

THE
 BROWN
 RUDNICK
 CHARITABLE
 FOUNDATION CORP.



Profiles in Pro Bono

Annual awards created in memory of law firm partner and public interest advocate

At the Brown Rudnick State of the Firm in March, the fifth annual Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest M. Robert Dushman Pro Bono and Community Service Awards presentation was held. These two awards honor both a successful Brown Rudnick attorney and a non-attorney whose professional or work life has demonstrated the qualities and commitment to the public interest that distinguished the Firm's late partner, M. Robert Dushman. Brown Rudnick CEO Joseph Ryan presented the awards.

2012 M. ROBERT DUSHMAN PRO BONO AND COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

PRESENTED TO ED PEASE AND CAROL ENNIS

The **Pro Bono Award** was presented to **Edwin Pease**, a partner in Brown Rudnick's Corporate & Capital Markets Department, and a Director of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation. Throughout his seven years at Brown Rudnick, Ed has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to pro bono legal representation. Among his many contributions, he serves as Pro Bono General Counsel to Foundation grantee, Reach Out and Read (ROR). He has helped this organization refine its focus, reorganize its structure and move forward as a leading national organization in promoting early literacy.

Also, Ed has been a significant factor in the development and success of both Prize4Life (a non-profit founded by a group of Harvard Business School students and established to accelerate Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) research) and Dror for the Wounded (a non-profit assisting wounded Israeli soldiers in putting their lives back together). He has also overseen the Firm's work with the Boston Bar Association's Lawyers Clearinghouse to create model documents for non-profit organizations.

The **Community Service Award** was presented to **Carol Ennis**, a paralegal in the Firm's Litigation & Restructuring Department. This award recognizes a non-attorney at Brown Rudnick who has demonstrated a long-standing, exceptional contribution to community service through his/her employment at the Firm, in recognition of the spirit and philosophy of respect and egalitarianism Mr. Dushman had for everyone in the Brown Rudnick workplace.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Profiles in Pro Bono.....pgs 1-3
- Center News.....pgs 3
- Foundation & Charitable Givingpgs 4-5
- Recent Community Involvement.....pgs 6-7
- Pro Bono Legal Representation - Updates.....pgs 7-10
- Just Us.....pgs 11-12

Since Carol joined the Firm in 2008, she has contributed over 400 hours of pro bono representation. She has worked on disability cases and helped artists referred by the Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts. In the past two years, as part of the Firm's Personal Bankruptcy Pro Bono Impact Project created in response to a plea for help from overwhelmed Bankruptcy Court judges, she has been a major force in propelling the Firm to the lead among all Boston firms in the volume of c. 7 bankruptcy matters. Outside the Firm, Carol is involved with her church and is a volunteer at the Sonnenberg Gardens national historic site.

In addition to receiving the recognition award and having their names inscribed with past recipients on a plaque in the Boston office, the awardees are also each entitled to designate a \$2500 contribution to the reputable charity of their choice. Ed has designated that his contribution be divided, with a portion going to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (<http://www.stjude.org>) and a portion going to the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation. Carol's contribution will be made to Seeking Common Ground Inc.'s Herb Haven program (<http://www.seekingcommonground.org>) which assists women on the path to self-sufficiency.

Dushman Award Honoree Keeps Giving

Since receiving the Dushman Award, Carol shared this news with us:

Carol Ennis: *As a result of my receiving the Robert Dushman Award for Community Service, Herb Haven, the charity that I chose for the cash award, has already given me a further way to help someone. Herb Haven assists women who are the victims of domestic violence or other social and economic hardships by providing counseling, monetary assistance and shelter for them and their children and sets them onto a path of self-reliance by funding education and training for them. Herb Haven recently contacted me to ask if I would talk to one of their clients who wants to be, of all things, a paralegal! She is a victim of domestic violence and has escaped from that situation with her 2 small children. She is taking*

paralegal courses at a local college and doing great with a 4.0 average. She is working hard to turn her bad situation into a good one and it's nice to know that I might lend a little encouragement and be a part of that. Giving back helps everyone involved. It benefits the person you are helping and it gives you a good feeling knowing that you are helping others.

One-on-One with Ed Pease, 2012 Dushman Pro Bono Award Winner

Why is pro bono work important to you?

Ed Pease: *I believe that the pro bono mission is critically important to the legal profession. We as lawyers have an obligation to make the law, the legal process and legal representation as open and accessible as possible to individuals and entities at every level of the economic spectrum. Pro bono opportunities present an essential opportunity for each of us to give back and to place our profession in a more favorable light. Pro bono work can help make us better lawyers and better people. It is too important not to do.*

What is the most rewarding aspect of your pro bono work?

Ed Pease: *As a young associate I represented a woman who had her car stolen in a dispute with her insurer. I believed she was being discriminated against as a result of her socio-economic status. After more than six months of advocating on her behalf and on the eve of launching discovery in a lawsuit we filed on her behalf against the insurer, we were finally able to get the insurer to stand up and take notice. Ultimately she was treated in the manner that she should have been from the outset. Without a lawyer on her side that never would have happened. Myself and my colleagues helped her navigate the legal system and securing the result we did gave me a tremendous amount of pride in what we were able to accomplish on her behalf.*

Do you have any particular causes that you focus on?

Ed Pease: *I have tried to pursue a wide variety of pro bono representation during the course of my career. I am currently working*

with an early childhood learning and literacy group, a group focused on making significant scientific inroads regarding ALS treatment and an organization that aids wounded Israeli soldiers.

What would you like to say to those attorneys who may be thinking about engaging in pro bono work but don't think they have the time?

Ed Pease: Attorneys should find the time for pro bono work. We are all busy leading hectic lives and managing heavy workloads but pro bono work is critically important and should be prioritized. There are individuals and entities that need our help and we, as lawyers, have to find the time to give back.

Center News

RECENT HONORS & ACCOLADES

A Successful Philanthropic Alliance Shines Brightly

On April 12th, Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center presented the 2012 North Star Award to Brown Rudnick LLP and its Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest in recognition of the Firm's remarkable philanthropy and community service, and specifically for its ongoing support of Thompson Island's programs that serve economically disadvantaged urban youth. Brown Rudnick CEO Joseph Ryan accepted the award.

Brown Rudnick has been a significant partner to Thompson Island since 2007, and the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation has awarded Relationship Grants to Thompson Island for five consecutive years. These grants allow hundreds of inner-city students to have multiple day/overnight learning expeditions on the island. Additionally, each year, Brown Rudnick Summer Associates participate in the Corporate Volunteer Program, donating their time to preserve and maintain our outdoor island classroom campus. The Firm also has hosted Career Days for Boston Public School partners, and during the year, Firm volunteers often visit the island for community service activities. In fact, the Foundation's Board Retreat was held on the island in 2011. Finally, Brown Rudnick lawyers provide pro bono legal assistance to Thompson Island when needed.



Excellence in Pro Bono

Brown Rudnick has been selected to receive the 2012 Excellence in Pro Bono award, an annual award from Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly and the Massachusetts Bar Association that honors outstanding individuals, firms and their contributions to the legal profession. The Firm is being honored for changing the way law firms address social justice and philanthropy by creating the legal industry's first-ever director-led entity dedicated to integrating and managing a firm's pro bono legal representation, Foundation charitable giving and community service.

The awards celebration will take place on Thursday, May 10, 2012 at the Fairmont Copley Plaza in Boston.

Foundation & Charitable Giving

RELATIONSHIP GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR 2012-13

The Foundation Board has approved initiation of the grant invitation process for 2012-13 Relationship Grants. These grants support a project or program to improve inner-city education in Boston, Hartford, New York City, Providence or Washington DC. The process will be in two phases, first with very brief letters of interest sought from interested tax exempt organizations. After review of those letters, the Foundation will invite a small number of organizations to submit a full proposal, ultimately selecting about 10 who will receive awards commencing in September 2012. Check the Center website for details at www.brownrudnickcenter.com.

The President's Fundraising Challenge

Newly Elected Foundation President Jeff Jonas has issued a "challenge" to Brown Rudnick Partners to contribute to the Foundation. He made the first donation, in the amount of \$1000. One of the next donors wasn't a partner – it was his father, who matched Jeff's thousand dollar donation. To date, the Foundation has received pledges of \$35,000 in contributions. All funds will be used to support grants to improve inner city education.

RECENT COMMUNITY GRANT RECIPIENTS

BROWN RUDNICK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION GRANT CREATES SCIENCE LAB FOR THIRD-GRADE CLASS IN WASHINGTON

The Foundation recently awarded a Community Grant to the Septima Clark Public Charter School in Washington, DC's Ward 8. The grant will enable the school to purchase equipment and materials for a science lab for third-grade students. Foundation Director Buddy Menn and Center Executive Director Al Wallis visited the school to present the check and meet with the students and teacher.



Our goal is to build a science education program that is empowering, inclusive, and transformative. In addition to reading, writing and talking about science, Septima Clark wants to bring learning to life and make science interactive and fun! Our strategy is to focus on engagement in the classroom community while learning to share evidence based on the Scientific Method. We thank the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation for their grant, which will allow us to create a science lab.

-- Grant applicant and Lead Third Grade Teacher, Robin Woodlon

SEPTIMA CLARK PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL



Harbor Pilot Middle School Students and Music Teacher Mrs. Fraser, rehearsing for their upcoming performance.

HARBOR PILOT MIDDLE SCHOOL

GRANT KEEPS MUSIC EDUCATION IN HARMONY AT BOSTON HARBOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Foundation awarded a Community Grant to the VSA (Very Special Artists) for use at the Boston Harbor Pilot Middle School to support creation of an inclusive keyboard lab. Funds will be used for music equipment (keyboards, headphones, and stands) and the assistance of a music teacher to establish the lab. Harbor Pilot Middle School is a fully inclusive school serving children from low-income urban families.



Harbor Pilot Middle School Students and Music Teacher Mrs. Amberlea Fraser, as well as Brown Rudnick's Al Wallis and Kellie Cahill.

The school community believes that the arts are a foundation on which inclusion thrives, but currently, the music classroom has one piano and one keyboard for 256 students to learn notes, scales, chords and composition. For students to develop skills and remain engaged in music learning, they need more individual assistance and time with an instrument. Building the inclusive keyboard lab will be a huge step towards building a high quality music program at the Harbor Pilot Middle School that will affect positive change in the lives of students at the Harbor for many years to come.

-- Grant applicant and music teacher, Amberlea Fraser

Recent Community Involvement



American Heart Association
Learn and Live®

BROWN RUDNICK GOES RED FOR WOMEN

On February 3, 2012, as part of the annual Wear Red Day coordinated by the Center for the Public Interest, Brown Rudnick attorneys and staff successfully raised \$1,265. These funds were contributed to the American Heart Association and British Heart Association to help in the fight against heart disease.

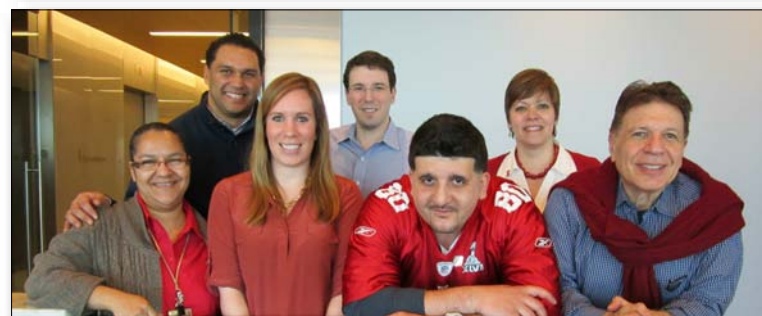
Brown Rudnick's Kellie Cahill, Karen Brisbois, Rikki Redfern, Diana Nelson, Judy Downey, Denise Kaer and Valerie Jones helped to coordinate the drive across all of the Firm's offices.



Boston



Hartford



New York



London



DC



BRONX GREAT DEBATERS VISIT NEW YORK OFFICE

On Valentine's Day, Brown Rudnick's New York office welcomed the Bronx Great Debaters and their coach. The Debaters are supported by a Relationship Grant from the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation given to their school, the Bronx School for Law, Government and Justice and with pro bono legal assistance. The students conducted sample debate presentations for a crowd from Brown Rudnick's New York office. They described their program and how it impacted learning and their lives and they responded to questions and comments from the Foundation Directors.

Pro Bono Legal Representation - Updates

PROFILES IN PRO BONO

REUNITED BY A PRO BONO VICTORY

Brown Rudnick recently concluded a tough challenge in a pro bono matter having most of the characteristics of a classic Firm engagement: teamwork, determination over multiple years, fierce opposition from worthy opponents and, ultimately, victory. We rescued a Guatemalan woman and her four children from a life of abuse and oppression. Here is their story.

Blanca G. and her four children were the victims of continuous, vicious domestic violence of both a physical and sexual nature at the hands of Blanca's former husband in their home country of Guatemala. In 2007, to escape their torment, Blanca and three of her four children initially entered the United States through the Mexican border. Working with a pro bono attorney obtained through Human Rights First, Blanca and her children sought asylum in the United States, but the

Pro Bono Legal Representation - Updates

law at the time did not favor asylum based on claims of domestic (rather than political) violence and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) opposed her request. She believed that returning to her domestic situation in Guatemala would have been extremely dangerous for her and her children.



Five years ago, that same pro bono attorney, former Brown Rudnick litigation associate Elizabeth Graybill, joined the Firm and, through the Center for the Public Interest, pursued the asylum action on behalf of Blanca G. and her children. For the next half-decade, Elizabeth and a dedicated Brown Rudnick legal team faced fierce opposition from the DHS, notwithstanding a change in US Immigration policy which now allowed considering domestic violence as grounds for asylum. Despite this opposition, the Immigration Judge granted Blanca and her children full asylum in February 2010. DHS appealed this decision, but the legal team persisted and asylum was confirmed the following August. The legal team next went to work on seeking derivative asylum for Blanca's adult son, Luis G., who had been left behind in Guatemala. Finally, in December 2011 they achieved success in removing the last legal impediment to Blanca and her four children being lawfully together in the US.

Last week, Blanca and her three children were reunited with her adult son in New Jersey. This reunion would not have been possible without five years and 1,650 hours of relentless pro bono advocacy, excellent lawyering and exceptional teamwork by Brown Rudnick. The G. family owes their health and safety -- perhaps, literally, their lives -- to their outstanding Brown Rudnick legal team: Andrew Dash (supervising partner), Sonia Calderon, Amy Cunningham, Elizabeth Hosang, Dale Limongello, Luis Morales, Randy Mora and Elnaz Zarrini, as well as several former Brown Rudnick attorneys, summer associates and paralegals who contributed to this victory.

WALK TO THE HILL

Brown Rudnick participated in the Equal Justice Coalition's 13th annual "Walk to the Hill for Civil Legal Aid", advocating for increased state funding for the civil (non-criminal) legal aid programs that provide advice and representation to low-income individuals and families throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.



MEETING THE CHALLENGE

Brown Rudnick, like most premier US firms, is a signatory to the Law Firm Pro Bono Challenge™ in which we pledge to use our best efforts to devote at least 3% of our billed time to pro bono engagements as defined in the Challenge. The Firm is pleased to announce that it has succeeded in achieving that goal in FY-12.

PRO BONO IMPACT PROJECTS

Brown Rudnick's Pro Bono Policy authorizes the approval of Pro Bono Impact Projects which receive additional attention by the Firm and which may provide associates with special pro bono credit. These projects are usually larger engagements, involving a team approach, with the promise of greater societal impact and the opportunity for professional development. Two such projects underway this year are:

THE UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT APPEALS PROJECT (NEWYORK & BOSTON)

This project provides legal representation to dozens of unemployed individuals who have been denied unemployment benefits. Summer associates work in teams on these matters in the summer. Regular associates may handle up to two matters per year either in teams or alone. Volunteer Lawyers Project in Boston and Manhattan Legal Services in New York screen the cases and provide training and consultation. This project is supervised by May Orenstein, Paul Laudano, Aaron Lauchheimer and Ben Welch.



THE INDIVIDUAL BANKRUPTCY (C. 7) PROJECT (NEWYORK & BOSTON)

This project provides legal representation to indigent individuals seeking to file for personal bankruptcy. Through programs created at the request and with the assistance of the Boston and NYC bankruptcy courts, we provide limited representation to individuals referred to us by the Volunteer lawyers Project in Boston and Manhattan Legal Services in NYC. This project is supervised by Steve Pohl, Angelo Thalassinou, Daniel Saval and Neal D'Amato.



MASSACHUSETTS BAR ASSOCIATION STATE-WIDE MOCK TRIAL PROGRAM FINALS

The state finals of this program were held at the end of March in Boston's Faneuil Hall. Brown Rudnick has been the sole sponsor of this high school educational program for well over a decade. At the finals, which attract judges, Bar officials, teachers, families and students, Brown Rudnick's support is recognized and the Center's Executive Director Al Wallis gives welcoming remarks.

HOMELESS LEGAL CLINICS IN HARTFORD

Periodically in Hartford and Boston, Brown Rudnick staffs legal clinics for the homeless, providing advice and sometimes subsequent legal representation to men and women in need.

IN HARTFORD, Mike Camilleri and Kerstin Toomey have been leading the Hartford Clinic effort throughout the month of March.



A team in Hartford led by Jeff Matrullo and Dylan Kletter staffed a recent legal clinic operated by Hartford HELP.

IN BOSTON, a Brown Rudnick team staffed the legal clinic at the Cardinal Medeiros Center.



In photo: Back Row from left: Brown Rudnick's Al Wallis and Kellie Cahill; Head of Boston University Law School's Clinical Program, Bob Burdick; Brown Rudnick's Christian Rivera, Konrad Chen, and Rhiannon Campbell. Bottom Row from left: Brown Rudnick's Gabriel Carreiro, Andrew Oliver and Chris Houck. Not shown but was in attendance, Brown Rudnick's Shemane Amin and Maribeth Perry from the Lawyers Clearinghouse.

WHO SAID THAT?

Do you think pro bono work is important to the legal profession?

I believe that pro bono work is important to the legal profession. To be able to share the benefit of our knowledge of the legal system with those less fortunate to enable them to be rightfully protected and prosper is one of the most meaningful contributions we can make to society.

-- Mary-Laura Greely, Partner, Boston Office

Just us



We don't do it for the applause or the awards, though the Center is pleased to have received many of both over the past decade. We believe that law firms are in a unique position to make a positive difference in the legal community, and the community at large, and to help improve our society and change the lives of those in need – the unemployed, the indigent, the homeless, the all but forgotten students trying to learn in an under-resourced classroom. Our Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest strives to combine the power of pro bono legal representation, charitable giving and community connection to help those in need. Our sincere efforts provide their own rewards.

But when the recognition amounts to a public, meaningful, celebratory “thank you” from people we especially respect and for something that we accomplished with and because of the “thanker,” that recognition is especially personal and gratifying to receive and share.

In March, Thompson Island/Outward Bound thanked us for our five-year partnership with them in improving inner-city education in Boston. At a lovely dinner event, Brown Rudnick's CEO Joseph Ryan accepted the North Star Award for 2012, Thompson Island's highest honor.

We are particularly proud of our long-standing partnership with Thompson Island. It is an ideal example of what we envisioned when we established our Center and set out to make a difference as a law firm collaborating closely with a non-profit organization, leveraging all available resources, in order to achieve the next generation of long-term positive social impact.

We are connected to Thompson Island in many ways, perhaps most importantly through our shared mission to use experiential learning programs and experiences to inspire and empower inner-city youth. For five consecutive years, the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation has awarded one of its annual Relationship Grants to Thompson Island. These grants have allowed hundreds of inner-city students to have multiple day/overnight learning expeditions on the island, affording those children the opportunity for self-expression, self-exploration and self-confidence. The students gain a better sense of community and self, both of which are vital to a child's development and view of the world.

We have hands on experience with Thompson Island's approach and educational impact. Brown Rudnick Summer Associates participate annually in our Corporate Volunteer Program, donating their time to preserve and maintain Thompson Island's campus and

other Firm volunteers occasionally visit the island to support the students. Boston public school students have visited our Firm for Career Days after their Thompson Island experience. In fact, the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation's Board even held its strategic planning retreat on the island in 2011. Brown Rudnick lawyers also have provided pro bono legal assistance to Thompson Island when needed.

Collectively, through our Center, we have brought to bear our advocacy, volunteerism, and monetary support to help hundreds of children on the path to becoming productive, educated adults. Indeed, our relationship with Thompson Island is a prime example of what a corporate philanthropy partnership between an entrepreneurial firm and a committed, compassionate community group can become.

Every day, from the windows of our Boston office, I can actually see Thompson Island. This view, like the North Star award, provides an inspirational vision, reminding me that we are all connected and that when our Center works together with great organizations such as Thompson Island, it can take us to greater heights in bettering our Firm, our profession and our communities.

Thank you, Thompson Island, for the prestigious North Star Award and for so much more.



Albert W. Wallis

Executive Director
Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest

Please contact Al Wallis or Kellie Cahill to discuss any matters regarding the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest. Thanks especially to Kellie Cahill, Lisa Murray, Connie Kelly and Kristin Cicerone for their assistance with this newsletter. And finally, apologies for any errors or unintentional omissions, which may from time-to-time occur in the Center Quarterly – maybe even this one.

- Al Wallis

Brown Rudnick Center
for the Public Interest
One Financial Center
Boston, MA 02111
Phone: (617) 856-8119
E-mail: center@brownrudnick.com
Web: www.brownrudnickcenter.com