



Cornerstone Awards Honor Outstanding Pro Bono Services to Nonprofits

ON DECEMBER 13, 2007, nonprofit, legal, and business leaders gathered for a room-filled Cornerstone Awards ceremony to celebrate volunteerism by business and transactional attorneys. Lawyers Alliance announced this year's awardees – Citigroup Inc., Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP and ten individual attorneys – and highlighted their outstanding pro bono legal services to nonprofits that are improving New York neighborhoods. In addition, Lawyers Alliance thanked its entire pro bono network, of more than 900 attorneys from 105 law firms and corporations, for valuable legal assistance and dedication to the nonprofit sector in 2007.

A decade of Cornerstone Awards

In his welcoming remarks Edward F. Greene, Chair of the Board of Directors of Lawyers Alliance, commended honorees: "This is the tenth anniversary of Lawyers Alliance's initiation of the Cornerstone Awards, which have come

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L to R: David Goldberg on behalf of Citigroup Inc.; Felicity Fridman; Terri J. Seligman; Teresa Schiller accepting for Victoria Manthas; Dennis J. Henderson; Board Chair Edward F. Greene; Steve Buffone; Carolyn B. Levine on behalf of Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP; Corey S. Biller; Ellen H. Clark; Matthew W. Mamak; Herschel Goldfield; and Alan M. Klinger.



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Cornerstone Awards Honor Outstanding Pro Bono Service



Maggie Romine, Julia Moran, Mara Byrne of Citigroup Inc. with Deputy Executive Director Elizabeth Guggenheimer



Casey Hail, Christina Migally, U. Arinze Ike, Carolyn Levine, Remi Silverman, and Amy Danner of Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP



Marie Mamak, Cornerstone Honoree Matthew Mamak, and New York Mission Society clients Stephanie Palmer and Maria Orengo



Cynthia Arato of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, Do Something client Lezlie Wheeler, Cornerstone Honoree Steve Buffone, and Do Something client Nancy Lublin

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to represent the very best tradition of the legal profession – a tradition and honor that the staff and Board are more fervent about now than ever.” This year’s honorees, he recognized, “reflect the breadth of outstanding talent among the private bar” and “share a deep commitment to the ideals of pro bono work.”

This year’s honorees

Elizabeth Guggenheimer, Deputy Executive Director of Lawyers Alliance, presented the traditional red brick Cornerstone Award to the institutional honorees:

Citigroup Inc. received a Cornerstone Award for the corporate legal department’s exemplary CitiLegal Pro Bono Initiative. During the past two years, Citigroup has conducted Legal Assessment Days for 30 nonprofit organizations serving low-income seniors and is providing ongoing legal assistance for five of these groups. As a result, these organizations are better able to provide a wide range of social services to elderly New Yorkers, from food and shelter to information and supportive services. Plus, Citigroup extended this pro bono model to its annual Nonprofit Day.

Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP received a Cornerstone Award for the substantial breadth, complexity, and significance of the firm’s pro bono work. In recent years the firm has handled 35 different pro bono matters through Lawyers Alliance, reflecting a large institutional commitment to make a positive difference in New York communities. The firm’s business and transactional attorneys are regularly using their legal talents to help nonprofit organizations to foster economic development, provide affordable housing, and educate youth.

Sean Delany, Executive Director of Lawyers Alliance, presented the individual Cornerstone Awards:

Corey S. Biller, Davis & Gilbert LLP: For his trusted employment counsel to several nonprofit organizations that work with immigrant and other underserved communities, enabling these organizations to address both immediate and long-term human resources needs.

Steve Buffone, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP: For leading a team of lawyers who provide valuable corporate and intellectual property law guidance to Do Something, Inc., including his assistance with the BRICK Awards, which celebrated the achievements of outstanding young people in front of a national primetime audience.

Ellen H. Clark, DLA Piper US LLP: For providing several Head Start programs and other nonprofit organizations with expert legal guidance on corporate governance and regulatory compliance issues.

Felicity Fridman, McDermott Will & Emery LLP: For assisting Concrete Safaris, an organization that helps to improve the health and fitness of inner-city youth in East Harlem, with formation and its expansion to a larger facility that will serve more children.

Herschel Goldfield, Proskauer Rose LLP: For using his corporate law and regulatory expertise to strengthen the capacity of several nonprofit organizations, including Campaign for Fiscal Equity and Go to Health!-Ambulatory Care.

Dennis J. Henderson, Arent Fox LLP: For representing Upper Manhattan Council Assisting Neighbors, Inc. in the acquisition and financing of two low-income housing projects, creating more than 140 units of affordable housing in the Bronx.

Alan M. Klinger, Stroock Stroock & Lavan LLP: For his and the firm's long-term pro bono commitment as volunteer general counsel to Partnership with Children, which provides early intervention, preventive services, and counseling to New York City's children and youth.

Matthew W. Mamak, Alston & Bird LLP: For using his corporate legal skills and positive attitude to assist dynamic organizations, such as Sutphin Boulevard Business Improvement District and The New York City Mission Society.

Victoria Manthas, Clifford Chance US LLP: For advancing economic development in Brooklyn by advising East Williamsburg Valley Industrial Development Corporation on a project that will create and retain manufacturing and industrial jobs in the East Williamsburg neighborhood.

Terri J. Seligman, Loeb & Loeb LLP: For ten years of dedicated pro bono legal service to Dress for Success, from its founding in New York through its development of affiliate programs in the United States and abroad that now annually reach more than 40,000 women in four countries.

On lawyersalliance.org: For a complete list of current and past Cornerstone Award recipients, see *A Decade of Cornerstone Awards 1997-2007* at www.lawyersalliance.org/cornerstone_winners.php.

CORNERSTONE AWARDS

This volunteer recognition event was made possible with funds raised from sponsors of Lawyers Alliance's 2007 Theatre Benefit:

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We also thank *Pfizer Inc* for hosting the 2007 Cornerstone Awards.

New Faces at Lawyers Alliance

Four new staff members bring a wealth of experience and energy to Lawyers Alliance.

Chris Anjesky, the new Director of Development, is responsible for Lawyers Alliance's relationships with a diversity of funders. Prior to joining Lawyers Alliance in August 2007, Ms. Anjesky was the development director at Make the Road by Walking in Brooklyn and a senior director at the American Red Cross in Greater New York.

Staff Attorney **Lindsey Jones** coordinates the Children and Youth Services program area, aimed at nonprofits that provide childcare, improve public education, foster youth development and leadership, and operate other vital youth programs. Previously Ms. Jones was an associate at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP.

Staff Attorney **Elizabeth Perez** coordinates the Immigrant Communities program area, which helps nonprofits that are improving the quality of life of low-income immigrants, and advises

Lawyers Alliance's full range of other nonprofit clients about business and transactional law issues. Prior to joining Lawyers Alliance, Ms. Perez was an associate at Clifford Chance US LLP.

Administrative Assistant **Hunter Polese** handles numerous inquiries from the public and provides support to our entire staff. Previously she was a Provider Data Services Analyst with ActiveHealth Management.



L to R:
Lindsey Jones,
Hunter Polese,
Chris Anjesky, and
Elizabeth Perez.