

## INDIVIDUAL HONOREE



**PREETHA CHAKRABARTI**, *Crowell & Moring LLP*

***Dedicated lawyer protects nonprofits' valuable intellectual property assets***

Preetha Chakrabarti is a counsel at Crowell & Moring LLP and a member of the firm's Intellectual Property and Advertising & Media groups. She received a B.A. from Brown University in 2003, an M.A. from Columbia University in 2008, and her J.D. from Fordham University School of Law in 2012.

Intellectual property lawyers have unique expertise that is key to helping nonprofits protect their products, programming, and software. Ms. Chakrabarti has volunteered on seven different cases over a four year period.

She provided counsel to **Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony Statue Fund d/b/a Monumental Women** when another organization started using its trademark Monumental Women to solicit charitable funds. The Statue Fund became concerned when people who had tried to donate to Monumental Women mistakenly sent their donations to the other, unrelated organization. Pam Elam, President of Monumental Women, says Ms. Chakrabarti and her colleagues "managed to get the group using our trademarked name to cease and desist and it was all done with expertise and speed." As a result, Ms. Elam says, "We no longer had to worry about potential donors sending contributions to the wrong organization. We no longer had to worry about another organization attempting to take credit for our work. We are an all-volunteer, not-for-profit group with no staff and no office. We do not have the resources to hire legal assistance. Without the help of Lawyers Alliance and Ms. Chakrabarti, we would have had to fight the battle alone."

Ms. Chakrabarti also helped **Virtual Education Life Skills Mentoring Services (V-ELMS)**, a mentoring group in New York City, trademark its name and logo. According to Brett J. Truitt, V-ELMS' Founding Director, "Preetha was very professional and patient. She wanted my input and wanted to make certain that I understood the steps being taken."

She worked on various trademark consultations, agreements, and declarations of use for **Chalkbeat, Wingspan Arts, Green City Force, and Classroom Inc.**

Ms. Chakrabarti and her colleagues are currently working with **SuitUp Incorporated**, an organization that increases college and career awareness for underserved youth, on copyright protections for its program materials and template partnership and business agreements with school and corporate participants.

Says Ms. Chakrabarti, "I love the varied work and types of people and organizations I get to know through pro bono work. Helping Monumental Women achieve a great resolution in the protection and enforcement of their intellectual property was a satisfying outcome for a timely and important initiative!"