

Victories on Behalf of Clients

Yashas Honasoge Wins Release, Asylum for Detained Eritrean Refugee

Last fall, the [National Immigrant Justice Center](#) (NIJC) reached out to Katten with an urgent request for an attorney to represent a detained Eritrean citizen in asylum proceedings before the Chicago Immigration Court. Chicago Intellectual Property associate **Yashas Honasoge** answered the call, and was able to secure the client's freedom and a successful grant of asylum in the United States.

The client had fled Eritrea after being persecuted for his Pentecostal faith. After being reported to the government by his father for practicing this "unauthorized" religion, the client was arrested and imprisoned for more than two years, where he was routinely beaten and tortured in an attempt to have him renounce his religion. But because of his devout faith, the client refused to do so and continued to endure the physical and emotional abuse. After escaping imprisonment in November 2016, the client spent the next year and a half slowly making his way from Eritrea to the United States, ultimately presenting at the US-Mexico border in Brownsville, Texas, and seeking asylum here in the United States. The client was taken into custody by the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement and brought to Illinois, where he was held at the McHenry county jail pending a hearing on his asylum application.

That's when Yashas got involved. Over the course of the next month, Yashas worked extensively to develop a thorough and complete factual record to present to the court. Yashas met and spoke with the client regularly to understand his story and educate the facts essential to his case. He also enlisted the help of Dr. Nora Rowley, a forensic medical expert, and Dr. Tricia Hepner, an expert on country conditions in Eritrea, to further support his asylum claim. The hard work paid off at the merits hearing, where the client was granted asylum and immediately released from government custody. The client was happy to be free and was excited to start his life anew. In a sobering moment following his release, the client explained that he had lost the past five years of his life, but was eager to make up for the lost time.

Chicago Team Successfully Defends Family From Eviction

Chicago Litigation partner **Patrick Harrigan** and associate **Britt DeVaney** successfully prevented an undocumented, single mother from being evicted from her apartment in the middle of January, while several months pregnant. The Katten Docket department pulled out all the stops to file an emergency court filing in Cook County Circuit Court to forestall the court from entering an eviction judgment. In addition to keeping the client from being evicted, Britt and Patrick were able to negotiate an agreement requiring the landlord to help the client obtain financial assistance from a charity and to modify the client's lease terms to make it easier for her to pay rent. Most importantly, the Katten team convinced the court to order the entire case sealed to protect the client from future credit inquiries and potential immigration proceedings. The landlord was represented by one of the most aggressive real estate firms in the city, so it was an excellent result for the client. The client just recently had a baby boy, and both mom and the baby are doing well at home.

[LAF](#) attorney Melissa Picciola, who provided critical assistance wrote, "Congratulations for not backing down and getting a fantastic result for the client!"

Eric Brin Helps Mother Adopt Baby Found Buried Alive

Los Angeles Litigation associate **Eric Brin** represented a woman pro bono in finalizing the adoption of a toddler, who as a newborn was abandoned by her birth mother and rescued by police. They discovered her swaddled in a hospital blanket and buried in a pothole covered in asphalt and debris.

The child, named Aspen, was left along a bike path in Compton, California. She was just four months old in April 2016 when she was initially placed by the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services in the care of her adoptive mother Cassandra Frazier, an extended family member. Through [Public Counsel](#), the nation's largest not-for-profit law firm specializing in delivering pro bono legal services, Eric helped her during the adoption finalization process and handled the paperwork involved in the uncontested adoption hearing. He also assisted in securing adoption benefits and services the family is entitled to receive. The adoption was finalized on National Adoption Day.

Chicago Associate Team Changes the Future for Rwandan Man

Litigation associates **John Whitaker**, **Katherine Paulson** and **Benjamin Levine** represented a 33-year-old Tutsi man from Rwanda. He had lost his parents in the genocide, and in his twenties, was kidnapped by the army and forced to fight for a guerilla group in neighboring Zaire, now the Democratic Republic of Congo. After managing to escape, he was found and taken again, this time to endure a month of torture. He was again able to escape, fleeing first to Nairobi and then to Mexico City, where he took a bus to the American border. When he crossed the border, he stated only that he was seeking a safe place; he didn't know what asylum was.

Throughout January, the team met with their client to draft his declaration and a brief. When they arrived at the hearing, the government found the associates' filings thorough and well-documented, and saw no need to cross-examine the client; it was enough to simply have him attest that the information in his application and declaration were true. The Homeland Security attorney acknowledged that the client had met his burden for establishing his right to a grant of asylum. The judge then so found and said: "Congratulations and welcome to the United States of America." Needless to say, the client was ecstatic. (So were his lawyers.)



Brian Antweil Leads Team to Success in Lone Star Flight Museum Matter

Houston Litigation partner **Brian Antweil** took what started out as an acrimonious situation between the City of Galveston and the [Lone Star Flight Museum](#), and turned it into the museum obtaining the city's approval of the assignment of their lease at Scholes Field to another party. This brought to an end a long and complicated process of disposing of the museum's Galveston facility, and allowed them to obtain \$1 million. Due to Charlotte Litigation associate **Michaela Holcombe**'s outstanding research, Katten was able to convince the city that its legal position was weak, which immediately opened the door for productive talks that led to this outcome.

Christopher Vazquez Obtains Asylum for Persecuted Egyptian Immigrant

In December, a Coptic Christian man from Egypt, was granted asylum in the United States, thanks to the advice and help of Chicago Litigation associate **Christopher Vazquez**, a team of experienced Katten asylum attorneys and the [National Immigrant Justice Center](#). During his adolescence, like many Christians in his village, the man was discriminated against because of his religion. Tragically, in 2015, his brother was beheaded by ISIS in Libya.

Shortly thereafter, he and his family were subject to violent threats, and his home and local church were attacked by religious extremists. In 2017, he came to the United States to attend the World Summit in Defense of Persecuted

Christians on behalf of the surviving family. In May 2018, Christopher assisted the man in filing an application for asylum with the US Citizenship and Immigration Services office. Today, the client has been granted asylum and can now focus on the safety of his family.

Support for the Community

Katten Dallas Attorneys Team With Client To Represent Five Children Through the Human Rights Initiative of North Texas

The [Human Rights Initiative \(HRI\) of North Texas](#) is on the frontlines in providing legal and support services to refugees and immigrants who have suffered human rights abuses. To help in providing those legal services, a team of Dallas attorneys, consisting of Corporate associates **Alison Krieser**, **Weston Love**, **Bernard Miller** and **Jessica Schauwecker** and Litigation associate **Ryan Meyer**, have joined with Mauri Miller of Katten client Platinum Dermatology to represent children seeking special immigrant juvenile status through the HRI.

In each of the four cases the team has undertaken, children (between 10 and 16 years old) are seeking to stay in the United States due to abandonment, neglect or abuse by their parents. The first case involves a 16-year-old Salvadorian boy, who lives with his aunt and uncle in Carrollton, Texas, and are seeking conservatorship. In the second case, the team is representing a 16-year-old boy from Honduras, who is a victim of domestic violence trauma and is now living in long-term foster care with Catholic Charities. The third case involves siblings who were living in Honduras with their grandmother, but fled due to gang activity. In the fourth case, the team is representing a 12-year-old Honduran girl who now lives with her father and stepmother in the United States.

Charlotte Office Gets Requests for Jail Credit Back on Track

The Charlotte office recently partnered with [North Carolina Prisoner Legal Services](#) (NCPLS) to investigate jail credit due to inmates in North Carolina state prisons. Under North Carolina law, any person convicted of a crime is entitled to credit on their sentence equal to the amount of time they were confined for that crime, whether in a state or local jail or other institution, prior to their sentencing. Unfortunately, miscalculations of credit occur, which can result in a person serving more time than their actual sentence. Due to funding constraints, NCPLS found itself turning away requests for jail credit assistance. Because of Katten, all jail credit investigation requests are now being fielded. In fact, more Katten attorneys volunteered than there were inmates to serve! This project is led by Real Estate partner **Amanda Christie**, who recruited Real Estate staff attorneys **Eugene Allison** and **Jennifer Lawrence**, Structured Finance and Securitization special counsel **David Matthews** and Litigation associate **Rachel Oplinger**. Additionally, Litigation paralegal **Sara Brown** has provided assistance.

Chad Doobay Provides Asylum Law Assistance Along the US-Mexico Border

Chicago Government and Public Finance partner **Chad Doobay** spent a week in early February along the US border, providing pro bono asylum law assistance to migrants as they prepare for their credible fear interviews. Chad volunteered through [Al Otro Lado](#), a US legal services organization with an operation in Tijuana, Mexico, where he provided legal orientation sessions and met with individual asylum seekers to help them understand the asylum process and prepare to present their claims. Admission to the US for asylum seekers along the border is currently being subjected to a daily numerical cap, resulting in long waits to present claims.

“This kind of delay is unprecedented and puts asylum seekers at risk of continued harm by their persecutors,” said Chad. “Asylum seekers are often suffering the aftereffects of trauma, which can make it hard for them to express their fears.” Many of those Chad met with had been waiting weeks or even months in Tijuana. Most were women, children and families, coming from Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala, among other places. “The experiences the asylum seekers shared with me were very credible. I heard stories of targeted extortion, threats of forced gang membership,

maiming by cartel members and incidences of sexual abuse. The people I met did not want to leave their countries, but felt they had no other choice,” he said. Chad, who has worked on numerous pro bono asylum matters over the years, was eager to put his knowledge to use at the border at a time of special need there.

Katten Provides Educational Support for a Mine Victim in Angola

A six-year-old girl became the victim of a landmine accident in 2010. Her injuries included the total loss of her eyesight and the amputation of her arm. However, through the work of Washington Litigation partner **Steven Solow** and a generous donation from Katten, the [Mines Advisory Group](#) (MAG) has provided educational support to her since September 2013.

While enrolled in a school for children with disabilities, the lack of transportation and other constraints often interrupted the girl’s studies for long periods of time. In 2016, MAG was able to employ a dedicated staff member to accompany her to and from school every day. Through the support of the firm, her school uniform and shoes, a backpack, books, a daily lunch and other materials are fully funded. She is now 16 and in the seventh grade. With the support of her teachers and educational materials, she continues to demonstrate ability in using a custom one-handed braille typewriter, purchased with the grant. She has written letters introducing herself to her classmates at school and has begun corresponding with other children as pen pals!

In a recent report, MAG stated, “We are deeply grateful for Katten’s support of [this young woman’s] education, and the progress this gift has allowed [her] to make in reading and typing in braille.”

Katten Participates in Ford’s Global Day of Service

As part of the Global Day of Service, a worldwide initiative spearheaded by [Ford Motor Company’s Legal Alliance for Women](#) (LAW), firm attorneys volunteered their time to support community organizations in New York and Washington, DC. The coordinated LAW global effort works to help community organizations in assisting women and girls through educational, empowerment and support programs.

In New York, our attorneys participated in a legal clinic, offering legal help to low-income entrepreneurs looking to create start-ups in the food industry through [Start Small Think Big](#). This nonprofit organization provides pro bono legal, financial and marketing support to help ensure business success—about 98 percent of which are minority- or women-owned.

In Washington, DC, Katten attorneys sorted clothing donations at [Bread for the City](#). A pro bono partner of the firm, this nonprofit organization provides food, clothing, medical care, and legal and social services, including a women-empowered wellness program, to low-income residents to help reduce the burden of poverty.

Katten Chicago Team Helps Create Haitian Trade Training University

Katten is assisting a group of local Chicagoans who want to set up a university in Haiti to teach Haitians heavy construction trades. The team has created a nonprofit corporation called The Lakou, applied and obtained federal tax exemption, and registered the corporation with the Illinois attorney general to allow them to seek charitable donations in the state. Katten Government and Public Finance partner **Janet Goelz Hoffman** and Corporate paralegal **Suzanne Hoffman** have also assisted The Lakou in applying to be a recognized non-governmental organization in Haiti.



New York Team Helps Women Prepare for Success

[Dress for Success](#) (DFS) began as a modest New York City not-for-profit, collecting professional attire for disadvantaged women trying to break into the workforce. Today, it is a global organization that provides a network of support and career development tools to empower women to achieve economic independence and to thrive both professionally and personally.

Over the past few years, Katten has worked with DFS as its pro bono partner. In addition, we provide support through hosting and conducting quarterly interview skills workshops. The most recent workshop had record participation by Katten attorneys, and the feedback received from the attendees was extremely positive. The DFS clients could not be more appreciative. Led by Commercial Finance special counsel **Connie Fratianni**, this session's team included Insolvency and Restructuring partner **Karen Dine** and Real Estate partner **Andrew Jagoda**; Litigation special counsel **Sharon Kantrowitz**; Insolvency and Restructuring associates **Allison Arotzky** and **Grace Thompson**; Litigation associates **Jake Nussbaum** and **Ana Sarmiento**; Trusts and Estates associate **Christina Romero**; Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation associate **Shannon Smith**; Marketing and Business Development specialist **Nicole Stephens**; and IT technician **Jennifer Michaud**. Our next DFS interview workshop is Wednesday, May 8. If you are in the New York office, please contact [Nicole](#) to volunteer!



Katten Offices Take Holiday Gift-Giving to a Whole New Level

Katten's 2018 charitable efforts during the holiday season were outstanding from coast-to-coast. Through fundraisers, each office collected toys, clothes and books to be donated as gifts to families in need. "Our attorneys regularly give back through a range of activities," said chairman Roger Furey, "including pro bono legal work, mentoring, participating in community service projects, and raising money for local nonprofit organizations and families facing economic hardship, particularly during the holidays. This has been the way of our law firm since its beginning nearly 45 years ago."

Read more about the gift-giving efforts of each office [here](#).

Chicago Office Hosts O School

Katten hosted 20 high school students and supervisory staff from the [Sonia Shankman Orthogenic School](#) (O School) for a Corporate Leadership Day. The O School is a private residential and day school serving students from the Chicagoland area, as well as across the United States, who experience social-emotional and mental health challenges and/or autism too significant to permit them to attend public school. The students came to the Chicago office and heard from a panel of attorneys regarding pro bono work. The stories allowed students to gain a better understanding of how different careers, including a legal one, intersect with diverse communities and causes.

During lunch, the students sat with Katten attorneys and business professionals to talk about what leadership looks like in action, and engage in a dialogue about their own career aspirations. The program culminated in a number of Katten business professionals talking about their roles at the firm and what they like most about the work they do. The program was such a success that a follow-up mentorship initiative between Katten business professionals and students is being planned for next year.

Katten Los Angeles Sponsors Foster Teens' Holiday Party

Katten Los Angeles sponsored the firm's 5th annual holiday party for foster teens living in the residential units at [Vista Del Mar](#). The West Los Angeles campus of Vista Del Mar houses a school, family counseling center and two different residential units, with up to 48 foster children from the ages of 13-18 years living on campus, many of whom will "age out" of the foster care system.

Special thanks to managing partner **Zia Modabber** for being master of ceremonies; director of Office Administration **Tanya Russell** for managing the event; legal executive assistant **Lora Anderson** for her talented decorating; accounts payable coordinator **Rebecca Yoon** for coordinating with the team from Vista Del Mar; and to our amazing catering team, **Luis Alfaro**, **Alberto Magana** and **Sebastian Vibiano**. A huge thank you to our volunteers: Corporate partner **Michael Hobel** and associate **Scott Cutrow**; Litigation associates **Ashley Brines**, **Melissa Velez** and **Paul Yong**; Administrative Services manager **Shelley Wissot**; Human Resources administrative assistant **Ninna Brando**; Billing coordinator **Charles Estrada**; Records manager **Mia Wright** and clerk **Victor Lima**; Professional Development assistant **Alexandra Valas**; and legal executive assistants **Herlinda Rodriguez**, **Tamara Vazquez** and **Jackie Wells**. It was also wonderful to have **Daphne Pendleton**, chief administrative officer from the Washington DC office, join us for the event. As those who have participated can attest, this is a wonderful and fulfilling night for both the kids and the volunteers.



Joseph Hoffman Helps To Offer Hope at New Friends New Life

Dallas Corporate partner **Joseph Hoffman** and his wife, Annabel, volunteered at [New Friends New Life](#) (NFNL) as part of the Dallas Bar Association's (DBA) Day of Service program. NLNF is a nonprofit that restores and empowers formerly trafficked girls and sexually exploited women and their children. Joe, Annabel and other volunteer DBA attorneys discussed legal issues with NLNF clients and assembled Thanksgiving food packages to be given to them for the holidays.

Honors

Katten Receives PILI Pro Bono Initiative Award

Katten was presented with the [Public Interest Law Initiative](#) (PILI) Pro Bono Initiative Award for its outstanding contributions to public interest law and pro bono in Illinois. Presented at the nonprofit organization's annual awards luncheon, it recognized the more than 11,000 hours of pro bono service provided by the Chicago office attorneys in 2018 through work on cases stemming from the firm's legal clinic at the Chicago Public Schools' [Jose de Diego Community Academy](#), the [Domestic Violence Legal Clinic](#), [Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights](#), the [National Immigrant Justice Center](#), the [Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago](#) and [Lawyers for the Creative Arts](#).



“Although our pro bono work is really its own reward,” said Katten’s director of Pro Bono Services Jonathan Baum in accepting the award on behalf of the firm, “it’s always nice to be recognized for it. We are constantly innovating to make the biggest contribution we can to the people who need our help the most.”

Katten Honored as Firm of the Year by Expanding Horizons Internship Program

At the 18th Annual Justice James A. Cobey Honors Reception, Katten’s Century City office was honored as the [Constitutional Rights Foundation](#) Firm of the Year. The firm was recognized for its continued involvement in the Expanding Horizons Internship Program (EHI), which provides summer internships for first generation, college-bound high school students. The firm’s contributions to this most worthwhile program is spearheaded by director of Administration **Tanya Russell**, who earlier received recognition as Supervisor of the Year.

Litigation associate Paul Yong, an active participant in Katten’s student internship programs, and Tanya accepted the award on behalf of the firm.



2018 Pro Bono Honor Roll

As part of our firm’s deep commitment to public service, we have set an annual goal of an average of 40 hours of pro bono service per attorney. Each of the attorneys on the 2018 Pro Bono Honor Roll achieved this level of service, and many of them far exceeded it. We thank them for what they have done for those in need of a legal champion, serving those who cannot afford legal representation and for giving back to the community. Please congratulate those attorneys listed on the [2018 Pro Bono Honor Roll](#).

Kyle Finnegan Honored as Civil Rights Organization’s 2018 Young Lawyer of the Year

Litigation associate **Kyle Finnegan** was recognized by the [Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights](#) as the 2018 Young Lawyer of the Year at their annual benefit. While the benefit commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s leadership role in Chicago’s Freedom Movement, it also celebrated new leaders, like Kyle, who have successfully achieved justice for several victims of housing discrimination. The story was featured in the [Chicago Daily Law Bulletin](#).



Mal Barasch Awarded Lenox Hill Neighborhood House Pro Bono Service Award

New York Trusts and Estates of counsel **Mal Barasch** received the [Lenox Hill Neighborhood House](#)’s inaugural Pro Bono Service Award. Mal has been a dedicated member of the Neighborhood House board of directors for nearly 30 years. In that time, he has provided pro bono legal services during a monthly clinic, where he meets with seniors, providing them with an empathetic, caring ear and thorough and meaningful assistance with critical legal life-planning documents. Mal has also provided the Neighborhood House with years of wise and effective counsel on corporate legal matters, strengthening the organization and positioning them well for the future.

Mel Katten Setting an Example for Giving Since the Beginning

Growing and supporting our communities has been at the foundation of the firm since its beginning nearly 45 years ago. And one need look no further for an outstanding example of that commitment than founding partner **Melvin Katten**.

In November, Mel was presented with the Adler & Sullivan Award by the [Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University](#). To mark the day, Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel proclaimed November 3, 2018, to be “Mel Katten Day.” The award commemorates Mel’s dedication to the theatre and the cultural landscape in Chicago. Mel served on the theatre’s board of directors since 2002 and is now chairman emeritus. During his 14 years as chairman, he oversaw the establishment of the theatre’s Creative Engagement Department; created lasting partnerships with organizations, including Broadway In Chicago and the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater; and raised funds to install the theatre’s elevator and a new rehearsal studio.



Zachary Schmitz Receives LAF 2018 Katten De Diego Legal Clinic Volunteer Award

Chicago Litigation associate **Zachary Schmitz** has devoted countless hours at the Katten de Diego Legal Clinic, assisting clients there in a wide variety of matters—from modifying a court order to obtaining a passport for a client without a birth certificate. For all of his outstanding efforts, the firm is proud to share that Zach was honored with the [LAF](#)’s 2018 Katten de Diego Legal Clinic Volunteer of the Year award.

Tanya Russell Receives 2018 Maureen Varnes, CLM Memorial Volunteer of the Year Award

On March 19, **Tanya Russell**, director of Administration for the California offices, received a prestigious award from the [Greater Los Angeles Association of Legal Administrators](#) (GLAALA): the 2018 Maureen Varnes, CLM Memorial Volunteer of the Year Award. She is most deserving of this award for the service she selflessly provides to the Los Angeles community, as well as to the regional chapter of GLAALA.

Alexandra McNicholas Joins PILI Alumni Network Leadership Council

After attending the [Public Interest Law Initiative](#)’s (PILIs) recent Annual Awards luncheon, Chicago Litigation associate **Alexandra McNicholas** decided to join their Alumni Leadership Council. PILI helps connect law students and law graduates with legal aid organizations based in Illinois.

Since joining, Alexandra has attended the first quarterly meeting and joined the PILI Alumni Engagement Team. The team is planning a PILI alumni reunion event this summer to raise money for the organization, and to connect current PILI interns and fellows with alumni in the Chicago legal community.

Lisa Prather Elected to Board of Directors for Camp John Marc

Dallas Corporate special counsel **Lisa Prather** was elected to the 2019 board of directors for [Camp John Marc](#). Camp John Marc is a North Texas-based nonprofit, providing programs and specialized camp facilities that are uniquely designed in partnership with Dallas-Fort Worth area pediatric hospitals, community volunteers and health organizations, who are dedicated to serving campers living with chronic medical and physical challenges. Founded in 1991, Camp John Marc now hosts 11, week-long, summer camps and over 25 weekend camps serving an average of 3,000 children, teens and family members every year. Lisa, a childhood cancer survivor herself, works with various nonprofits to raise funds for childhood cancer research. But, she also knows the great importance of providing experiences, like camp, to children with various physical ailments, who may not have the ability to participate in the same activities as other children.

Fundraising for the Public Good

Katten Los Angeles Supports Public Counsel's William O. Douglas Annual Award Dinner

Katten is proud to have been a Millennium Founder sponsor for [Public Counsel](#)'s William O. Douglas Annual Award Dinner, providing major support for the organization's wide-ranging mission and impact on Los Angeles communities. This year's dinner honored Michael Farrell, known to millions as "B.J. Hunnicutt" of television's historic *M*A*S*H* and from NVBC-TV's *Providence*. Mr. Farrell has been a human rights and social justice activist for over 45 years. This year's event was a huge success, raising \$2.2 million for Public Counsel.



Katten attorneys and business professionals currently lending their support to Public Counsel include Litigation partners **Joel Weiner** and **Andrew Demko**; Commercial Finance partner **Shana Ramirez**; Litigation associate **Leah Solomon**; director of Administration **Tanya Russell**; and Administrative Services manager **Shelley Wissot**.

From Grateful Clients

From Beth Rose, assistant general counsel, Product Litigation, Ford Motor Company to Structured Finance and Securitization partner **Anna-Liza Harris**:

"Thanks for supporting the first annual LAW Global Day of Service. Please pass along our thanks to everyone who participated at your firm. In addition to 65 Ford participants, we had over 800 outside counsel team members representing 90 firms participating in 36 states and 12 global regions. Our global team worked on 65 different service projects. Based on some of the pictures I've seen, it looks like you all had a great time and did some great work."

From Zena Naiditch at [Equip for Equality](#) to director of Pro Bono Services **Jonathan Baum**:

*"We had a terrific Governance 101 presentation this week with (Chicago Public Finance partner) **Janet [Hoffman]** and (Corporate associate) **Lisa [Wiznitzer]**, and I want to thank you so much for putting us in touch with them. The session was comprehensive, captivating and extremely helpful, in all the right ways. We had more than a dozen members of our Young Professionals Board and one new governing board member—everyone gave the program rave reviews! Janet and Lisa make a wonderful team. Thank you."*

From David Ebert, co-founder, [The Animal Defense Partnership](#) to national Intellectual Property co-chair **Karen Artz Ash**:

*"Just want to say again how terrific (New York Intellectual Property staff attorney) **Jerry Jakubovic** has been. He has stayed with this [matter] over an extended period, has been excellent in interacting with the client, got us a wonderful (and not easy) result; and we're grateful and appreciative of the contribution you, the firm and he have made."*

From Kathy Miller, executive director, [Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago](#) to director of Pro Bono Services **Jonathan Baum**:

*“We cannot compliment the work of (Chicago Real Estate associate) **Patrick Filice**’s CRFC [Edward J. Lewis II Lawyers in the Classroom](#) team enough. Their partnership with the [\[Jose\] de Diego \[Community Academy\]](#) is more than just an opportunity for students to learn about the Constitution, law and government. As outside resource people, the Katten team provides de Diego students with knowledge based on real-life experiences. They help students understand rights and responsibilities under the law and to develop critical thinking skills. And, last but not least, your attorneys serve as positive role models. Again, we thank Katten for contributing valuable time and experience to Lawyers in the Classroom.”*

From Anne Chandler, executive director, Houston office, Tahirih Justice Center to Environmental and Workplace Safety practice head **Mark Farley**:

“On behalf of all of us here at [Tahirih Justice Center](#), I want to thank you for sharing this announcement that the [Association of Women Attorney’s Foundation](#) once again has been successful in raising funds for fellows, and that Tahirih is fortunate to receive an AWAf fellow. We are especially grateful to Katten who has committed \$25,000 to the Foundation as a charter sponsor to make it possible for Tahirih to host our third AWAf fellow.”

From Margaret Duval, executive director, [Domestic Violence Legal Clinic](#) to Chicago Insolvency and Restructuring partner **Paige Barr Tinkham** and director of Pro Bono Services **Jonathan Baum**:

“Thank you both so much for Katten’s support of our event. It was a huge success with close to 100 people attending. The space was perfect, and the food and drink were plentiful and delicious.

*“I especially want to let you know how much we enjoyed working with (Marketing and Business Development specialist) **Natalie [Cavallo]**. I was not as involved with the planning details this year, but I know that she worked closely with Fawn to make sure that everything went smoothly—and it did! I really appreciate it, and I’m grateful for all that Katten does for us.”*

Please send comments, suggestions and news about interesting pro bono cases and matters you’ve been involved with, as well as any non-legal community service work you’re doing, to jonathan.baum@kattenlaw.com.

