



Pro Bono

**2022 Annual Report** 

# **Our Mission**

### Leadership. Service. Community.

Lawyers have a special obligation to the administration of justice. ArentFox Schiff believes that community service and pro bono public work are integral to the practice of law. Our priority is giving a voice to those who otherwise might not be heard.











## Message from Our Pro Bono Leaders

Providing pro bono services is a pillar of our profession. Gaps in the legal system must be addressed, even if it's one matter at a time. To that end, ArentFox Schiff is proud to work with a number of leading nonprofit organizations that are advocating for a more equitable, inclusive, and just society.

Over the years, our work has ranged from supporting human rights and safeguarding civil liberties to aiding in fights against housing insecurity and racial injustice. These projects have contributed substantially to the health, welfare, and dignity of people in our community. If you are interested in partnering with us on an initiative, please do not hesitate to reach out.



#### **Our Work**

ArentFox Schiff attorneys across the firm stepped up this year to support those in need. Here are some of our extraordinary accomplishments, representing the highest achievements in pro bono.



#### Securing Release of Nonviolent Drug Offender Under First Step Act

AFS Team: Warren Seay, Jr., Anna Mandel, Stephen Krasner, James Barlow, Angelica Lewis



# Advancing Equity in Clean Energy Business and Workforce Development

AFS Team: Sarah A. W. Fitts, Kevin Pinkney, Jeffrey B. Tate, Les Jacobowitz, Patrice Z. Howard, Tracy McLaughlin, Nicholas Collins



# Seeking Asylum for Family from Ivory Coast

AFS Team: Molly Wiltshire, Rachael Bryan, Kirstie Brenson, Michael Showalter



#### Helping Kids In Need of Defense in Guardianship Case

AFS Team: Kelli Scheid Smith, Jodi Tai, Derek Ha, Patricia Rojas-Castro, Eitan Tani Berkowitz, Laura Carter



#### Helping Address Sexual Harassment and a Hostile Work Environment

AFS Team: Debra Albin-Riley, Doug Hewlett, Susanne Boniadi, Jessica B. Do, Carmen Dam, Katryn Smith



# Partnering With Chicago Volunteer Legal Services in Divorce Case

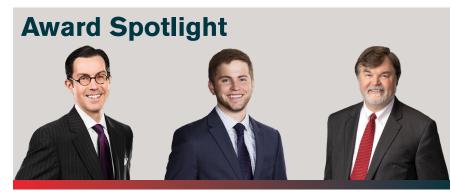
AFS Team: Alex Becker



#### Supporting Tenants' Rights in Boston Housing Authority Cases

- BHA v. Tashawna
- Chestnut Green Apartments v. Karen Flanagan

AFS Team: Benjamin Greene



**Jon Bouker** 2023 William J. Brennan Jr. Award | DC Bar

Alex Garel-Frantzen 2023 Rising Star Award National Immigrant Justice Center

James Hulme 2023 Horsky Award Council for Court Excellence

## Firm Recognitions



#### **American Lawyer Pro Bono Scorecard**

The *American Lawyer* annually ranks the 200 largest US law firms on their pro bono hours and breadth of commitment. Based on work completed in 2022, AFS ranked 71 nationally with 40.7 average pro bono hours per attorney and ranked 88 nationally with more than one-third of our attorneys performing 20+ hours of pro bono. AFS is deeply committed to public interest and serving the communities that need us.



#### Law Firm Pro Bono Partner of the Year

ArentFox Schiff was honored as the 2022 Law Firm Pro Bono Partner of the Year by the Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, a group of civil rights lawyers and advocates committed to securing racial equity and economic opportunity for all through pro bono legal representation. The firm and our lawyers have been actively involved in the group's Under Law's Education Equity Project to represent students who faced expulsion and to intercept the school-to-prison pipeline.

# **Key Partnerships**

To effectively address gaps in the legal system, it takes a team effort. ArentFox Schiff partners with numerous organizations across the country that provide critical legal services to communities in which we live and work.



This unique and trailblazing pro bono partnership to advance change, improve lives, and bring justice began in 1979 when Schiff Hardin adopted a CVLS neighborhood legal clinic in Rogers Park, a culturally vibrant, yet economically under-resourced community in Chicago. Our attorneys provide low-income residents access to legal assistance that helps protect their rights in landlord/tenant disputes, access government benefits, and mediate family law issues.



The DCALF – a joint venture among ArentFox Schiff, Georgetown Law Center, and DLA Piper – selects six lawyers each year from Georgetown's graduating class for a fellowship program that starts with an intensive three-month training by Georgetown professors, law firm practitioners, and legal service organizations in the District of Columbia. Following the training, fellows spend one year as lawyers with DCALF advising on family, housing, and immigration law matters.

Smart in Your World afslaw.com