



LAWYERS ALLIANCE ANNOUNCES 2020 CORNERSTONE AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING PRO BONO SERVICE TO NONPROFITS

NEW YORK, NY (December 1, 2020) Lawyers Alliance for New York proudly announces that two leading law firms – Lowenstein Sandler LLP and Morrison & Foerster LLP – will receive 2020 Cornerstone Awards. These awards, the highest business law pro bono honor in New York, recognize superior pro bono legal services to nonprofit organizations that are improving quality of life for low-income New Yorkers.

The Cornerstone Award winners also include 10 outstanding individuals selected from more than 2,000 business and transactional lawyers who volunteered through Lawyers Alliance during the past year.

"In a year like no other, Lawyers Alliance is more determined than ever to honor and highlight our dedicated volunteers. These attorneys have proven time and time again that pro bono legal services are critical to the survival and success of nonprofits doing amazing work," said Elizabeth M. Guggenheimer, Executive Director of Lawyers Alliance.

This year's Institutional Cornerstone awardees are:

Lowenstein Sandler LLP: The firm has worked with Lawyers Alliance for more than 15 years, deftly handling a wide range of timely and complex legal projects on behalf of Lawyers Alliance's nonprofit clients. This includes 44 different pro bono matters for 40 organizations since July 2015, with 20 new matters since July 1, 2019. Thanks to the volunteers' skill and dedication, nonprofits are better able to navigate corporate, intellectual property, employment, real estate, and other legal issues that are critical to their programs, financial stability, and operations.

Morrison & Foerster LLP: The breadth, depth, and impact of pro bono work performed by Morrison & Foerster attorneys have greatly benefitted Lawyers Alliance's nonprofit clients for more than 20 years. This includes 47 different legal projects for more than 35 organizations since July 2015, with 14 new matters since July 1, 2019. This work comprises a wide range of corporate, intellectual property, employment, and restructuring projects that are enabling nonprofits to survive and thrive.

This year's Individual Cornerstone awardees are:

Sloane Ackerman, O'Melveny & Myers LLP: For providing critical employment law advice since 2013 to 11 nonprofits improving the lives of low-income New Yorkers.

Jena Grady, *Nixon Peabody LLP*: For making complex healthcare rules clearer for nonprofit providers, including nine cases in three years.

Evan Hill, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP: For skillfully assisting nine nonprofits navigating formation, structuring, and corporate governance issues.

Lawrence S. Lustberg, Gibbons P.C.: For successfully representing Lawyers Alliance in its federal constitutional challenge to New York State's donor disclosure law.

Jessica Lutrin, *Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP*: For providing much-needed employment law advice, including employee handbooks and employment contracts, to seven nonprofits since 2012.

Lawrence Miller, BNY Mellon: For helping community arts and urban health organizations understand and protect valuable intellectual property rights integral to their curricula and services.

Helen Respass, *Thomson Reuters*: For promoting pro bono for in-house lawyers and offering customized guidance to multiple nonprofits through pro bono legal clinics.

Karol S. Robinson, *Anderson Kill*: For sharing her transactional and counseling skills with Lawyers Alliance clients since 2003 on governance, fiscal sponsorship, and lease review projects.

Kenny S. Terrero, *Sidley Austin LLP*: For utilizing his corporate legal expertise during nearly a decade of service to urban health and other nonprofits with formation, governance, and contract projects.

Barak Wrobel, *Holland & Knight LLP*: For substantial land use and zoning law work, which is helping a nonprofit organization to expand its portfolio of housing facilities for homeless LGBTQ young adults.

For additional details, visit <u>www.lawyersalliance.org/volunteer-recognition</u>.

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<u>Lawyers Alliance for New York</u> 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. By connecting lawyers, nonprofits, and communities, Lawyers Alliance for New York helps nonprofits to provide housing, stimulate economic opportunity, improve urban health and education, promote community arts, and operate and advocate for vital programs that benefit low-income New Yorkers of all ages. During the past year, staff attorneys at Lawyers Alliance worked with more than two thousand volunteer attorneys to represent 700 nonprofit clients on more than 1,350 matters.

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