OREN EPSTEIN, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

Exceedingly helpful pro bono lawyer guides nonprofits on intricacies of trademark and copyright law

Oren Epstein is counsel in the Intellectual Property and Technology group of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. His practice covers a broad range of transactional and counseling matters relating to intellectual property, technology, and social media. He received a B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania in 2000 and a J.D. from Harvard Law School in 2003.

Since 2004, Mr. Epstein has been pro bono counsel on 11 Lawyers Alliance matters for ten nonprofit organizations. Mr. Epstein worked with Waterfront Alliance to change its name from Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance and trademark the new name of the organization and several of its programs. Waterfront Alliance works to protect, transform, and revitalize New York City’s harbor and waterfront. The legal work was part of a rebranding process that has been crucial to positioning the organization for its future scope of work. According to Chief Operating Officer Kate McLetchie-Sheldon, “We’re grateful to Lawyers Alliance and Oren and his team for guiding us through what would otherwise be a very arduous process. The Skadden team was fantastic and we cannot thank them enough.”

Global Language Project (GLP) supports world-language learning through best-in-class curricula and innovative teacher development, enabling students, particularly those in underserved communities, to develop language proficiency for further education and the global workforce. During the 2016-2017 school year, GLP trained 297 teachers, impacting 44,550 students. GLP licenses its curricula to community partners for the period of one school year. One such community partner informed GLP that it wouldn’t be able to pay the licensing fee for the year. Mr. Epstein advised the client through termination of that agreement, protecting Global Language Project’s intellectual property so it could be shared with those who use it appropriately. Liz Shovers, GLP’s Executive Director, says, “Without the generous support of attorneys like Mr. Epstein and Lawyers Alliance, small nonprofits like Global Language Project would not be able to receive such excellent legal advice.”

Mr. Epstein has also assisted these nonprofit clients: Doula Program to Accompany and Comfort, Evergreen, Global Kids, Lawyers Alliance for New York, Madison Square Boys & Girls Club, New York City Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster, Pajama Program, and The Fostering Connection.

Mr. Epstein says, “I have always viewed pro bono legal work as beneficial for both client and counsel. Lawyers Alliance has been instrumental in facilitating such work for me, in an efficient and pleasant manner. These experiences have proved to be rewarding on a professional and personal level. Thank you Lawyers Alliance for all that you do for our pro bono clients and the legal profession.”