ALEXANDER J. CALLEN, Goodwin Procter LLP

Financial regulatory lawyer addresses legal needs of nonprofits improving financial well-being in low-income communities

Alexander J. Callen is a senior associate in Goodwin Procter LLP’s Financial Industry group, based in Washington, DC. He received a B.A. from Cornell University in 2009 and his J.D. from Fordham University School of Law in 2014.

Mr. Callen worked with six Lawyers Alliance clients on eight matters since 2017. He and a colleague worked on a name change for The National Federation of Community Development Credit Unions to Inclusiv. Established in 1974 by a coalition of credit union leaders dedicated to revitalizing low-income communities, the Federation has been doing business as Inclusiv and has officially changed its name. Mr. Callen is providing guidance on the ensuing governance, contract review, regulatory approvals for subsidiaries, and related legal issues.

He has also worked on governance issues for New York Edge, a nonprofit bridging the opportunity gap among students in underinvested communities by providing programs to improve academic performance and health and wellness, and for Lewis H. Latimer Fund, which operates the Lewis Latimer House Museum and offers educational programs for adults and youth. For Haitian Centers Council, a community services organization, Mr. Callen provided governance advice and, with a colleague, helped prepare agreements for a proposal to operate a mental health clinic treatment program jointly with a counterparty.

Mr. Callen assisted Jamaica Center Improvement Association, a nonprofit that since 1979 has been working to make the Jamaica Center business district in Queens a thriving business hub and an enjoyable destination for visitors and residents, with a review of its governance documents. He helped Jamaica Center review and address gaps in its bylaws and drafted a conflict of interest policy and whistleblower policy. In creating these key documents, Mr. Callen ensured that the multi-stakeholder group involved in the governance review understood and were able to come to agreement on these critical documents. Jennifer Furioli, Jamaica Center’s Executive Director, says, “Alex is kind, thoughtful, whip-smart, and gracious. He always returned my calls immediately, and was incredibly organized and responsive. Alex got us caught up on addressing issues with our governance documents, putting our organization on a more solid footing.”

Mr. Callen and a colleague assisted Credit, Inc., which brings innovative financial products and services to South Bronx small businesses utilizing state of the art technology, on its governance and loan policies and procedures and created model loan agreements to use in its regular operations.

Says Mr. Callen, “The nonprofits that I have assisted through Lawyers Alliance serve and promote children, historical and educational resources, cultural groups, and small businesses. Their investments in our communities touch the lives of so many individuals, and through their important work my small contributions to their organizations can help them make an even bigger impact. We’re all in this together.”