



PRO BONO

2014



YEAR IN REVIEW



SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1901



HUNTON &
WILLIAMS



VETERANS ASSISTANCE

Hunton & Williams lawyers in all of the firm’s domestic offices partner with the National Veterans Legal Services Program to assist veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars seeking disability benefits. There are more than 100 Hunton & Williams volunteer lawyers who have assisted over 100 veterans on multiple, multi-year claims.

Firmwide hours 1,638

COAST GUARD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Lawyers in Hunton & Williams’ Atlanta, Miami, New York, Norfolk, Richmond and Washington offices assist Coast Guard service members and their families with their legal needs on a pro bono basis.

Firmwide hours 312

CHILDREN’S RIGHTS – CUSTODY AND GUARDIAN AD LITEM

To protect the best interest of children, lawyers in the Charlotte office assist the Council for Children’s Rights with high-conflict custody cases of sexual or physical abuse allegations. Raleigh lawyers assist children through the North Carolina Guardian ad Litem program and Atlanta lawyers assist the Fulton County Family Division in representing the needs of abused, neglected or dependent children whose cases come before the courts. Richmond lawyers assist the firm’s Charlottesville pro bono associate with complex custody cases and child support issues and Miami lawyers work with Lawyers for Children of America on custody and child support cases to provide pro bono legal representation to children who are victims of abuse and abandonment.

Firmwide hours 2,056

PROTECTIVE ORDERS FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Hunton & Williams lawyers dedicated more than 895 hours of assistance to 90 victims of domestic violence with protective order proceedings during the fiscal year of 2013. Lawyers also assisted victims of domestic violence through human trafficking cases and Violence Against Women Act petitions.

Firmwide hours 2,052



Pro Bono Fellow Britt Olwine (right) and her client connect during a recent meeting

ADOPTIONS

Los Angeles lawyers partner with The Alliance for Children’s Rights to assist in the finalization of long-awaited adoptions of foster children. During the fiscal year of 2014, LA lawyers and staff assisted with adoptions of 20 children, devoting more than 200 pro bono hours to these children and their families.

Firmwide hours 324

HEALTH CARE

Hunton & Williams lawyers assist low-income people with a variety of health care legal needs. In Richmond, the Hunton & Williams Pro Bono Fellow partners with Central Virginia Legal Aid and the Legal Aid Justice Center to assist with the Medical-Legal Partnership. The Fellow spends one afternoon a week offering immediate legal services to cancer patients. Lawyers in Charlotte, in partnership with Legal Services of Southern Piedmont, assist low-income families with Medicaid appeals and in New York, lawyers offer comprehensive legal guidance to AIDs services organizations.

Firmwide hours 904

SELECT PROJECTS

INCARCERATED MOTHERS PROJECT

Through Volunteers of Legal Service, lawyers in the firm's New York office travel to one of two state correctional facilities to provide legal services to incarcerated mothers who may face significant challenges in maintaining relationships with their children. Legal services are vital not only for the mothers but for the children who may suffer from prolonged separation from their parent.

Firmwide hours 199

GUARDIANSHIPS

Hunton & Williams lawyers in Richmond, McLean, Miami and Washington assisted more than 30 adults with physical and mental conditions to assure the appointment of a guardian to act in their best interest with their personal and financial affairs.

Firmwide hours 508

LANDLORD/TENANT AND HOUSING

Hunton & Williams lawyers in Austin, Dallas, McLean, Miami, New York, Richmond and Washington assisted low-income clients with housing disputes, including eviction proceedings and Fair Housing Act cases.

Firmwide hours 1,189

ENVIRONMENTAL

Hunton & Williams lawyers represent on a pro bono basis a number of land conservancy and environmental organizations, including the National Parks Trust and the 500-Year Forest Foundation, that seek to conserve and protect the nation's environment and national parks for future generations.

Firmwide hours 1,150

CONSULTS

Many of the firm's pro bono clients only require brief legal advice to address their concerns. Hunton & Williams lawyers provide consults to low-income clients through the firm's neighborhood offices in Atlanta, Richmond and Charlottesville, and lawyers also participate in advice and referral clinics in Dallas and Washington, DC.

Firmwide hours 1,601

ASSIST NEW YORK'S HOMELESS COMMUNITY

Lawyers in the firm's New York office work with the City Bar Justice Center's Legal Clinic for the Homeless to secure state and federal public benefits that are essential for alleviating poverty, and contest denials and reductions of food stamps and Medicaid.

Firmwide hours 646

HIGHLIGHTS

1

Mission That Every Lawyer Should Provide Pro Bono Legal Services to People In Need

2

Pro Bono Fellows in Atlanta and Richmond

3

Neighborhood Pro Bono Offices in Atlanta, Charlottesville and Richmond

4

Percent of Billable Hours Donated to Pro Bono

5

Consecutive Years of 100% Participation of US Lawyers on Pro Bono Projects

45,110

TOTAL PRO BONO HOURS

ASSISTING CHARTER SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION REFORM

Hunton & Williams lawyers support education reform by providing legal services to charter schools in underserved communities. Lawyers in the firm’s Dallas office provide general corporate legal services to the KIPP Truth Academy, which is part of a network of charter schools that prepare students for success in life and college. Hunton lawyers also support education efforts by serving as counsel to the Truancy Intervention Project Georgia in the firm’s Atlanta office.

Firmwide hours 302

LAWYERS FOR THE ARTS

Hunton & Williams represents arts organizations and low-income artists on a pro bono basis to ensure that their rights are protected. Lawyers work with clients through Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts in our New York, Washington and Atlanta offices.

Firmwide hours 607

HELPING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Hunton & Williams partners with a number of organizations that promote the advancement of people with physical or intellectual disabilities. New York lawyers provide pro bono legal services to the Special Olympics New York, Norfolk lawyers provide legal services to St. Mary’s Home for Disabled Children, and Atlanta, Richmond and Miami lawyers provide ongoing legal advice to group homes for disabled adults.

Firmwide hours 654

UNCONTESTED DIVORCE

Due to federal funding cuts, local legal aid organizations need substantial support from lawyers in private practice to assist with their caseloads. Richmond lawyers assist Central Virginia Legal Aid Society with their backlog of uncontested divorces for low-income residents.

Firmwide hours 521

INTERNATIONAL CHILD ABDUCTION

A team of New York lawyers recently argued before the United States Supreme Court in an international child abduction case the firm handled on a pro bono basis. Our lawyers cultivated, and were supported at the merits stage by, a broad array of scholars, practitioners and leading child advocacy organizations that filed amici briefs with the Court and assisted in mootings. The case arose under the Hague Convention of the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, a treaty designed to effectuate return of children wrongfully abducted (usually by one parent) across international borders. Over the last decade, Hunton & Williams has developed significant expertise handling cases seeking return under the Convention.

Firmwide hours 3,100



Michael Kruse, Kristin Kramer, Shawn Regan, John Hein and Joe Saltarelli on the steps of the Supreme Court

IMMIGRATION AND ASYLUM PETITIONS

Hunton & Williams lawyers assist children and victims of crime and violence with their immigration and asylum petitions. In the firm’s Washington DC office, lawyers and staff spend afternoons at the Montgomery County Family Justice Center screening immigrant victims of domestic violence. They then prepare reports and placement recommendations for Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services so that these individuals may have pro bono legal representation in their U visa and VAWA cases. In Richmond and Dallas, lawyers work with Catholic Charities to seek “Special Immigrant Juvenile Status” for immigrant children who have been abandoned, abused or neglected, and in New York, lawyers work with Kids in Need of Defense to help refugee children navigate the US immigration courts.

Firmwide hours 2,084



LAWYERS AND TIMEKEEPERS WHO DEDICATED 100 OR MORE HOURS TO PRO BONO SERVICE

INNOCENCE PROJECT

In 2012, Hunton & Williams and the Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project (MAIP) won full habeas corpus relief for Michael Wayne Hash after establishing that Hash’s capital murder conviction was the result of prosecutorial misconduct and ineffective assistance of counsel. In 2013, Hunton lawyers worked with MAIP and other law firms to achieve freedom for David Boyce, a Virginia man who was released from prison after spending 23 years incarcerated for a crime he did not commit.

Firmwide hours 1,694

WILLS AND ADVANCED MEDICAL DIRECTIVES

Lawyers in the firm’s McLean and Dallas offices partner with firm clients and legal aid organizations to host wills clinics where lawyers and clients draft critical documents for low-income elderly residents. Even citizens with few assets want to be certain that they protect what they have for their families from unnecessary medical expenses or potential mismanagement as they lose the ability to manage their own finances. Richmond lawyers partner with the Legal Information Network for Cancer to draft wills and other life-planning documents for cancer patients.

Firmwide hours 653

NON-PROFIT ASSISTANCE/ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/FEEDING THE HUNGRY

Hunton & Williams lawyers dedicated thousands of hours assisting non-profit organizations that support the needs of low-income people during the fiscal year of 2014. Services to non-profits included employment, non-profit articles of incorporation, intellectual property, real estate, governance and privacy assistance. Non-profit organizations that received Hunton & Williams pro bono legal assistance include Atlanta’s Family Life Restoration Center, Richmond’s Children’s Home Society and Miami’s Belafonte Tacoloy Center.

TAX ASSISTANCE

Hunton & Williams lawyers assisted low-income families and individuals who were experiencing further economic issues because of tax problems. The firm also supported the ABA’s Adopt-A-Base initiative, a program that partners lawyers who can provide volunteer income tax assistance (VITA) training with military personnel at bases, who in turn serve as VITA volunteers who help soldiers at the bases prepare their tax returns.

Firmwide hours 286

UNPAID WAGE CLAIMS FOR THE VIRGINIA HISPANIC CLINIC

Hunton & Williams Richmond lawyers staff a clinic for the local Hispanic community that provides advice and counseling on matters such as unpaid wages claims, landlord-tenant disputes and vital records corrections.

Firmwide hours 199

NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICES

CHARLOTTESVILLE OFFICE (CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA)

Hunton & Williams opened a pro bono office on the campus of the Legal Aid Justice Center in Charlottesville in 2005. Housed at the historic “Rock House,” the partnership teams Hunton lawyers with University of Virginia School of Law students to handle protective order and child custody cases for victims of domestic violence. Support and assistance with cases is provided by a full-time pro bono Hunton & Williams associate in Charlottesville. During the fiscal year of 2014, Hunton & Williams lawyers dedicated 2,093 hours to more than 100 pro bono clients in the Charlottesville office.



SOUTHSIDE LEGAL CENTER OFFICE (ATLANTA, GEORGIA)

Since the Southside Legal Center’s establishment in 1995, more than 2,500 individuals and organizations have contacted the clinic for assistance with various legal matters. Hunton & Williams opened the neighborhood office to provide low-income Atlanta residents with family, housing, business, guardianship and elder law assistance on a pro bono basis. Staffed by Hunton & Williams’ Atlanta lawyers, the office’s full-time pro bono fellow Audrey Biggerstaff and the office’s pro bono coordinator Toni Poole, the clinic, located in downtown Atlanta, has represented more than 800 individuals and organizations since its opening. During the fiscal year of 2014, Hunton & Williams Atlanta lawyers provided 2,295 hours to Southside Legal Center clients and referrals.



CHURCH HILL OFFICE (RICHMOND, VIRGINIA)

To date, more than 800 different Hunton & Williams lawyers and staff have served more than 4,850 clients in the Church



Hill office. The office, located in the Church Hill neighborhood of Richmond, supports low-income residents with guardianships, family law and real estate law. Sandy Reynolds, senior legal administrative coordinator, has coordinated the office’s efforts since its opening. Britt Olwine, the Richmond pro

bono fellow, spends 100 percent of her time on pro bono projects through Central Virginia Legal Aid and the office’s referrals. During the fiscal year of 2014, Hunton & Williams lawyers dedicated 2,467 hours to pro bono clients in the firm’s Church Hill office, helping low-income residents with uncontested divorces and guardianship, custody, domestic violence and landlord/tenant matters.

For more information about the Hunton & Williams pro bono program, please contact: George H. Hettrick, pro bono leadership committee chair, at 804.788.8324 or ghettrick@hunton.com.

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