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Coming This Fall - The 2008 Pro Bono Institute Annual Gala

The 2008 Pro Bono Institute Annual Gala will be held at the historic Plaza in New York City on the evening of Thursday, November 13th. This year's Gala's co-chairs include **Robert C. Sheehan**, Executive Partner, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, **Anastasia D. Kelly**, Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Senior Regulatory and Compliance Officer, American International Group, Inc. and **John J. Conroy, Jr.**, Chairman, Executive Committee, Baker & McKenzie. The Gala evening will once again be preceded by an invitation-only substantive Pro Bono Leadership Convocation on Thursday afternoon.

[FULL STORY]

170 Percent Increase in Law Firm Pro Bono over Past Twelve Years

PBI's Executive Summary, detailing the results of the 2007 Pro Bono Institute Law Firm Pro Bono ChallengeSM, has just been released, and it provides an impressive picture of the state of law firm pro bono. In 1995, the Pro Bono Institute announced that 135 of the nation's largest law firms had provided almost 1,600,000 hours of pro bono legal services. Twelve years later, 135 of the nation's largest law firms provided 4,285,684 hours of pro bono legal services – an increase of 170 percent!

As important as the number of hours provided by Law Firm Pro Bono ChallengeSM Signatories is the number of lawyers providing that pro bono service.

In 1995, 7,270 partners and 10,504 associates (a total of 17,774) participated in the provision of pro bono legal services. In 2007, 17,514 partners and 29,638 associates (a total of 46,798) participated – a substantial 163% increase in participation. The growth in headcount at the participating firms may account in part for the change in participation, but that factor does not wholly account for this substantial expansion.

[FULL STORY]

[Late March 2008](#)

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CONTRIBUTORS

**Hildebrandt
International,
with Thomson West
Benjamin Bay
Jennafer Bonello
Reena Glazer
Eve Runyon
Eva-Marie Malone,
Editor**



CONTACT US

Pro Bono Institute
1025 Connecticut Ave. NW
Suite 205
Washington, DC 20036

(202) 729-6699
(202) 296-0303 F

wire@probonoinst.org
www.probonoinst.org
www.cpbo.org

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Pro Bono and Associate Motivation

Associates are Different: How to Make Your Pro-Bono Program Work for all Associates

At the Pro Bono Institute's 2008 Annual Seminar/Forum, Dr. Mark I. Sirkin presented a session outlining the results of the report entitled '*Understanding Associates: New Perspectives on Associate Satisfaction and Morale*' published by Hildebrandt International, in conjunction with Thomson West. The report, based on demographic and survey data, identifies four categories of associates: (1) Career Practitioners; (2) Flexibility Seekers; (3) Called Lawyers; and (4) Willing Workers. Read the full report for a summary of that presentation and the implications of the data as Dr. Sirkin examines the question 'What do different categories of associates want, and how can firms use pro bono to attract and keep these associates?'

[\[FULL STORY\]](#)

Recent Corporate Pro Bono ChallengeSM Signatory – Qwest Communications – 2008 Top Best Legal Department

Qwest Communications International, Inc., a [recent Corporate](#)

the full text of the Corporate ChallengeSM or to find the complete list of Corporate ChallengeSM Signatories, visit [the CPBO website](#).

Congratulations to Thomas C. Baxter, Jr., General Counsel and Executive Vice President of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, for making this commitment to pro bono a matter of record by signing Corporate Pro Bono (CPBO)'s Corporate ChallengeSM.

[\[FULL STORY\]](#)

Corporate Pro Bono (CPBO), the Legal Aid Society of New York, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. Provide Free Legal Advice to New York City Area Microentrepreneurs and Small Businesses

On June 24, 2008, [Corporate Pro Bono \(CPBO\)](#), a joint project of the [Association of Corporate Counsel](#) and the [Pro Bono Institute](#), along with the [Legal Aid Society of New York](#), partnered with the law firm of [Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP](#) and volunteers from The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. to conduct a 'Clinic in a BoxSM'. The Clinic was held at the offices of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP and provided vital pro bono legal services to ten microentrepreneurs and small businesses from New York City and the surrounding area as the Goldman Sachs legal department utilized their pro bono legal skills to contribute to a larger company-wide community service initiative.

[\[FULL STORY\]](#)

Veterans Pro Bono Continues Apace: National Veterans Legal Service Program Issues Status Report

The Pro Bono Institute continues to work with the National Veterans Legal Services Program (NVLSP) to implement and expand the veterans' pro bono program. The interest and commitment to the program shown by law firms and legal departments has been incredible, and the attorney volunteer base has continued to grow. Eight months since the October 31st orientation and launch of this initiative, the referral of veterans' benefits cases at the Board of Veterans' Appeals or Appeals Management Centers is thriving, and more than 145 cases have been placed, thanks to the more than 50 law firms and corporate legal departments who have signed on to volunteer their time.

In its June 2008 Status Report, NVLSP provided detailed information on the current standing of the program and **introduced a new program to provide pro bono legal services to current and former service members who served in Iraq or Afghanistan with military discharge**

and military benefits cases. The report, included in the full story, includes more detailed information on this new project, titled the Lawyers Service Warriors Program. The update also includes information on how the program will be administered and supported. For more information about the national pro bono program to serve wounded veterans, or to inquire about the program itself, please contact [Jennafer Bonello](#).

[\[FULL STORY\]](#)

Symantec Corporation's Legal Department and the San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program Assist Over 100 Immigrant Women and Children

On May 14, 2008, the [San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program](#) hosted a clinic for the Legal Department of [Symantec Corporation](#). The clinic was designed to help undocumented women and children, who are the survivors of domestic violence, to complete applications to receive passports from the Mexican Consulate, allowing them to take the next step towards legal residency and ultimately to secure legal protection against their abusers.

Symantec volunteers included lawyers and non-lawyers.

Some volunteers measured, weighed, photographed, and then lead groups of clients to the Mexican Consulate, in downtown San Diego, where they oversaw the completion of the passport application process. Other volunteers reviewed and processed applications. This successful one-day clinic assisted more than one hundred clients.

[\[FULL STORY\]](#)

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