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CADWALADER

PRO BONO

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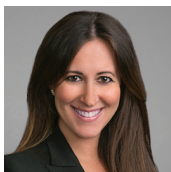
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Message from Our Managing Partner

Cadwalader has a longstanding reputation of providing excellent service and exceptional results for all of our clients. We are proud to extend this same caliber of advocacy to our pro bono clients. Serving their legal needs not only empowers them to navigate complex legal landscapes, but also strengthens the fabric of our society by promoting fairness and equality under the law.

It is easy to get discouraged by the challenges facing our most vulnerable neighbors, but we are committed to facing injustice and inequality head-on. We encourage all of our lawyers and legal professionals to pursue pro bono work that aligns with their personal passions and employs their legal acumen to serve the public good.

Moreover, pro bono work enriches the professional development of our attorneys and staff while providing valuable opportunities to hone our skills, broaden our perspectives, and deepen our understanding of a diverse set of issues. Through these experiences, we cultivate a culture of compassion, empathy, and social responsibility within our firm.

Fighting the good fight takes sustained effort, and our work never stops. We encourage you to take a look at what we've been up to in this 2023 snapshot and to join us in making a difference.

Patrick T. Quinn



Message from Our Pro Bono Advisory Group Co-Chairs

At Cadwalader, we believe access to justice is not a privilege but a fundamental right. We put our belief into action on behalf of our pro bono clients to ensure that their voices are heard and their rights are protected.

Whether by participating in legal clinics, researching complex legal issues, or providing guidance and support to pro bono clients throughout their cases, the pro bono work of our attorneys is making ripples throughout the justice system.

Access to our representation has in many cases been a determining factor in securing basic rights, such as housing, life planning, and personal safety, particularly for marginalized and underserved populations. It is an honor and a source of great pride for our firm to serve the public interest in these ways.


This commitment to serving those in need exemplifies the highest ideals of our profession and reflects the core values of our firm. We invite you take part in our work and come alongside us in service of those facing inequities.

Jason M. Halper

Ellen V. Holloman

The background of the entire page is a repeating pattern of blue, watercolor-style oval shapes. These shapes are arranged in a grid-like fashion, with each oval slightly overlapping its neighbors. The color of the ovals varies from a light, airy blue to a deeper, more saturated blue, giving the pattern a textured, organic feel. The pattern is consistent across the top, bottom, and sides of the page, framing the central text.

**Our PRO BONO
Work in Action**



Through a range of pro bono programs, Cadwalader provides assistance to organizations and individuals who cannot afford quality legal representation.

- Notable Matters
- Black & Latino Association Immigration Clinic
- LGBT Network Transgender Name Change Clinic
- Not-for-Profit Incubator
- Women's Leadership Initiative Housing Clinic
- Veterans Network: Serving Those Who Served
- Investing in Our Communities
- Legal Clinics

Notable Matters



Our pro bono efforts range from individual advocacy to staffing legal clinics and counseling nonprofit organizations. Some recent examples include:

- working with a global industry body focused on increasing the volume and impact of capital directed towards women's economic empowerment worldwide.
- helping to establish a donor-advised fund to make investments and grants that would advance both climate and biodiversity solutions and gender equity.
- obtaining asylum approval in the U.S. for a former member of the Afghan military who was being threatened by the Taliban and warned not to return home or he would face grave harm.
- securing early release for a woman who had been sexually assaulted by the warden overseeing the facility where she was being held.



Through our pro bono work with a pioneering field-building organization in the gender lens investing realm, I've witnessed the transformative power of collaboration. We have not only worked with the group to craft legal frameworks, toolkits and certification mechanisms, but we have also been building bridges towards equity. With a dedicated team of Cadwalader associates and ESG experts, it has been a privilege to work with the organization to shape the future where gender and finance unite, one legal block at a time."

Sukhvir Basran

Partner

Black & Latino Association Immigration Clinic

The Firm, through the Cadwalader Black & Latino Association (CBLA), successfully launched the CBLA Immigration Clinic in 2015. This network of Cadwalader attorneys helps marginalized and vulnerable immigrants obtain legal status through various forms of relief, including asylum applications, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) proceedings and Violence Against Women Act self-petitions. Since the Clinic's founding, the Firm has become increasingly involved with pro bono immigration cases, celebrating numerous successes.

Our recent matters include:

- helping a citizen of China, who suffered domestic abuse at the hands of her ex-husband, with her U Visa application.
- working with a 17-year-old boy, who fled Guatemala after having to stop attending school to work to support his family, to file his SIJS application.
- representing an Afghan national, who was assigned to a commando unit for ten years and who was ambushed by the Taliban, with applying for asylum in the U.S.
- assisting a 16-year-old boy, who fled Honduras to escape gang violence and who now lives with his uncle in the U.S., with his SIJS application.

Leadership Committee



Jason Halper
Partner



Victor Celis
Associate



Hannah Kaufman
Associate



Candelario Saldana
Associate



I recently had the privilege of securing citizenship for a client who needed someone to understand the complexities of her case and offer support and encouragement throughout the process. This experience not only reaffirmed my commitment to serving others but also instilled greater confidence in my ability to serve as an advisor.”

Margaret Leccese

Associate



Getting to the right result after an extended application process—for asylum, a green card, or the long-awaited reunion of family members through a petition for alien relatives—takes enormous patience and grit for clients and their families. As pro bono counsel, we are privileged to make the phone call with the good news that the client need wait no longer; the application was granted.”

Gregory Langsdale

Partner





The CLN Name Change Clinic represents an empowering pathway for individuals striving to align their identities with their true selves. In a world where acceptance often requires a fight, we are proud to stand with the transgender community, providing support and legal guidance in the name change process. Our commitment ensures that our clients' rights are respected and recognized as they navigate the legal system."

Jared Stanisci

Partner; Chair,
Cadwalader LGBTQ Network

LGBTQ Network Transgender Name Change Clinic

The Cadwalader LGBTQ Network (CLN) partners with Legal Services NYC and other legal services organizations to provide free legal name change services to low-income transgender people. Securing a legal name change is an important step toward making many transgender individuals' legal identities match their lived experience. Navigating the court system can be intimidating without counsel. Our program provides the legal representation clients need to successfully complete the process and move forward with their lives.



Our partnership with Cadwalader has greatly expanded our capacity to help low-income transgender and nonbinary New Yorkers obtain affirming identity documents, which directly and positively impacts our clients' quality of life. Clients consistently report that obtaining a name change allows them to more easily move through the world because it removes the constant anxiety of showing an ID that could subject them to humiliation, discrimination, or harassment."

Julian Castronovo

Staff Attorney, Legal Services NYC



Not-for-Profit Incubator

Under the umbrella of the Not-for-Profit Incubator, Cadwalader attorneys and staff have incorporated and obtained tax-exempt status for over 400 not-for-profit organizations over the past decade. It is gratifying to help further the vital work that our clients perform. The Incubator has been involved with a broad range of innovative programs, including:

- a group created to support Black-owned businesses and communities in Queens, New York.
- an organization focused on raising awareness of issues caused by food insecurity and holding drives and initiatives to support local food banks.
- a group aiming to provide support for the mental health needs of physicians and other medical professionals.
- an international organization aiming to support school children and their community in Jinja, Uganda.
- a nonprofit providing educational materials, resources, and services to women who are dealing with the effects of hormonal imbalances.

Not-for-Profit Incubator Team



Mark Howe
Partner



Linda Swartz
Partner



Michael Gonzalez
Associate



Adam Bakalchuk
Paralegal



Kelly DiLuccio
Paralegal



Working with the Incubator has been a game-changer for us. They not only provided crucial support in launching our non-profit, 'BlaQue Community Cares,' but went above and beyond by taking the time to sit down with us over Zoom to explain the intricate process. Their dedication and guidance have been invaluable, and we're deeply thankful for their assistance."

Alecia Abraham

Founder

BlaQue Community Cares, Inc.

Women's Leadership Initiative (WLI) Housing Clinic



Attorneys who participate in the WLI Housing Clinic are focused on helping low-income tenants in New York public housing to remain in their homes, or getting court-ordered repairs completed. The outcomes in these cases, referred by Legal Services NYC and New York Legal Assistance Group, can make a life-changing difference for the financially challenged clients we represent and their families, particularly when affordable housing in New York City is in such short supply.



“At New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG), our mission is to use the power of the law to assist and support low-income New Yorkers. Cadwalader’s participation in NYLAG’s monthly housing clinic, in helping public housing residents in obtaining repairs for pressing apartment issues – has been instrumental in improving their living conditions. Equally, in their direct and active pro bono representation of these matters, the Women’s Leadership Initiative demonstrates that they are unwavering champions, in advocating for safe, secure, and habitable housing for all.”

Nancy Sai
Pro Bono Coordinator
NYLAG



“By working with New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) residents at the WLI Housing Clinic in Red Hook, I was able to represent a tenant in her continued action against NYCHA. Most tenants appear pro se in housing court, so it has been an incredibly rewarding experience to provide representation and advocate for the basic living conditions that every individual deserves. I’m hopeful that Cadwalader’s work with the WLI Housing Clinic can lead to safer, habitable homes for every NYCHA resident.”

Alissa Rowens
Associate

Veterans Network: Serving Those Who Served



Life Planning Clinic

Our Veterans Network Life Planning Clinic strives to empower veterans and low-income seniors to age in place and with dignity, access their legal rights, and live without fear of homelessness. Our attorneys, in partnership with Volunteers of Legal Service (VOLS) and Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy, prepare wills, powers of attorney, and other essential directives and life planning documents for this vulnerable population.



Since 2022, Bloomberg and Cadwalader attorneys have had the opportunity to serve low-income New Yorkers by helping them prepare end-of-life documents through the VOLS Senior Law Project. We are proud to partner with Cadwalader and VOLS on this important and necessary work and hope to continue doing this for years to come."

Yuliana Kletsun

Counsel and Americas Co-Chair for Bloomberg LP's Legal & Compliance Pro Bono Program



In partnership with VOLS and Cadwalader, Morgan Stanley attorneys have been assisting low-income seniors and veterans in the preparation of essential life planning documents, and, of equal importance, in providing peace of mind, since 2019. This yearly event continues to be one of the most popular among Morgan Stanley attorneys, who are eager to serve and give back to this community."

Jennifer Landis

Vice President, Morgan Stanley Legal & Compliance



Planning for death and incapacity is as serious a topic as it is sensitive for older adults. Pro bono volunteers from Cadwalader have consistently worked with VOLS to provide these legal services with grace and compassion, leaving our clients with greater security and peace of mind."

Alyssa Villareal

Staff Attorney, Volunteers of Legal Service



The opportunity to have a small part in Cadwalader's commitment to local communities on pro bono matters has been incredibly rewarding for me, both personally and professionally. Working alongside the Volunteers of Legal Service and NYC Housing Authority (NYCHA) has allowed me to offer legal advice not typically available to small business entrepreneurs in New York. Cadwalader's focus on pro bono has allowed me to assist NYCHA clients on critical needs which would otherwise remain unmet without affordable or pro bono legal counsel."

Peter Bariso
Associate

Investing in Our Communities

Working with our bank clients, we host and staff small business clinics organized by Start Small Think Big, an organization committed to helping low- to moderate-income individuals build and sustain thriving businesses in underserved New York City communities. Our lawyers advise business owners on the requirements for conducting business online, such as website terms of use and privacy policies and on the basics of contracts.

Our attorneys are also providing guidance to small businesses referred by the Charlotte Legal Initiative to Mobilize Businesses (CLIMB), Legal Services NYC, and Volunteers of Legal Service (VOLS).

Our recent clients have included:

- two coffee curators offering fresh coffee online and who are distributors for a robotic barista concept.
- a virtual membership-based luxury concierge service that specializes in lifestyle management and travel, and provides clients with assistance from booking dinner reservations, researching vendors to coordinating vacations.
- an innovative education, culture and wellness company that leverages the storytelling power of the arts to capture the humanity of individuals and communities.
- a former competitive boxer who trains New York City boxers, including professional boxers.



“The attorneys at Cadwalader help us provide key information and legal assistance to businesses that are at a key stage in their formation. Statistically, 1 in 5 businesses fail within the first year of formation. Cadwalader volunteer attorneys work with our clients to ensure their legal infrastructure is sound and protects their interests. In so doing, Cadwalader is setting the businesses up for success in pursuing key objectives like safe growth and access to capital, factors that can make or break in terms of an entrepreneur’s ability to survive and thrive in the long run.”

Shiri Wolf

Legal Director
Start Small Think Big



“There is such a need for legal services across the Charlotte community, and access and affordability should never prevent entrepreneurs or small businesses from getting the legal help they need. Through Cadwalader’s partnership with CLIMB, I have had the opportunity to advise pro bono clients on matters that play an important role in the growth of their business.”

Ryan Marosy

Associate





I'm really proud to be a 'Housing Champion' as part of the Charlotte Triage Pro Bono Partnership, which is a group dedicated to harnessing legal talent to help address the most pressing needs of the Charlotte community. In the absence of any legal assistance, you can witness firsthand how many landlords take advantage of tenants who are unaware of the rules that landlords must follow or rights and/or defenses that the tenant may have, so it's incredibly rewarding when you're able to help someone out and keep them in their housing or get them credits against their rent."

Chris Dickson
Partner

Legal Clinics

Cadwalader lawyers participate in several legal clinics, offering advice and guidance to underserved groups in our communities.

- **NYC Asylum Application Help Center:**

To respond to the recent influx of new arrivals, New York City opened an Asylum Application Help Center, where asylum seekers could get one-on-one assistance in filling out asylum applications. At the Center, Cadwalader volunteers helped asylum seekers complete their applications pro se.

- **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Renewal Clinic:**

After learning about the qualifiers, disqualifiers, and eligibility of the DACA program, Cadwalader attorneys worked with clients in real time to complete DACA applications and provided advice and counsel to DACA applicants referred by Volunteers of Legal Service (VOLS).

- **Venezuelan Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Clinic:**

At this Clinic, our attorneys spent a full day providing assistance to recent arrivals from Venezuela by completing their TPS applications, under the supervision of attorneys from The Legal Aid Society's Immigration Law Unit.

- **Ukrainian Re-registration Clinic:**

Cadwalader volunteers helped new applicants file for Temporary Protected Status (TPS), and helped prior applicants re-register within the timeframe set by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

- **Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) and Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE) Clinics:**
Our attorneys participated in a new initiative launched by Volunteers of Legal Service (VOLS) to ensure seniors and individuals living with disabilities in New York receive the rent stabilization benefits to which they are entitled. SCRIE and DRIE help these vulnerable populations stay in affordable housing by freezing their rent at current levels, but many who qualify either haven't applied or have experienced delays in the application approval process.
- **Charlotte Triage Pro Bono Project:**
Our attorneys participate in Legal Aid of North Carolina's Lawyer-on-the-Line project to provide legal advice to clients with landlord-tenant repair issues.
- **Naturalization Clinic:**
Cadwalader attorneys staff monthly naturalization workshops sponsored by the Latin American Coalition in Charlotte, providing legal review of clients' naturalization applications.
- **Driver's License Restoration Project:**
Through the North Carolina Pro Bono Resource Center, our attorneys help to restore suspended driver's licenses to low-income North Carolinians who are eligible for relief. For many, revoked driving privileges often means missed job opportunities and reduced access to medical care.



Partnering with the North Carolina Pro Bono Resource Center to participate in their Driver's License Restoration Project has been a rewarding experience to help others in the community. The lack of a driver's license impedes access to employment and healthcare, and these consequences are often due to an administrative oversight, like failure to pay an overdue fine. Assisting North Carolinians to restore their driver's licenses seems simple, but it is a meaningful way to improve their quality of life."

Eunji Jo
Associate

Our Year in Review

Our lawyers are driven by a broad range of personal and professional aspirations to make a difference in our communities.





Our Pro Bono Partners

Cadwalader has longstanding relationships with many legal service providers, including:

Advocates for Trans Equality

Amara Legal

Anti-Violence Project

Catholic Charities DC

Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy

City Bar Justice Center

DC Bar Pro Bono Center

East London Business Alliance

Free Representation Unit

Her Justice

Human Rights First

Immigration Equality

Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services

Kids In Need of Defense

Lawyers Alliance for New York

Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

Lawyers for Good Government

The Latin American Coalition

The Legal Aid Society

Legal Counsel for the Elderly

Legal Services NYC

NC Pro Bono Resource Center

New York Lawyers for the Public Interest

New York Legal Assistance Group

Safe Passage Project

Sanctuary for Families

Start Small Think Big

Tahirih Justice Center

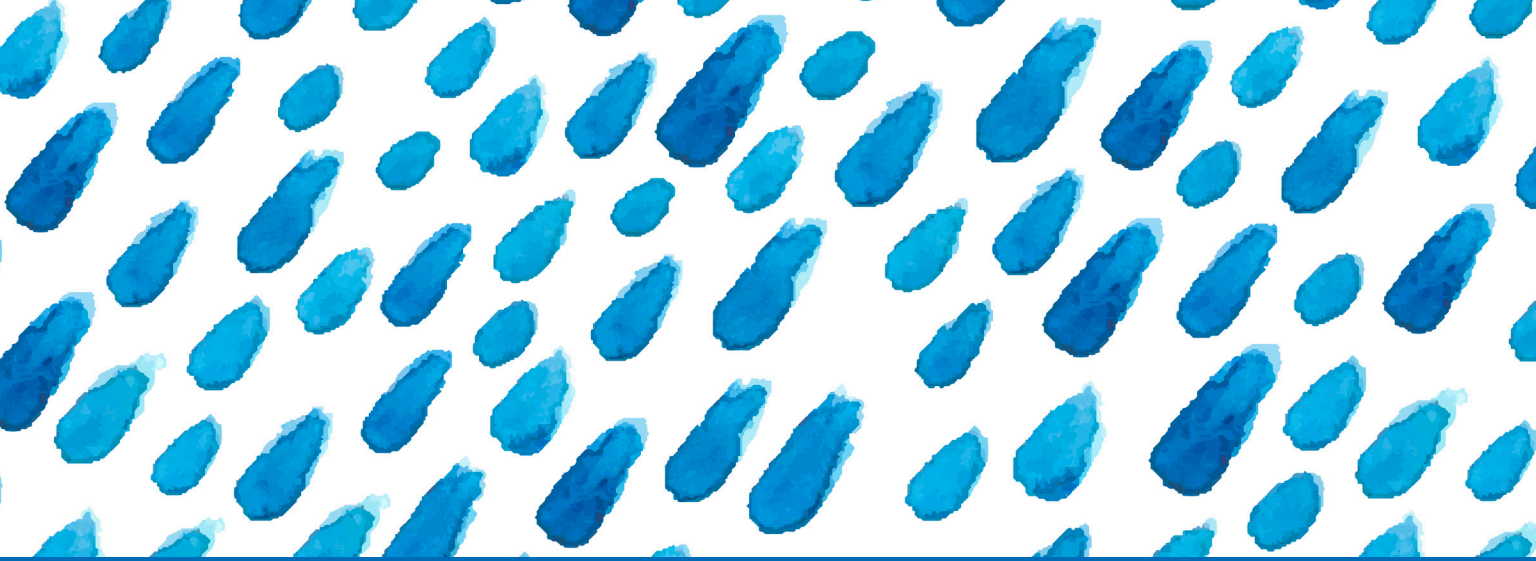
TrustLaw

Volunteers of Legal Service



To learn more about Cadwalader's commitment
to pro bono, please visit:

www.cadwalader.com/about/pro-bono-public-service



Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP

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