



The Legal Aid Society
2006 Pro Bono Awards

November 6, 2006

PROGRAM

Monday, November 6, 2006

Welcome from the Chairperson of the Board
Patricia M. Hynes

...

Greetings from the Attorney-in-Chief
Steven Banks

...

Introduction of Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye

...

Remarks by Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye

...

Recognition of Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP

...

Presentation of the 2006 Pro Bono Publico Awards
Chief Judge Kaye
Steven Banks

**The Legal Aid Society expresses its appreciation to
Shearman & Sterling LLP for hosting
the 2006 Awards ceremony**

Patricia M. Hynes
Chairperson of the Board

Peter v. Z. Cobb
President

Steven Banks
Attorney-in-Chief

David W. Weschler
Attorney-in Charge of the Pro Bono Program

Marlene Halpern
Supervising Attorney, Pro Bono Program

THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY'S 2006 PRO BONO PUBLICO AWARDS

Presented by The Honorable Judith S. Kaye,
Chief Judge of the State of New York

*In recognition of the outstanding contributions of the following law firms,
attorneys, paralegals, individuals and corporations to the cause of equal justice.*

PRO BONO PUBLICO and PUBLIC SERVICE LAW FIRM AWARD

Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP is honored for its extraordinary pro bono commitment to The Legal Aid Society and its clients. The firm has expanded its commitment to serve as invaluable co-counsel in a major law reform case on behalf of battered immigrant women and children. Associates and paralegals from **Hughes Hubbard** also staff a weekly immigration hotline and provide assistance to detained immigrants. In addition, the firm has provided outstanding pro bono legal services at the ambulatory HIV/AIDS clinic at Beth Israel Medical Center for the last 15 years. A dedicated supporter of the Society since the early 1900s, four **Hughes Hubbard** partners, beginning with Charles Evans Hughes, have served as Presidents of the Society. Over the years, partners in the firm have served on the Society's Board of Directors. **Charles H. Scherer**, Managing Partner of **Hughes Hubbard**, is currently a Director of the Society.

AFFIRMATIVE LITIGATION

VICTORY FOR BATTERED IMMIGRANT WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP serves as co-counsel with the Society in *M.K.B. v. Eggleston*, a federal class action that challenges the systemic failure of the City and the State to provide public benefits to eligible, documented immigrants, including domestic violence survivors and their children. The firm's efforts have been extraordinary and have resulted in class certification and the issuance of a preliminary injunction for corrective measures. **Hughes Hubbard's** phenomenal legal team consists of **Ronald Abramson, Russell W. Jacobs, Shawn McEnnis, Shannon E. Frank, Beatriz Biscardi, Keith Lew, Natasha Reed, Andrew M. Lupin, Megan Canter, Linda E. Johnsen, Jason H. Sitek, Patricia Smith, Ia Topuria, Maryanne Sexton, Angela Migally, Jami S. Johnson, Leif M. Ericson, LaJune Barnes, Michael Higgins** (last six formerly with Hughes

Hubbard) who are being honored for their exemplary service.

Staff: Jenny Baum, Camille Carey, Chris Lamb, Sandra Park, Scott Rosenberg, Elizabeth Saylor, and Cheryl N. Williams, Civil Practice

IMMIGRATION HOTLINE

Attorneys and paralegals from **Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP** staff a weekly hotline for detainees and their families to provide them with access to legal services. **Sarah Cave, Beatriz Biscardi, Kenneth Chen, Sharad Khemani, Andrew Lupin, Carl Mills, William Sanchez, and Jenny Stapleton;** and **Leslie Ballantyne** and **Katherine Enright** (formerly of **Hughes Hubbard**) are recognized for their work with the Immigration Detention Project and the hotline for that project.

Staff: Bryan Lonagan, Civil Practice's Immigration Unit

COMPREHENSIVE LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Carolyn Levine (**Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP**) oversees the firm's *pro bono* transactional practice, putting together legal teams to provide comprehensive legal assistance and training. Under her leadership the firm's attorneys have demonstrated extraordinary responsiveness to a diverse *pro bono* clientele. Recognized with Ms. Levine are **Remi Silverman**, a tax associate, and **Matthew P. O'Donnell**, a corporate associate.

Staff: Stephen Falla-Riff, Civil Practice

HIV/AIDS REPRESENTATION

Teams of lawyers at **Hughes Hubbard** have assisted thousands of families and individuals over the last 15 years by providing outstanding legal services at the ambulatory HIV/AIDS clinic at Beth Israel Medical Center. **Vilia Hayes** and **Damon Rowe** are recognized for this initiative.

OUTSTANDING PRO BONO COUNSEL

Miriam A. Buhl of **Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP** is recognized for her outstanding dedication to the clients of The Legal Aid Society. Ms. Buhl has been instrumental in expanding the firm's multifaceted *pro bono* partnership with the Society. She has provided co-counsel for law reform cases, recruited attorneys and paralegals for the criminal law practice, found counsel on trust and estates and entertainment law, expanded prisoners' rights work, and facilitated a growing corporate *pro bono* practice. Miriam's dedication to the Society's work and its clients is boundless. She began her legal career at The Legal Aid Society.

Staff: Marlene Halpern and David Weschler

SEEKING AN ADEQUATE SHELTER ALLOWANCE

Scott Martin, Robert Polemeni (Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP) and **Adam Grant** (formerly with Weil) have worked tirelessly as co-counsel on *Brownley v. Doar*, an action seeking to require New York State to adopt an adequate public assistance shelter allowance for families with children in New York City who receive assistance in the “Safety Net” category because they have reached the five-year time limit on federally reimbursed assistance. Although originally successful at the trial level, the trial court later dismissed the case on the authority of a decision by the Appellate Division, Second Department involving families in Westchester County. The case is now on appeal to the Appellate Division, the First Department.

Staff: Susan Bahn, Allison Baker, Elizabeth Maris, Scott Rosenberg, Jasmine Ramirez-Burgos, Fay Munro-Cole, Jeffrey Olshansky

PUBLIC BENEFITS

Stefania Di Trolio Venezia (Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP) and **Charles Walsh** (formerly of Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP) obtained \$41,000 in retroactive adoption subsidy benefits for a physically and psychologically disabled child with a multitude of health problems.

Staff: Ian Feldman, Civil Practice

SERVICE TO THE SOCIETY

Richard J. Davis, a Vice Chair of the Society and a partner; **Debra A. Dandeneau**; **Mark Jacoby**; **Robert Messineo**; and **Michael Kam**— all partners at Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP.

SERVICE TO CLIENTS

Vernon Broderick, Jason Lichter and **Cecilia Silver (Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP)** are recognized for representing a state prisoner at Sing Sing who allegedly was beaten and threatened with retaliation if he reported the beating.

Staff: John Boston, Prisoners’ Rights Project

Jon Marshall, Matthew Antonelli and **Zachariah Harrington (Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP)** initiated a successful lawsuit on behalf of a woman inmate at the Albion Correctional Facility who was being denied adequate catheter supplies.

Staff: Betsy Ginsberg, Prisoners’ Rights Project

Adam Hemlock, Oluwashola Ajewole, Danitra Oliver, and **David Taylor (Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP)** zealously represented an emotionally desperate client facing an unclear legal defense. They have gone the extra mile, providing counsel and support beyond their professional obligation.

Staff: Maria Navarro, Civil Practice

REPRESENTATION OF IMMIGRANT JUVENILES

Amadou Ly, an 18-year-old immigrant from Senegal who was facing deportation, was granted a student visa on July 28, allowing him to stay in the United States and attend college. **Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP; Latham & Watkins LLP** and **Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP** served as co-counsel with the Society on the case. Amadou came to the United States in 2001 on a tourist visa. One year later, his mother returned to Dakar, instructing the 14-year-old to stay behind and receive an education. He was in his junior year of highschool when deportation proceedings were first brought against him. **Amy Meselson**, a Legal Aid Society lawyer, became aware of Ly's case after he showed up at Immigration Court alone. Meselson has been a driving force behind the creation of a special monthly docket for juveniles at Immigration Court. The New York Times published a story on Ly's immigration troubles on April 26, after his robotics team unexpectedly beat out the city's elite high schools to win a place in a nation-wide robot-making competition. The subsequent success of the case was covered by the New York Times on July 28.

Iiona Cohen, Sarah Hurwitz, and Edward Tobin (**Wilmer Hale**: governmental relations); **Sally Box, Edward Burke, Laura Hirschfeld, and Joseph Salvo** (**Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP**: trust fund and entertainment); and **Blair Connelly, Emily Finn, Cynthia Caillavet, Sheri Hametz, Thomas Hoffman, and Andrew Morton** (**Latham & Watkins LLP**: immigration) collaboratively represented Amadou Ly. Because of their hard work and persistence, the client is a F-Visa holder and can plan financially for his future. **Justin Strochlic** (formerly of **Latham & Watkins LLP**) diligently represented a Ukrainian youth in her application for a green card. After the application was erroneously denied, he promptly filed a motion for reconsideration and spent countless hours accompanying her to the United States Citizen and Information Services.

Staff: Amy Meselson, Civil Practice

PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF THE DISABLED

Kevin Ashby and Carolyn Wu (**Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP**), serving as co-counsel with the Society, achieved a victory in a federal court class action, *Lovely H. v. Eggleston*, which established that federal and state disability discrimination laws prohibit New York City from forcing disabled public assistance recipients to use one of three "hub centers," rather than one of the 29 neighborhood offices generally available to non-disabled HRA clients, for their in-person interactions with the public assistance system.

Staff: Kathleen Kelleher, Ken Stephens, Susan Welber, Cheryl N. Williams, Diane Spicer, Scott Rosenberg. Scott Civil Practice

TRANSLATION SUPPORT

Shearman & Sterling LLP contributes translation services in support of litigation on behalf of the Society's increasing immigrant clientele. The firm also assists with the translation of community education materials into multiple languages. **Saralyn Cohen**, the firm's *Pro Bono* Counsel, has been instrumental in greatly expanding this vital service, particularly in the immigration and health practices.

SERVICE TO THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Daniel Kolb, a Director of the Society and a partner at **Davis Polk & Wardwell**
Linda E. Rappaport, a Director of the Society, and **Faith Grossnickle**, both partners; **Eva A. Rasmussen**, an associate, and **Mary Riebold**, an actuary -- all at **Shearman & Sterling LLP**

Rochelle Korman, Managing Partner of **Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP** and a Director of the Society

William A. Roskin, senior advisor at **Viacom Inc.**

Graeme Hunter, National Educational Research Association (NERA)

Craig Reicher, CB Richard Ellis

Marc Morin, CB Richard Ellis

Anthony Riccio, Lehr Construction Corporation

Jeremy P. Lang, partner, **Butler Rogers Baskett Architects**

Todd E. Soloway, partner at **Pryor Cashman Shearman & Flynn LLP**

Jean O'Hare, Senior Corporate Counsel and *Pro Bono* Counsel, **Pfizer Inc.**

Shirley Staples

PROTECTING HOMELESS FAMILIES

Cravath, Swaine, & Moore LLP and the legal team of **Richard W. Clary**, **Elizabeth Grayer**, **Jeffrey Korn**, **Marek Krzyzowski**, **Jessica Richman**, **Charles Bradley**, **John Cleaver**, **Lynn Cole**, **Ryan Coughlan**, **Julia Deming**, **Allyson Heady**, **Amanda Hollis**, and **Lucas Karasavidis** have worked tirelessly as co-counsel on the *McCain* lawsuit, seeking to ensure that homeless children and their families receive lawful shelter and services.

Staff: Steven Banks, Jane Bock, Russell Crane, Laura Duran, Joshua Goldfein, and Amanda Moretti, Civil Practice

Corrine Rebhun (Kaye Scholer LLP) developed novel legal arguments, which will be helpful for many similarly situated clients, in a matter involving the New York City Housing Authority application process.

Staff: Steven Banks, Russell Crane and Joshua Goldfein, Civil Practice

PARALEGAL SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP continued the firm's commitment to a model *pro bono* project for paralegals who play a pivotal role by participat-

ing in service plan review meetings and obtaining compliance with court ordered services for 18-21 year olds who are transitioning out of foster care. The firm operates its model program in conjunction with the Juvenile Rights Practice's Brooklyn office.

Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP is recognized for initiating a similar *pro bono* project for paralegals with the Juvenile Rights Practice's Manhattan Office. Cadwalader paralegals provide an important service to young people who are aging out of the foster care system and will be on their own.

*Staff: Louis Santori, Karen Simmons, Lakeisha Hudson and Tamara Steckler,
Juvenile Rights Practice*

COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

David Miller and Katherine de Vos (Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP) assisted four nonprofits with incorporation: a low-income homeowner's association, a social services organization combating youth violence, a health outreach program, and a Harlem youth football team.

Guilherme Ferreira and Katrin Lewertoff (Sidley Austin LLP) provided legal expertise and support to a nonprofit that assists disabled persons with the HIV/AIDS virus.

Ada Davis (formerly of **Kelley Drye & Warren LLP**) successfully defended a non-profit substance abuse counseling program in a two year nonpayment proceeding

Staff: Susan Chase, Civil Practice

PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF IMMIGRANTS

Cooley Godward Kronish LLP, under the leadership of **Alan Levine**, Partner in Charge of the firm's New York office and a Director of the Society, developed a cadre of associates who now are experienced in immigration practice and have become in-house experts in the defense of detainees facing deportation. *Pro bono* assistance is invaluable because the Society is the only free legal services organization available for low-income immigrants in New York City who are detained and facing deportation because of criminal convictions. Tenacious representation by **Shannon McKinnon, Mina Kim, Michael Klein, Benjamin Kleine, Jason Koral, Gregory G. Plotko** and **Marisa Megur Seifan**, has enabled numerous immigrants to remain safely in the United States with their families.

Katherine Carroll, Evan Criddle, Tanisha Massie, David Rush, and Daniel Zipp (Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP) worked tirelessly on a Second Circuit petition for a long-time employed permanent resident whose wife is blind.

Lisa Lewis (Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP) successfully obtained asylum for a Gambian man who had been tortured because of his pro-democracy activities.

Jennifer Blasser (Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law) is recognized for her excellent advocacy to cancel the removal order of a twenty year resident who is the father of three U.S. citizen children and financial supporter of his sick and elderly parents.

Birdette Gardiner-Parkinson (Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center, Caribbean Health Program) offered invaluable counseling to the traumatized children of deportees and provided key testimony in several removal cases. **Dr. Leon Patrick Valburn (Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center, Carr Mental Health)** donated counseling and critical testimony on behalf of a detainee who was the primary caretaker of his disabled son.

Subash Kateel and Aarti Shahani (Families for Freedom) are invaluable resources for the Immigration Unit's Detention Project, providing emotional support for clients' families and monitoring detention conditions.

Staff: Bryan Lonegan, Civil Practice

LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae LLP dedicated substantial resources to an immigration *pro bono* project with the Society. **Brian Burns** and **Elizabeth Edelstein** convinced the immigration judge that their client should remain in the United States with his family. **Emily Dephoure, Elizabeth Henries** and **Karen Pettapiece** provided representation that prevented the removal of a 59-year-old client from Colombia who had lawfully resided in the United States for 30 years, has four children and nine grandchildren, who are U.S. citizens. She had faced removal because of theft offenses committed more than 25 years ago.

Staff: Olivia Cassin and Bryan Lonegan, Civil Practice

Ellen Wallach (Director of **Constituent Services Office of Congressman Jerrold Nadler**) has assisted the Immigration Unit in accessing vital information from the Department of Homeland Security regarding the status of clients' applications and has been instrumental in prompt adjudication when further delay would have been fatal to the applicant's continued eligibility for the benefit sought.

Staff: Olivia Cassin, Civil Practice

Fabian Guevara and **Manuel Herrero (Holland & Knight LLP)** skillfully and with great sensitivity and tact acted as oral interpreters in the preparation of clients and witnesses for immigration hearings.

Staff: Olivia Cassin and David Stern, Civil Practice

David Benion (formerly of **Thompson Hine LLP**) played a key role in the successful defense of a long-term lawful permanent resident who had been out of the United States for a number of years. The client was re-admitted as a lawful permanent resident and continues to reside with her children.

Laura Storto (Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP) worked as co-counsel on behalf of a long-term mentally ill permanent resident who was likely to be tortured if deported to his home country.

Staff: David Stern, Civil Practice

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP is recognized for partnering with the Society's Northern Manhattan Immigrant Defense Project which represents immigrants threatened with removal. **Paul Gluckow, Helena Almeida** and **Julissa Reynoso** have played a significant role in the establishment of the project. **Helena Almeida** and **Carlos Lopez** have also volunteered to accept the first few cases for representation.

Staff: Maria Navarro, Civil Practice

NYC PRO BONO CENTER

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP and staff members **Eric Edelson** and **Lea Levy** provided essential technology support for the creation of NYC *Pro Bono* Center, a new website on Probono.net, hosted by The Legal Aid Society and City Bar Justice Center. This innovative website is designed to give *pro bono* attorneys access to a core set of substantive training materials, news and volunteer opportunities with a wide range of organizations.

Staff: Marlene Halpern and David Weschler

MAJOR TECHNOLOGY ADVANCEMENTS

Under the leadership of **Patricia M. Hynes**, Board Chairperson, and **Theodore A. Levine**, a Vice Chair, a major technology initiative was developed in the Spring. Ted Levine organized an advisory committee of the Chief Information Officers at six of the Sustaining Law Firms that are represented on the Board of Directors: **Cravath Swaine & Moore LLP; Davis Polk & Wardwell; Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, Sullivan & Cromwell LLP** and **Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz**, and **Nick Croce**, President of **Doar Litigation Consulting**. The committee, on a *pro bono* basis, helped to analyze the Society's current systems and evaluate what a modern law firm of the Society's size and complexity should have in place. The committee developed an overall technology plan for the Society and brought in two nationally known consulting firms, **mindSHIFT Technologies** and **Baker Robbins & Company** to give The Legal Aid Society a complete overhaul and modernization of our technology infrastructure and applications.

David Baker, Chairman of **Baker Robbins & Company**

Sam Collier, Senior Director of **mindSHIFT Technologies**

Nick Croce, President of **Doar Litigation Consulting**

Mike Donnelly, Chief Information Officer, **Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP**

Jeffrey Franchetti, Director of IT, **Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP**

Peter Kaomeo, Chief Information Officer, **Sullivan & Cromwell LLP**

Michael Legman, Director of IT, **Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz**

Michael Mills, Director of Professional Services and Systems, **Davis Polk & Wardwell**

Harris Tilevitz, Chief Technology Officer, **Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP**

Peter Lesser, Global Director of Technology, **Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP**

Philip Talamas, Manager of Network Operations, **Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP**

Gail A. Dedrick, Managing Web Editor, **Davis Polk & Wardwell**

ROCKEFELLER RE-SENTENCING PROJECT

Debevoise & Plimpton LLP; Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP and **Proskauer Rose LLP**, are honored for their outstanding participation in the Rockefeller Re-Sentencing Project. The firms worked on *pro bono* cases for inmates wishing to seek redress of draconian sentences and provided invaluable attorney and paralegal resources.

Debevoise & Plimpton LLP: Elias Kahn, Jeremy Klatell, Martin Cohen, Rike Ojediran, Jack Vitayanon, Bryan Kessler, Dina Hamerman, Matt Hackell

Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP: Jennifer Colyer, Jennifer Weiers, Nazar Altun, Victor Suthammanout, Adam Gottlieb, Jeremy Goldman, Elizabeth A. Walsh, Elana Sinensky, Christopher M. Van De Kieft, Sandra Badin, David Charles Pollack, Sara Kissloff, Sloan Johnston

Proskauer Rose LLP: Steven Krane, Jennifer Burns, Ian Schaefer, Eric Topel, Wendy Wu, Myron Rumeld, Russell Hirschhorn, Joseph O'Keefe, Andrew Gerber, Katherine Wurmfeld, Leni Battaglia, Noah Gitterman, Jessica Mastrogiovanni, Jeff Gentes, Luri Daniel-Favors

Staff: Criminal Appeals and Special Litigation, Criminal Practice

PERMANENT HOMES FOR FOSTER CHILDREN

Lawyers at **Proskauer Rose LLP** provided *pro bono* assistance on a substantial number of appeals, removing the remaining legal barrier for children awaiting permanent homes to be freed for adoption. **Susan Friedfel** oversees the project and **Nathaniel Glasser, Nathan Lander, and Ian Schaefer** each have provided excellent representation on numerous cases.

Richard Hartzman, an individual practitioner, successfully represented a client on a year long complex appeal.

Staff: Judy Waksberg and Gary Solomon, Juvenile Rights Practice

EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

Davin Hall and **Glenn Siegel (Dechert LLP)** are co-counsel on a judgment enforcement matter. They have been vigorous advocates to enforce monetary awards for immigrant workers. Their legal expertise has been invaluable to the Society's Employment Law Project.

William Littman has been a tireless volunteer, contributing to the Employment Law Project's capacity to provide high quality representation to low-income workers in cases involving the Fair Labor Standards Act, unemployment insurance benefits and various anti-discrimination statutes.

Staff: Marlen Bodden, Ricky Blum, Joannah Dickenson, Civil Practice

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

Donna Krouzman (Debevoise & Plimpton LLP) tenaciously represented a disabled client in a complex hearing at which she had to deal with new facts and multiple issues. Her thorough preparation and research were exemplary, as was her commitment to the client.

Staff: April Newbauer, Civil Practice

PRISONERS' RIGHTS

Debevoise & Plimpton LLP is co-counsel with the Society's Prisoners' Rights Project in *Amador et al.*, a class action on behalf of women prisoners who have been sexually abused by male correctional officers in the New York State prison system. The firm's assistance has been invaluable this year in defending the State's massive motion to dismiss. Debevoise's impressive legal team, including **Maeve O'Conner, Camille Gear Rich, Alison Mikkor, Elizabeth J. Maxwell, Christian R. Everdell, Charlotte Eugenie Fishman, Donna Krouzman, Natalie Lamarque, Matthew M. Riccardi, Jeffrey A. Alberts, Terrienne Muenzen, Kenya K. Davis, Melissa Mortazavi, John S. Craig, Justin Smith, and Robert Tebbenkamp**, are recognized for outstanding service.

Staff: Dori Lewis and Lisa Freeman, Prisoners' Rights Project

David Hoffner and Jose Almonte (Dechert LLP) have made a significant contribution as co-counsel to preserve the 20-year consent judgment in *Milburn v. Goord*, a class action that created a Medical Auditor to ensure that prisoners at Green Haven Correctional Facility receive adequate care. Mr. Hoffner and Mr. Almonte met with hundreds of inmates, reported findings which became the basis of the Medical Auditor's court report, and forced the termination of a negligent physician.

Staff: Dori Lewis, Prisoners' Rights Project

Kenneth Marvet and Yosef Rothstein (O'Melveny & Myers LLP) serve as counsel for a Sikh prisoner, who had been on a hunger strike when Fishkill Correctional Facility refused to permit him to practice his religious beliefs. The lawyers instituted a challenge under the religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act to various infringements of the client's religious liberty.

Staff: Milton Zelermyer, Prisoners' Rights Project

Davis Polk & Wardwell is serving as co-counsel with the Society's

Prisoners' Rights Project, Prisoners' Legal Services of New York, and Disability Advocates, Inc. on Disability Advocates, a state-wide challenge to the lack of adequate mental health treatment provided to prisoners in the custody of the New York State Department of Correctional Services. Davis Polk has fully participated in the formulation and litigation of the case and has devoted extensive amounts of time, energy and ability to obtaining a just outcome in this matter. The firm's talented legal team, led by partner **James W.B. Benkard**, includes **Nancy B. Ludmerer**, **Candy M. Lawson**, **Lydia I. Kang**, **Andrew E. Krause**, **Una A. Kim**, **Shirley Li** and **Lisa Scovotti**, is honored for outstanding service.

Staff: John Boston and Sarah Kerr, Prisoners' Rights Project

CRIMINAL APPEALS

Davis Polk & Wardwell volunteered to prepare the appeal and pursue a wrongful conviction investigation on behalf of a convicted client. The legal team of **Christopher Withers**, **James W.B. Benkard**, **Keith Berger**, **Shannon Rogers Simpson**, and **Margery Miller Shanoff**, thoroughly re-investigated the case, discovered new exculpatory evidence, and made a commitment to act as lead counsel if new trial is held pursuant to a 2005 Appellate Division order.

John Berry (Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld) worked for several years on two complex criminal appeals. In *People v. Garvey*, he argued that identification procedures conducted by private citizens are within the scope of the Supreme Court's due process protections. The case is awaiting decision in the Second Circuit. In *People v. Garcia*, he is seeking *habeas corpus* relief for a client who lost the opportunity to accept a favorable plea offer when his lawyer failed to communicate its terms to him.

Wells Dixon (Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP) submitted an outstanding brief in the Appellate Division in *People v. Nelson*, a case in which he spent innumerable hours reviewing the case with the client.

Staff: David Crow, Criminal Practice

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN WHO ARE ABUSED, NEGLECTED OR DISABLED

Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP is recognized for the firm's *pro bono* work on behalf of the Society's Kathryn A. McDonald Educational Advocacy Project. Two outstanding advocates who are being recognized are **Julie Hordt**, who secured preschool special education services for a foster child whose developmental needs had gone unmet for months, and **Kathleen Sullivan**, who provided representation on multiple cases and obtained educational services for four disabled preschool students.

Staff: Cara Chambers, Juvenile Rights Practice

Anta Cisse-Green, (Sullivan & Cromwell LLP) devoted countless hours to assist children gain permanency, including the adoption by an older sibling who once was a foster child.

Cristina M. Posa, (Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP) provided representation at every stage of a child protective proceeding.

Kadijah Austin, a social work student, assisted young people with the social services and the Department of Education bureaucracies to facilitate a smooth transition from foster care to their communities.

Staff: Karen Simmons, Juvenile Rights Practice

Barry Bohrer, Jodi Peikin, and James Stovall (Morvillo, Abramowitz, Grand, Iason, Anello & Bohrer, PC) provided outstanding representation in the *Matter of M.F.*, a homicide case in Bronx Family Court, in which there had been highly sensational press coverage. After the law guardian made an oral motion to exclude the press, the Morvillo attorneys briefed the issues and conducted a hearing against attorneys for The New York Post. Although the final decision did not exclude the press entirely, it provided significant protection to the client and her identity. Their excellent work succeeded in drastically minimizing press coverage and its potential negative impact on the child's psychological well-being.

Staff: Judith Harris, Gary Solomon, and Judy Waksberg, Juvenile Rights Practice

FAMILY LAW

Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP is honored for its ongoing commitment to the representation of immigrants who are domestic violence survivors. In 2006 eleven summer associates volunteered at the Society, working with nine women from five different countries to obtain employment authorization, permanent residence, adjustment of their immigrant status.

Staff: Camille Carey, Civil Practice

Going beyond the scope of the original legal request, **Olivia Radin (Covington & Burling)** devoted countless hours on behalf of a domestic violence survivor seeking a divorce from her husband in India.

Staff: Emily Ruben and Jane Shortell, Civil Practice

Anna Hutchinson (Dewey Ballantine LLP) has been an outstanding lawyer for immigrant victims of domestic violence. She successfully represented a Venezuelan woman in a Violence Against Women Act self-petition and the client and her young daughter are now awaiting a decision on their lawful permanent residency adjustment.

Staff: Sandra Park, Civil Practice

ELDER LAW

Dewey Ballantine LLP is recognized for initiating a wills project with the Society's Brooklyn Office for the Aging. On a monthly basis a core group of

associates, supervised by the firm's Trusts & Estates Practice, assists clients with the drafting and execution of wills and other advance directives.

Staff: Diane Lutwak, Civil Practice

LOW INCOME TAXPAYERS

Anthony Picchione (Dewey Ballantine LLP) represented two taxpayers in collections matters with the IRS and assisted one of the clients in the resolution of non-tax debt problems.

Amy Robinson (White & Case LLP) is recognized for her assistance in developing and conducting a CLE training on IRS tax collections that was presented to *pro bono*, Legal Aid, and legal services attorneys.

Staff: William Nelson and Daniel Hsiung, Civil Practice

HOUSING

Hilary Kastleman (Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP) is recognized for her exceptional appellate work on behalf of a rent stabilized client who was being evicted because the landlord allegedly wanted to use the apartment for a family member.

Staff: Edlyn Willer, Civil Practice

For the past seven years, **Allen Joslyn**, a retired attorney, has represented tenants and low-income Housing Development Corporations, persistently working to prevent eviction of low-income tenants. His excellent lawyering recently enabled a grandmother to stay her eviction and have sufficient time to locate alternative housing.

Staff: Kamber Brisbane, Civil Practice

Dwight Yoo (Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP) went above and beyond the call of duty in his representation of a tenant faced with the loss of her public housing. In addition to his zealous lawyering, he has assisted the client on weekends with the removal of the "clutter" which was part of the grounds for the termination of tenancy.

LAW FIRM ACCESS TO JUSTICE AWARD

Fried Frank, Shriver, Harris & Jacobson LLP; Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP; and Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher, & Flom LLP are honored for exceptional client assistance through their transactional, litigation, and first year associate externship programs.

Daniel Jo and **Stephanie Wang** participated in Fried Frank's four-month externship program and provided assistance in business legal services to dozens of clients in the Community Development Project. Upon returning to the firm after completing his externship, Mr. Jo continued as "corporate counsel" for two low-income co-ops. His work has included the filing of a tax abatement application which will save the co-op hundreds of thousands

of dollars, preparing documents for a regulatory agreement that saves \$200,000 in back taxes, and creating a financial plan to pay remaining tax arrears.

Igor Abramov, Lisa George, and Cindy Levine provided representation to Legal Aid clients in a variety of litigated matters in diverse administrative and judicial forums during their participation in Skadden Arp's four-month externship program.

Milbank externs **John Chen, Wendy Knoble, Alyssa Rower, and Jay Spader** contributed services to the Juvenile Rights Practice, the Community Development Project, and the Immigration Law Unit.

LAWYERING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Columbia Law School's **Lawyering in the Digital Age Clinic** has been instrumental in assisting Legal Aid lawyers integrate technology into their legal practice. The students, under the leadership of Clinic Directors **Conrad Johnson, Mary Marsh Zulack** and **Brian Donnelly**, designed a technology center at the Harlem Community Law Office enabling residents to gain legal information and computer skills. Students involved in the project include: **Jonathan D. Farkas, Matthew Hoffman, Jessica Jimenez, Ana Pottratz, Jill Lindsay Rickard, Juliette Riviere, Brett Schulman, Kelvin Sellers, Susan Ylitalo, Anna Wagner, Nazmiye Gokcebay, Christopher Han, Yani Indrajana, Thien Nguyen, Arie Rubenstein, Teen Sheng, John Paul Son, Benjamin Van Houten, Craig Batchelor, Aimee Blanchard, Waqaas Falmawi, Sarah Friedman, Marie Gaspard, Jason Hernandez, Evangelia Kleftodimou, Kate McSpadden, Aliya McLendon, Marlon Meade, Matt Norwood, Cara Snyder (Elias), Sherron N. Thomas, Monica Youssef, Deola Ali, Kenneth Canfield, Marwa Elborai, Jonathan Newton, Emily Sheehy, Johnny Yeh, Benjamin Crosson, Sapna Dutta, Efren Garcia, Geoff Hu, Rachana Oza, Avani Shah, Patrick Somers, Li Wu.**

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