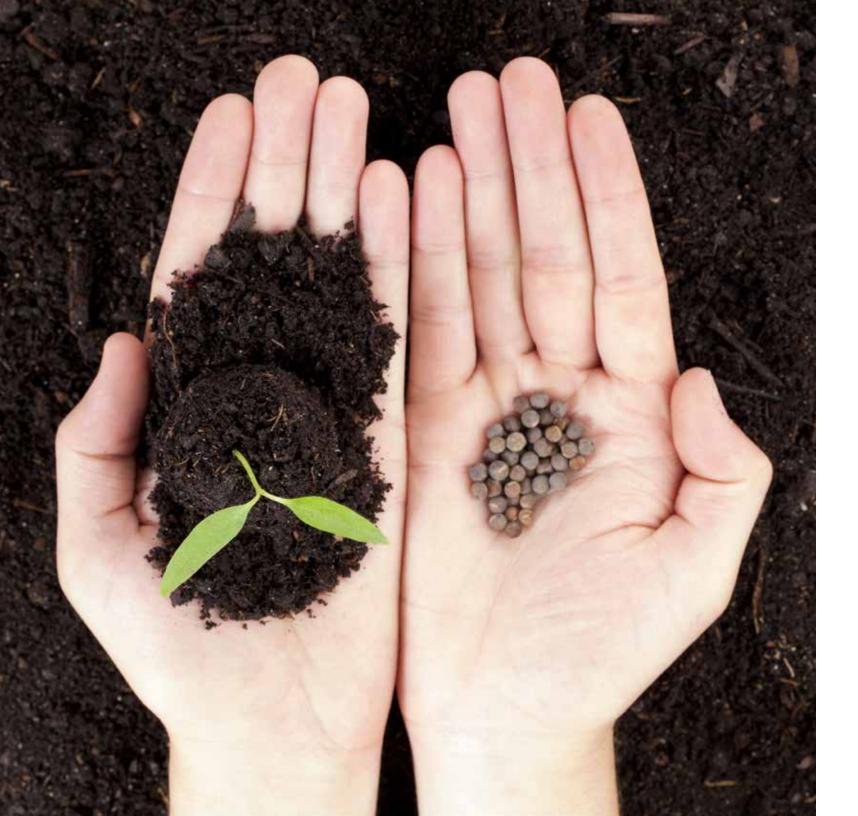
Today Adolfo feels a great weight has been lifted. He will be eligible to apply for permanent US residency in December 2015.

"Mintz Levin's diligent work on behalf of this traumatized client has given him a fresh start. Thanks to their efforts, he is now safe in the United States and on a path toward US citizenship."

Lori Adams Managing Attorney (NY) Human Rights First

"This challenging asylum case involved considerable preparation and teamwork. I'm proud to have collaborated with my colleagues at the firm and at Human Rights First to achieve this life-changing outcome for our client."

Todd Rosenbaum Attorney Mintz Levin



Seedlings Yield Perennial Growth

Over the years, Mintz Levin has initiated and supported a number of ongoing pro bono partnerships involving collaborations with our firm alumni, clients, nonprofit organizations, and other law firms. These gratifying efforts leverage our collective resources, build community ties among participants, and amplify the impact of our work.

Clinic in a Box

Mintz Levin has hosted several Clinic in a Box® workshops for in-house legal departments. At the 2014 program, eight Greater Boston–area nonprofits worked individually with in-house counsel volunteers on three critical areas—conflict of interest, whistleblowing, and written information security program (WISP) policies—to ensure that they were meeting their organizations' evolving needs. This new approach for the clinic was so successful that it has been replicated in other clinics throughout the United States.

The workshop was developed by Corporate Pro Bono; the Association of Corporate Counsel, Northeast Chapter; Mintz Levin; and Lawyers Clearinghouse, and was hosted by Mintz Levin's Pro Bono Chair Sue Finegan, attorney Katy Ward, project analyst Pat Regan, and former project analyst Ana Lopez. "The program is a way to provide in-house counsel with an opportunity for meaningful pro bono work and the nonprofits with helpful legal insight," Sue says.

Access to Justice

Sponsored by the Massachusetts Access to Justice Commission and Lawyers Clearinghouse, and created and supported by Mintz Levin's Martha Koster and Sue Finegan, the Access to Justice Fellows Program matches a select group of program fellows with legal services organizations and nonprofits to address the unmet legal needs of the state's low-income residents.

In 2012, the program's inaugural year, seven distinguished lawyers—all retiring or transitioning into retirement—were selected to spend a year or longer providing critically needed legal assistance to underserved populations. By 2014 the number of fellows had grown to 17, and included retired Supreme Judicial Court Chief Justice Herbert Wilkins. In addition, Mia Friedman was hired to serve as Access to Justice Fellows Program Director, located at the Lawyers Clearninghouse. The fellows' projects included combating Internet sex trafficking, addressing civil liberties issues, designing a volunteer court advocate program for domestic violence survivors, working with veterans, and more. Fellows have performed more than 25,000 hours of pro bono work to date.

NYC Clinics for Entrepreneurs

In September 2014 Mintz Levin teamed up with its alumni to staff a legal clinic in Harlem designed to help small business and low-income entrepreneurs address their business needs. At the clinic, a team of Mintz Levin and former firm attorneys helped dozens of people get started on realizing their professional dreams. They answered questions about incorporation, bylaws, leases, guaranties, disputes, and intellectual property protection. Organizational support and screening were provided by the Neighborhood Entrepreneur Law Project of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York.

New York attorney Narges Kakalia, who assembled the team of Mintz Levin attorneys and alumni, is organizing a second clinic in October 2015, with plans to make this an annual event.

(continued)

"Our organization has attended several of these legal workshops, and we have always found them useful, practical, and a generous contribution to a small nonprofit with limited funds and a small staff. The Clinic in a Box® helps us understand the changing requirements as well as the process and policies we need to legitimize operations and minimize risk associated with non-compliance."

Ron Moulton

Executive Director

South Sudanese Enrichment for Families



Seedlings Yield Perennial Growth (continued)

Civil Appeals Clinic

Massachusetts residents who are disappointed with a decision reached in trial court or by a state administrative agency often try to appeal their cases on their own. But those who represent themselves pro se—without benefit of an attorney—are often at a significant disadvantage. Very few have legal training, and most have many questions about how to proceed. In fact, Massachusetts Appeals Court staff members report fielding questions from dozens of self-represented litigants each day.

In an effort to address the glaring need for legal help, a Massachusetts Access to Justice Commission committee developed the Civil Appeals Clinic. Managed by the Volunteer Lawyers Project and Mintz Levin, the pilot program provides pro bono legal consultation and representation to self-represented low-income litigants seeking assistance with appellate issues. In initiating this effort, Massachusetts joins more than a dozen other states that have established pro bono appellate programs. They take a variety of forms, from lawyer-for-the-day programs organized by legal services entities to pro bono appellate panels run by bar associations.

To help create and run the six-month pilot program, the Volunteer Lawyers Project and Mintz Levin joined forces with Association of Pro Bono Counsel members Foley Hoag; Goodwin Procter; Nutter, McClennen & Fish; Ropes & Gray; and WilmerHale. Together with the Mintz Levin organizers—Pro Bono Committee Chair Sue Finegan and attorney Kim Parr, assisted by former project analyst Emma Nitzberg and current project analysts Warren Crandall and Conlan Orino—they held clinics in Boston every Wednesday from May to October 2015. At each clinic, self-represented litigants who qualified for assistance met with volunteer attorneys from the participating law firms who screened their cases for ripeness, gave general advice concerning appellate issues and procedure, and provided and assisted with self-help materials.

In addition, the attorneys assessed whether litigants' cases should be reviewed for further representation. If so, the volunteer attorneys referred the cases to a panel of experienced appellate attorneys and legal services attorneys for closer examination, with the goal of sending several cases out to the law firms for representation on appeal.

Know Your Rights!

The Know Your Rights! Program educates Massachusetts nonprofits and their frontline staff on legal issues relevant to their clients. It is a collaboration between Mintz Levin, the Women's Bar Association of Massachusetts, Inc., Women's Bar Foundation of Massachusetts, Inc., Massachusetts Bar Association, American Bar Association Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities, One Family, and the South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston. In 2014, participants from nonprofits that focus on helping low-income women and families attended a series of sessions about legal issues relating to the court system, criminal law, housing, family law, employment, education, and immigration. The sessions were coordinated by Mintz Levin and taught by attorneys from legal services organizations, corporations, government agencies, law firms, and the judiciary. Collaborators also drafted a blueprint and participated in a panel to help organizations nationwide start their own programs. Pro Bono Committee Chair Sue Finegan and attorney Katy Ward have led Know Your Rights! since 2011, when it was founded. Former project analysts Ana Lopez and Caroline Puckowski and current project analyst Max Fathy provided assistance in 2014.

"We have been gratified to work with so many talented Boston lawyers to assist so many low-income litigants, and to collaborate to help fill a gap in legal services by providing much-needed appellate advice."

Sue Finegan

Chair, Mintz Levin Pro Bono Committee



Collaborating for Communities Additional Pro Bono Highlights from 2014

Assistance and Healing

In 2013, "Adam" and his father were victims of a horrific car accident in their home country. Their car was hit by a drunk driver and it went up in flames. Adam's father did not survive the accident, and 14-year-old Adam sustained second- and third-degree burns over 80% of his body and hovered between life and death for weeks. While Adam was treated as much as possible in his home country, the severity of his situation ultimately required a transfer to Shriners Hospitals for Children – Boston, one of the leading burn treatment facilities in the world. Although Adam and his mother, "Debbie," entered the United States as visitors (who are normally granted permission to remain in the country for no more than six months), Adam's condition necessitated a prolonged stay in the country so that he could receive continuing care. This has posed significant immigration challenges to Adam and his mother.

Attorneys Susan Cohen and Lisa Redepenning were able to obtain visa extensions for Adam and his mother to ensure Adam's ongoing treatment. After renewing their visitor status for almost two years, however, Adam and his mother recently had to return to their home country and reenter the United States. Mintz Levin global visa manager Danielle Lifrieri worked with the Department of Homeland Security to facilitate their return to the United States, paving the way for Susan to meet the family's plane on the tarmac and escort them through the immigration screening, and securing permission for them to stay for twice the normally permitted length of time granted to visitors. Secure in this lengthy "approval period," Adam and his mom now can put their immigration worries behind them and concentrate on Adam's healing process, which requires a series of surgeries throughout the coming year. Adam and his mother have said that they have no words to express their gratitude for Mintz Levin's pro bono immigration assistance, making it possible for Adam to receive the best possible medical care in the world.

BioBuilder Educational Foundation

The BioBuilder Educational Foundation is a charitable organization with a mission to put current scientific research into the hands of teachers and students. BioBuilder converts exciting and ongoing research questions in biological engineering and other STEM subjects into teachable modules, including teaching curricula, web-based animations, and in-class and laboratory activities. These modules increase student interest, engagement, and understanding of science and engineering.

Much of BioBiuilder's original curriculum was developed by founder Natalie Kuldell, a professor at MIT. Mintz Levin attorney John Dellapa assisted BioBuilder in securing clear rights to its curriculum from MIT, and he and fellow attorney Rachel Weisblatt have since further assisted BioBuilder as it establishes contractual arrangements with collaborators, manufacturers, and others during a period of rapid growth.

Boston Bar Association Public Interest Leadership Program

Attorney Katy Ward participated in the Boston Bar Association's Public Interest Leadership Program (PILP), which promotes civic engagement and public service by advancing the leadership role of lawyers in service to their community, their profession, and the Commonwealth. PILP participants connect with prominent community leaders at meetings and events, learn about the challenges confronting local organizations, and take part in efforts to address specific community needs. Each PILP class completes a project during its program. The 2014 class trained young probationers (18 to 24 years old) on various legal topics as part of a reentry program. Katy prepared and presented the session on housing, focusing on the impact the probationers' criminal records have on their affordable housing options.

Domestic Violence Project

Mintz Levin's Domestic Violence Project was founded in Boston in 1989 and is now active in several Mintz Levin offices. Through the years, hundreds of the firm's attorneys, paraprofessionals, and staff members have worked on behalf of individual survivors. Beyond helping victims directly, attorneys have served as legal counsel for more than 25 nonprofits dedicated to combating domestic violence and sexual assault, and have partnered with these organizations to advocate for legislative reform and to write amicus and appellate briefs at the state and federal levels.

This past year, one of the many domestic violence cases Mintz Levin assisted with involved "Jack," a legally blind client who suffered verbal and emotional abuse, manipulation, and threats by his now ex-wife. The verbal and emotional abuse and threats continued even after Jack and his ex-wife divorced in 2008, and Jack was first referred to Mintz Levin in 2011 to pursue an extension of his original restraining order. The three-year extension granted in 2011 lapsed in 2014, and Jack remained in fear of his ex-wife. Due to his vision impairment, Jack cannot see if his ex-wife is nearby, or whether she is following him on the street. Recently engaged, Jack also feared that his ex-wife would harm him or his fiancée if the restraining order did not remain in place. Attorney Rebecca Zeidel and project analyst Pat Regan were able to secure an 18-month extension to the restraining order to help continue to keep Jack safe.

Economic Justice Project

With the Economic Justice Project (EJP), Mintz Levin's transactional attorneys use their skills and resources to help low-income entrepreneurs who are starting or expanding small businesses located in underserved communities in Greater Boston. Once or twice a year, the attorneys involved with the EJP conduct pro bono clinics to address the issues

facing small businesses. Some of the entrepreneurs with whom the attorneys meet in Boston go on to become pro bono clients, who typically need assistance with a range of issues relating to entity-formation, employment, real estate, and intellectual property protection. For example, in 2014, the firm assisted with the formation of a new Massachusetts nonprofit organization, Heartbeats, Inc., founded with the goal of building a community that benefits and addresses the needs of people who suffer from mental, emotional, or physical disabilities, regardless of their capacity to pay. Mintz Levin attorneys continue their work with the newly formed organization, helping the founder to obtain federal tax-exempt status for the nonprofit. Attorneys Caroline Gammill and Lindsay Leone and former project analysts Kristen Chapman and Raj Dhaliwal coordinated the projects in 2014, with project analyst Patrick Regan joining the EJP coordination efforts in 2015. Attorneys Anthony Hubbard, Christine Baker, Eric Blythe, and Kaoru Suzuki and former Mintz Levin attorneys Ken Appleby, Tavis Morello, Esther Cho. Jack Schecter, and Christine Wahr also contributed to EJP in 2014.

The Foundation to Be Named Later

The Foundation to Be Named Later (FTBNL) is an organization started in 2005 by Theo Epstein, the current president of the Chicago Cubs and the former executive vice president and general manager of the Boston Red Sox, and his twin brother Paul Epstein, a social worker at Brookline High School. FTBNL raises funds and awareness for nonprofit agencies working on the front lines to serve disadvantaged youth in the Greater Boston area. It invests in programs that teach leadership, education, and healthy development of families and also sends severely under-resourced young people with great potential to college. FTBNL has grown in scope and reach since its founding, and to date has granted \$6 million to over 200 nonprofit agencies benefiting urban youth and families.

FTBNL also has its own direct action program, the Peter Gammons Scholars, and now supports 46 under-resourced students at four-year colleges around the country. Each scholar, a first-generation college student, receives a mentor and a laptop to give him or her a better chance of success in college. Theo and Paul also teamed up with Baseball Hall of Fame journalist Peter Gammons, who, along with a team of All Stars, had been organizing the Hot Stove Cool Music benefit concert since 2000. Hot Stove Cool Music has been the centerpiece fundraising event for FTBNL since 2005 and is held every January in Boston and, since Theo's move to the Cubs in 2012, every summer in Chicago.

Mintz Levin was engaged by FTBNL to reclaim two website addresses, HotStoveCoolMusic.org and HotStoveCoolMusic.com, which were used to promote the benefit concert and which had been squatted on and pirated by two different entities: a Japanese electronics dealer and an Internet pornography business. Attorneys Ben Wagner and Justin Nahama were the primary architects of the strategy to reclaim the websites. Ben and Justin conducted an investigation and gathered extensive evidence to support FTBNL's site ownership claims and then filed UDRP (Uniform Domain-Name Dispute-Resolution Policy) complaints against both entities with the National Arbitration Forum. After a hearing and review by an independent arbitrator, control of both websites was returned to FTBNL in time to promote the next Hot Stove Cool Music concert events benefiting FTBNL and its beneficiary programs and students.

Gazmend ("Gazi") Kapllani

Gazmend ("Gazi") Kapllani grew up in Albania under the totalitarian regime of Enver Hoxha. After escaping to Greece in 1991 at age 24, he began his career as a prolific journalist, poet, novelist, and human rights activist. He eventually wrote of his experiences as a refugee in *A Short Border Handbook*, which became an international bestseller. In 2013, Gazi was a fellow at the Harvard Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study,

where he continued work on his most recent novel. When the Mintz Levin team tasked with securing Gazi's EB-1A visa sat down to sketch out a strategy, their biggest issue was figuring out how to break down the mountains of evidence supporting his status as a "person of extraordinary ability" to develop a concise and coherent petition. On first glance, Gazi fulfilled over half of the 10 EB-1A criteria (only three are needed to satisfy United States Citizenship and Immigration Services requirements). Over the course of several months, his attorneys, Susan Cohen and Cassie Ramos, with the help of former project analysts Emma Nitzberg and Ana Lopez, created an application that beautifully conveyed the heartbreak and triumph of Gazi's tale. In October 2014, Gazi received his permanent resident status.

Greater Boston PFLAG

Greater Boston PFLAG consists of parents, families, and allies of LGBT people, all working together to change environments, strengthen families, and advance equality and societal acceptance of LGBT individuals. In addition to sponsoring parent support groups and engaging in public advocacy, Greater Boston PFLAG conducts a sophisticated array of anti-bullying and diversity trainings in schools, religious organizations, and businesses throughout Massachusetts. During the past year, attorneys Jessica Catlow, Meryl Epstein, Anthony Hubbard, and Nancy Adams have worked with the organization on corporate governance, nonprofit, contract, insurance, and employment matters.

Hatzalah Volunteer Ambulance Corps

Hatzalah is the largest volunteer ambulance service in the United States, with 14 local chapters in the New York metropolitan area, over 1,000 emergency medical technicians, 180 paramedics, and 80 ambulances. Mintz Levin provided a variety of legal services to the organization, under

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the guidance of attorney Jeff Moerdler. Jeff is an EMT with Hatzalah and co-president of its local chapter in Riverdale. He also serves on the executive board of the city-wide parent entity and as co-chair of its legal committee.

Attorney Russell Fox, with assistance from fellow attorney Jordan Cohen and others, has continued to work on communications regulatory issues for Hatzalah. In 2013, the team obtained a landmark ruling from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) allowing Hatzalah to be the first non-governmental entity to be authorized by the FCC to receive caller ID information for blocked land lines and for cell phones. The attorneys are now working to implement that ruling by applying for a similar ruling from the New York Public Service Commission. In addition, they have handled various other FCC permitting applications for Hatzalah's private radio broadcast antenna network.

Jordan and another Mintz Levin attorney, Diane Bourque, have also addressed a wide variety of HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) questions relating to Hatzalah's operations and its privacy policy. Attorney David Katz has also handled various employment issues for Hatzalah, and Jeff Moerdler has handled several antenna leases for Hatzalah's antenna network.

Health Center – Codman Square

Real estate attorneys Eric Freeman and Jennifer Sacco Smith and former Mintz Levin attorney Ken Gantz represented Codman Square Health Center in a creative collaboration of nonprofits, which included Mintz Levin drafting and negotiating a lease of nearly 10,000 square feet in Dorchester, Massachusetts to Codman Square Health Center's newest tenant: Daily Table, a unique not-for-profit grocery store operated by The Urban Food Initiative.

Community stalwart (and pro bono client) Codman Square Health Center has long offered a wide variety of clinical, public health, and community programs to Dorchester and the surrounding communities. Daily Table, founded by the former president of Trader Joe's, opened its doors in May 2015 in its new Codman Square home. Daily Table brings the community fresh produce and healthy prepared meals, affordably priced to compete with fast food alternatives, by recovering food from supermarkets, growers, and food distributors that would otherwise have been wasted. In this way, Daily Table aligns with Codman Square Health Center's overarching mission to serve as a resource for improving the physical, mental, and social well-being of the community. Daily Table plans additional stores in both the greater Boston area and additional cities across the country.

Daily Table shares space with Healthworks Community Fitness in Codman Square Health Center's building, and the three organizations will partner together on programs for improved diet and health overall.

Institute for Brain and Society

Mintz Levin represented the Institute for Brain and Society, which provides funding to the Brain Observatory, an organization dedicated to promoting wider access and study of the human brain. Specifically, the organization is working to set up a library where brains can be donated so that all researchers can have access to a brain database. Mintz Levin attorneys Andrew Skale and Katy Ward and former Mintz Levin attorney Laura Graham provided the Brain Observatory with guidance and advice that enabled it to receive its tax-exempt status as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and meet state filing requirements.

Jane Doe Inc.

Jane Doe Inc. (JDI) is a Massachusetts nonprofit coalition that provides sexual and domestic violence advocacy as well as

expert support and resources to over 60 community-based member programs statewide. These local programs are the hubs of expertise in their communities, advocating on behalf of victims and offering confidential support and services to tens of thousands of victims and survivors of sexual and domestic violence and their families each year. Leading into the 2014 election cycle, attorneys Peter Biagetti and John Nucci assisted JDI by advising it on how to avoid any appearances of intervening in a political campaign. Peter and John's advice was instrumental in ensuring that JDI did not unknowingly place its status as a tax-exempt organization in jeopardy.

Jewish Vocational Services

Jewish Vocational Services focuses on providing educational and employment services to clients in the Greater Boston area. One particular case that came to Mintz Levin through Jewish Vocational Services was that of "Hana," a young Tunisian woman who had come to the United States for college. Hana married a US citizen and began a marriage-based petition to secure her green card and stay in the country. Unfortunately, Hana's husband became physically and financially abusive, and Hana was forced to leave the relationship before her status was secured. She then submitted another green card petition, this time as a Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) self-petitioner. Though it should have been granted on the merits of her case, Hana's petition was denied over a minor procedural matter related to her prior application.

Jewish Vocational Services referred Hana to Mintz Levin attorneys Susan Cohen and Michele Frangella, who quickly undertook the work necessary to override the denial of Hana's green card petition. Susan and Michele spoke with immigration officers on numerous occasions, requesting that they favorably exercise their discretion to reopen Hana's case and approve her petition, noting that a minor procedural error made through no fault of Hana's should not result in her removal from the United States. Ultimately, they brought

Hana's case to the attention of the regional district director. With much persistence, Mintz Levin eventually resolved the procedural matter and procured a green card for Hana, who is now living and working in the Boston area.

Lawyers Clearinghouse

The Lawyers Clearinghouse is an organization dedicated to providing pro bono legal services to residents of homeless shelters and others in need in the Boston area. Mintz Levin has been a partner of the Lawyers Clearinghouse for more than 20 years. Attorneys Kelly Frey, Samantha Kingsbury, and Colin Van Dyke coordinate Mintz Levin's participation in the Lawyers Clearinghouse legal clinics. One case that came to the firm through Lawyers Clearinghouse involved "Ashish." Ashish was a permanent resident in the United States since 2008. However, due to a serious mental illness, he has not been able to find meaningful employment. As a result, he no longer had the ability to support himself and had to go to India, where he had family. The last time Ashish tried to enter the United States, he was stopped at the airport because he had been out of the country for too long, according to the border patrol agent that inspected him. Ashish indicated that he was planning on staying at a shelter, and this seemed to raise a red flag that he may not be maintaining his permanent resident status because he only had temporary living arrangements. Lawyer's Clearinghouse contacted Mintz Levin to represent him in his Immigration Court hearing; Mintz Levin took on the representation with Cassie Ramos as Ashish's main attorney along with assistance from attorneys Bill Coffman and Narges Kakalia. Legal assistant Randi Saba and project analyst Dana Lindberg also provided critical research and background support.

The team filed a very lengthy brief (over 1,000 pages) documenting Ashish's actions while in India to indicate that he had no intention of abandoning his green card, and that he always intended to come back to the United States as a permanent resident. The morning of the hearing, counsel for the Department of Homeland Security contacted Mintz Levin

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to say that he agreed with the firm's arguments, and that he would join Mintz Levin's motion to have Ashish's green card returned to him and to have his status restored to that of a permanent resident. The immigration judge was impressed with the filing, and thanked the Mintz Levin team for taking on this difficult matter. Ashish looks forward to becoming a US citizen as soon as possible.

Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Work

Over the past couple of years, Mintz Levin attorneys Caitie Hill and Colin Van Dyke, along with co-counsel from the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, assisted an African-American real estate broker who had experienced racial discrimination in the course of attempting to show an apartment to an African-American couple. The landlord declared that he would charge the African-American couple more than he would charge a white couple. The broker filed a complaint at the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD), but that resulted in her being "frozen out" by many landlords in the area where she conducted business. The resulting financial impact to her business was severe. Ultimately, she prevailed on her claims and obtained a judgment awarding her \$15,000. The defendant filed multiple administrative and judicial appeals, however, so the matter had been pending for over six years by the time the defendant exhausted his final appeal earlier this year. Working closely with the Lawyers Committee and with the MCAD attorneys, Colin and Caitie advocated for favorable and prompt determinations by the Superior Court. The court affirmed MCAD's award and, with prejudgment interest, the broker received over \$26,000 from the defendant.

Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation

For 53 years, the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation has honored Marines by educating their children. The nation's oldest and largest provider of need-based scholarships to military children, the Scholarship Foundation pays particular attention to those students whose parents have been killed or wounded in combat or demonstrated financial need. The Heroes Tribute Scholarship Programs for Children of the Wounded provides up to \$40,000 of scholarship support for children of wounded Marines and Navy Corpsmen serving with the Marines. Since 1962, the organization has awarded more than 30,000 scholarships valued at over \$90,000,000. For the 2014–2015 academic year, scholarships were awarded to 2,194 students, totaling more than \$6,600,000. Mintz Levin provides the Scholarship Foundation with legal services in a variety of areas, including trademark, copyright, data security, information privacy, insurance, trust and estate, corporate, transaction, and investment-advisor relationship matters. The firm's legal support for the Scholarship Foundation was led by attorney Kevin Ainsworth (a director and general counsel of the Scholarship Foundation) and included attorneys Nancy Adams, Cynthia Larose, Marty Lorenzo, and Peter Miller.

Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty

The Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty, also known as the Met Council, is one of New York's largest human services agencies, providing 100,000 New Yorkers with critical services in their fight against poverty every year. Since 1972, Met Council has been a defender and advocate for New Yorkers in need and has raised awareness around the growing problem of Jewish poverty. Met Council provides services ranging from domestic violence counseling to kosher food pantries to career training.

Mintz Levin has been representing the Met Council for the past 15 years in the development of a government subsidized, affordable assisted living facility on Staten Island. In 2013 the firm handled the closing of a very complicated tax-exempt bond financing for the construction of the project and the agreements related to capital grants from the City of New York. Construction has proceeded, with many issues arising

along the way, and the project is finally nearing completion. During this past year, attorneys Jeff Moerdler, Mike Solet, and Charles Carey advised on tax, bond financing, and real estate issues related to several projected creative uses of portions of that facility that were not contemplated under the bond financing as well as on 501(c)(3) tax exemption issues and a potential recapitalization of the project. Jeff also assisted with easement and construction issues.

National Network to End Domestic Violence

Founded in 1990, and pro bono firm client since 2005, the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) is a national nonprofit membership and advocacy organization comprising a network of dozens of state and territorial coalitions against domestic violence that represent over 2,000 local organizations dedicated to ending domestic violence through legal, legislative, and policy initiatives, as well as to providing shelter, counseling, and legal services to victims and survivors of domestic violence and their families. Mintz Levin attorneys Sandra Badin and Timothy Slattery, with the help and guidance of NNEDV's outside counsel, former Mintz Levin attorney Helen Guyton, submitted an amicus brief on behalf of NNEDV in Elonis v. United States, an appeal before the United States Supreme Court involving the use of Facebook to transmit threatening messages over the Internet in violation of a federal statute. The question presented in the petition for certiorari was whether, under the First Amendment, proof of subjective intent to threaten is required to convict a person of threatening another. The Third Circuit had upheld as proper the district court's jury instruction that permitted conviction under the statute if a reasonable person would foresee that his words would be perceived as a threat. In granting the appellant's petition, the justices also requested that, in addition to addressing the First Amendment guestion, the parties brief the guestion of whether, as a matter of statutory construction, proof of a subjective intent to threaten is required to convict, or whether proof under a reasonable person standard is sufficient.

The closely watched case was the first time the Supreme Court addressed threats communicated via social media, so it presented a timely opportunity for NNEDV not only to remind the Court of the critical role threats play in the spectrum of abuse that constitutes domestic violence, but also to educate the Court about the various ways in which social media and other forms of technology have made it easier for abusers to stalk their victims and to threaten them from afar, thereby making it harder for victims to escape the abuse or to stop living in perpetual, debilitating fear.

On June 1, 2015, the Supreme Court issued its decision, holding that while the statute does not, as a matter of statutory construction, require proof of subjective intent, something more than a reasonable person standard is necessary to convict a person of threatening; it then remanded the case back to the Third Circuit. The Court did not resolve the question of whether proof of subjective intent is required as a matter of First Amendment law. Given the increasing ubiquity of social media as a mode of communication, however, we anticipate that it will not be long before the First Amendment question reaches the Court a second time.

Network for Victim Recovery of DC

The Network for Victim Recovery of DC (NVRDC) is a wraparound advocacy and legal services organization assisting those impacted by crime in the District of Columbia. Mintz Levin has provided pro bono work assistance to the organization since its inception. Attorney Carrie Roll assisted NVRDC for months in securing appropriate charitable solicitation licenses. Additionally, attorney Susan Weller offered pro bono representation regarding a trademark issue related to NVRDC's logo and was able to have a similar logo amended in order to avoid confusing survivors regarding NVRDC and its services.

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New York City Family Court Volunteer Attorney Program

Through the New York City Family Court Volunteer Attorney Program, Mintz Levin attorneys use their skills and experience to help unrepresented litigants address family law issues, including child support, domestic violence, visitation, and custody. The program began in Brooklyn Family Court and has since expanded to Manhattan, Queens, Bronx, and Richmond Counties, with over 200 participating attorneys from more than 35 major law firms and companies. The program has helped thousands of families throughout the years. Each month, the attorneys involved with the program meet with litigants for one-time sessions that typically last about 30 minutes each. Attorney Bethany Hickey has coordinated the program for Mintz Levin since 2015. Attorneys Todd Rosenbaum, Lauren Luptak, Stephanie Leopold, Elizabeth Kurpis, and Rachel Gholston also participated in the program in recent years.

Political Asylum/Immigration Representation Project

The Political Asylum/Immigration Representation Project (PAIR) is the primary provider of legal services to low-income asylum seekers and immigration detainees in Massachusetts. One case that came to Mintz Levin through PAIR involved "Henry," who was born and raised in Uganda. Henry had been targeted and tortured by the Ugandan government as a result of his vocal political support for the opposition party. Both of Henry's parents had died because they were targeted as opponents of the ruling party at the time. In 2008, at the age of 23, Henry became a member of the Forum for Democratic Change, the primary opposition party to the ruling National Resistance Movement party. After publicly criticizing Ugandan President Museveni for leading a corrupt and repressive regime, Henry was kidnapped and brutally tortured by armed men driving a car with government license plates. Despite this, Henry continued to be a vocal opponent of the government even after his release. Eventually, however, after continued targeting by the government, Henry went

into hiding. Henry knew that the only way for him to remain safe from the persecutions of the Ugandan government was to seek asylum in the United States. Using a visa he had for a work-related conference in the United States, Henry was able to leave Uganda in 2011. Through the PAIR Project, Mintz Levin attorneys Martha Koster and Rebecca Raphaelson represented Henry in 2012 and 2013 in his application for asylum, which was granted in August 2013. In 2014, Martha and Rebecca represented Henry in his application for status adjustment to permanent resident, which was approved. Henry received his green card in December 2014.

Prisoners' Rights

The United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts appointed Mintz Levin to represent a formerly self-represented plaintiff, "Martin," in his claims against defendants including the Massachusetts Department of Corrections and its officers. Attorneys Sue Finegan, Mandy Carozza, and Joel Rothman represented Martin in his civil rights pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983, based on the Corrections Officers' use of excessive force against Martin in violation of the Eighth and Fourteenth amendments to the Constitution. Mintz Levin assisted Martin in amending his pro se claims and throughout the discovery process. Fortunately, Mintz Levin was able to reach a favorable settlement for Martin.

Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare

The Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening relationships between patients and caregivers with the goal of promoting compassionate care. The center was established through the vision of Ken Schwartz, a former Mintz Levin attorney who, while battling cancer, recognized how the human kindness he received from his caregivers made his plight a little more bearable.

Since helping to start the organization many years ago, Mintz Levin has played a major role in the success of the Schwartz Center. Mintz Levin attorney Steve Weiner serves as the organization's general counsel, and attorneys Peter Biagetti and Tony Starr serve on the board. In addition, over the past two years, attorneys Dianne Bourque, Sue Finegan, Elissa Flynn-Poppey, Bethany Hickey, Rachel Irving Pitts, Samantha Kingsbury, Kate Stewart, Susan Weller, Ryan Cuthbertson, and Carrie Roll, legal specialist Jacobo Dib, as well as former Mintz Levin attorneys Quincy Ewell, Stefanie Abhar, Kim Gold, Sarah Hogan, and Christine Wahr have lent additional pro bono support. The Mintz Levin team has helped the organization address governance concerns; structure and negotiate strategic initiatives; draft and review contracts; and handle intellectual property, trademark, and government relations issues.

StandWithUs

StandWithUs is an international, nonprofit organization that supports Israel by using education as a catalyst to peace. StandWithUs combats anti-Semitism through print materials, speakers, programs, conferences, missions to Israel, campaigns, social media, and Internet resources. A university school newspaper had published an article containing various false, misleading, and defamatory statements concerning StandWithUs. The article was published during a time when tensions ran high on campus based on several widely publicized anti-Semitic incidents. On behalf of StandWithUs, Mintz Levin quickly confronted university representatives about the defamatory article, and the school newspaper quickly removed the article and posted a public retraction.

Surviving in Numbers

Surviving in Numbers is a sexual assault and domestic violence awareness and prevention project. The organization was founded by Alison Safran, who launched the project

after she was sexually assaulted. Although Alison contacted police and went through the legal process, she did not feel that justice had been served. As a result, Alison reached out to multiple colleges and other organizations throughout the country, partnering with them to develop Surviving in Numbers. Since the organization's inception in October 2012, Mintz Levin has incorporated the organization as a nonprofit, and attorneys Meryl Epstein, Kristin Gerber, Cynthia Larose, Julia Siripurapu, and Susan Weller have worked with Surviving in Numbers on corporate governance, nonprofit, intellectual property, privacy, and contract matters.

Tahirih Justice Center

Tahirih is a nationally recognized Washington, DC area-based organization that enables women and girls fleeing gender-based violence to access justice in the United States through high-quality pro bono legal services and bridge-building public policy advocacy. Tahirih has been instrumental in protecting immigrant women and girls seeking justice in the United States from gender-based violence such as female genital cutting, torture, rape, trafficking, honor crimes, forced marriage, and domestic violence. One such case that Tahirih referred involved a U-Visa. a nonimmigrant visa for victims of crimes who have suffered substantial mental or physical abuse and are willing to assist law enforcement in the investigation or prosecution of the criminal activity. The client suffered physical, emotional, and verbal abuse at the hands of her ex-boyfriend that culminated in a terrifying and dangerous abduction. Thankfully, she survived the kidnapping and eventually overcame her fears to work with the authorities in prosecuting the abuser. Attorney Farrah Short, with invaluable support and assistance from attorney Helen Kim, former Mintz Levin project analyst Alice Kilpatrick, current project analyst Katherine Fox, and records assistant Lorena Bonilla represented the client through the application process.

Velvet Foundation

The Velvet Foundation is a federal tax exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that has been formed to develop a national LGBT Museum. It has already begun collecting items of significance to LGBT history in the United States and internationally. While initially the founders contemplated locating the museum physically in Washington, DC, New York City is now a preferred site. Mintz Levin attorneys, including Steve Weiner, Liz Kurpis, and Sam Effron, have provided assistance to the foundation in redrafting its bylaws and with respect to the various corporate and organizational needs associated with its establishing itself in New York.

VLP Housing Court Project

Lawyer for the Day, a joint effort of the Volunteer Lawyers Project and the Real Estate Section of the Boston Bar Association, recruits Boston attorneys to give advice and provide limited representation to pro se tenants facing eviction. Mintz Levin's participation began as a pilot program in 2010 and became a monthly event in 2011. Under the guidance of the program's directors, attorney Katy Ward and former Mintz Levin attorney Esther Cho, nine other Mintz Levin attorneys represented tenants in Housing Court in 2014, including Matthew Karambelas, Kaoru Suzuki, Rebecca Zeidel, Richard Maidman, Colleen Witherell, Nick Armington, Derek Constantine, and Serge Subach as well as former Mintz Levin attorney Manny Vazquez.

Wellness Campaign

The Wellness Campaign was founded in June 2014 by Dr. Wayne Altman, registered dietitian Kerri Hawkins, and author Joshua Bernoff with the objective of helping people to make a permanent, positive change in their health. Since its founding, the Wellness Campaign has worked to create and implement programs to educate the public about healthy lifestyle choices. In particular, the campaign focuses on

supporting individuals in the following five healthy initiatives: eating better food, managing the quantity of food consumed, maintaining a habit of exercise, embracing activity, and improving sleep and stress management.

Attorney Anthony Hubbard and former Mintz Levin attorney Laura Graham played a pivotal role in forming the Wellness Campaign as a Massachusetts nonprofit, drafting their bylaws and other formation documents, and handling their 501(c)(3) application for tax exemption.

Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Association

The Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Association ("Y") is a community organization that provides a wide range of cultural, educational, recreational, and social activities for all age groups in Jewish communities. Attorney Jeff Moerdler, a past president of the Y, has functioned as its general counsel for transactional matters for the past 30 years and regularly advises on a wide range of issues. Recently a number of other attorneys also contributed pro bono services. Attorneys Steve Friedberg and Amy Lu, for example, handled a construction contract for the renovation of an exterior glass wall. Attorney Nili Yolin stepped in to prepare bylaws and assist with the formalization of a theatre entity that was incubated at the Y and started by one of its former presidents. And when the Y restructured its senior staff and revised its internal staffing policies, attorney David Katz provided counsel on various employment issues. Attorney Peter Miller also pitched in, counseling the Y in connection with several issues related to ensuring that proposed uses of certain endowment funds for specific programs were permitted under the endowment's restrictions.



Pro Bono Committee

(as of September 1, 2015)

Peter Biagetti
Jeff Davis
John Delehanty
Sue Finegan (Chair)
Megan Gates
Michelle Gillette
Anthony Hubbard
Narges Kakalia

Samantha Kingsbury Muriel Liberto Dionne Lomax Nada Shamonki Colin Van Dyke Katy Ward

kalia Alec Zadek

Chair Emeritus Member: **John Regier**

Steve Weiner

We particularly want to recognize those committee members whose terms ended in the past year and to thank them for their long-standing commitment to the pro bono efforts of the firm:

Hope Foster
Helen Guyton
Alison Haile

We also extend our thanks to assistants Marie
Jezequel and Emily Paone, project analysts
Rachna Vyas, Haejin Hwang, and Dana Lindberg,
and former Mintz Levin project analysts Caroline
Puckowski and Kristen Chapman for their
assistance with the pro bono program.



Pro Bono Honors

The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court named Mintz Levin as part of its Supreme Judicial Court Honor Roll for the firm's pro bono hours and pro bono policies.

The Victim Rights Law Center awarded Mintz Levin a Certificate of Recognition for its long-standing commitment to the Rape Survivors' Law Project.

The National Women's Bar Association awarded the 2013 Public Service Award to the Know Your Rights! Program. The program was launched by the Women's Bar Association and Women's Bar Foundation of Massachusetts in conjunction with One Family, Inc. (a nonprofit dedicated to ending family homelessness) and with support from Mintz Levin. The goal of the program is to provide education on legal matters to leaders of local nonprofit organizations that serve low-income women and their families.

Mintz Levin attorney Jacque Burke was awarded the Outstanding Service Award by the Political Asylum/Immigration Representation Project in recognition of her work on numerous asylum and immigration-related matters for the organization.

Former Mintz Levin Manager of Operations **David Coughlin** was honored by **South Sudanese Enrichment for Families** at its annual gala event for his ongoing support of the organization.

The **Children's Trust** honored **Mo Cowan** for his dedication to serving the children of Massachusetts through his work as a community leader and throughout his tenure in Governor Deval Patrick's office working on behalf of families of the Commonwealth.

The Mass Women's Political Caucus recognized Mo Cowan at its 14th Annual "Good Guys" Awards.

The Irish International Immigrant Center awarded Susan Cohen the 2014 Solas Award for her many pro bono contributions on behalf of immigrants in the greater Boston area, particularly those seeking political asylum. Solas Awards are presented annually to individuals whose work is inspirational and who are committed to giving back to their communities.

The Whittier Street Health Center honored Deb Daccord as the 2014 Women's Health Champion for her commitment to the organization. In 2009, Deb co-founded Women for Whittier, an organization that is committed to advancing innovative ways to address and resolve issues related to women's and children's health.

Mintz Levin attorney **Megan Gates** was honored at the annual **Casa Myrna Breakfast Fundraiser** for her steadfast and incredible work as board chair.

Former Mintz Levin attorney **Kelly Graf** received a certificate of recognition from the **New York State Courts Access to Justice Program** for her distinguished service.

Human Rights First awarded Narges Kakalia its prestigious Pro Bono Star Award for excellence in legal advocacy. The organization presents its Pro Bono Star award annually to lawyers who show extraordinary commitment in their pro bono representation of clients in asylum and other immigration cases.

Mintz Levin attorney Martha Koster won the Outstanding Achievement Award for her work as an Access to Justice Fellow at the Political Asylum/Immigration Representation Project.

The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Economic Justice honored attorney Lindsay Leone with an Associate Award in recognition of her pro bono work with the Economic Justice Project.

The New York State Bar Association honored attorney Jeff Moerdler with the Root/Stimson Award, which recognizes members of the profession who have given unstintingly of their time and experience in service to the community.

Ben Wagner was awarded the Pro Bono Publico Award from the San Diego Volunteer Lawyers Program. The Pro Bono Publico Award honors a San Diego attorney who has selflessly provided legal services on behalf of the organization. Ben was selected for his pro bono work representing victims of sexual assault and domestic violence.

The Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce named attorneys Mandy Carozza and Alison Glover among a group of rising stars who will participate in the organization's Women's Leadership Program, a program that brings a select group of emerging women professionals onto the frontlines of the region's business and civic communities.

Mintz Levin attorneys Bethany Hickey, Todd Rosenbaum, Lauren Luptak, Stephanie Leopold, and Elizabeth Kurpis and former Mintz Levin attorneys Kimberly Gold and Kelly Graf received the Pro Bono Service Award in recognition of their participation in the New York City Family Court Volunteer Attorney Program.

At the firm's annual pro bono reception, Mintz Levin presented attorney **Katy Ward** with the **2015 Richard Mintz Pro Bono Award** in recognition of her tireless advocacy on behalf of numerous nonprofit clients, innovative work in creating and administering pro bono clinics, and development of model legal education classes for nonprofit leaders.

John Koss · Martha Koster · Jonathan Kravetz · Vipul Kumar · Angela Kung · Elizabeth Kurpis · Cynthia Larose · Heidi Lawson Meredith Leary · Michelle Leinbach · Anne Leland · Lindsay Leone · Breton Leone-Quick · Stephanie Leopold · Michael Lewis Muriel Liberto · Dana Lindberg · Julia Lindsey · Joseph Lipchitz · Daniel Long · Michael Lopes · Ana Lopez · Marty Lorenzo Audrey Louison · E. Lourdes Piña · Amy Lu · Lauren Luptak · Richard Maidman · Amy Malone · Marc Mantell · Kim Marrkand Jennifer Mather McCarthy · H. Andrew "Drew" Matzkin · Peter McCarthy · James McKnight · John "Terry" McMahon III · Jessica Mendoza Jennifer Miani · Peter Miller · Tracy Miner · Daniel Mitrano · Jeffrey Moerdler · Mary Lee Moore · Patricia Moran · Tavis Morello Justin Nahama · Mina Nasseri · Andrew Nathanson · Kenneth Nee · Michael Newman · Andowah Newton · James Nicholas Emma Nitzberg · John Nucci · Abigail O'Brient · Stuart Offner · Conlan Orino · Jhony Ospina · Stephen Palmer · Emily Paone Joel Papernik · Kimberly Parr · Poonam Patidar · George Patterson · Christopher Pfefferle · Susan Phillips · A.W. "Chip" Phinney III Dominic Picca · Rachel Irving Pitts · R. Robert Popeo · Candice Porter · Jeffrey Porter · Caroline Puckowski · Gauri Punjabi · Scott Rader · Cassie Ramos · Sophie Rand · Rebecca Raphaelson · Joan Raulston · Lisa Redepenning · Patrick Regan · John Regier · Jeffrey Robbins · Eddie Rodriguez · Bridget Rohde · Carrie Roll · Kara Romagnino · Jake Romero · Todd Rosenbaum · Andrew Roth Joel Rothman · William Rowan · Jennifer Rubin · Bonnie Rubrecht · Melanie Ruthrauff · Jennifer Sacco Smith · Harvey Saferstein Gilbert Samberg · Gregory Sandomirsky · James Sasso · Jack Schecter · Claire Superfine Schneider · Gabriel Schnitzler · Laurence Schoen Donald Schroeder · John Sefick · Jessica Sergi · Jenna Shaffer · Nyisha Shakur · Nada Shamonki · Robert Sheridan · Sarah Sherman Terri Shieh-Newton · Farrah Short · Amarynth Sichel · Benjamin Sigel · Gurneet Singh · Julia Siripurapu · Adam Sisitsky · Andrew Skale · Timothy Slattery · Peter Snell · Maxwell Solet · Shoshana Speiser · Samuel "Tony" Starr · Nancy Sterling · Ari Stern · Ellyn Sternfield · Kate Stewart · Serge Subach · Jennifer Sulla · Henry Sullivan · Kaoru Suzuki · Dayan Tabares · Reena Thadhani Tyrone Thomas · Kees Thompson · Aaron Tidman · Tali Tuchin · Jonathan Ursprung · Colin Van Dyke · Manuel Vazquez · Adam Veness · Rachna Vyas · Ben Wagner · Christine Wahr · Adrienne Walker · Kevin Walsh · Ellen Walsh · Katy Ward · Stephen Weiner Daniel Weinger · Rachel Weisblatt · Michael Welby · Susan Weller · Allison Whitmore · Geoffrey Why · Elizabeth Wilkinson Brandon Willenberg · Stephanie Willis · Colleen Witherell · Daniel Woofter · Stephen Wright · Catherine Xu · Hang Mui Yau · Nili Yolin Natalie Young · Alec Zadek · Rebecca Zeidel

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The Bigger Picture

The more effectively we share our successes and create the frameworks for others to build on, the greater the return on our investment in serving those who need it most. As we consider the theme of nurturing communities throughout this journal, what better reminder than a collection of the singular narratives of our pro bono clients, looked at together, to underscore the power we all have to create meaningful legacies.

For more information about our pro bono efforts, please contact

Sue Finegan

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