

Welcome to the third Pro Bono newsletter of 2010.



Attorney Advertising



PRO BONO At a Glance

Mutual Housing Association of Southwestern Connecticut Dedicates Property in Stamford

The Mutual Housing Association of South-western Connecticut, Inc. (MHA) recently dedicated the completion of 100 Maple Avenue in Stamford, the MHA's first property to be built under the federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program. Mayor Michael Pavia and Department of Economic and Community Development Commissioner, Joan McDonald attended the ribbon cutting ceremony with other federal and state officials. MHA acquired the property in foreclosure with assistance from Bank of America. Legal services were provided pro bono by Stamford real estate attorneys Chuck Martin and Steve Elbaum with assistance from former R & C associate, Amanda Lovelace.



Founded in 1990, the MHA is a nationally recognized 501 (c) (3) nonprofit housing and community development corporation based in Fairfield County. Its mission is to create housing opportunities and revitalization projects that serve low and moderate income residents in Fairfield County.

The Neighborhood Stabilization Program was established to support communities that have suffered from foreclosures and abandonment through the purchase and redevelopment of those properties.

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Join Us for an R&C Pro Bono Road Show in September!!!

BOSTON OFFICE
Monday, September 20th
12:00-1:15 -- 25 North
Topic: Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts and PAIR

STAMFORD/NEW YORK OFFICE
(via video conference)
Wednesday, September 29th
12:00-1:15 -- Quinipiac Room
Topic: PBP and LFCA

HARTFORD OFFICE
Thursday, September 30th
12:00-1:15 -- Boardroom
Topic: PBP, CT Veterans Legal Center, and LFCA

Message from Ed Heath, Pro Bono Partner

As many of you know, Robinson & Cole's pro bono efforts were recently recognized on the national stage. Each year *The American Lawyer* magazine ranks the pro bono programs of the top



Philip Johnson House in New Canaan Acquires Land to Preserve Views



Thanks to pro bono legal assistance from attorney Charles Janson of R&C's Stamford office, the famous Philip Johnson Glass House in New Canaan, Connecticut, has increased the site's conserved land from 47 acres to more than 200 acres. This move will protect the historical structure from future development on adjacent land and guarantees that its magnificent views and surrounding landscape remain intact. Attorney Janson, who is also a Connecticut Trust trustee, represented the National Trust in the real estate transactions and created the preservation and conservation easement documents. His efforts were also recognized in the May/June issue of *Connecticut Preservation News*.

The Glass House was built in 1949 and designed by legendary architect Philip Johnson as his own residence. The home was an influential project in modern architecture and was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1997 and passed on to the National Trust for Historic Preservation after Johnson's death in 2005.

Letter from Connecticut Children's Medical Center

The following letter was recently sent to Attorney David Hadden from Martin J. Gavin, President and CEO of Connecticut Children's Medical Center in Hartford:

Dear David:

Please extend my thanks to everyone at Robinson & Cole for your generous and unwavering support of Connecticut Children's Medical Center. You are exceptional partners in helping us fulfill our mission of caring for the children of Connecticut.

Your support of Storybook Gala 2009, through

200 law firms in the United States, and for 2010 we ranked 82nd. We were the only Connecticut-based firm to break the Top 100 and placed well ahead of many prestigious national firms such as Day Pitney, Baker & McKenzie, Reed Smith, King & Spalding, Vinson & Elkins, Kelly Drye, Bryan Cave, and Cravath. This looks to be another strong year: 130 of us already have performed pro bono work, at a value of nearly \$1.6 million.

During the remainder of the year, your Pro Bono Committee is redoubling its efforts to increase the intake of matters, and we ask you to strongly consider taking on a new pro bono project. One of the measures we are implementing this fall is the "Pro Bono Road Show." In the Boston, Hartford, and Stamford offices, representatives of the committee and two locally popular legal aid organizations are conducting presentations for lawyers and staff in September. Each Road Show begins with a brief review by committee members of the "nuts and bolts" of bringing in a pro bono matter, covering intake standards and procedures. We address burning (perhaps that's an overstatement) questions such as "What is the difference between Pro Bono 1 and Pro Bono 2?" and "What engagement letter should I use when opening a pro bono matter?" Representatives of each of the legal aid organizations then discuss the kinds of opportunities they currently have available. The organizations include Lawyers for Children America, Political Asylum Immigration Representation project (PAIR), and the Pro Bono Partnership.

We hope to see you at the Road Show!

Congratulations to David Burke and Jeff White! Winners of 2010 Robinson & Cole Pro Bono Awards

Stamford attorney David Burke has never declined a pro bono matter request that has come in through the Pro Bono Committee.

Attorney Burke has taken on four pro bono cases during the last year, most of which are ongoing. He is very involved with legal services and has

assumed positions of leadership with Stamford Emergency Medical Services, which provides paramedic assistance throughout Darien and Stamford. He has assisted the organization with a diverse array of needs, including labor relations and negotiations, litigation, arbitrations, corporate governance, hospital relationships and National Labor Review Board (NLRB) proceedings.

Hartford attorney Jeffrey White has been representing The Center for Women and Families of Fairfield County for the last five years in DCF and other administrative proceedings. The Center provides services for victims of domestic violence. As a result of attorney White's work



your corporate sponsorship and your major gift to neonatology, both helped to underwrite that special night and then launch our Premier Program in neonatal intensive care. Most recently, I was pleased to learn the value of the pro bono services you have given to Connecticut Children's. Your commitment and support are deeply appreciated.

In recognition of your generosity, it will be our pleasure to recognize Robinson & Cole as a Circle of Angels Corporate Partner in 2010.

New London Office Attorney Assisting Veteran



Litigation associate Maria Ackley of the New London office is currently representing a female veteran with landlord/tenant issues in Niantic, Connecticut. The pro bono case was referred to Robinson & Cole through the Connecticut Veterans Legal Center. While formal eviction

proceedings have not yet been filed, attorney Ackley is negotiating with the landlord to terminate the lease prematurely and is assisting the veteran in acquiring more affordable housing as well as other services due to the veteran's physical and emotional problems.

and others over the last several years, the Office of the Attorney General and the juvenile courts have changed their course and now comply with the protections of a particular statute. Jeff is also working with R & C attorney Craig Raabe and a team of lawyers representing two death row inmates in a case challenging the constitutionality of the death penalty on race, gender, and geographic disparity grounds.

New Spanish Model Engagement Letter

The Spanish translation of the pro bono engagement letter and the standard terms of engagement are now posted on the Intranet.

2010 PRO BONO COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kenneth C. Baldwin
Sandra D. Dawson
Pamela K. Elkow
Christopher F. Girard
Edward J. Heath
Gregory T. Ligelis
Megan R. Naughton
Christopher S. Pitt