



2019 Pro Bono Annual Report

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Bradley's commitment to pro bono service is an integral part of our culture and constitutes one of our core values. We are extremely proud of the high-quality legal services our lawyers provide to our pro bono clients and the positive impact those representations have on the communities where we live and practice. In 2019, among our other pro bono successes, we helped a client's employee recover insurance proceeds to repair damage to her home caused by Hurricane Harvey; saw the HAVEN Act passed into law, helping hundreds of thousands of men and women in our nation's armed forces; recovered a monetary settlement for our client in a qualified immunity case; and obtained the full dismissal of charges brought against a veteran who had turned his life around after years of insobriety and unstable employment. In addition, we successfully convinced a court to resentence a client who had been sentenced to life without parole as a juvenile to life with the possibility of parole, and to convert his four consecutive 20-year sentences to concurrent terms. This victory is a life-changing event for our client, who is now 41 years old and has spent more than half of his life in prison.

The firm received several honors in 2019 for our pro bono work. The Alabama State Bar Association selected Bradley as the recipient of its Law Firm Pro Bono Award in recognition of Bradley's efforts to provide civil representation to those who cannot afford legal counsel. Several of our attorneys received individual pro bono honors from state supreme courts, legal aid organizations, state and national bar associations, law schools, and government agencies. To highlight just two of these special achievements, our Charlotte office and Charlotte partner Rob Cox received the Safe Alliance Commitment to Justice Award in recognition of their ongoing work to ensure that victims of domestic violence and sexual assault receive legal representation in protection order cases. And Birmingham partner Aman Kahlon received the American Bar Association's Military Pro Bono Project Outstanding Services Award for his work in assisting service members in family law matters through the project.

Bradley's success is a direct reflection of our commitment to serving the best interests of our clients and our communities. We are pleased to share our 2019 Pro Bono Annual Report with you to showcase the ways in which our attorneys demonstrate our ongoing commitment to the people and causes who need — but cannot afford — legal help.

Dylan Black, Pro Bono Committee Chair

THE PRO BONO COMMITTEE

Timothy Andreu
Marc Ayers
Dylan Black

Jeffrey Blackwood
George Cate
Rob Cox

Nathan Graham
Tiffany Graves
Angela Holt

Virginia Patterson
Peter Sales
Rob Sayles

Chuck Stewart
Erin Sullivan



Number of Pro Bono Hours Volunteered by Attorneys and Staff

15,400



Total Number of Bradley Attorneys Who Performed Pro Bono Work

342



Percentage of Bradley Partners Who Performed Pro Bono Work



Total Value of Pro Bono Hours

\$5 Million



Percentage of Attorneys Who Performed 20 or More Hours of Pro Bono Work

52%



Number of Bradley Attorneys Who Worked on Behalf of Individuals on Death Row in 2019

69



Percentage of Bradley Associates Who Performed Pro Bono Work

76%



Total # of New Pro Bono Clients in 2019

178



BRADLEY TEAM GETS CLIENT'S DEATH SENTENCE VACATED

Bradley has a long history of representing clients in capital matters and criminal appeals. Several years ago, attorneys in the Birmingham office began representing Brandon Mitchell, an inmate who had been convicted in November 2006 of triple homicide. The jury voted 10-2 for a sentence of life imprisonment without parole, but the judge overrode the verdict and sentenced Mr. Mitchell to death. After a direct appeal, and the engagement of former Bradley attorneys **Mary Ann Couch** and **Blake Goodsell**, Mr. Mitchell petitioned the Jefferson Circuit Court under Alabama Rule of Criminal Procedure Rule 32 for post-conviction remedy and relief. The petition stated grounds for relief based on ineffective assistance of counsel at all three trial phases and constitutional violations that warranted a new trial and/or reversal of the convictions and sentence. The Rule 32 court vacated Mr. Mitchell's death sentence based on ineffective assistance of counsel at the sentencing phase. With Mr. Mitchell's life spared, **Lindsey Boney**, a partner in Birmingham, is continuing to represent him in his appeal of the portions of the Rule 32 order the court denied.



BRADLEY'S DALLAS OFFICE JOINS FORCES WITH NONPROFIT TO FIGHT NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME

Oftentimes, inner-city families desire safer neighborhoods but feel hopeless and do not know where to turn for help. Enter organizations such as Advocates for Community Transformation (Act). Act's mission is to use the justice system to empower inner-city residents in Dallas to fight crime on their streets and make their neighborhoods safer. Bradley attorneys began a partnership with Act in 2019 to help the organization fulfill its vision of "seeing safe neighborhoods where crime is no longer tolerated and the dignity and hope of residents are restored." Using a systematic approach that actively engages families and neighborhood leaders, Bradley attorneys work with Act attorneys to deploy negotiation and litigation strategies that aim to hold neglectful property owners legally accountable. Dallas attorneys **Rob Sayles**, **Shawn Long**, **Bethanie Livernois**, **David Miller**, **Lane Webster** and **Samuel Acker** are currently working on various matters with Act. To date, Act has resolved more than 150 crime-ridden properties and received over \$3 million in pro bono legal work.



BRADLEY'S PRO BONO EFFORTS DRIVE PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION PROTECTING DISABLED VETERANS

Thanks to the efforts of several Bradley attorneys and the American Bankruptcy Institute's (ABI) Task Force on Veterans and Servicemembers Affairs, President Trump signed the Honoring Veterans in Extreme Need Act (the "HAVEN Act") on August 23, 2019, to protect the economic security of disabled veterans experiencing financial hardship. Prior to this, veterans' disability benefits were included as part of their disposable income — even though comparable Social Security disability benefits are not. The unequal treatment of veterans' disability benefits limited financially distressed disabled veterans' access to bankruptcy relief and made it more difficult for them to obtain a financial fresh start. **Jay Bender**, a partner in Birmingham, led the firm's efforts with respect to the HAVEN Act, working closely with Bradley attorneys **David Stewart** and **Nathan Ridley**, senior advisors **Katie Ashley** and **Paul Kavinsky**, and government affairs specialist **Ricky Callaway** from the Governmental Affairs Practice Group. Jay was honored for his pivotal role in drafting and enacting the HAVEN Act with the ABI's inaugural Service to Veterans Award, which recognizes an ABI member who has contributed to the betterment of the lives of veterans.



BRADLEY ATTORNEYS HELP CHURCH FIGHT PROPERTY OWNER WHO DENIED PARKING LOT EASEMENT

Alicia Netterville, an associate in Bradley's Jackson office, served as pro bono counsel to Word of Faith Christian Center's (WOFCC) Hattiesburg, Mississippi Campus in a contentious easement dispute. The church purchased a building as part of a relocation, but it did not have the funds to buy the adjacent parking lot parcel. It entered into an easement agreement with the right of first refusal and option agreements with the property owner. When the church did not exercise the option because it was not financially able to do so, the property owner destroyed all of the work the church had put into constructing the parking lot parcel as part of the easement agreement. Ultimately, the church had to sue the property owner for breach of contract. The judge, upon seeing the egregious actions in the complaint, granted a preliminary injunction and forced the property owner to reopen portions of the demolished parking lot. Word of Faith Christian Center has since purchased the lot and is in the process of renovating and repaving it. **Ralph Germany** and **Rod Clement**, partners in Jackson, assisted Alicia with this matter.

The firm and a number of Bradley attorneys were honored in 2019 for their commitment to pro bono service:

 **BRADLEY RECEIVES 2019 ALABAMA STATE BAR PRO BONO AWARD**

The Alabama State Bar Committee on Volunteer Lawyer Programs recognizes the outstanding pro bono efforts of attorneys, mediators, law firms and law students who are actively donating time to the civil representation of those who cannot otherwise afford legal counsel.

 **AMAN KAHLON RECEIVES AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION'S PRO BONO PROJECT'S OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD**

The ABA Standing Committee on Legal Assistance Military Personnel (LAMP) presented Kahlon the Outstanding Services Award for his pro bono work assisting service members in family law matters.

 **DINETIA NEWMAN RECEIVES THE 2019 DEBORAH H. BELL PRO BONO AWARD**

Newman received the 2019 Deborah H. Bell Pro Bono Award from the Pro Bono Initiative (PBI) at the University of Mississippi School of Law for her work helping to establish and operate the Lawyers in the Parish Hall legal clinic at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Tupelo, Mississippi.

 **NICK LANDAU RECEIVES THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE'S PATENT PRO BONO ACHIEVEMENT CERTIFICATE**

Landau was awarded a 2018 Patent Pro Bono Achievement Certificate from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) for helping to make the Patent Pro Bono Program available to financially under-resourced inventors and small businesses.

 **CHRIS LAM AND BEN MILAM NAMED TO NORTH CAROLINA PRO BONO HONOR SOCIETY**

Lam and Milam were named to the 2018 class of the North Carolina Pro Bono Honor Society. Each society member provided 50 or more hours of pro bono legal services in 2018 to North Carolinians who are unable to pay.

 **ROB COX AND THE CHARLOTTE OFFICE RECEIVE SAFE ALLIANCE'S COMMITTEE TO JUSTICE AWARD**

Safe Alliance, a North Carolina community organization, recognized Bradley's Charlotte office and Cox for their pro bono work with Safe Alliance's Victim Assistance/Legal Representation Program, which helps victims of domestic violence who seek Domestic Violence Protective Orders (DVPOs).

 **JAY BENDER RECEIVES AMERICAN BANKRUPTCY INSTITUTE'S SERVICE TO VETERANS AWARD**

Bender received the inaugural Service to Veterans Award from the ABI for his pivotal role in drafting and helping to enact the "Honoring American Veterans in Extreme Need Act of 2019" (HAVEN Act; H.R. 2938).

 **TIFFANY GRAVES NAMED A LEGAL REBEL BY THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION JOURNAL**

Graves was named a 2019 Legal Rebel by the ABA Journal Legal Rebels project, which profiles innovators who are finding new ways to practice law, represent their clients, adjudicate cases, and train the next generation of lawyers.

 **JACKSON OFFICE RECEIVES THE MISSISSIPPI VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROJECT'S TORCHBEARER AWARD**

The Jackson office received the MVLP 2019 Chairman of the Board's Torchbearer Award, which recognizes individuals, firms, and organizations that have consistently contributed financial resources to accomplish MVLP's mission of providing quality legal services to underserved Mississippians.

 **SIX ATTORNEYS NAMED 2019 ATTORNEYS FOR JUSTICE**

Brandon Bundren, Timothy Capria, Edmund Sauer, Jeffrey Sheehan, Caroline Spore and David Taylor were recognized by the Tennessee Supreme Court as 2019 Attorneys for Justice, which the court defines as lawyers who work a minimum of 50 pro bono hours annually to provide legal services to those who cannot afford the costs.

 **AUSTIN HAGOOD NAMED A TOP PRO BONO VOLUNTEER BY THE MADISON COUNTY VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROGRAM**

Hagood was recognized for his service to the MCVLP, which strives to provide equal access to justice through the delivery of pro bono legal services to low-income citizens in Madison County and to promote volunteerism among attorneys.

 **ERIN ILLMAN AND ALICIA NETTERVILLE RECOGNIZED FOR PRO BONO SERVICE BY THE MECKLENBURG COUNTY BAR AND MECKLENBURG COUNTY BAR FOUNDATION**

Illman and Netterville were recognized by the Mecklenburg County Bar and Mecklenburg Bar Foundation for their pro bono service, which included drafting a privacy policy to document how members' data is gathered, used, protected and managed.



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