



September 2008

## Inside This Issue

Chair's Column

Pro Bono Month  
Office Activities

Atlanta

Raleigh

Washington , D.C.

New York

Richmond

Tysons Corner

Hampton Roads

Office Highlights

Special Education

New Pro Bono Initiative –  
Holocaust Reparations  
Project

Pro Bono Recognition

The American Lawyer Pro  
Bono Statistics

*Steve is the Firm's Pro Bono Partner. He chairs the Firm's Pro Bono Committee, and oversees the pro bono programs in each of the Firm's offices.*



## Chair's Column



**Steve Northup**  
Pro Bono Partner

- Partner pro bono hours totaled 817
- Paralegal pro bono hours totaled 128
- 23 lawyers opened their first pro bono matter
- We opened 44 new matters

We have much to celebrate! Our second Pro Bono Month was successful. Pro bono participation by lawyers, paralegals and staff was off the charts, and each office held events to increase the visibility of pro bono. Here are some highlights of the June pro bono statistics:

- 289 lawyers provided 1,980 pro bono hours
- Associate pro bono hours totaled 1,021
- Of Counsel pro bono hours totaled 142

Keep up the good work!

## PRO BONO MONTH OFFICE ACTIVITIES

### ATLANTA

***Congratulations to Ben Chastain, Douglas Henderson, Nail Garrett, Justin Wood, Judith Fuller, David Kirk, Charles Palmer, Evan Pontz, Carolyn Richter, and Brian Teras*** who met the Firm's pro bono requirement of 50 pro bono hours.

***Congratulations to Douglas Henderson, Kevin Maxim, Ben Chastain, Jacqueline Stubbs, Nicole Chupp and Puja Patel***, who billed the most pro bono time in their categories. The group was taken to lunch by ***Steve Riddell***, Office Managing Partner, and ***Holly Hill***, Associate Review Committee Chair.

***Amanda Baxter and James Schutz*** were selected recipients of two Pro Bono Lawyers of the Month Reserved Parking Spaces for the month of July.

***Kevin Meeks, James Schutz, Sara Bass, Richard Rimer, Jack Jirak, Ben Young, Jennifer Duncan, Hans Clausen, Brian Harms, Stephanie Simon, William Still, and Curry Woods*** reached the year to date milestone of 20 pro bono hours.

***Congratulations to Tom Bosch, Amanda Baxter, Steve Northup and Christine Rutz*** who joined Bank of America's Bess Schachner at the Firm's regularly scheduled visit to the Lance Armstrong Palliative Care Clinic for Cancer Patients at Grady Memorial Hospital. They prepared financial powers of attorney and advance directives for health care for cancer patients who require long-term management of complex and multiple problems and those with stage four cancer. The Committee extends its appreciation to ***Zerry Smith*** who arranged for one of the Firm's vendors to donate lunch for the patients.

Congratulations to the over 45 lawyers who attended a pro bono reception and pledged to faithfully honor and fully support the firm and its community by participating in pro bono legal work. ***Former Chief Justice Harold G. Clarke*** administered the pledge. ***Marty Ellin and Rachel Spears***, representatives from Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation and Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta, attended and briefly described their pro bono opportunities.



## RALEIGH

### ***Congratulations to:***

- ***Martin Warf*** for meeting the Firm's goal of 50 pro bono hours.
- ***Bess Hilliard, Pankaj Shere, Gavin Parsons and Lolita Crawford*** for reaching a minimum of 20 pro bono hours.
- The Raleigh ***office*** for reaching a 100% participation by its partners and of counsel in the Firm's pro bono program.

Celebrating the Firm's announcement to join the Pro Bono Institute's Pro Bono Challenge, John Mabe, President of the Wake County Bar Association, joined ***Steve Northup***, Pro Bono Partner, and Celia Mansaray, Michelle Cofield, Cynthia Maxwell, Debbie Herndon, and Roselle Margolis, representatives of local legal services providers at a pro bono luncheon hosted by the Raleigh Pro Bono Committee. Most of the lawyers and paralegals in the office attended the luncheon. At the luncheon, a six-month office challenge to increase pro bono efforts was announced. All attorneys achieving the benchmarks announced will be recognized in a separate office-wide luncheon in 2009. Since the luncheon, legal services organizations have been referring matters on a regular basis to the Raleigh office.

## WASHINGTON, D.C.

### ***Congratulations to:***

- ***Todd Coles*** for meeting the Firm's goal of 50 pro bono hours.
- ***Clifford Sikora and Patricia Elliott*** for reaching a minimum of 20 pro bono hours.

Celebrating the Firm's announcement to join the Pro Bono Institute's Pro Bono Challenge and the D.C. office announcement to join the D.C. Bar Pro Bono Challenge, the Pro Bono Committee held our pro bono reception. Rob Weiner, past president of the D.C. Bar and past chair of the ABA Pro Bono Committee, spoke on the importance of pro bono in the profession. Representatives from two legal services providers also attended.



***Brady Mills***, Of Counsel  
Washington, D.C. Office

***Brady Mills*** received the Thurgood Marshall Award for Capital Representation from the New York City Bar for his representation in a death penalty case. (Federal Court in Alabama granted habeas corpus and it is on appeal to the 11th Circuit. The District Judge had never previously granted habeas corpus in a death penalty case). International Trade Practice Group Leader ***Donald Cameron, Jr.*** said, "Brady is a terrific lawyer and deserving of this honor."

## NEW YORK

### ***Congratulations to:***

- ***Karl Zielaznicki, Eric Unis, Adam Libove, Aaron Mendelsohn and Michael Grandis*** for meeting the Firm's goal of 50 pro bono hours.
- ***Christopher Sale, Michael Carbone, Farah Ahmed, Bryan Zetlin, Mark Goldsmith and Cynthia Mitchell*** for reaching a minimum of 20 pro bono hours.
- More ***than 16*** lawyers participated in a training seminar for the Lawyers' Foreclosure Intervention Network. The seminar was organized by The Federal Reserve Bank of New York and the New York City Bar. Attendees were trained to assist homeowners in understanding and assessing their options to avoid foreclosure and they learned to negotiate with homeowners' creditors and represent homeowners before bankruptcy or other courts.
- ***Caroline Harris*** and her team, who were recognized by the Sustainable South Bronx for their effort in helping the organization address land-use, energy, transportation, water & waste policy, design and manufacturing and education to advance the environment and economic rebirth of the South Bronx.

## RICHMOND

### ***Congratulations to:***

- ***Elizabeth Hester, Rob Brooke, Nancy Rogers, and Stephen Piegrass*** for meeting the Firm's goal of 50 pro bono hours.
- ***William Derry and Shannon Patterson*** for reaching a minimum of 20 pro bono hours.

## TYSONS CORNER

### ***Congratulations to:***

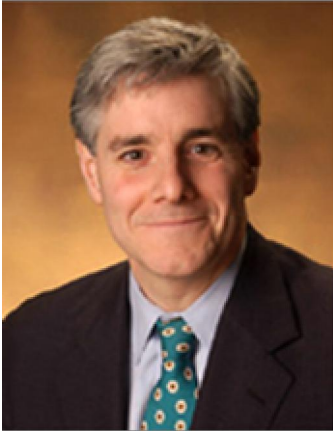
- ***Kathleen Donahue and Michelle Leonhart*** for reaching a minimum of 20 pro bono hours.

## HAMPTON ROADS

**Congratulations to:**

- The **Hampton** Roads office for reaching 100% participation by its associates in the Firm's pro bono program.
- Pro bono **month** was highlighted in the Hampton Roads Office with a pizza luncheon for the entire office.

### OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS



*Jim Wheaton, Partner*  
Virginia Beach Office

**Jim Wheaton** in the Virginia Beach office has represented a young man in Chesapeake, Virginia, now 11 years old, in special education matters for more than four years, on a pro bono basis. In November 2007, Jim's client became involved in a verbal dispute with another student during gym class, and apparently made some threatening remarks that possibly involved the use of weapons. The child's outburst was consistent with the nature of his disability, and did not involve a real threat, but given the current school environment, the school initiated disciplinary proceedings. The school suspended the child for ten days, and convened an administrative hearing to determine whether the school system would recommend expulsion. Even if he were not expelled, the school was prepared to recommend that he be removed to a day facility in another city (as opposed to his current special education classroom).

**Jim** represented our client and his family at the hearing in December, and notwithstanding comments from the client's father about recent additions to his gun collection as well as the father's strong advocacy of his Second Amendment rights, the hearing resulted in a determination that the client's verbal outburst was related to his disability (which prevented expulsion), the student was allowed to return to his previous special education placement after serving his suspension, and the suspension was reduced from two weeks to one. In addition, with **Jim's** assistance the school and the parents worked out a strategy to improve our client's behavior, and the school agreed to provide additional supervision by an aide during gym class and lunch, and to conduct an evaluation as to whether our client required additional support from an aide in the

## New Pro Bono Initiative - Holocaust Reparations Project

Last fall, the German government established a reparations program which provides a one time €2,000 Euro (nearly \$3,000 US) payment to Holocaust survivors who were forced to work while living in a German-controlled ghetto. The German government estimates that there are at least 50,000 Holocaust survivors alive today who may qualify for these new reparations funds, with approximately 20,000 of those survivors living in the United States. One of the nation's premier public interest law firms, Bet Tzedek, (which means "The House of Justice" in Hebrew), is organizing legal clinics throughout the U.S. to help qualifying survivors apply for the reparations. Bet Tzedek will offer training and support to pro bono lawyers who sign up to participate in the clinics. The lawyers will, in turn, provide legal assistance to survivors in filling out the reparations application forms. Based on Bet Tzedek's experience with this and other reparations programs, the assistance of lawyers in filling out the forms is critical to the success of applicants in actually receiving reparations. The time commitment needed to participate in this project is limited – volunteers are only required to attend a training session and then volunteer for a set time to help staff a legal clinic at which Holocaust survivors may come and get legal assistance in filling out the application forms. No particular experience or expertise is needed.



*Matt Aaronson*  
Partner  
New York Office

**Matt Aaronson** is heading up this initiative in the New York office where 16 lawyers were trained to participate. Bank of America in-house lawyers accepted Troutman's invitation to participate with Troutman in this initiative. We anticipate that lawyers in the Atlanta and D.C. offices will participate in this project in the near future.

## Pro Bono Recognition

### Atlanta

The State Bar of Georgia honored the Firm with its William B. Spann Jr. Award for the firm's ongoing pro bono work with Atlanta Legal Aid and the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation. The award was presented to the firm at the State Bar of Georgia's annual meeting on June 6 in Amelia Island, Florida.

Troutman Sanders received this year's award based on its many pro bono efforts over the years for Atlanta Legal Aid and the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation. In particular, the firm was singled out for its assistance with the statewide Georgia Senior Legal Hotline, drafting Miller Trusts for low income residents facing loss of Medicaid benefits, assisting low income individuals with evictions in Fulton County, and drafting wills for needy individuals in the Breast Cancer Project, "Wills on Wheels" and "Wills for Emergency Service Personnel" programs.

The firm was also praised for its efforts in assisting and being one of the most active participants in Atlanta Legal Aid's Fellowship Program, as well as creating the Qualified Domestic Retirement Order (QDRO) Project, which aids in dividing retirement funds for adverse parties during a settlement or divorce case.

### Richmond



**James Canup**  
Partner  
Richmond Office



**Nancyellen Keane**  
Of Counsel  
Richmond Office

For the past couple of years, **James Canup and Nancyellen Keane** represented the Capitol Square Civil Rights Memorial Foundation. Recently, the Memorial was unveiled in front of a crowd estimated at over 2,000 people, including Virginia Governor Kaine, Julian Bond, NAACP Chairman, and a number of other dignitaries. Troutman Sanders was listed among the "special thanks" recipient in the dedication celebration program. **James Canup** was present at a private signing ceremony with the Governor, Judy Anderson, Chair of the Foundation, and Viola Baskerville, Secretary of Administration when the deed of gift transferring the Memorial to the Commonwealth was signed. Governor Kaine asked **Canup** to relay his thanks for Troutman's efforts on behalf of the Foundation and the Commonwealth.

## American Lawyer Pro Bono Statistics

The July issue of *The American Lawyer* includes its annual report of the pro bono performance of the AmLaw 200 during the preceding year, in this case 2007. Troutman, along with many of its competitors, fell in the rankings for 2007 activity. Troutman dropped from 95 to 110. (Last year, the Firm jumped from 115th to 95th, the biggest jump we have ever made and our first incursion into the top 100 in the pro bono rankings.)