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Volunteer Attorney Accomplishment for Internal and External News

Date: April 27, 2010
Name of Attorney: Ed Pisacreta
Name of Firm: Holland & Knight LLP
Client Served: NPower NY

Accomplishment: Assisted NPower NY (NPower) in creating an end-user license agreement and federal copyright protection for a grants manager software application for nonprofits.

Specific Case Highlights: Founded in 2000, NPower has grown into the largest nonprofit technology provider in New York City, working to provide state-of-the-art technology services and solutions to more than 600 organizations a year.

NPower came to Lawyers Alliance in April 2009 seeking counsel on copyright and other intellectual property issues related to its new Grants Manager software product. NPower sells this product to its nonprofit clients at a significant cost savings over similar products on the market and also provides installation and ongoing support services. NPower needed to create an appropriate end-user license agreement and also wanted intellectual property protection in place to guard against duplication, modification, or attempts by third parties to copy and re-market the product.

Mr. Pisacreta was instrumental in making sure that NPower's contract structure and license agreement protected NPower's rights to the application. He also secured copyright protection for the software, user's guide, and program documentation. By putting in place these protections, Mr. Pisacreta helped secure the financial viability of the product. NPower is able to offer the data management software to its nonprofit clients at an affordable cost, allowing these clients to use the power of technology to enhance their impact on their communities. At the same time, NPower diversifies and supplements its revenue streams, resulting in an increased level of sustainability outside of donations.

About Lawyers Alliance for New York: Lawyers Alliance for New York is the leading provider of business and transactional legal services for nonprofit organizations that are improving the quality of life in New York City neighborhoods. Our network of pro bono lawyers from law firms and corporations and staff of experienced attorneys work together, delivering expert corporate, tax, real estate, employment, and other legal services to community organizations. By connecting lawyers, nonprofits, and communities, we help nonprofits to develop affordable housing, stimulate economic development, and operate vital programs for children and young people, the elderly, recent immigrants, and other low-income New Yorkers. Each year, the 13 staff attorneys at Lawyers Alliance and more than 1400 volunteers serve more than 550 clients.

Inquiries: Please contact Senior Staff Attorney Neil Stevenson at 212-219-1800 x273 with questions or requests for additional information.