

# LAWYERS ALLIANCE FOR NEW YORK

## INDIVIDUAL HONOREE

**MATTHEW B. ZISK**, *Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP*

### ***Expert Intellectual Property Counsel Protects Nonprofit Programs and Services***

Matthew B. Zisk is a Partner in the Intellectual Property and Technology Group at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. He focuses on a range of intellectual property issues particularly concerning technology-intensive transactions. He received a B.A. from Boston University in 1985, a Ph.D. from Stanford University in 1991, and a J.D. from Ohio State University College of Law in 1997.

Since first partnering with Lawyers Alliance in 2007, Mr. Zisk has worked with four Lawyers Alliance clients on 11 different intellectual property matters. Mr. Zisk makes himself available when needed for Lawyers Alliance's nonprofit clients on a multitude of intellectual property-related issues, from the most straightforward contract agreements to very complex trademark registration matters.

Since 2008, Mr. Zisk has assisted **The Financial Clinic** (the Clinic), a nonprofit that builds financial security for the working poor, on a variety of legal issues including structuring and negotiating several agreements to license the Clinic's core intellectual property assets to collaborating organizations. Having established a strong relationship with the Clinic, Mr. Zisk joined its Board of Directors in 2010. The Clinic's Executive Director Mae Watson Grote raved that Mr. Zisk is "not only brilliant, he is also lovely to work with." She declares that Mr. Zisk's contributions are manifold and have no limit "which is why he is such a valued partner, mentor, and a good friend of the Clinic's, also making him a perfect board member."

Another fan of Mr. Zisk is the **Literacy Assistance Center (LAC)**, a nonprofit dedicated to supporting and promoting the expansion of quality literacy services in New York. LAC has benefited from his work on seven legal matters in the past four years. Work has included assisting LAC with a planned collaboration and understanding its intellectual property rights relating to certain assessment services it shares with partners. Of Mr. Zisk, Craig Tozzo, LAC's Chief Financial Officer, says that he and the rest of the LAC staff "are very grateful for both his legal expertise and his commitment to the nonprofit sector."

Other Lawyers Alliance clients Mr. Zisk has served include **Midwood Merchants Association** and **Pajama Program**.

Of his pro bono experience, Mr. Zisk remarked, "Working on these and other pro bono matters is among the most satisfying work I have done as a lawyer, and I credit Lawyers Alliance for helping tremendously to facilitate this work and to foster a culture both at Skadden and elsewhere that encourages lawyers to commit themselves fully to working on matters that would otherwise go without legal representation."

