



Lawyers Alliance  
for New York

*Connecting lawyers, nonprofits, and communities*



November 12, 2012

**Scott J. Gordon of Kirkland & Ellis LLP**  
**Expert Contract Advice Advances Community Development Programs**

***Accomplishment:*** Recipient of Lawyers Alliance for New York's **2012 Cornerstone Award** honoring outstanding pro bono legal services to nonprofits, to be presented on November 13.

---

***Highlights:*** Scott J. Gordon is a corporate partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP where he leads the firm's derivatives practice and is a member of the asset finance and securitization practice. Mr. Gordon received his B.A. in 1984 and M.B.A. in 1985 from the University of Rochester, and his J.D. from Fordham University School of Law in 1993.

Mr. Gordon volunteered to assist the **Center for Community Development for New Americans d/b/a Business Center for New Americans** ("BCNA") in establishing the Puschart Fund, an emergency loan fund for street vendors created through a partnership with the Street Vendor Project. BCNA focuses on helping refugees, recent immigrants, women and others in New York City by providing microloans for small businesses, specialized savings programs, and financial and business management education. Mr. Gordon's advice enabled BCNA to have an appropriate contract to govern the terms of the collaborative loan fund and to ensure that the Pushcart Fund exists as part of BCNA's current operations and not as a separate entity.

Mr. Gordon is also working with the **Chinatown Partnership Local Development Corporation** in finalizing a contract in relation to a Request for Proposal for sanitation services for Lower Manhattan. Chinatown Partnership's Executive Director Wellington Chen states that, "Scott exemplifies the essence of what Lawyers Alliance stands for by giving generously of his time, his expertise, but most of all his willingness to contribute selflessly to this needy community by showing his tremendous care for Chinatown."

Additionally, Mr. Gordon worked with **Lower East Side Ecology Center** in negotiating an agreement with WeRecycle for the collection and processing of electronic waste in order to offer community-based recycling programs in New York City. The Center's Director Christine Datz-Romero comments that, "Scott has guided the organization in crucially important contract negotiations. It was amazing to experience how Scott first spent a tremendous amount of time with us to learn about all the complex background information and subsequently brought up many tough questions to inform our thinking about the contract with our recycler. With Scott's thorough and inquisitive thinking we were able to draft an equitable contract."

Says Mr. Gordon of his pro bono experiences, "Working on pro bono matters with Lawyers Alliance has provided me with opportunities to step out of the highly technical world of derivatives and structured finance law and apply good, old-fashioned, general lawyering skills to help negotiate contracts on behalf of organizations that are doing terrific work for the betterment of local communities. In the process, I have met and collaborated with wonderful and talented people. I am deeply grateful for these experiences, which have been both rewarding and highly enjoyable."

---

***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 collaborate to deliver expert corporate, tax, real estate, employment, intellectual property, and other legal services to community organizations. By connecting lawyers, nonprofits, and communities, we help nonprofits to develop affordable housing, stimulate economic development, promote community arts, and operate and advocate for vital programs for children and young people, the elderly, and other low-income New Yorkers. During the past year, 12 staff attorneys and 1,428 volunteer attorneys represented 628 clients on 1,026 matters and assisted hundreds of additional groups through educational programs.

***Inquiries:*** Marketing and Communications Manager Emily Crossan at 212-219-1800 ext. 233, [ecrossan@lawyersalliance.org](mailto:ecrossan@lawyersalliance.org)

171 Madison Avenue 6th Floor New York, NY 10016 • 212 219-1800 fax: 212 941-7458 • [lawyersalliance.org](http://lawyersalliance.org)