

JUDICIAL CONFERENCE
OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

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For Immediate Release

CHIEF JUDGES ANNOUNCE PRO BONO LEADERS AMONG D.C. FIRMS

Washington D.C. - April 18, 2018: In a ceremony to be held at the federal courthouse on Tuesday, April 24, 2018, the Chief Judges of the United States Courts of the D.C. Circuit will honor local law firms for outstanding leadership in pro bono service.

Representatives of the 37 law firms being recognized will join Chief Judge Merrick B. Garland, Chief Judge Beryl A. Howell, and other federal judges for the fifteenth annual 40 at 50 Judicial Pro Bono Recognition Breakfast.

The event honors law firms at which at least 40% of all attorneys dedicated 50 or more hours in 2017 to providing free legal representation to individuals with limited financial resources or to charitable organizations. Thirty-seven firms is a record high number; the previous high was 33, for both 2015 and 2016. Commenting on this trend, Chief Judge Garland noted,

I am pleased to see so many firms with a strong pro bono commitment, and to see an increase in the number of qualifying firms to a record high 37. At our first recognition breakfast in 2002, only seven firms qualified.

This year's honorees are listed below. The sixteen firms where 50% or more of attorneys contributed at least 50 hours in 2017 (designated below with a "**") will receive special recognition at the breakfast. Four of these sixteen (indicated below by a "+") had 60% or more of their attorneys contributing 50 or more hours of pro bono service in 2017—Ropes & Gray, Jenner & Block LLP, Miller & Chevalier, and Paul Hastings.

In alphabetical order, the law firm honorees are:

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP *
Arnold & Porter LLP *
Beveridge & Diamond
Buckley Sandler LLP *
Covington & Burling LLP *
Crowell & Moring LLP
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
Debevoise & Plimpton LLP *
Dechert LLP
DLA Piper
Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP
Foley & Lardner LLP

Kirkland & Ellis
Latham & Watkins *
Mayer Brown LLP
McDermott Will & Emery LLP
Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy *
Miller & Chevalier Chartered *+
O'Melveny & Myers LLP *
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP *
Paul Hastings LLP *+
Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP
Ropes & Gray LLP *+
Shearman & Sterling

Foley Hoag LLP *

Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Hogan Lovells US LLP

Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP

Jenner & Block LLP *+

Jones Day

Sidley Austin LLP

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

Steptoe & Johnson LLP *

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP *

* indicates 50% at 50

+ indicates 60% at 50

Bold font indicates firm partners achieved 40% at 50 goal

The D.C. Circuit Judicial Conference Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Services sponsors this annual event to promote the aspirational goal of the Circuit's Judicial Conference that each attorney contribute at least 50 pro bono hours per year. Law firms with 25 or more attorneys in the District are eligible for recognition.

The breakfast begins at 8:30 a.m. in the William B. Bryant Annex Atrium of the E. Barrett Prettyman Courthouse.

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