

ROPES & GRAY'S *PRO BONO* program crosses practice areas and borders. In 2018, nearly 1,700 of our attorneys, summer associates, retired partners, paralegals and other legal professionals donated more than 156,000 hours to the *pro bono* program. We hope you will enjoy some of the examples of 2018 public service in this newsletter and join in efforts in 2019.

### AIDING FAMILIES Separated at the U.S.–Mexico Border

**THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S** April 2018 announcement of its “zero tolerance” policy for controlling immigration quickly created panic and confusion along the southern border. Ropes & Gray attorneys and support team members traveled to Texas in the summer and fall to work with detained immigrant mothers and fathers separated from their children.

The firm’s team worked with three nonprofits—the Texas Civil Rights Project, Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) and RAICES—to represent vulnerable immigrant families. The team determined that Ropes & Gray needed to represent entire families if unification efforts were to succeed—there were few law firms in that part of Texas to begin with, and fewer still with the will to take on such a commitment.

Firm attorneys quickly developed greater knowledge about the legal processes surrounding family reunification in light of the government’s new policy. As a result, they became better able to advise clients on all aspects of their cases, including preparations for credible fear interviews.

Since June 2018, the firm has represented more than 30 families—about 70 individuals, in total—who were held at the Port Isabel and Karnes detention centers. More than 130 attorneys, as well as summer associates, paralegals and other support team members, have so far devoted more than 10,000 *pro bono* hours to the firm’s efforts, which helped reunify all the families and secured the release of all from immigrant detention. We continue to represent these clients by collaborating with local agencies and firms to get them help on the ground, wherever they are located in the United States.

In recognition of her leadership of the firm’s work at the border, benefits partner and *pro bono* committee co-chair **Jenny Rikoski** was honored as a 2018 “Lawyer of the Year” by *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly*.

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### Pro Bono HONOR ROLL

**IN 2018**, 1,045 Ropes & Gray attorneys and more than 225 support team members performed 20 or more hours of *pro bono* service. We laud their efforts, as well as those of the many Ropes & Gray employees whose time is not tracked but who are essential to the success of our *pro bono* program. [View the honor roll](#)

If you have *pro bono* projects you would like to propose, or would like to learn more about opportunities currently available, please email [probonoteam@ropesgray.com](mailto:probonoteam@ropesgray.com).

# PRO BONO NEWS

## Noteworthy RECOGNITION

- **IN ITS 2018** Asia-Pacific Innovative Lawyers report, the *Financial Times* recognized Ropes & Gray's international *pro bono* program for its collaboration with Liberty Asia to develop a toolkit to help anti-trafficking groups.
- **THE AMERICAN LAWYER** ranked Ropes & Gray number eight on its 2018 *Pro Bono Scorecard*, the firm's highest showing ever.
- **THE PUBLIC INTEREST LAW INITIATIVE** (PILI) in Illinois named Ropes & Gray to its 2018 *Pro Bono Recognition Roster* for the firm's record of providing *pro bono* legal services in Illinois.
- **ROZ NASDOR**, the firm's director & *pro bono* counsel, received the 2018 Denis Maguire Award in September from the Volunteer Lawyers Project. The award recognized Roz for her efforts to pair legal services providers in the greater Boston area with clients who lack access to effective representation.
- **DOUGLAS HALLWARD-DRIEMEIER**, chair of Ropes & Gray's appellate & Supreme Court practice, was honored at *The Washington Business Journal's* inaugural Business of Pride Awards ceremony in June 2018. The awards recognize Greater Washington companies and business leaders for outstanding advancement of LGBTQ leadership and equality. Doug is one of the attorneys who successfully argued the historic *Obergefell v. Hodges* marriage equality case before the U.S. Supreme Court in 2015.
- **SECURITIES & PUBLIC COMPANIES** associate **Emily Oldshue** was recognized by the Boston Bar Association (BBA) for her commitment to the Transgender ID Project (see page 3). The BBA selected Emily to participate in its 15th Public Interest Leadership Program, which unites community organizations and attorneys to work on *pro bono* projects.
- **LITIGATION & ENFORCEMENT** associate **Caleb Dulis** received the "Law Firm Volunteer of the Year" award from the DC Volunteer Lawyers Project for his work on behalf of a domestic violence survivor.

## Working in Africa with **LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS**

**ROPES & GRAY CONTINUES** to expand and deepen its *pro bono* partnership with the international non-governmental organization Lawyers Without Borders (LWOB). In 2018, the firm sent its fourth and fifth teams of attorneys to Africa to help train local justice officials.

Ropes & Gray visited Nairobi in July as litigation & enforcement partners **Michael McGovern** and **Josh Levy** and counsel **Arefa Shakeel** participated in a five-day training program on counterterrorism. In November, litigation & enforcement partner **Geoff Atkins**, litigation & enforcement associate **Karen Oddo** and IP litigation associate **Rachael Bacha** participated in a similarly



*Arefa Shakeel presents at a counterterrorism training for prosecutors in Nairobi. Michael McGovern is at left.*

focused training for 78 newly hired prosecutors. These trips support the development of a new prosecutorial training institute in Kenya, part of the country's ambitious effort to strengthen its entire judicial system.

Though each LWOB training is slightly different, Ropes & Gray attorneys conduct workshops, seminars and mock trials on evidence collection, investigation and trial techniques. "It's a very collaborative process, where we work with each other to understand what they're struggling with in the courtroom," said litigation & enforcement partner and *pro bono* committee co-chair **Amanda Raad**, who led Ropes & Gray's first LWOB trip to Africa in October 2016. Amanda joined LWOB's board of directors at the beginning of 2018 and regularly works with the organization to evaluate training opportunities.

If you would like to get involved with the firm's LWOB program, please contact [Felicity Kirk](#).

[Watch a video about the firm's work with LWOB](#)

# PRO BONO NEWS

## 15th Annual GLOBAL PRO BONO AWARDS

## Spotlight on LGBTQ-RELATED SERVICE

*At crowded ceremonies that spanned firm offices last June, Ropes & Gray recognized a year's worth of exceptional pro bono achievements.*

### UNITED STATES

- Litigation & enforcement partner **Chong Park** and associates **Jonathan Ference-Burke**, **Caleb Dulis** and **Rachel Endick** accepted a team award on behalf of those who worked to win freedom for John Huffington (see page 5). Litigation & enforcement partner **Joan McPhee** received the Deborah Levi Award, which honors the memory of a former firm lawyer and *pro bono* advocate, for helping drive the global expansion of Ropes & Gray's *pro bono* program.
- Recently retired partner **Rom Watson** and a group of colleagues were recognized with a team award for their work in securing asylum for a teenager from Guinea who had been violently persecuted in his home country because of his sexual orientation and political beliefs. In addition to Rom, the team included e-discovery counsel **Shannon Kirk**, private equity associate **Marc Migliazzo**, litigation paralegal supervisor **Paula Astl** and managing attorney **Marc Duffy**, among other members.
- **SENIOR CORPORATE PARALEGAL** **Meaghan Calter** and litigation paralegal **Mollie Cavanaugh** received the first annual Terry Iandiorio *Pro Bono* Leadership Award, created to honor the memory of counsel Terry Iandiorio, a true *pro bono* champion who died tragically in 2017. Meaghan and Mollie were recognized for their leadership of the firm's longstanding DotHouse Health program.



(l. to r.) Marc Migliazzo, former associate Ashley Paquin, Rom Watson and Paula Astl of the asylum team.

**ROPES & GRAY** has a long and distinguished record of LGBTQ-focused *pro bono* service. In 2018, the firm pursued numerous initiatives aimed at assisting transgender individuals on a range of pressing legal matters, among other LGBTQ-related *pro bono* work. Here are a few highlights of these efforts.

- The firm worked extensively with the Transgender ID Project, a program that helps transgender individuals manage legal questions associated with accurately documenting their names and identities. The project is a partnership between Boston law firms and GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD) and the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition (MTPC).

The ID Project helps transgender clients in New England obtain birth certificates and *other* identity documents that reflect each client's post-transition name and gender. Only 11 percent of transgender people have their preferred name and gender marker on all identity documents, according to a 2015 survey by the National Center for Transgender Equality.

Over the past two years, more than 200 Ropes & Gray attorneys from all U.S. offices have participated in the program, helping more than 600 transgender individuals from across New England navigate the process of updating their official identification papers. Securities & public companies associate **Emily Oldshue** played a leading role in organizing the firm's participation in the initiative, along with corporate associate **Gabriel Gillmeyer** and former associate Kristi Jobson. The firm is working to expand the program to new cities in the United States and elsewhere.

- At the firm's urging, the U.S. Supreme Court in February 2018 declined to review an Arizona Supreme Court ruling that struck down a state statute that established that a man is presumed to be a child's biological father. The Supreme Court's denial sustained the state court's decision that benefits of "presumptive parentage" must be equally afforded to same- and opposite-sex spouses.
- In Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth's U.S. District Court in April struck down a birth certificate policy that prohibited changes to an identification document's gender marker, despite federal policies allowing such changes. The decision came a year after Ropes & Gray joined with Lambda Legal to file a lawsuit arguing that the policy violated the constitutional right to privacy by denying transgender people an accurate birth certificate.

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# PRO BONO NEWS

## 15th Annual GLOBAL PRO BONO AWARDS

### LONDON

- A team award recognized the accomplishments of finance attorneys working with Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) UK to assist children with their immigration applications. Led by partner **Jane Rogers**, the team also included partners **Rob Haak** and **Alex Robb**; associates **Jack Bodkin**, **David Early**, **Kavita DeVaney**, **Clara Melly** and **Ashley Wright**; and trainee solicitors **Eamon Gallagher**, **Michael Harris**, **Justin Kanji** and **Victoria Srivastava**, among others.



London KIND UK team honorees included (l. to r.) former associates **Karla Aglugub** and **Charlotte Buijs**, **Justin Kanji**, **David Early** and **Jane Rogers**.

### ASIA

- A team award was presented to a Tokyo office team focused on local asylum work. Led by litigation & enforcement partner **Kaede Toh**, the team included finance partner **Ben Morris**, litigation & enforcement associates **Bonnie Doyle** (Shanghai) and **Yukiko Fujioka**, legal support specialist **Hidemi Harada**, litigation paralegal **Kaori Gotoh**, and corporate paralegal specialist **Nao Omoto**.
- The firm held its 2019 Asia *Pro Bono* Awards ceremony on March 14. Managing partner **David Chapin** attended a reception in Tokyo; all Asia offices were linked by video for the event, with each holding its own reception. *Pro bono* committee co-chair **Andy Dale** honored Hong Kong litigation & enforcement associate **Karen Oddo** with an award for her strong, consistent commitment to *pro bono* work.

## Spotlight on LGBTQ-RELATED SERVICE *(continued from page 3)*

- Litigation & enforcement partner **Dan O'Connor** led the Puerto Rico effort, which included fellow litigation & enforcement partner **Richard Batchelder Jr.** and associates **David Soutter**, **Sara Perkins Jones** and **Bonnie Doyle**, among other team members.
- Ropes & Gray celebrated Pride Month in June by holding a panel discussion at the Boston office, titled “Gender Pride: Advocating for Acceptance of Trans and Other Gender Non-Conforming Individuals.” Special situations associate **Gavin Alexander**, who serves on the board of the National LGBT Bar Association, moderated the event.
  - In August, Ropes & Gray joined with volunteers from client Goldman Sachs to host a clinic at the firm’s New York office with the Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund to guide low-income transgender individuals through the many processes required to change their legal identities. The clinic is now an ongoing initiative.
  - Ropes & Gray extended its ongoing relationship with Immigration Equality, an LGBTQ immigration rights organization that works on asylum cases as well as green card applications. Immigration Equality and firm attorneys interviewed clients to document how the backlog in immigration courts has hampered their ability to obtain an asylum hearing and, by extension, employment. The firm also provided Immigration Equality with *pro bono* advice on corporate governance matters.

## The Power of *PRO BONO* PARTNERSHIP

Many *pro bono* initiatives offer the opportunity to partner with clients.

As noted above, Ropes & Gray and Goldman Sachs teamed up last August with the Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund to help transgender individuals change their legal identities.

Earlier in 2018, the firm partnered with Bain Capital and a group of firm alumni to assist Boston-area legal permanent residents with their citizenship applications through Project Citizenship, a nonprofit agency—and valued firm *pro bono* partner—that offers free workshops, eligibility screenings and all materials needed to apply for U.S. citizenship. Volunteers completed applications for 43 clients from 16 different countries while securing fee waivers

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# PRO BONO NEWS

## Giving THANKS

### **John Huffington Shares Story and Gratitude at Washington Office**

**RELEASED AFTER** more than 30 years of wrongful imprisonment in Maryland for murder, John Huffington attended a gathering at Ropes & Gray's Washington D.C. office in July to talk about his experiences in and out of prison, and to thank the firm for its decades of efforts to win his freedom. Litigation & enforcement partner **Chong Park**, who took over Mr. Huffington's case in 2015, praised the firm and the more than 120 Ropes & Gray lawyers and support team members who worked *pro bono* on behalf of Mr. Huffington.

Also in attendance was retired partner David Stewart, who took on Mr. Huffington's case in the mid-1980s and brought it with him when he joined Ropes & Gray as a partner in 1989. Both David and Chong praised the firm for never questioning their time commitment on the case, and for providing the resources necessary to continue the fight for Mr. Huffington's release.

Mr. Huffington, who earned a bachelor's degree while in prison, lauded the work of the firm and the team of attorneys who negotiated the *Alford* plea that effectively ended his case while enabling him to assert his innocence. "It's overwhelming to think of the time, effort, interest and work that went into it," he said. "There is no way to say 'thank you.'"



Chong Park (left) and John Huffington share their perspectives on Mr. Huffington's long journey to freedom.

## Retired Partners Uphold **TRADITION OF SERVICE**

**COMMITMENT TO PRO BONO SERVICE** at Ropes & Gray does not necessarily end with retirement. In fact, the firm has a robust tradition of partners who devote their time and legal skills to *pro bono* work after retiring.

A central figure in this tradition was former Ropes & Gray chair Richard "Archie" Southgate, who passed away on Aug. 18, 2018. After Archie retired from the firm in 1997, he spent three years volunteering in the Employment Unit at Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS), which provides free legal assistance on civil matters to low-income residents in Boston and 31 surrounding communities. Archie was so dedicated to his work and to GBLS that the organization named its Volunteer of the Year Award after him. In addition to donating his own time and skills, Archie tirelessly encouraged his former colleagues and others to perform *pro bono* service after retiring.

### **Win Quayle Advocates for a Healthy New England**

One of the latest attorneys to follow in the footsteps of Archie and many other retired Ropes & Gray partners is Win Quayle. Since 2016, he has participated in the Access to Justice Fellows Program, a project of the Massachusetts Access to Justice Commission and the Lawyers Clearinghouse, which enables senior lawyers and retired judges to partner with nonprofit organizations, courts and other public service entities.

Win works with the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF), an environmental advocacy organization focused on forging lasting solutions to environmental challenges facing New England. His work with CLF extends Ropes & Gray's longstanding relationship with the organization—retired Ropes & Gray partner John Pike was one of CLF's first senior lawyer volunteers upon his retirement from the firm in 1996.

Over the past few years, Win has been involved in projects that tackle the complex issues of climate change and infrastructure, among others. Highlights of this work include:

- Supporting CLF's initiative to encourage more resilient building design and construction throughout Massachusetts to enhance the infrastructure's ability to withstand extreme weather events associated with climate change. Win and antitrust associate **Kevin Walsh**, along with 2018 summer associate Tahned Tantiyavarong, provided background research and legal support to CLF in the preparation of *The Massachusetts State Building Code & Climate Change*, a recently released CLF report.

# PRO BONO NEWS

## Supporting WOMEN

### **Helping Upstream USA Expand Opportunity for Women**

Ropes & Gray has partnered with *pro bono* client Upstream USA, a nonprofit that works to reduce unplanned pregnancies that often contribute to a cycle of intergenerational poverty for millions of women. Upstream's mission is to change health care so that all women can access high-quality services and the full range of contraceptive methods.

In October, the firm hosted a conversation in the Boston office between securities & governance practice chair **Keith Higgins** and Upstream co-founder and co-CEO Mark Edwards. Topics included Upstream's strategic vision and an overview of Ropes & Gray's wide-ranging assistance to the organization.

In addition to Keith, the firm team supporting Upstream includes IP transactions partner **David McIntosh**; tax partner **Kendi Ozmon**; labor & employment counsel **Jenny Cooper**; corporate associates **Melicia Morris**, **Moussa Hassoun** and **Alison Liou**; health care associates **Elizabeth Whitkin** and **Christine Moundas**; and senior attorney **Chrystal LaRoche**.

## Pro Bono COMMITTEE

<b>Christopher P. Conniff</b> , <i>Co-Chair</i>	<b>Alexandre H. Rene</b>
<b>Andrew J. Dale</b> , <i>Co-Chair</i>	<b>Andrew N. Thomases</b>
<b>Amanda N. Raad</b> , <i>Co-Chair</i>	<b>Kaede Toh</b>
<b>Jennifer A. Rikoski</b> , <i>Co-Chair</i>	<b>Rocky C. Tsai</b>
<b>Albert F. Cacozza</b>	<b>Stephen A. Warnke</b>
<b>Laura G. Hoey</b>	<b>Eric Wu</b>
<b>Kendi E. Ozmon</b>	

**Douglas H. Hallward-Driemeier**,  
*Policy Committee Liaison to the Pro Bono Committee*

**Rosalyn Garbose Nasdor**, *Director & Pro Bono Counsel*

**Byrne R. Harrison**, *Pro Bono Coordinator*

**Felicity Kirk**, *International Pro Bono*

**Tom Sciattara**, *Sr. Human Resources and Pro Bono Administrator*

**Elizabeth Levi**, *Pro Bono Assistant*

## Retired Partners Uphold TRADITION OF SERVICE

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- Assisting with CLF's work as a subconsultant for the City of Cambridge's Urban Forest Master Plan Task Force. The task force looks at ways to encourage the planting of more trees to combat the high ambient temperatures and other complications of the urban heat island effect—a phenomenon in which temperatures are higher in cities than in surrounding areas. The situation can be more acute in areas with little tree cover, which are often home to a city's less affluent residents. Corporate associates **Rob Treut** and **Yilu Zhang**, tax associate **Sarah Reilly**, and 2018 summer associate Peter Gilchrist assisted with surveying and researching possible incentives and best practices to encourage the widespread planting of trees in urban areas.
- Reviewing legal issues associated with the removal of dams in Massachusetts, some of which date back to the Industrial Revolution. Many of these dams no longer serve any purpose and have an adverse effect on the river environment and fish migration. Real estate partner **Peter Alpert**; corporate associates **Kevin Cegan**, **Amanda Austin** and **Stephanie Ragland**; litigation associate **Jessica Bergin**; real estate paralegal specialist **Christina Fulham**; and 2018 summer associates Greg Hardy and Heather Romero assisted in various aspects of the work.

Win's dedication to preserving and enhancing the New England environment through his work with CLS sets an example that may inspire future generations of Ropes & Gray lawyers to take up the cause, as well.

## The Power of PRO BONO PARTNERSHIP *(continued from page 4)*

that saved 28 applicants thousands of dollars in application expenses.

In September 2018, through an initiative led by litigation & enforcement partner **Lisa Bebchick**, the firm partnered with client UBS and The Legal Aid Society to set up and participate in a clinic at Ropes & Gray's New York office to assist 17 Legal Aid Society clients who were applying for U.S. citizenship. Joining 12 UBS lawyers at the September 17 clinic were more than 30 Ropes & Gray lawyers, who met with Legal Aid Society clients and helped them prepare their naturalization forms. Training and supervision at the clinic was provided by The Legal Aid Society.