

## INSTITUTIONAL HONOREE

### LOWENSTEIN SANDLER LLP

*National Law Firm with Historic Commitment to Public and Community Service Expands Legal Assistance to Nonprofit Organizations*

#### Lowenstein Sandler's Commitment to Pro Bono

Lowenstein Sandler's commitment to social justice and civil rights runs deep. When Alan Lowenstein and his partners established Lowenstein Sandler in 1961, they provided in the original agreement that serving the community would be one of the pillars of the firm. In a 1989 letter to the partnership, Mr. Lowenstein reflected on the history and roots of the firm's commitment to pro bono legal service, stating that he "determined as a young lawyer to seek intellectual satisfaction and challenge, as well as economic security, in [his] law practice, but also to devote as much as one-third of [his] time and energies to service to [his] community, to assistance to the poor and the underprivileged, and to the fulfillment of a truly democratic society, supporting the rights of all minorities." The same letter called on the firm to commit a substantial number of pro bono hours to legal services and nonprofit organizations primarily dedicated to representing and supporting marginalized communities. Through its extensive pro bono program, broad range of community involvement, and placement of lawyers on nonprofit boards and in public service positions, Lowenstein Sandler has held true to its founder's commitment.

In 2019, firm-wide pro bono hours totaled 23,373. On average in 2019, each lawyer logged 63 pro bono hours. Lowenstein Sandler transactional lawyers logged 6,460 pro bono hours from January to October 2020. In 2019, firm transactional lawyers logged 6,472 pro bono hours. In 2018, firm transactional lawyers logged 5,787 pro bono hours. These numbers indicate a 12 to 16 percent increase in corporate participation from 2018 to 2019 and from 2019 to 2020.

#### *How does the firm encourage and support business and transactional lawyers at all levels to participate in pro bono?*

The firm rewards top pro bono performers at an annual awards event, features important transactional pro bono matters in the firm's annual Pro Bono Report, includes corporate successes in communications to firm partners, and counts pro bono hours towards annual bonus calculations. In addition, corporate practice group leaders encourage their teams to participate in the pro bono program by providing discrete opportunities to their groups and leading by example by participating themselves.

#### *How has the firm's pro bono program evolved during the COVID-19 pandemic?*

The firm has expanded its work on behalf of nonprofit organizations and under-resourced entrepreneurs by partnering with organizations that have referred these clients for guidance on pandemic-related legal issues, such as obtaining loans and grants and navigating employment and safety issues. The firm has expanded its limited scope representation and "office hour" style consultations to reach a greater number of clients who need targeted legal support to weather the crisis.



# LAWYERS ALLIANCE FOR NEW YORK

## **Firm's Impressive Work with Lawyers Alliance**

Lowenstein Sandler 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.

Lawyers Alliance and our clients could not be as effective as we are without the generous volunteer assistance of Lowenstein Sandler. Among the many remarkable ways in which the firm has strengthened nonprofits are:

- Assisting a social services organization serving low-income and immigrant families in Central Brooklyn to obtain new space for transitional housing.
- Providing corporate structuring and governance advice to an urban health client supporting food waste hauling and composting service while providing accessible jobs and sustained professional development to emerging environmental leaders.
- Reviewing subscription agreements and data privacy issues for an organization that builds software products to help low income individuals obtain better access to the public resources for which they are eligible.

"As a beneficiary of their pro bono legal services for our Prince George Ballroom event space, Breaking Ground knows firsthand Lowenstein Sandler's commitment to causes and organizations that make our home city more vibrant and livable for all New Yorkers. Thank you for your outstanding contributions to society!"

— Jeff Scheuer

*Vice President, External Affairs, Breaking Ground*

"Because Lowenstein gave so much, funds that would have gone to legal fees could instead go back into the art, science, technology, and fun that we deliver to our summer campers, a significant number of whom receive full or partial scholarships. This one legal issue could have seriously compromised our ability to remain true to our Statement of Social Responsibility and our low-cost / high quality mandate. Instead, because of Lowenstein, we were able to deliver a bright, beautiful summer to Brooklyn children."

— Eisa Ulen Richardson

*Founder and Camp Director, Camp Fort Greene  
Co-Executive Director, Greenprints*

"In response to COVID-19 and many community centers' desire to provide a safe, virtual alternative to an in-person [camp] experience, we made the decision to enter into a strategic collaboration... With Lowenstein's guidance, we were able to navigate through a process that typically would take months if not years, in a period of weeks."

— Michael Fermaglich,

*Chief Operating Officer,*

*YM & YWHA of Washington Heights & Inwood*

# LAWYERS ALLIANCE FOR NEW YORK

Lowenstein Sandler attorneys have represented the following Lawyers Alliance clients in the last five years: **Ardea Arts, Association for a Better New York Foundation, Benefit Kitchen, BK ROT, Breaking Ground, Broadway For Racial Justice, Brooklyn Bureau of Community Service d/b/a Brooklyn Community Services (BCS), Care for the Homeless, Caribbean American Center of New York, Chinatown Partnership Local Development Corporation, City Living NY, City Parks Foundation, Concourse Group, Concrete Safaris, Corona Self Help Center, Dare2B NYC, Diaspora Community Services, ESS Community Projects, First Chinese Presbyterian Community Affairs Home Attendant Corporation, Friends' Home Association of New York d/b/a Penington Friends House, Global Language Project, Greneprints, Hidden Water, In Our Backyards, Institute for the Development of Human Arts, Inwood House, New York Harbor Foundation d/b/a Billion Oyster Project, New York Peace Institute, Pan American Musical Art Research Inc. (PAMAR), Pure Creative Arts, Relay Graduate School of Education, Stand Beside Them, Stonewall Community Development Corporation, West 46th Street Block Association, Women's Justice NOW, and YM-YWHA of Washington Heights & Inwood.**

Current firm lawyers who worked with these clients include: Saman Aminolsharei, Dotan Barnea, Richard Bernstein, William Brannan, Eugene Cheval, Lowell Citron, Marie DeFalco, Chelsea Ferrette, Samantha Fox, Sarah Gore, Andrew Graw, Peter D. Greene, Lisa Harvey, Christopher Henry, Edgar Hidalgo, Christina Holder, Lauren Hollender, Ted Hunter, Vanessa Ignacio, Diana Ingallinera Faillace, Manali Joglekar, Mark Kesslen, Elisia Klinka, Robert Krieger, Paula Ladd, Cecily Larison, Alex Leibowitz, David Leit, Julie Levinson Werner, David Lifshitz, Nicole Morales, Edward S. Nadel, Brian Nistler, Christine Osvald-Mruz, Carly Penner, Patricia Perez, Matt Savare, Brian Silikovitz, Ethan Silver, Eric Swartz, Kristin Taylor, Traci Tomaselli, Jenna-Marie Tracy, Stacey Tyler, Eric Weiner, Amy Wiwi, and Min Xue.