

## INSTITUTIONAL HONOREE

### MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP

#### *International Law Firm's Transactional Attorneys Make Significant Difference to Nonprofits Improving New York City Neighborhoods*

##### **Morrison & Foerster's Commitment to Pro Bono**

Morrison & Foerster's proud record of pro bono service stretches back to 1917, when firm founder Alexander Morrison and his partners were all charter members of the Legal Aid Society of San Francisco. Today, throughout the world, the firm's lawyers and staff are united in their passion to serve local and global communities. In 2019, Morrison & Foerster attorneys worldwide provided 70,000 hours of pro bono assistance, including more than 10,000 hours in New York. By the end of September 2020 it had already matched that 70,000 hours.

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

Corporate, finance, and tax lawyers are intrinsic to the firm's pro bono practice. The firm relies on Lawyers Alliance as a steady source of pro bono matters that make use of their expertise. The firm also provides training and encouragement to lawyers in these practice areas to go outside their comfort zones and engage in other kinds of pro bono work, such as preparing wills for low-income elderly people and representing immigrants seeking naturalization.

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

Morrison & Foerster has opened 65 matters related to COVID-19 and expended 8,000 hours on them through mid-fall. These are nearly all transactional matters, from patents to emergency approvals at the FDA to advising small businesses to preparing wills for front line and healthcare workers. In addition to representing nonprofits on pressing legal matters, Morrison & Foerster lawyers and staff have held free virtual legal clinics, developed the Coronavirus Resource Center, and joined response task forces dedicated to a number of COVID-19 related issues.

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

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.

Thanks to the firm's high quality assistance, nonprofits are receiving the legal guidance they need to provide vital services, including bringing together community residents, addressing economic inequities and racial justice, educating youth, and so much more. The pro bono projects below represent a snapshot of Morrison & Foerster's work through Lawyers Alliance that has meaningful impact:

- Reviewing data sharing agreement for an organization that provides counseling services in public schools and community based settings to children exposed to domestic violence.

# LAWYERS ALLIANCE FOR NEW YORK

- Advising on corporate governance and complex tax issues for a social services organization dedicated to serving those impacted by HIV/AIDS, substance use, incarceration, and behavioral health challenges.
- Guiding charitable organizations whose operations are negatively impacted by the pandemic and its fallout through contract and lease reviews, personnel challenges, and legal steps to cope with financial stresses.

“Our attorney from Morrison & Foerster LLP gave clear, thorough, and timely advice to help Chalkbeat understand the options regarding sponsoring visas for people we might wish to hire. He worked with us in 2018 when the environment around visas was changing. His feedback allowed us to determine the viability of various legal routes. We have returned to his guidance several times when different situations have come up and we needed to make informed decisions.”

— Rebecca Ross, *Chief Operating Officer* and  
Myra Rosenbaum, *Director of Operations*  
*Chalkbeat*

“Over the years, attorneys at Morrison & Foerster have represented the Billion Oyster Project on a wide variety of complex matters including government contracts and related subcontracts, corporate sponsorships, the Paycheck Protection Program, tax issues, lease agreements, license agreements, consulting arrangements and corporate policies. All of these matters were handled with the same expertise, attention to detail, and client service enjoyed by Morrison & Foerster’s paying clients.”

— Matthew Haiken  
*Institutional Funding Officer, Billion Oyster Project*

“Morrison & Foerster attorneys spent time educating us on issues surrounding compensation to make sure that we can attract and retain the best consultants for our manufacturers. With their expertise, our pro bono lawyers are also helping many small manufacturers throughout New York City that are working hard to scale their operations and hire more employees. We are truly inspired by the professionalism and kindness of both the Lawyers Alliance team and each and every attorney who has taken time away from their busy schedules to assist with our initiatives.”

— Kinda Younes  
*Executive Director, New York City Industrial and  
Technology Assistance Corporation (ITAC)*

# LAWYERS ALLIANCE FOR NEW YORK

Morrison & Foerster attorneys have represented the following Lawyers Alliance clients in the last five years: **Art Beyond Sight, Asthma Intervention and Relief Network, Inc. d/b/a AIRnyc, B.K.S. Iyengar Yoga Association, Bridge Preparatory Charter School, Chalkbeat, Cool Culture, Dancing Classrooms, Do Something, Drug Policy Alliance, Elm Community Charter School, Exponents, Flatbush Development Corporation, Friends of Queens High School of Teaching NYC DOE, Glasswing International USA, Grow Brooklyn, Hopeland, Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation, National Federation of Community Development Credit Unions d/b/a Inclusiv, Neighborhood Trust Federal Credit Union, Lawyers Alliance for New York, New York Association of Training and Employment Professionals, New York Harbor Foundation d/b/a Billion Oyster Project, NYC Industrial & Technology Assistance Corp. (ITAC), Nonprofit New York, Queens Cluster Federal Credit Union, Queens Community House, Scenarios USA, Senior Citizens League of Flatbush, Staten Island Mental Health Society, Street Lab, Inc. d/b/a The Uni Project, Time in Children's Art Initiative, and UniFi Scholars Corp.**

Firm lawyers who worked with these clients include: Ron Aizen, Cynthia Akatugba, Kathiana Aurelien, Jeffery Bell, Bradley Berman, Stephen Bleiberg, Jonathan Bockman, Paul Borden, Benjamin Butterfield, Maria Castiglie, Steven Cave, Lawrence Ceriello, Michael Chen, Wendy Chu, Rahman Connelly, Melissa Crespo, Susannah Cupp, John Delaney, Christopher Delson, Peter Dopsch, Jill Feldman, Craig Fields, Benjamin T.R. Fox, David Goett, Jennifer Gong, Todd Goren, Enrico Granata, Adam Hankiss, Vivian Hanson, Kelsie Harris, Keiko Hayakawa, Min Heo, Savannah Holzwarth, Yiyang Huang, Nicole Humphrey, Thomas Humphreys, Erin Jansen, Michelle Jewett, Nicole Johnson, Yana Johnson, Prakruti Joshi, Donald Lampe, Dong Hun (Don) Lee, Whitney Lee, Scott Lesmes, Lunet Luna, Jeremy Mandell, Lorenzo Marinuzzi, Dario de Martino, David Medlar, Melinda Melendez, Yasmin Montiero, Jacob Morrison, Amanda Myers, Larren Nashelsky, Dylan Naughton, James Newton, Rex Niswander, Thomas Noto, Julie O'Neill, Allison Peck, Geoffrey Peck, Susanne Petersen, Craig Phillips, Gina Pickerrell, Rose Zukin Pierson, Tiffany Quach, Anthony Ramirez, Eric Requenez, Erica Richards, Joseph Rosner, Kathleen Ryan, Mercedes Samavi, Jenepher Schulte, James Schwartz, Joanne Sur, Jennifer Talbert, Richard Vacura, Nathan Vogler, Joan Warrington, Bradley Wine, Miriam Wugmeister, and Elnaz Zarrini.