

# The Pro Bono Institute

PROUDLY PRESENTS

## The 2008 Laurie D. Zelon Pro Bono Award

to the

## Legal Department of Bank of America Corporation

Timothy J. Mayopoulos  
Executive Vice President and General Counsel

We present this award to the Legal Department of Bank of America Corporation in recognition of its:

**Exemplary creation and implementation of a nationwide pro bono program:**

Within a year of launching an enterprise-wide pro bono initiative in 2005, the Legal Department created pro bono opportunities in locations as far-ranging as Atlanta, Boston, Charlotte, Columbus, Dallas, Hartford, Jacksonville, Los Angeles, Providence, San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa and Chester, England. The program recently expanded to include extensive activity in New York City. The Legal Department also created a Pro Bono Committee with representatives from seven of its largest offices.

Between the first and second years of this initiative, the Department's pro bono volunteer activity increased almost four-fold, from 1200 hours to more than 4600. Over the past year, Bank of America's Pro Bono Committee has developed a formal pro bono policy, created a web page on the Legal Department's intranet, and resolved several of the issues that may deter in-house legal staff seeking to do pro bono work, including malpractice insurance, time constraints, and skill sets/opportunity matching.

**Innovative partnerships with public interest groups and law firms:**

The company leverages strategic partnerships with law firms and public interest organizations to maximize the impact of its pro bono work, including Greenberg Traurig LLP, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, the Neighborhood Entrepreneur Law Project, Davis Polk & Wardwell, Shearman & Sterling LLP, and Sanctuary for Families, Inc. The company has also made significant financial contributions to local and national pro bono organizations.

**Breadth of effort and commitment to pro bono from the very top and throughout its legal department:**

The degree of support for Bank of America's well-structured and broad-based pro bono efforts is impressive. Through the leadership of its Pro Bono Committee and General Counsel, Bank of America became a Charter Signatory to the Corporate Pro Bono Challenge<sup>SM</sup>. During the past two years, 203 associates, including 136 attorneys, 43 paralegals, and 24 staff, have provided volunteer legal services to a variety of pro bono and public interest causes. Support for that volunteerism comes not only from the leadership of the Legal Department, but also from business groups within the company. For example, a letter signed by three business leaders within the company was sent in support of the associates in the New York Legal Department during the launch of the New York pro bono initiative.

**Impact of its work for those in need:**

The company's pro bono efforts include both group projects and individual pro bono work and have resulted in wills for cancer patients in Atlanta; legal services for victims of domestic violence in New York; assistance to low-income micro-entrepreneurs, also in New York; a landlord/tenant project in San Francisco; representation on FEMA appeals for Hurricane Katrina survivors; preparation of employee handbooks for charitable organizations; advocacy for children; and staffing a bilingual legal clinic for indigent members of the Hispanic community and a legal clinic for the homeless, among its many other pro bono commitments.

Presented, in grateful appreciation, this 29th day of February, 2008.



James W. Jones  
Chair, Pro Bono Institute



Regina M. Pisa  
Co-Chair, Law Firm Pro Bono Project  
Advisory Committee



Bradford L. Smith  
Co-Chair, Corporate Pro Bono  
Advisory Board



Esther F. Lardent  
President, Pro Bono Institute



Robert C. Sheehan  
Co-Chair, Law Firm Pro Bono Project  
Advisory Committee



Laura Stein  
Co-Chair, Corporate Pro Bono  
Advisory Board