2025 CORNERSTONE AWARDS • INDIVIDUAL HONOREE



ANDREW MINEAR

Special Counsel, Restructuring,
Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver

& Jacobson LLP

Restructuring counsel enables nonprofits to let their missions live on

Dissolving a nonprofit or undertaking a merger with another organization can be disheartening. However, it is essential legal work and can provide a transfusion of assets or intellectual property to another nonprofit, or can help an organization simplify when a related entity is no longer needed. Andrew Minear lends his specialized expertise to organizations in need, seeing it as a way for the original organization's mission to live on.

Riverdale Neighborhood House is a settlement house that provides a variety of services to 6,000 families, adults, children, teens, and seniors in the Bronx. Mr. Minear helped the organization wind down and dissolve a subsidiary, streamlining its programming and operations.

Q. What's the most rewarding aspect of pro bono work?

If I have to pick, it is the first phone call with the organization when we learn about the organization and how it contributes to the local community. Listening to the Board or Executive Director and their passion for the organization's mission is always inspiring. While our work is typically at the end of the organization's story, we also emphasize that the mission always continues. A unique component to dissolving a nonprofit is the requirement that it must transfer its resources to another

nonprofit with a similar purpose. On several occasions, the members of the dissolving nonprofit continue to work closely with the organization that receives those resources. So it is more of an evolution than an ending.

"We have worked multiple times with Andrew and the Fried Frank team and it has always been a pleasurable and highly professional experience. Most recently, we worked with him on the dissolution of a nonprofit legal entity the organization acquired several years ago. Without his guidance I doubt we could have completed that work. The work to dissolve the legal entity is important and high impact as it reduces the fiduciary risk to our Directors and the organization generally, and reduces the complexity of our operations and management."

Andrew Belton
 Executive Director,
 Riverdale Neighborhood House

Graduate of:

University of San Diego School of Law

Lawyers Alliance clients:

Due to the sensitive nature of the work for them, the remainder of Mr. Minear's clients will not be made public. He worked with four additional clients beyond Riverdale Neighborhood House.