

PaulHastings

ProBonoNews

The Paul Hastings Pro Bono and Public Service Newsletter

Winter 2009

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Chair's Corner

Barbara L. Johnson
Chair, *Pro Bono* and Community
Employment Law Partner

Welcome to the Winter Edition of Pro Bono News. Since our last issue, the firm has received several notable *pro bono* accolades. For the second year in a row, the San Francisco office won United Way's Little Koko Award in recognition of their office's volunteer campaign. Two attorneys from the Atlanta office won Law Firm Volunteer of the Year Awards, and attorneys in the Chicago office won a local law school's Firm and Corporate Alumni Challenge. In London, our attorneys' *pro bono* efforts helped raise more than a million dollars for a charity, and in Beijing, a team of attorneys assisted migrant Chinese women and children. At Paul Hastings, *pro bono* is a global matter.

I am pleased to report that Tollie Besson and Jamie Broder, resident in our LA office, have agreed to lead the litigation side of our *pro bono* efforts and to solicit high impact local, national and international *pro bono* cases. In addition, Jamie and Tollie will work closely with me to help expand our global attorney participation in *pro bono* matters.

This month we launch the new Funding Request Intake System (FRIS), an automated, web-based form used to submit monetary requests for charitable contributions, diversity sponsorships and Paul Hastings Attorney Network (PHAN) activities. This system will allow us to centralize our funding activities and link those activities to our *pro bono* tracking system.

At Paul Hastings, *pro bono* work is fundamental to our global commitment to excellence. If you haven't already done so, please reach out to the *pro bono* leadership in your respective offices to become involved in the wonderful *pro bono* opportunities that are available.

We hope that you will enjoy reading Pro Bono News and learning more about our *pro bono* stories that reinforce our position as one of the world's preeminent law firms.

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ATLANTA

Chair of Global Practice Makes a Difference in the World

As head of Paul Hastings' global regulatory practice, John L. Douglas travels all over the world working with banks, ministries of finance and central bankers on a variety of complex issues. A much less visible part of his life, however, has been his advocacy of disadvantaged children and adults.

Over the years, he and his wife, Becky, have cared for many of these individuals in their own home and have even adopted two children from Lithuania, one of whom has paraplegia.

While Douglas has a passion for these endeavors, he believes it is required of his profession, as lawyers have the responsibility to use their vast knowledge and opportunities to do the greatest good for the greatest number of people.

"One of my favorite things about being a lawyer is the fact that we can make a difference in the world," Douglas explained. "We have been taught the extraordinary skills of recognizing and analyzing problems, finding solutions and advocating change. I firmly believe that our core obligation is to use those skills to improve the lives of others."

In an extension of these beliefs, Douglas supports his wife's organization, Rising Star Outreach, which seeks to improve the lives of those affected by leprosy and was recently featured in a PBS documentary.

He also serves as the director of Financial Services Volunteer Corps (FSVC). Formed in 1991 at the request of President George H.W. Bush, FSVC is designed to use the talents of practicing lawyers, bankers, regulators, accountants and consultants to build strong banking and capital markets systems in countries attempting to move from control economies to market-based economies. As director, Douglas has aided in this process and has helped several countries deal with challenges in the banking sector.

"FSVC has worked in over 40 countries with the belief that building a sound financial system is one of the most important efforts we make towards improving the lives of others," Douglas said.

For his efforts, Douglas received the Presidential Award for Volunteer Service in 2004 and the Franklin S. Richards Award for Pro Bono Service in 2008.

Lawyer Welcomes Anti-Defamation League to the Southeast

Paul Hastings Atlanta partner Walter Jospin, Chair of the Anti-Defamation League Southeast Region, delivered the Welcome Address at the 2008 Anti-Defamation League Abe Goldstein Community of Respect Dinner on November 16th in Atlanta. Retailer Marty Kogon received the Abe Goldstein Human Relations Award, created in 1966 to honor Abe Goldstein, who "epitomized community involvement and

concern for the welfare of the entire community.”

Lawyers Give Time to Atlanta Volunteer Lawyer Foundation

- Keith Kodosky and Emily Shoemaker dedicated *pro bono* hours to help a client receive compensation for property damage. Their client had experienced damage to her personal property when water and sewage overflowed from her plumbing into her children's bedrooms, the living room and the dining room. The damage was so severe that it forced the client to move out of her apartment and relocate her family due to her landlord improperly cleaning the apartment after the incident. Kodosky and Shoemaker helped their client recover a \$1,200 settlement.
- A team of lawyers led by Rachel Saloom helped a client get compensation after she was wrongfully evicted and lost her personal belongings. The client was evicted from her apartment along with her children, and all of her possessions were thrown on the street and were destroyed by rain. The client's first attorney dismissed her case without discussing it with her. The Paul Hastings Atlanta team then took over her case. The defendant company was in severe financial distress and offered to settle the case for \$1,000. At the time of the incident, however, the defendant company was in a strong financial position, so our attorneys fought for their client and gained a final settlement of \$8,000.
- The Paul Hastings Atlanta team assisted a client who was defrauded into signing away the deed to her home. The client did not even know she no longer had the title and only discovered it when she found a buyer for her home, but could not convey clean title. The team immediately filed and received a Temporary Restraining Order and Preliminary Injunction. In a joint effort between the real estate department and litigation department, the team was able to help its client reacquire the deed to her home. The participating attorneys include Ryan Lewis, Candy Wilson, Emily Shoemaker, Suzanne McRobbie and Mike Reiss.

Team Helps Homeless Client

Paul Hastings Atlanta attorneys, led by Keith Kodosky, helped a homeless client get his life back in order. The client had received a traffic ticket for an improper lane change in Kentucky about two years ago. At the time of his citation, the client had been a commercial truck driver for more than 10 years. The traffic ticket was miscoded as the "unsafe operation of a vehicle" in the Kentucky and Georgia Department of Motor Vehicles systems, and the miscoding prevented the client from obtaining employment as a commercial driver due to the unsafe operation charge appearing on his Georgia motor vehicle report.

The client had been unable to find any other work and was homeless for more than one month. Following multiple calls placed to the Kentucky and Georgia Departments of Motor Vehicles, the miscoding was corrected in the system and the unsafe operation of vehicle charge was removed from the client's motor vehicle report. As a result, the client has interviewed for several commercial driver positions with the expectation of leaving the homeless shelter.

Lawyers Win Volunteer of the Year Awards

The Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta, an organization that matches lawyers with local nonprofits in need of free legal counsel, awarded two Paul Hastings associates in its Atlanta office, Eric Ensminger and Jason Cordon, with the 2008 Law Firm Volunteer of the Year Award. Ensminger and Cordon will receive their awards at the Pro Bono Partnership's annual dinner.

Throughout the past year, Ensminger and Cordon have worked with the Pro Bono Partnership to provide pro bono services to numerous local organizations and nonprofits, including the Center for Financial Independence & Innovation Inc., Georgia Justice Project, Fund for Southern Communities and A Self-Help Assistance Program, Inc.

Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta, Inc. is a tax-exempt public charity whose mission is to make it as easy and enjoyable as possible for transactional lawyers at corporations and law firms to provide valuable pro bono services for nonprofit agencies serving the public interest in Metropolitan Atlanta.

The Partnership serves community-based nonprofits whose primary purpose is to operate ongoing programs or activities that benefit low-income communities or that otherwise serve the public interest. In order to be eligible, the nonprofit agency must be unable to pay for legal services without significant impairment of program resources. The Partnership matches eligible organizations with volunteer attorneys from the leading corporations and law firms in Atlanta.

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BEIJING

Team Works to Aid Migrant Women and Children in China

The Beijing office, under the direction of David Livdahl, is involved in a pro bono effort for Hua Dan, a charitable organization established in Hong Kong. Hua Dan fosters the education of migrant women and children in mainland China and their integration into society through inspirational art-based workshops and participatory theatre activities. As part of its program, Hua Dan not only trains and educates such women and children, but it also provides opportunities for employment for its participants within its organization.

Hua Dan's lack of a legal presence in mainland China was an obstacle in reaching its goal of helping more migrant women and children achieve a better life. The Beijing office's non-profit practice team is now assisting Hua Dan in a pro bono effort to help it establish a legal presence in China.

The Paul Hastings team has worked with Hua Dan to structure various viable avenues for it to set up a legal entity in China, and has advised the organization on various matters that are crucial to Hua Dan's activities in China, such as employment, tax, funding and intellectual property issues. Hua Dan's registration in China can provide it with a platform to reach out to the women and children of the migrant community in China.

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CHICAGO

Office Wins Firm and Corporate Alumni Challenge!



Greg Spitzer

Greg Spitzer spearheaded the firm's winning team in the 2008 Firm & Corporate Alumni Challenge for Northwestern Law School Alumni. Established more than 20 years ago, the Northwestern Challenge is one of the oldest and largest programs of its kind in the country.

Paul Hastings Chicago won the Firm Participation Award (16-24 Alumni category), beating out 12 other firms, including Morgan Lewis and Wilson Sonsini, to name a couple.



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FRANKFURT

Office works to promote pro bono work in challenging environment

There are many complicated legal restrictions on Pro Bono work for attorneys in Germany. Attorneys are usually paid according to a statutory directive that sets the price for work according to the value of the matter.

Lately these mandatory legal restrictions have been revised and there is an opening to advise clients without charging them the fee as set in the directive. However, it is still a matter of dispute among lawyers whether this applies to all fields of attorney-client relations, such as representation in a litigation or arbitration.

As there may be severe consequences for Paul Hastings and each individual attorney with respect to bar admissions if they were to advise or represent a party pro bono, the Frankfurt office has asked the Frankfurt Bar Association for a guideline on how to deal with pro bono matters.

The Frankfurt office is still waiting for a resolution of the bar association's board of directors. For many years, the firm has contributed to "Tuellinger Hoehe", a children's home that assists those with physical disabilities and behavioral disorders, has continued sponsorship of children through SOS Kinderdorf (similar to UNICEF) and has assisted a local charity for the disabled.

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HONG KONG

Team Volunteers for Local Charities

In November, volunteers from the Hong Kong office participated for the third year in the annual Matilda Sedan Chair Race, the main fundraising event of the Sedan Chair Charities Fund (SCCF).

The SCCF is a registered non-profit organization whose mission is to help local charities that receive little or no support from other sources. Over the last 33 years, SCCF has raised approximately \$6.2 million and has helped 118 local charities.

This year, the Hong Kong office raised almost \$5,000 for the local charities. According to tradition, each team must race in costume around Hong Kong's famous mountain, the Peak, while carrying a decorated sedan chair.

This year's theme was the "Kung Fu Pandas." The creative costume team made costumes by hand and the firm's creative decorating team decorated the sedan chair as a Chinese temple.

The running team was comprised of Steven DeGracia, Andrew Hutton, Gareth Ingham, Beverly Hu Koo (alternate), Charles Kim, Andy Lau, Warrick Price, Juliet Taylor and Neil Torpey. Together, they carried passenger Kitty Woo along the 1.3-mile route that started and ended at the Matilda International Hospital.

The firm finished fifth out of 45 teams and beat the previous year's time by 13 seconds. The event was well attended by family, friends and employees of Paul Hastings, and all enjoyed the bazaar after the race.

Congratulations to everyone who participated!

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LONDON

Pro Bono Efforts Raise \$1.2 Million for Charity

100 Women in Hedge Funds (WHF) held its annual European charity gala in London in September. Despite these challenging economic times, the gala raised \$1.2 million for WHF's 2008 European beneficiary, Wellbeing of Women, a charity focused on research and education benefiting the health of families in the UK and beyond. WHF is a global association of women in the finance industry who are involved in the network's educational events and philanthropic efforts. WHF was formed in 2002 and has raised more than \$14 million for selected charities.

Paul Hastings London team members Michelle Cuttler, Hayley Buckley, Michelle O'Connor, Marie De Rienzo and Kate McCaffrey have advised WHF London in corporate structuring and governance matters and in legal matters relating to the gala.

Pro Bono Client QSA wins at UK's 2008 Charity Awards

Quaker Social Action (QSA) is a charity that has been working to tackle poverty and social exclusion in East London since 1867. QSA runs a range of groundbreaking programs, including a microfinance program that has made over 150 micro loans to women in East London. QSA also operates an emotional and financial literacy project, "Made of Money," for which it won a major national Charity Award. In 2007, QSA won the first "Neighborhood Builders Award" given by Bank of America in the UK, which included an unrestricted grant. QSA is using the grant money in part to establish a new social enterprise, for which it has sought the Paul Hastings London team's advice on corporate and tax structuring matters.

Michelle Cuttler, Carl Pastars, Hayley Buckley, Alex Morris and Jiten Tank are working together to advise QSA on this new initiative. In addition, Chris Walter and Anna Sanford have advised QSA on employment law issues.

Team Works With CASAC

Donna Goldsworthy and Miranda Thomas have been providing Pro Bono efforts to Community Action and Support Against Crime (CASAC). Goldsworthy and Thomas have given advice to CASAC in connection with a dispute with a supplier of IT services, which are critical to the work of the organization. CASAC is a charity that works with the police, other statutory agencies and the community to improve community safety and tackle the root causes of crime.

Paul Hastings Duo Helps Children Learn to Volunteer

Donna Goldsworthy and Miranda Thomas of the London office have been providing advice to The Ivy Project, a charity that works with children and young people to encourage them to undertake volunteering activities in their communities. Goldsworthy and Thomas have worked in connection with a dispute with a consulting firm regarding substandard funding applications prepared for The Ivy Project.

Office Volunteers with the Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre Croydon

Donna Goldsworthy, Peter Orlic, Sam Grutchfield and Miranda Thomas have been providing ongoing advice to the Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre (RASASC) in connection with court proceedings for an application for a new tenancy under the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 following an attempt by its landlord to terminate its current lease.

RASASC is a charity that works alongside the Family Justice Centre and is the only rape crisis centre of its kind in London, providing support both nationally and overseas via a telephone helpline to victims of rape and sexual abuse.

Duo Volunteers with the All Saints Church Community Centre

Donna Goldsworthy and Miranda Thomas advised the All Saints Church Community Centre on its rights to enter a nearby property to carry out proposed repair works to the roof of the building. The All Saints Church Community Centre is a charitable Community Centre that provides lectures, classes and other forms of recreation/leisure activities for young people and residents of the local community. In 2005, Goldsworthy won a prize at the DLA Piper Paul Nicholls Memorial Foundation Awards for pro bono work for All Saints arising from a separate property litigation matter.

Attorneys Help with Natural Disasters

Members of the London office have recently begun representing the Merlin Emergency Relief International Charitable Trust, a leading British charity that sends medical teams to respond to natural disasters and humanitarian emergencies and rebuilds community health systems in the aftermath of these events.

Merlin has worked in over 40 countries and has taken a leading role in responding to some of the most serious humanitarian emergencies in recent history, including the Rwandan genocide, the Myanmar cyclone, the Indonesian tsunami and conflicts in Sierra Leone, Central African Republic, Afghanistan, Georgia, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Iraq.

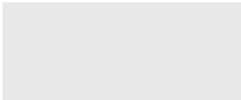
Michelle Cuttler and Chris Walter in London are assisting Merlin with corporate and employment needs, and Tara Giunta in Washington D.C. is assisting Merlin in establishing its U.S. operations and fundraising presence.

Paul Hastings Assists Youth Through Unspent Convictions

Vinay Reddy and Lucy Swart-Wilson of the London office are providing advice to Unspent Convictions in relation to registering the organization as a Community Interest Company. Unspent Convictions is an association with a goal of training young people who have been through the criminal justice system in grassroots campaigning skills. Its focus is to help offenders and ex-offenders who feel they have been disenfranchised to gain a sense of control and confidence.

Attorney Development Committee Hosts Toy Drive

The London Attorney Development Committee hosted a Christmas toy drive for the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital in December. Members of the London office contributed a large donation of new toys for children of all ages that were distributed at the Patients' Christmas Party. More than 1,800 children and their families gathered



throughout the day in central London for the annual children's Christmas Party held by the hospital. The hospital thanked the London office for making the day a great success.

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LOS ANGELES

Team Honored by Children Affected by AIDS Foundation



Pictured above: Elena Baca, Jamie Lee Curtis, CAAF leaders and honorees from Mattel and Toys "R" Us at Dream Halloween in Santa Monica.

The Children Affected by AIDS Foundation (CAAF) honored Paul Hastings with its Ribbon of Dreams Award in October in Santa Monica. Elena Baca, Los Angeles office chair and CAAF board member, accepted the award on behalf of the firm. In a moving speech, Baca highlighted how the foundation has grown - and changed the lives of many children - since it was founded 15 years ago.

"At that time, resources were scarce, people were less accepting, and change seemed far away," Baca said. "It would have been hard to imagine that nearly 15 years later, we would be together at this very special event celebrating some of the foundation's key accomplishments."

With the help of Paul Hastings and other corporate sponsors and volunteers, the CAAF has funded camps for children affected by AIDS, partnered with healthcare sites in Latin America, raised more than \$30 million and helped with basic needs such as rent, clothing and medical expenses.

More than a dozen firm volunteers helped with the Los Angeles event, which was hosted by Jamie Lee Curtis and co-chaired by Jada Pinkett Smith and Willow Smith. CAAF also honored Mattel and Toys "R" Us.

A few days earlier, our attorneys and clients participated in Dream Halloween in Chicago and New York. Rick Chesley and Leslie Plaskon served as leaders for those events.

Team Assists the Bet Tzedek Holocaust Reparations Project

Jamie Broder, Adam Cherensky, Lyn Diaz, Evan Fieldman and James Gilliam assisted Bet Tzedek Legal Services with staffing its monthly clinic for the Holocaust Reparations Project. After being trained on how to prepare the legal paperwork necessary to obtain the reparation payments,

each attorney met with Holocaust survivors who had been forced to live in German-controlled ghettos in Poland, Romania, Greece, Hungary, and the Ukraine.

Some of the survivors the Paul Hastings attorneys met had worked in the ghettos for years on end without compensation. Through this Holocaust Reparations Project, each individual will receive approximately \$2,000-2,500 (depending on the exchange rate at the time of payment) if their application is approved.

Attorneys Help Children Find Loving Foster Homes

Continuing the Paul Hastings tradition of participating in Public Counsel's Adoption Day Project, 20 individuals from the Los Angeles office recently finalized a number of adoptions, moving 14 more children out of the Los Angeles foster care system and into private adoptive placement.

Firm participants were: Linda Baker, Sandy Benjamin, Tollie Besson, Melanie Full, Gayle Goldman, James Han, Liz Hanks, Alicia Harrison, Dan Heaton, Joel Hernandez, Nicole Herter, Dan Hick, Nicole Kline, Nasym Korloo, Cindy Morgan, Nkechi Odu, Raman Rajagopal and Patty Rhoads. Also participating were Marti Breier and Lyn Diaz, both of whom now serve as the L.A. office's supervising attorneys for the Adoption Day Project.

Pro Bono Efforts Help Family Obtain More Than \$67,000 for Disabled Son

Paul Hastings attorneys recently successfully obtained more than \$67,000 in retroactive benefits for a disabled child and his family. In 2006, a couple adopted a child who has certain physical and mental disabilities, and is entitled to receive state benefits to assist with his significant medical care and other costs. At the time of the child's adoption, he was entitled to receive \$5,159 per month, but the state was only acknowledging his eligibility as \$2,009 per month, and was paying at that rate.

After significant efforts by Jamie Broder and Amanda Gilman of the Los Angeles office in petitioning the state to recognize the child's eligibility for increased benefits, the state finally agreed to pay retroactively the difference in benefits to the child and the family from the time of the adoptive placement in November 2006. In addition, the child will continue to receive benefits at the higher rate until the age of 21. This is a great success for this family and for another Paul Hastings pro bono team.

Duo Works With AIDS Organizations

In yet another victory for its *pro bono* clients, Ryan Derry and Cameron Fox represented AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA) in an appeal filed with the State of California by competitor organization, AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF), over the state's award of the rights to run a men's wellness program in Los Angeles.

Paul Hastings filed several briefs on APLA's behalf, urging that the State of California affirm the granting of that award. On November 18, the State of California confirmed this award and denied AHF's protest in full, thus paving the way for APLA to provide much-needed medical and social services to at-risk Latino men in Los Angeles.

Firm Helps Ensure That More Votes are Cast in Presidential Election

Regardless of your political views concerning last November's Presidential election, one thing is certain – the Paul Hastings Los Angeles office contributed considerable resources to ensure that the people of Los Angeles County who wanted

to vote had the opportunity to do so.

The Los Angeles team protected the vote everywhere, from East Los Angeles to North Hollywood to Long Beach. One of the firm's partners was even on the ground protecting the vote in Nevada. Attorneys were also able to provide legal research assistance, and a few members will also be working on an ongoing basis to assess the reforms necessary to ensure that even more people are able to cast their votes in the future elections.

Paul Hastings was one of the most involved organizations in the Los Angeles Election Protection Project (the Project), providing more than 40 attorneys - close to 10% of the total number of the Project's volunteers. The Project was definitely interesting; attorneys were able to see firsthand some of the election-related issues that are at the forefront of the news.

A total of 48 people worked on the Election Protection Project. In addition to serving as Mobile Field Volunteers, many of our attorneys staffed the 1-800-OUR-VOTE hotline that day, taking calls from voters with a variety of different questions. Participants were: Sandy Benjamin, Tollie Besson, Amanda Bolliger, Marti Breier, Jamie Broder, Scott Carlton, Adam Cherensky, John Chi, Connie Chilton, Peter Cho, Eve Coddon, Ben Davis, Mandana Dayani, Lyn Diaz, Jeffrey Diener, John Durrant, Stephen Etheredge, Melanie Full, Meagan Galloway-Scimone, James Gilliam, John Giovannone, James Han, Elizabeth Hanks, Dan Heaton, Laura Heckathorn, Nicole Herter, Dan Hick, Nancy Iredale, Hunter Jackson, Alex Johnson, Eric Joss, Bob Keane, Claire Kennedy Keane, Jeff LeMaster, Larry Levondosky, Colin MacMillan, Cindy Morgan, Allison Pappas, Raman Rajagopal, Stephanie Rohde, Derek Roth, Nicole Sandoz, AJ Sharp, Bob Span, Susan Spira, Vivian Velasco, Alan Weakland and Jared Weinstock.

Thanks to everyone in the firm who was involved in making Election Protection 2008 a success!

Attorney Conducts ACLU-Related Workshop



Pictured above: David Ritchie from Paul Hastings guided local clergy through the pitfalls and limitations of speaking their minds on Thursday. The workshop highlighted the pros and cons of political speech from the pulpit.

Walking the fine line between religion and politics can be a tricky tightrope. That's why David Ritchie, from the Paul Hastings Los Angeles office, guided laypeople, members of

the clergy and other curious minds through the touchy tax guidelines that govern religious organizations. Hands shot up, and back-and-forth volleying dominated the conversation at Irvine's Christ Our Redeemer, an African Methodist Episcopal church.

"A lot of this is about your appetite for pushing the envelope," said Ritchie, a tax lawyer at Paul Hastings, at the American Civil Liberties Union-sponsored workshop. "The closer an election gets, the more jeopardizing political speech becomes.

"With strings attached, religious organizations aren't required to pay federal income taxes. In order to retain this special exemption, leaders must refrain from telling their flock who or what to vote for."

However, there are some nuanced exceptions to the rules.

Wylie Drake, who preaches at Buena Park's First Southern Baptist Church, dipped in and out of potential hot water earlier this year when he endorsed Republican Mike Huckabee for president. The pastor made his admiration for Huckabee known in an email and on a radio show.

Americans United for Separation of Church and State, a non-profit organization, persuaded the IRS to look into the pastor's activities. In May, the government cleared the air in a letter to Drake, explaining that the outspoken magnet of controversy advocated not on behalf of his church, but as an individual.

Drake then told the Orange County Register that his brush-up with the IRS didn't change his mind on free speech.

"I'm sorry folks, I live in America, not Russia or China," he said. "The pastor does not run the church. The people run the church."

Erik Stanley, senior legal counsel at the non-profit Alliance Defense Fund, said the IRS's "increasingly vague guidance" flies in the face of the Constitution. If the ADF has its way, he said, the courts will roll back the restrictions.

"Ultimately, that was the case for most of our history until 1954," said Stanley, referring to the year then-Senator Lyndon Johnson proposed legislation to bar political speech from the pulpit. "I would contend our republic thrived as a result of that freedom."

In defiance of the IRS, more than a dozen yet-to-be-announced religious leaders from across the country stood up in September to talk about the merits and moral liabilities of political candidates. The ADF dubbed the multi-pronged event "Pulpit Freedom Sunday."

According to a survey conducted by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, 50 percent of self-described conservatives said that politics should be kept out of houses of worship. Under the IRS guidelines, religious leaders are, in fact, granted a few political roles. They may inspire "get out the vote" efforts and educate parishioners in nonpartisan forums.

The problem, according to Ritchie, is that some terms are slippery.

"Everyone thinks what they're doing is educational to someone, especially if the other person has a different viewpoint," he said.

Team Helps Provide Homeless Family with a Home for the Holidays



Pictured above, left to right: ELD attorneys Gayle Goldman, Holly Lake, Nicole Herter, Cindy Morgan, Molly Mitchell, and Nicole Sandoz

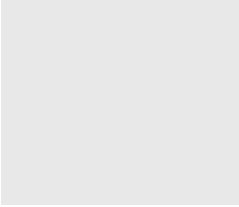


In November, several members of the Los Angeles ELD adopted a homeless family through Upward Bound House, providing the family with a home just in time for the holidays.

Upward Bound House is a community-based, social service agency in Santa Monica that provides transitional housing for homeless families. The ELD and RE departments have done pro bono work for the Upward Bound House over the past several years.

On a volunteer basis, individuals and/or groups "adopt a family." This means that when an apartment becomes available at the Upward Bound House facility, a family can move in. Most of the time, the families come with nothing (some having lived in their cars or motels for extended periods of time). Volunteers adopt each new family, purchase everything a family may need in a new home and decorate it. Therefore, when they move in, the kitchen has small appliances, tableware, and food, the beds have linens, the closets have some clothes and the children have toys of their own.

After the parent(s) in these families have been working for several months, have attained the life skills to live on their own and the family can afford to rent their own apartment, Upward Bound House gives them everything from their transitional apartment to take with them to set up their new, permanent home.



Paul Hastings members who gave personal contributions were: Gayle Goldman, Cindy Morgan, Lisa Brown, John Giovannone, Nicole Sandoz, Nicole Herter, Molly Mitchell, Vivian Velasco, Caroline Elkin, Liz Falcone and Holly Lake. These attorneys spent six hours and \$2,300 shopping and decorating an apartment for a homeless family of four (parents, with a 5-year old daughter and an 11-month old son).

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NEW YORK

Attorney Raises Money for March of Dimes



Chuck Baker

As a member of the Sports Luncheon Board Committee of the March of Dimes, Paul Hastings New York attorney Chuck Baker played a key role in the 25th Silver Anniversary Sports Luncheon held in December. The luncheon raised approximately \$700,000 for the March of Dimes. The mission of the March of Dimes is to raise awareness regarding premature birth and ultimately to reduce its occurrence.



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ORANGE COUNTY

Attorney Volunteers to Help Fight Serial Plaintiff

Paul Hastings Orange County lawyer Jay Gandhi is giving his time to help a small business owner fight a lawsuit against a serial plaintiff. Gandhi is representing a *pro bono* client who is being sued for allegedly violating the rights of disabled people.

The client, owner of a local restaurant, is being sued by an individual who also sued 111 other small businesses and landlords in the Santa Ana area within a two-month period last fall.

A new California law that took effect on January 1 was designed to curtail legal abuses, but Gandhi is also trying to do his part in his client's case, working with the Public Law Center in Santa Ana. The client's case was originally filed with the Orange County Superior Court, but it has been transferred to federal court.

Office to Receive Jim Murray Memorial Service Award

The Paul Hastings Orange County office will be honored this year at the Canyon Acres May 2009 Annual Blue Ribbon Gala with the Jim Murray Memorial Service Award. Canyon Acres recognizes one special corporation each year, and has selected Paul Hastings this year for going above and beyond in supporting Canyon Acres' mission of providing homes, care, treatment and supportive services for abused, neglected, and emotionally troubled children and their families.

Pay it Forward Helps Raise \$115,000 for Charity

This year the Orange County Office celebrated another year of giving to United Way. With generous support from partners, associates and staff, the Orange County office successfully raised nearly \$115,000 throughout the month-long campaign, "Pay it Forward".



Pictured above, left to right: Carolyn Deverich, Antonella Castro, Megan Genovese, Aref Afsari, Jim Herriott, Katey Dies, John Kang, Glenn Dassoff, Javier Barron

Pay It Forward was kicked off with the annual breakfast, complete with a video that included participation from

several team members. The entire office got involved with fun and interactive events such as a dart board throw, golf putt-putt in the office and a baby picture-matching contest. The campaign concluded with silent and live auctions that involved bidding wars on several trips, gifts and items donated from the office and local community.



Pictured above, left to right: Don Morrow, Aref Afsari, Carolyn Deverich, Jim Herriott

The Orange County office's charitable giving did not end there. Team members also reached out to several other local non-profit organizations throughout the holiday season. The "Catalog for Caring" gave everyone in the office the chance to celebrate the holidays by supporting three neighboring charities: Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) and Women Helping Women.

Each organization was supported through a catalog of options such as clothing drives, volunteer events, purse and toy drives, and gift giving. Over the course of this campaign, the Orange County office donated several racks of clothes, \$500 in gift cards, 25 purses and purchased toys for over 45 children to fulfill their holiday wishes.

In conjunction with all of these holiday events, the team members also made financial contributions to Second Harvest Food Bank and collected more than 100 pounds of canned goods to assist in feeding those less fortunate individuals and families in the Orange County community.

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SAN DIEGO

Attorneys Assist Individuals Seeking Asylum

Chris McGrath, Elizabeth Brann and Dawn Fonseca are volunteering to help a Somali citizen in his application for asylum in the U.S. Their client, a member of the minority Madhibaan clan in Somalia that suffers constant persecution at the hands of the majority Hawiye clan, fled his home country to escape that persecution in 2002.

That year, the Hawiye murdered the client's father, two brothers and five sisters in a brutal attack at their home. After barely escaping along with his mother, wife and daughter, the client initially fled to South Africa. After some of the same Hawiye who murdered his family found him in South Africa, he undertook the long journey to come to the United States to seek asylum in 2008.

Once he arrived at the border, the client was incarcerated by Immigration and Customs Enforcement at the Correctional Corporation of America, a detention facility located in San Diego. In assisting their client with his asylum application, the Paul Hastings team must establish that their client was persecuted for his membership in a social group, in this case, the Madhibaan clan. They are in the process of submitting his asylum application and will await his individual merits hearing.

Trio Fighting for Asylum for Somali Citizen

S. Christian Platt, Ericka Jacobs Schulz and Amanda Villalobos currently represent a 21-year-old Somali citizen in his application for asylum in the United States. Their client recently fled Somalia, a country with no formal government, due to ongoing persecution at the hands of a majority clan in Somalia.

Shortly after a recent attempt on his life, the client fled to the United States. After a perilous trip through Ethiopia, South Africa, Columbia, Guatemala and Mexico, the Somali citizen ultimately arrived at the United States border in San Diego and requested asylum after being detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Jacobs and Villalobos have met with the client several times and have appeared at the United States Immigration Court on their client's behalf. The team is currently preparing an asylum application and will represent their client in a hearing later this year.

Helping Underprivileged Families Cope With Cancer Treatment

Emilio Nares Foundation (ENF) is a non-profit corporation that provides support services to underprivileged families that have a child undergoing treatment for cancer in the San Diego area. ENF's primary program is a transportation service that provides the child and an accompanying adult rides to the hospital for doctors' appointments, treatments and tests.

Many children undergoing cancer treatment must go to the

hospital several times per week and have little or no available public transportation options. ENF's "Ride With Emilio" program ensures that none of these critical appointments are missed, and thus plays a vital role in the care of these children. Julia Miller, an associate in the Paul Hastings San Diego office, serves on the board of directors of ENF, and Rebecca Brophy regularly assists ENF with corporate matters. The San Diego office provides a variety of pro bono legal services to ENF, including general corporate governance support and counseling, contract review, drafting and analysis, and assistance with intellectual property and real estate matters.

Team Assisting Disabled Veterans Through Project Salute

Project SALUTE is a program designed to help low-income disabled veterans obtain pro bono legal services for assistance with benefits issues. Paul Hastings attorneys attended training provided by Project SALUTE in San Diego this fall and began representing veterans in their applications for benefits.

Paul Hastings attorneys from the San Diego office are assisting a homeless veteran of the United States Air Force with his claim for disability compensation and pension benefits from the Veterans Benefits Administration through Project SALUTE. This veteran was diagnosed with acute chondromalacia of the right knee while he was a firefighter in the United States Air Force.

Since retiring from the Air Force, the client has suffered severe pain in his knee. The pain was so severe that the client required surgical intervention. This has limited the types of employment that the client is able to accept. The client was also diagnosed with depression and a behavior disorder while enlisted in the Air Force.

The client's chronic knee pain and the inability to work have led to increased depression, anxiety and a number of other serious mental disabilities. In order to assist with his claim for disability benefits, the Paul Hastings team has been helping the client revise his initial application for benefits to reflect more accurately the scope and severity of his disabilities. The team has also contacted the client's treating physicians to obtain evidence regarding the underlying causes of his disabilities and is in the process of drafting a memorandum to the Veterans Benefits Administration in support of his claims.

Individuals in San Diego working on Project SALUTE include attorneys Rebecca Brophy, Melissa Garcia, Rebecca McGuire, Elizabeth Razzano, Tami Sampsell, Jessica Swift and paralegal Gia Canedo.

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SAN FRANCISCO

Office Gives and Receives in United Way Koko Challenge



Pictured above: Jeff Wohl and Koko

The Paul Hastings San Francisco office garnered five awards—including the Little Koko Award—at the United Way's Koko Awards. The standing-room-only event was hosted by the firm.

Paul Hastings San Francisco won the Little Koko Award for the second year in a row, signifying that the firm ran the best campaign among offices with 45-100 lawyers. The firm also won all of the other tier awards, including Strongest Giving Performance of Associates, Greatest Per Capita Gifts, Highest Overall Participation and Greatest Increase in Giving. No other firm won as many awards this year.

Overall, the United Way's Koko Challenge was a smashing success, with the 15 participating firms exceeding the aggressive goal United Way set for the campaign and raising more than \$1.2 million for Bay Area non-profits. Of the total proceeds, Paul Hastings attorneys and staff alone were responsible for more than 20%.

Many thanks to all of the Paul Hastings team leaders: Tom Counts, Gregg Dalton, Samantha Eldridge, Jeff Grube, Gordon Hart, Jeff Hartlin, Chris Mooney, Ryan Nier, Matt Sanders, Matt VanderZanden and Gregg Vignos; our campaign coordinator (Richard Dent); our office administrators Denise Behrens, Dawn Canzano and Angela Carlisle-Brown; and, of course, our generous donors for their outstanding contributions to this amazing result.

Thanks also to Meredith Mitchell for coordinating the awards event. Accomplishments like this one happen only when everyone pulls together, and that is what the San Francisco office did during this campaign.

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SHANGHAI

Attorneys Help to Protect Important Lands and Waters

The Shanghai office has begun working with The Nature Conservancy, a global conservation organization, on a variety of employment, immigration and some corporate issues with respect to its representative office in the People's Republic

of China. Since 1951, The Nature Conservancy has protected more than 119 million acres of land and 5,000 miles of water sources worldwide. Pro bono team members include Lesli Ligorner, Barbara Tsai, Willa Ying and Sherry Qian.



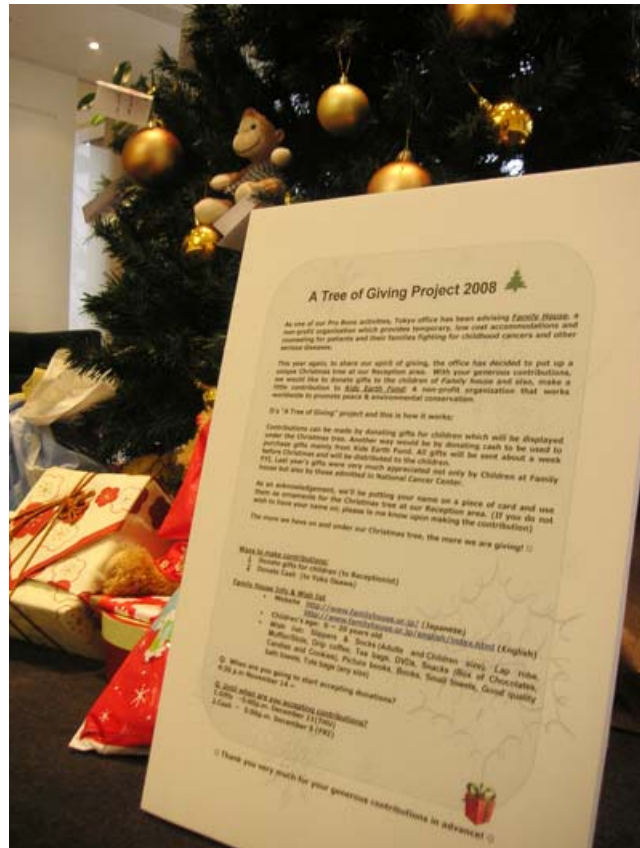
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TOKYO

Office Helps Hurting Children With 'A Tree of Giving Project 2008'



The Tokyo office raised more than \$3,000 and gathered 49 heartwarming gifts for the children of the charity Family House. "A Tree of Giving Project 2008" benefited Family House, a non-profit organization based in Japan that provides temporary, low-cost accommodations near hospitals and counseling for children from rural areas and overseas with cancer and other serious diseases.

Attorneys from the Tokyo office have been providing legal advice to Family House on a pro bono basis for several years and this is the second year that the office participated in A Tree of Giving.

Throughout the three-week charity event, a special tree was displayed in the reception area of the Tokyo office and posters were made explaining the event and the charities that were being supported. For each cash or gift contribution, a little card with the donor's name was placed on the tree as an acknowledgment.

The Family House provided the Tokyo office with a wish list of items to be donated and all cash contributions were used

to purchase those goods from Kids Earth Fund (another non-profit organization that the Tokyo office supports that works worldwide to promote peace and environmental conservation) and from certain other vendors. Purchased goods included 20 sets of colored pencils, 12 mugs, 120 face towels, 40 bath towels, 48 pairs of slippers, 220 tote bags, 20 lap robes, eight notebooks, 40 picture books and 117 small packs of chocolates and chocolate bars. Family house very much appreciated these items and the 49 gifts that were donated!

In addition to the Family House charity event, the Tokyo office donated a Christmas tree with colorful ornaments to the children's ward of the National Cancer Center in Tokyo in time for their holiday party to make it more festive and memorable.

Office Members Continue to Give of their Time Despite Challenging Economic Times

In most parts of Asia, international firms choose to leave their pro bono work to their U.S. headquarters. One of the few exceptions was Tokyo-based Paul Hastings partner Alexander Jampel, who said that there had been a steady flow of pro bono work.

"It has been consistent with previous years," Jampel explained. "We don't plan to make staff work solely on pro bono; we just want all attorneys to work on some matters. About half of our lawyers work on pro bono and most of the partners do it, too."

The move was welcomed by the Pro Bono Institute in Washington, DC, whose president, Esther Lardent, said the increase is a change from how some firms tended to discourage pro bono before the 2001 recession. Apparently, some firms stopped giving equal credit for pro bono time and increased billable hour quotas.

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WASHINGTON, DC

Pro Bono and Community Chair Supports Election Protection 2008

In support of Election Protection 2008, Pro Bono and Community Chair Barbara Johnson served as a polling place monitor in Maryland during the Presidential election in November. This year's coalition, formed to ensure that all voters have an equal opportunity to participate in the political process, was the largest voter protection and education effort in U.S. history and involved more than 100 local, state and national partners.

Attorney Provides Pro Bono Council to Energy Bar Association

Partner Bill DeGrandis is an active member of the Energy Bar Association (EBA), serving on the Board of Directors and Pro Bono Committee.

Last Spring, DeGrandis was elected to the Board of Directors through a nomination and election process that involved more than 2,600 EBA members. Prior to his election to the Board, DeGrandis served as Chairman (and Vice Chairman) of the Electricity Regulation Committee, the largest of the EBA committees.

In the Fall, DeGrandis joined the Pro Bono Committee as Board Member Liaison, and the committee recently helped find a firm to prepare the energy regulatory structure for the country of Yemen. In addition to his board and committee roles, DeGrandis coordinates the activities of a half dozen EBA committees which are organized along substantive energy law lines, and the committees also organize seminars and luncheons.

Attorney Chairs Efforts to Help Needy of All Ages and Supports Local Bookstore

Partner J. Mark Poerio chairs the Anne Arundel County Family Assistance Fund, which in its first year of operation raised more than \$15,000. The funds raised will be used primarily for critical operating expenses of two community initiatives: **Harmony House**, the state's only supervised visitation house for families with children in foster care and the **'80' West'** evening program at the Annapolis Family Support Center.

Harmony House provides families with a place to interact with their children in foster care in a home-like setting, while the '80 West' After Hours Program enables at-risk families to enjoy dinner and access interactive-parenting services in their own community.

The Family Assistance Fund is a "pure" charity in that it operates solely through volunteers and does not use donations for administration, promotion, or any other type of expenditures. That means that every penny raised goes directly to support actual services for vulnerable children and families in Anne Arundel County.

In addition, Poerio has been involved in a pro bono case with Chapters (www.chaptersliterary.com), a downtown DC literary bookstore threatened with closure if it was unable to convert to a nonprofit organization. Poerio is advising the owners of the 20-year-old literary landmark in a strategy to sell Chapters to a nonprofit foundation that would help support the store's operating costs. Any profits made by Chapters would go to funding artistic and literary events in the region.

Jesse Austin assisted Poerio with this *pro bono* matter, and attorneys from the Orange County office provided securities, finance and tax advice.

Office Supports National Women's Law Center



Partner Carla Walworth volunteers with the National Women's Law Center, which for 37 years has "expanded the possibilities for women and girls in this country." The Center advocates and educates about ways to make the law and public policies equitable for women and their families.

At the recent 2008 NWLC Awards dinner, lawyer and business executive Vernon Jordan served as the keynote speaker. More than

1,000 people attended the dinner—one of the largest events each year in Washington, DC—including Kristen Chapman, Tamara Graham, Anne Loomis, Alexandra Konieczny, Helen Lee, Kristen Warden, Kia Scipio, Attorney Development Senior Coordinator, and Swafia Lopez Ames, Manager, Global Diversity and Community. The NWLC Awards dinner raises more than \$1 million dollars to support the Center's work to protect and advance the progress of women.

Pictured above: Kia Scipio and Vernon Jordan, National Women's Law Center Awards Dinner November 19, 2008

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Share Your Story

Drop Pro Bono News a line and let us hear about what you are doing in your community. Please direct all comments, suggestions or inquiries regarding submissions for future issues of Pro Bono News to Linda Wormely at lindawormely@paulhastings.com.

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44-20-3023-5135, donnagoldsworthy@paulhastings.com

Miranda Thomas

44-20-3023-5117, mirandathomas@paulhastings.com

Los Angeles

Alexander Lee

213-683-6160, alexanderlee@paulhastings.com

James Gilliam

213-683-6293, jamesgilliam@paulhastings.com

Milan

Roberto Cornetta

39-02-30414-202, robertocornetta@paulhastings.com

New York

Kenneth Friedman

212-318-6025, kennethfriedman@paulhastings.com

Joshua Sternoff

212-318-6011, joshsternoff@paulhastings.com

Brian Moran

212-318-6857, brianmoran@paulhastings.com

Orange County

John Della Grotta

714-668-6210, johndellagrotta@paulhastings.com

Lisa LaFourcade

714-668-6203, lisalafourcade@paulhastings.com

Palo Alto

Ron Lemieux

650-320-1821, ronlemieux@paulhastings.com

Paris

Pierre Kirch

33-1-42-99-04-23, pierrekirch@paulhastings.com

San Diego

Christian Platt

858-458-3034, christianplatt@paulhastings.com

Catherine Caouette

858-458-3016, catherinecaouette@paulhastings.com

San Francisco

Peter Meier

415-856-7030, petermeier@paulhastings.com

Arun Patel

415-856-7031, arunpatel@paulhastings.com

Shanghai

K. Lesli Ligorner

86-21-6103-2968, lesliligorner@paulhastings.com

Tokyo

Alex Jampel

81-3-6229-6008, alexanderjampel@paulhastings.com

Yoshi Takatori

81-3-6229-6104, yoshitakatori@paulhastings.com

Washington, DC

Charles A. Patrizia

202-551-1710, charlespatrizia@paulhastings.com



Raquel Bierzwinsky

202-551-1740, raquelbierzwinsky@paulhastings.com

**Please direct general questions to Jeffrey Varga,
Vice Chair of the PBCC, at 213-683-6332 or
jeffreyvarga@paulhastings.com.**

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