

## National Pro Bono Week Begins October 25, 2010

**FACT:** Nearly **44 million Americans** lived below the poverty line in 2009; that's more than the Census Bureau has logged in the 51 years it has kept track. While the overall poverty rate **climbed to 14.3%**, one in seven lived in poverty last year. Consequently, the level of New York City homelessness is now at an all-time high. Nearly **37,000 New Yorkers** slept in the municipal shelter system in August 2010.

**FACT:** Last year, through Lawyers Alliance, **283** pro bono attorneys worked on **105** different legal matters for homeless serving clients, and **183** different matters for affordable housing clients.

**CASE EXAMPLES:** Cornerstone honoree **Peter DiConza** of **Citigroup** (formerly of Skadden) assisted **Community Access** on an affordable housing project.

Honoree **Scott Gold** of **Schulte** assists **Neighborhood Housing Services** with its ongoing employment law needs.

And honoree **Jason Burritt** of **Seyfarth Shaw** has helped numerous organizations to understand their immigration law obligations. Several of Jason's clients are serving the City's homeless population.

In honor of National Pro Bono Week, Lawyers Alliance sincerely thanks its network of **1,400 volunteer attorneys**. Our annual Cornerstone Awards on **October 27th** honors outstanding volunteerism.

For more information on our Affordable Housing and Homeless Services program, please visit us [online](#).

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