

THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Justice in Every Borough.

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*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

Legal Aid Celebrates 46th Annual Servant of Justice Awards Over \$3.2 Million Raised to Support Client Advocacy Efforts

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society held its 46th Annual Servant of Justice Awards Dinner on Thursday May 11th, at Cipriani 42nd Street. The annual celebration was attended by over 700 guests, representing New York City's business and legal communities, and raised over \$3.2 million. Support from the event funds critical legal services programs that assist New Yorkers in the areas of education, housing and homelessness, immigration, family law and domestic violence among many others.

Mayor Eric Adams commemorated the event, sharing a [letter](#) lauding The Legal Aid Society's central role in "maintaining a system of justice that promotes equality and progress."

Every year, The Legal Aid Society recognizes pro bono partners who have gone above and beyond to support its work and client communities. The 2023 Servant of Justice Awards honored the AIG Pro Bono Program, accepted by [Lucy Fato](#), Executive Vice President, General Counsel & Global Head of Communications and Government Affairs at AIG; [Richard R. Buery, Jr.](#), Chief Executive Officer at Robin Hood; and [Mark P. Goodman](#), Partner, Co-Chair of the Commercial Litigation Group at Debevoise & Plimpton.

[Jason Flom](#), Founder & CEO of Lava Media and Lava for Good Podcasts, and [Paul S. Bird](#), Partner, Head of European Corporate Practice at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, shared a special introduction to the honorees.

"Our staff is fiercely committed to fighting for our clients in the courtroom and in the community, and our Servant of Justice Honorees all played instrumental roles in sustaining that work," said **Twyla Carter, attorney-in-chief & CEO of The Legal Aid Society**. "Our direct representation keeps families and communities united, while our impact litigation is dedicated to dismantling the systems that perpetuate oppression, racism, poverty, and incarceration. Every role at Legal Aid represents a critical piece of the puzzle to serve our clients' needs effectively. Together, we are advancing justice."

“The individuals and families we represent have weathered tremendous adversity, impeded by systemic barriers to justice,” said **Alan Levine, President of Legal Aid’s Board of Directors**. “We are honored to celebrate our incredible Legal Aid staff, who fight for our clients with determination and compassion, and to celebrate the city we so proudly serve.”

Zachary Carter, Chair of Legal Aid’s Board of Directors, added: “The Legal Aid Society advocates for the unserved and unheard, with an unrelenting commitment to advancing justice and driving transformative change. I am proud to serve as its Chair.”

“I am honored and humbled to be recognized by The Legal Aid Society,” said **Mark Goodman, Co-Chair of the Commercial Litigation Group at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP**. “The Society’s work is critical to providing vital legal services to underserved communities in the city and this award is a reminder of the importance of our collective efforts in helping make our justice system more equitable and inclusive for everyone.”

“The health of our society depends on everyone, regardless of ability or background, having equal access to legal representation,” said **New York City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams**. “For decades, The Legal Aid Society has helped strengthen our communities and supported New Yorkers in need by providing extensive advocacy and legal services. Their work has kept families together and helped to break cycles of poverty and homelessness that devastate so many communities. I thank The Legal Aid Society for all their work in service to New Yorkers, and congratulate all the honorees of the 46th Servant of Justice Awards.”

Event Co-Chairs included Kermit J. Brooks, Chief Legal Officer, The Guardian Life Insurance Company; Todd Freed, Partner, Mergers and Acquisitions, Private Equity, Financial Institutions, at Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP; The Honorable John Gleeson, Partner at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP and former United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York; Donald J. Gogel, Chairman, Clayton, Dubilier & Rice; Stasia Kelly, Senior Advisor to the Chair and Executive Director of Client Relations, DLA Piper.

For the list of sponsors, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/2ebzcuma>.

For event photos, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/54m2s9hs>.

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The Legal Aid Society exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For over 145 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities. www.legalaidnyc.org