

Use Your Legal Expertise to Make a Difference

Lobbying by Nonprofits

Help nonprofit clients with:

- » Rules for §501(c) organizations
- » Lobbying registration and reporting
- » Negotiation of coalition agreements
- » Public policy analysis
- » Freedom of Information Law
- » Drafting of legislation
- » Independent expenditure rules
- » Formation and structuring
- » Other business law questions

Visit www.lawyersalliance.org/lawyers.php to learn more about our pro bono program.



Lawyers Alliance
for New York

Connecting lawyers, nonprofits, and communities

Federal tax law limits the extent to which charitable organizations that are exempt under Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”) §501(c)(3) may attempt to influence legislation, while other types of nonprofit organizations are accorded more latitude. At the same time, organizations may need to report lobbying expenditures to state and local government agencies. Lawyers Alliance protects nonprofit advocacy by offering education and legal counsel on lobbying regulation.

Council of Senior Centers and Services of New York City, Inc. (CSCS), a central voice for the City’s seniors and the aging services network, engages in advocacy, training, and programs to support 150 member organizations that operate 400 programs serving 300,000 older New Yorkers. CSCS has filed the IRC §501(h) election so it may engage in direct and grassroots lobbying within certain expenditure limits. Lawyers Alliance staff attorneys and pro bono counsel from Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP have provided a range of volunteer general counsel services to CSCS, including legal guidance on corporate governance, joint ventures, real estate, intellectual property, IRC requirements for nonprofits, and public policy issues. This assistance has better prepared CSCS to participate in the legislative process and address challenges facing the City’s aging population.

LAWYERS ALLIANCE AND ITS VOLUNTEER
ATTORNEYS HELP NONPROFITS IMPROVE
LIVES IN NEW YORK CITY

Lawyers Alliance is pleased to direct you to our website. Visit www.lawyersalliance.org.

Pro Bono Tip

In 2011, New York State Lobbying Law was amended to include attempts to influence legislative proposals, in addition to attempts to influence pending legislation, as reportable lobbying activity.

Web Tip

The Communities section of Lawyers Alliance's website highlights the valuable impact of pro bono legal services on the programmatic work of nonprofit clients, including advocacy organizations. Visit www.lawyersalliance.org/communities.php.



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