### CLEARY GOTTLIEB

## **Pro Bono Practice**



#### 2016 Pro Bono Publico Award

American Bar Association

2016

560

Pro Bono Clients Served Worldwide

200

New Pro Bono Clients Worldwide



2016 Best International Firm for Pro Bono Work

Americas Women in Business Law Awards



2016 Pro Bono Firm of the Year

Law360

2016

# 56K+ Hours

in U.S. Offices on Pro Bono Work

80 Hours

of Pro Bono Work Averaged per U.S. Attorney

85%

of U.S. Attorneys Worked on Pro Bono Matters

"One reason I first came to Cleary Gottlieb was its strong commitment to pro bono service. My own pro bono practice has included immigration work, labor disputes and constitutional rights cases. As the chair of the New York Pro Bono Committee, I could not be more proud of our attorneys who continue the firm's tradition of pro bono service with their amazing dedication to representing those segments of our society that otherwise have little access to legal resources."

Roger A. Cooper, Litigation Partner and Chair, NY Pro Bono Committee





"I am so proud to be part of the Cleary community and to lead its pro bono efforts. The energy, passion and dedication that Cleary lawyers bring to their pro bono work—whether it's freeing the wrongfully convicted, protecting the rights of immigrants and trafficking survivors, negotiating large-scale initiatives for nonprofits or helping public housing residents launch businesses—is nothing short of extraordinary. The firm's zealous representation of its pro bono clients truly reflects Cleary's deep commitment to public service and founding principles of professional responsibility, compassion and global citizenship."

**Jennifer L. Kroman,**Director of Pro Bono Practice

## **Empowering Communities**

#### **Immigration 2016**

100+ active cases

**16,000+ hours** assisting immigrants seeking varied forms of relief, including:

- Asylum
- · Cancellation of Removal
- · T and U Visas
- Special Immigrant Juvenile Status
- Green Card Applications
- Naturalization
- Legal Screenings in Human Trafficking Court and Immigration Court

2016 Above & Beyond Pro Bono Achievement Award

Sanctuary for Families









### Litigation Leading to Return of Sudanese Cleveland Clinic Doctor

Following the January 2017 travel ban executive order, Dr. Suha Abushamma—a Cleveland Clinic resident—was detained at JFK for more than eight hours without access to legal representation and was coerced into signing a form that purportedly canceled her H-1B visa. Dr. Abushamma, a Sudanese national, was returning to the U.S. following a visit with her family in Saudi Arabia. Cleary Gottlieb lawyers filed a petition to prevent her removal on January 28. Before that could be acted upon—but after the stay issued by the New York federal court preventing the removal of anyone from JFK pursuant to the order—Dr. Abushamma was



Dr. Suha Abushamma with Cleary pro bono team and Cleveland Clinic lawyers and colleagues

put on a plane back to Saudi Arabia. The Cleary team amended their petition, arguing that Dr. Abushamma was removed in violation of the stay, and sought a preliminary injunction ordering her return to the United States. After negotiations with the U.S. Attorney's Office, Dr. Abushamma returned to the U.S. on February 6, 2017.

### Response to January 2017 Immigration Executive Orders

**100**+ lawyers spent **1,000**+ **hours** helping individuals detained at JFK and Dulles airports or stuck abroad.

#### New 2017 Immigration Projects:

- Immigration Assistance Hotline—with The Legal Aid Society and other firms
- **Habeas Cases**—Filing federal court petitions for detained immigrants seeking bond hearings
- Representation of Detained Individuals in Immigration Court
- Increased Immigration Relief Legal Screening in Immigration Court and Around the City
- Know Your Rights Presentations in the Bronx









"It seemed like an imperative, for someone practicing law, to be [at JFK airport]."

Seguin L. Strohmeier, Bankruptcy Associate who rushed to JFK airport to represent those affected by the travel ban executive order

REUTERS | JANUARY 30, 2017

"At JFK's Terminal 4, a good weekend to be a lawyer"

## **Empowering Communities**

#### Nonprofit & Economic Empowerment

180+ nonprofits served worldwide.

**35**+ micro-entrepreneurs, social enterprises and micro-finance organizations served worldwide.

**Four-month rotating externship** with Lawyers Alliance for New York, whereby associates advise nonprofits as Lawyers Alliance staff attorneys.

Food Business Pathways—Since the project's inception in 2015, Cleary has partnered with Start Small Think Big to help low-income public housing residents who operate informal food businesses from their apartment kitchens. Each quarter, we help program participants make informed decisions as to the best legal structures for their businesses and assist with subsequent incorporation and organization.

2016 Honoree

Brooklyn Youth Chorus











"The level of expertise and client care that we receive from Cleary is unparalleled. Cleary understands our legal needs and our mission. By working with Cleary, we've received first-class pro bono support on a variety of matters and have found a consummate partner in our fight against the injustice of cash bail."

Peter Goldberg, Executive Director, Brooklyn Community Bail Fund



"You guys were the best lawyers I could have asked for.... Every day I'm super excited to take each next step. Thank you very much for helping me take correct first steps in setting up my business."

> Niani Taylor, Munch Hours, Inc., Food Business Pathways Client (Gourmet Brunch Delivery Service)



"When I was a law student, I decided to come to Cleary because I wanted to work on matters that would have a global impact. The Nature Conservancy's acquisition of the Fortín Chacabuco ranch in Argentina is a perfect example of such a project. Cleary has unique experience in cross-border and Latin American transactions, and we were able to use that experience to help TNC establish a model for sustainable agriculture in the vital Patagonian ecosystem. It's a great example of how sophisticated business skills can be applied to make the world a better place."

Daniel C. Reynolds, Real Estate Partner

#### Global Impact

With 16 offices on four continents working seamlessly as one law firm, Cleary has the ability to serve nonprofit clients with an array of global initiatives, including:

- Furthering global sustainability and conservation efforts;
- Advising global NGOs on peace initiatives, human rights, women's rights issues and furthering democracy; and
- Establishing satellite offices for human rights and environmental organizations.

2016 International Pro Bono Excellence Honoree

Cyrus R. Vance Center for International Justice









## **Promoting Criminal Justice**

#### Freeing the Innocent

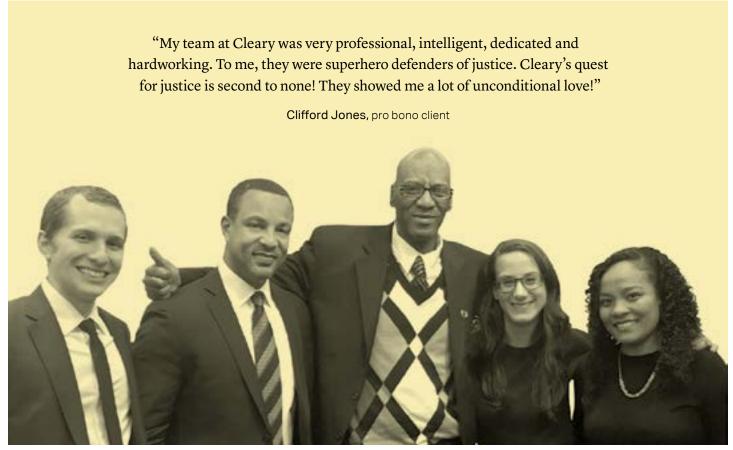
In 2008, Cleary began representing Clifford Jones, who had been incarcerated since 1981 for rape, murder and robbery, crimes he did not commit. His convictions were based solely upon the testimony of a single eyewitness, who was impaired by heroin use at the time of identification.

After eight years of litigation, the New York Supreme Court vacated Mr. Jones' convictions based on newly discovered DNA evidence excluding him as a possible perpetrator. The victory not only marked success for Mr. Jones, whose innocence had been vindicated, but also for future criminal defendants. During the course of the litigation, Cleary convinced the New York Court of Appeals to overrule longstanding precedent that did not afford the state's highest court the power to review cases in which new evidence had been presented.









# Second Chances—State and Federal Clemency

When President Barack Obama and New York Governor Andrew Cuomo announced new clemency initiatives on the federal and state levels, respectively, Cleary immediately stepped up, filing **three dozen petitions** for eligible incarcerated individuals deserving of a second chance.

#### Recognizing Rehabilitation

Cleary client Anthony Desmae was one of only seven people granted a sentencing commutation by Governor Cuomo in December 2016. He earned his GED, worked as a GED teaching assistant and became a certified animal caretaker in connection with the Puppies Behind Bars program—all while incarcerated. Mr. Desmae is now home with his family.



Mr. Desmae and family with his Cleary pro bono team



"Old sentencing guidelines, which were often driven by a disproportionate attempt to be 'tough on crime,' have led to the extended punishment of individuals who made mistakes early in their lives. Cleary tries to correct this injustice by advocating on behalf of those who have demonstrated a record of rehabilitation in jail. For too long, promising lives have been squandered and communities have been harmed because society was unwilling to give deserving people a second chance."

Jared Gerber, Litigation Partner

## **Promoting Racial Justice**

### Challenging the Constitutionality of New York's Loitering for the Purpose of Prostitution Law

Cleary and The Legal Aid Society filed a civil rights class action against the City of New York and certain NYPD officers on behalf of women of color, many of whom are transgender, who have been wrongly arrested under NYPL 240.37, loitering for the purpose of prostitution.

The lawsuit details how police have engaged in "sweeps" aimed at arresting transgender women of color in public places, where they attempt to gather and socialize as a community and avoid the violence, hostility and discrimination directed at them in other parts of the city.



**2016 Pro Bono Publico Award**The Legal Aid Society



"Section 240.37 poses a serious threat to the civil and constitutional rights of women of color, who are too often unfairly targeted by the police, and the law fails to provide basic safeguards against abuses of discretion by law enforcement."

Rishi N. Zutshi, Litigation Partner

POLITICO | SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

"Suit challenges NYPD enforcement of prostitution loitering statute"



"The NYPD has made the decision, the political decision, to no longer want to make [the Civilian Complaint Review Board summaries] available."

Ben C. Shartsis, Litigation Associate

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL | MARCH 20, 2017

"Lawyers to Argue for Public Access to Police Discipline"

#### Transparency in Policing

Cleary represents The Legal Aid Society in its Article 78 proceeding challenging denial of requests for NYPD personnel orders, which had previously been made publicly available for the past 40 years.

Cleary also submitted an amicus brief on behalf of over 30 elected officials in support of The Legal Aid Society's litigation to release the summary of substantiated Civilian Complaint Review Board complaints of Daniel Pantaleo, the officer responsible for the chokehold that killed Eric Garner.

"The Cleary team was crucial at every stage of [the Article 78] litigation. Their thorough preparation and attention to detail made this important issue compelling not only to the court, but also to the public. We couldn't have brought a stronger case."

**Cynthia Conti-Cook,** Staff Attorney, The Legal Aid Society

## **Promoting Education**

#### **Fund for Public Schools**

Cleary provides an array of transactional and governance advice to the Fund for Public Schools, an organization that raises private support for New York City public schools. We advise on governance and transactional matters, including the **Computer Science for All 10-year** initiative—a public/private partnership to scale computer science education to 100 percent of the city's public schools.



### Washington Irving Campus Partnership Program

Cleary staff and lawyers partner with under-resourced public high schools in the Washington Irving campus to provide mentorship, academic support, professional skill development and enrichment opportunities.

**Mentoring:** Mentors serve as role models and advisors the students can look to for guidance.

**College Advising:** Volunteers help students with college applications, financial aid and college coursework.

**SAT Tutoring:** SAT tutors teach classes to high school juniors and seniors in the fall and spring.

**Mock Trial:** Mock trial coaches prepare students for state-wide high school competitions.

**Book Club:** Students and volunteers meet weekly to discuss books they are reading together.

"At Cleary, I've had invaluable experiences that have helped to prepare me both for college and life as a whole."

Betsy Pichizaca, 12th Grade, Union Square Academy for Health Sciences, Washington Irving Campus 250+
Volunteers

350+
Students



### **Educational Pipeline Initiatives**

**Legal Outreach:** Cleary annually hosts a select group of student interns in the Legal Outreach program for a week of legal research, contract negotiation, brief-writing and litigation training.

- **95**+ attorney, summer associate and paralegal volunteers
- 16 student interns

London Twinning Mentoring: Cleary has partnered with the Swanlea School to increase awareness and understanding of the law for youth in underserved communities.

- 10 lessons
- 15 Cleary volunteers
- **60** students













2016 Cleary Pro Bono Appreciation Event

Featuring Sandy Santana, Executive Director, Children's Rights



2016 Legal Aid Society
Pro Bono Publico Awards



2016 ABA Pro Bono Publico Awards



2016 Cleary Pro Bono Lunch

with client Clifford Jones



2016 Cleary Pro Bono Lunch

Holocaust Trials with Frank Tuerkheimer



2016 Cleary Pro Bono Lunch Fund for Public Schools

Computer Science for All Initiative



Public International Law & Policy Group Negotiation Simulation

Washington, D.C



**2016 Naturalization Clinic** 

with New York Lawyers for the Public Interest and Catholic Migration Services



2016 Election Protection Hotline Assistance

## Our Pro Bono Team

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To learn more about Cleary Gottlieb's pro bono practice, please visit us at: www.clearygottlieb.com/pro-bono



#### clearygottlieb.com

Founded in 1946 by lawyers committed to legal excellence, internationalism, and diversity, Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP is a leading international law firm with approximately 1,200 lawyers around the world. The firm has 16 closely integrated offices in New York, Washington, D.C., Paris, Brussels, London, Moscow, Frankfurt, Cologne, Rome, Milan, Hong Kong, Beijing, Buenos Aires, São Paulo, Abu Dhabi, and Seoul.

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