

Historically, we have made the development and delivery of legal services to those in need our top *pro bono* priority. Our legacy is grounded in our efforts to work with local organizations to provide legal services in the communities in which we live and work.

We embrace opportunities to serve and do so gladly and without hesitation or reservation. In fact, our firm strongly recommends that all of our lawyers volunteer their time and services, and we begin by recognizing the efforts of our associates who perform 100 *pro bono* hours a year.

Our most recent statistics indicate that on average Squire Patton Boggs donates 18,000 hours of *pro bono* work per annum, worth an estimated USD\$7,000,000.00



Our *Pro Bono* Partnerships

Anglican Church in Poland	Clinton Foundation/AIDS Project	Justice Bus	OneJustice
Asian Art Museum of San Francisco	Do the Write Thing	Justice for Military Families/Military Spouse JD Network	Service and Advocacy for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Elders (SAGE)
Asian Pacific Islander Outreach/Asian American Bar Association Legal Clinic	DSK Mariam Ethiopian Church	Kickstart Kids	The Veterans Consortium
Catholic Charities of the East Bay	Innocence Project	Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)	Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund: Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Why We Do This



Corrine Irish
Of Counsel, New York

"Throughout my legal career, I have sought out 'good trouble, necessary trouble,' as the late John Lewis referred to the fight for justice and equal rights. That search has been nurtured and supported by Squire Patton Boggs and the incredibly talented and conscientious attorneys at the firm. Our Public Service Initiative is a testament to the firm's commitment to improving our criminal justice system and ensuring equal rights and equal justice for all, regardless of race or class."



Michael Forshey
Partner, Washington DC

"I've always pulled for the underdog. As lawyers, we have an obligation to help those less fortunate who cannot navigate the legal system themselves. I like to think of *pro bono* work as billable hours for the soul.

I support Kickstart Kids because I believe within every child is the power to dream more, learn more, do more and become more. Kickstart Kids teaches character through karate to empower youth with core values, such as discipline and respect, to achieve their greatest potential."

Our Public Service Initiative

For years, the lawyers in our Public Service Initiative in our New York office have been on the forefront of efforts on behalf of indigent criminal defendants and those unjustly imprisoned. It is an honor and privilege to work on a diverse range of matters that support social justice and provide legal assistance to those who are most in need.

- **Norfolk Four** – Squire Patton Boggs’ Public Service Initiative (PSI), led by George Kendall, played an important role in the Norfolk Four case. The “Norfolk Four” are four men, Derek Tice, Danial Williams, Joseph J. Dick Jr., and Eric C. Wilson, who were wrongly convicted in 1999 for the 1997 rape and murder of Michelle Moore-Bosko in Norfolk, Virginia. In late fall of 2016, Squire Patton Boggs’ PSI shared news of an important ruling pertaining to client Joseph, when federal judge John Gibney ruled in their habeas corpus litigation that the Norfolk Four were innocent. That order led state prosecutors to dismiss all criminal charges in December 2016. On March 21, 2017, at PSI’s request, Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe granted the Norfolk Four full absolute pardons.
- **Ferguson** – In early 2015, PSI agreed to represent four journalists who had been wrongly arrested while covering lawful demonstrations in the wake of the tragic shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri. PSI sued both the City of St. Louis and the large County of St. Louis for injunctive and monetary relief. In a significant victory, the county agreed to settle under favorable terms that included policy changes for the St. Louis County police department to recognize the right to record police activity. After settling with the St. Louis County defendants in the spring of 2016, PSI set about to complete discovery and prepare for trial against the City of St. Louis defendants. At the same time, during the summer, PSI negotiated for a fair settlement. In September, this part of the case settled. PSI won monetary damages for its clients and significant changes in city police policy concerning the documentation of less than lethal incidents and training for the city’s policy on recording police activity; this was a complete and important win.
- **James McWilliams** – In January 2017, the firm’s PSI was approached to assist with an Alabama capital case, *McWilliams v. Dunn*, which the US Supreme Court agreed to hear in April. The issue was whether Alabama complied with a 1985 Supreme Court decision, *Ake v. Oklahoma*, in providing an indigent mentally ill defendant with access to state mental health officials only, rather than to a professional independent of the state and prosecution. PSI was asked to submit the principal *amicus* brief from several national defender organizations, including National Association for Public Defense, National Legal and Defender Association and the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, among others, to establish that in most jurisdictions, at the time of Mr. McWilliams’ conviction, mental health professionals appointed in a capital case were required to operate independently of the prosecution. Not only was the brief accepted, but also Justice Stephen Breyer’s majority opinion relied upon it prominently in the course of [his opinion](#). A five-justice majority agreed with PSI, found due process had been violated and remanded the case to the Eleventh Circuit for further consideration. Counsel for Mr. McWilliams is grateful to our firm for its assistance.
- **Albert Woodfox** – On February 19, 2016, Louisiana prisoner Albert Woodfox (of the Angola 3) was freed after serving more time in solitary confinement – nearly 43 years – than anyone in US history. His release came after extensive and ultimately successful litigation by the firm’s PSI of his federal *habeas corpus* petition, as well as settlement discussions that had begun in 2013. At the beginning of 2016, Louisiana prosecutors were preparing to retry him a third time, even though all the key witnesses on both sides of the case were deceased, but US District Court Judge James Brady barred a third trial at our request. While that order was vacated by a sharply split two-to-one 5th circuit panel, PSI filed a petition for writ of certiorari in the United States Supreme Court and the court ordered the state to respond. Louisiana’s new attorney general took note of these proceedings and decided it was time to settle. The state abandoned murder charges and Albert entered *nolo contendere* pleas to two lesser offenses and was released from custody. Grove Atlantic Press will publish Albert’s memoir in January of 2019.
- **Gary Tyler** – In the wake of the victory in *Montgomery v. Louisiana*, PSI prepared to resume proceedings in St. Charles Parish court for a resentencing hearing for Gary Tyler, who had been wrongly convicted of murder when he was 16 years old and was sentenced to death. That sentence was later reduced to life without parole. While PSI had spent years trying to uncover overwhelming evidence of Gary’s innocence, there was no DNA, key evidence had been lost and important witnesses were either deceased or refused to cooperate. After extensive discussions, PSI was able to persuade the district attorney to reduce the charge from murder to manslaughter. In a significant way, Gary and his extraordinary prison record as a positive and hopeful role model for other inmates helped convince the district attorney that not only should Gary be released, but that he should be freed without parole or probation supervision. At the April 29, 2016 court hearing, both the judge and prosecutor expressed their admiration for the life Gary built in prison. The charge was reduced to manslaughter and a 40-year sentence was imposed (time served). That afternoon, the Angola Warden personally drove Gary to the front gate. The warden had known Gary since Gary’s 1977 arrival at Angola and appreciated him as an enormously positive force at the prison. Gary is now working with a homeless youth program in southern California and is a valued employee.

Our Pro Bono Achievements

- We were recognized as one of the best law firms to work for in the US, according to the *Vault.com* survey of law firm associates. Most notably, the firm maintained its number one ranking for *pro bono*, one of the key areas in the “Quality of Life” category. We have been in Vault’s top five for *pro bono* every year since 2008.
- We have dedicated countless hours of service towards the successful opening of the Conway Health and Resource Center in Washington DC’s Bellevue neighborhood. The 50,000-square foot facility provides medical, dental and behavioral healthcare to district residents, primarily in Ward 8. The state-of-the-art center houses 20 medical exam rooms, 11 dental chairs, six rooms for behavioral health services and conference space. Housing resources staffs are also available at the site.
- Lawyers in our Cleveland office have supported the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland for more than 40 years. This includes receiving training to handle abuse and domestic violence cases. In recent years, our lawyers have handled 20 cases for victims of domestic violence seeking protective orders against their abusers. Our longstanding and deep commitment to the Legal Aid Society is reflected in Columbus, Ohio where one of our partners serves as the board president for Legal Aid. Our lawyers have also successfully argued numerous habeas and criminal appeals in the Sixth Circuit and other federal appellate courts.
- The Dallas Bar Association recognized Squire Patton Boggs with the Gold Award for Pro Bono Service. We have received this recognition from the Dallas Bar Association 12 years in a row.
- Several of our Phoenix office lawyers serve on a *pro bono* committee of the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project, which represents refugees who have been victims of domestic violence and face removal action to their countries of origin.
- Our Denver office has been actively involved in the long-running *Lobato v. Taylor* litigation. The Taylor Ranch case is a 35-year effort to secure access to a 77,500-acre mountainous land parcel, known as Taylor Ranch, for residents of Costilla County, Colorado. Aaron Boschee, senior associate in the firm’s Litigation Practice Group in Denver, took over as lead counsel for the plaintiff-class and spearheaded negotiations with the opposing side, which resulted in access rights for hundreds of additional landowners. Aaron was awarded the Colorado Lawyers Committee’s *Individual of the Year Award* for his *pro bono* efforts on this case.
- Our Florida lawyers partner with Disability Rights Florida, a not-for-profit assisting K-12 students with physical or mental disabilities access the public education system, in providing legal representation in connection with individual cases.
- Our Houston office has become a “go-to” volunteer firm for the Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program. Our lawyers volunteer their professional services for counsel and advice sessions at legal clinics, as well as handle an allotment of cases under the Equal Access to Justice Champions Program. They also handle referrals of divorce cases for indigent litigants.
- We represented an openly gay member of the US military who challenged the constitutionality of his discharge from service.
- Launched a domestic violence relief program with the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland. Under the program, Legal Aid Society lawyers train firm lawyers to handle abuse and domestic violence cases. In addition, we made a significant four-year contribution to fund a domestic violence staff attorney position at the Legal Aid Society.
- Represented a California inmate in his successful appeal in a religious freedom case. A member of the Sikh faith, our client challenged prison grooming rules that required him to cut his hair, which is not permitted in the Sikh religion.
- Represented the National Center for Lesbian Rights in a landmark custody trial, the conclusion of a four-year-long fight between two mothers over their daughter.
- Assisted an active-duty sergeant in the US Army related to sponsoring his father for US permanent residency and petitioning the US Consulate in Cameroon to accept a waiver of inadmissibility application.
- Providing *pro bono* services to The Asia Foundation and its affiliate Give2Asia, the leading 501(c)(3) organization facilitating charitable gifts to Asia.
- Persuaded the Ninth Circuit to overturn a Board of Immigration Appeals order denying the application of a client for political asylum and withholding of removal (denial of deportation) following his flight from discrimination and persecution in Armenia.

Our Leadership



Corrine A. Irish
Of Counsel, New York
T +1 212 872 9823
E corrine.irish@squirepb.com



Michael S. Forshey
Partner, Dallas
T +1 214 758 3540
E michael.forshey@squirepb.com



George H. Kendall
Of Counsel, New York
T +1 212 872 9834
E george.kendall@squirepb.com

Recognitions

- **George H. Kendall** was presented with the 2017 Norman Redlich Capital Defense Distinguished Service Award by the New York City Bar Association’s Capital Punishment Committee. The Award is given periodically to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding lifetime commitment to capital defense work, whether as counsel for a capital defendant or as an advocate for the abolition of the death penalty.
- **Our Columbus office** received the “Outstanding Service by a Law Firm or Corporation” Award from the Legal Aid Society of Columbus.