



# Pro Bono Q&A

*A word with our pro bono attorneys*

NOVEMBER 2021



Foley Hoag is committed to providing significant, high-quality pro bono services. **The firm's Pro Bono Program provides our attorneys, specialists, paralegals, and legal assistants in all our offices (Boston, New York, Washington, D.C. and Paris) with challenging opportunities to help individuals and organizations in need.** Our pro bono work is varied, and all pro bono matters receive the same level of dedication, professionalism and care as our billable matters.

Recently, several of our attorneys took part in a pro bono-themed discussion. Each weighed in on the pro bono work they've done, recounted memorable cases and offered their personal views on pro bono work at Foley Hoag.



## Let's start close to home: why is pro bono work important to you, personally?

**REBECCA CAZABON:** As lawyers, we are in a unique and privileged position to help others. It's simply the right thing to do. Our legal system and the people it serves depend on us.

**ANDREW LONDON:** I've had a number of great opportunities in my life, including going to law school and working at a firm like Foley Hoag. I feel a social obligation to share the skills I've been able to build through those opportunities to better my community.

**NICOLE KINSLEY:** Not to mention the fact that it feels really important to put a law degree to unambiguously good use.

**PIERRE D'ARGENT:** I've always been encouraged by how much Foley Hoag values pro bono work, and how receptive it is when an attorney brings in a pro bono client that is new to the firm.

**CHRISTINA HIOUREAS:** It is so important to provide support to victims and survivors of human rights abuses, to fight injustice and to provide a voice for those who have not been heard.

**SETH JAFFE:** For me, it provides an opportunity to take a stand against the current administration in Washington!

**LONDON:** It also provides a great avenue for new lawyers to improve their legal skills.

### REBECCA CAZABON

#### PRO BONO MANAGING ATTORNEY - BOSTON

Rebecca coordinates and manages the pro bono work for the firm. She also represents low-income clients, mainly domestic violence and sexual assault survivors, in abuse prevention, immigration, privacy, housing, special education, criminal advocacy and appellate matters.





### ANDREW LONDON

ASSOCIATE - BOSTON

Andrew is an associate in the firm's Administrative Law Department. His practice involves a wide array of regulatory compliance and general litigation matters. Andrew has diverse experience in a variety of government regulatory issues.



### NICOLE KINSLEY

ASSOCIATE - BOSTON

Nicole is an associate in the firm's Intellectual Property department, where she focuses in trademark, copyright, and false advertising matters. Nicole has an active pro bono practice, assisting charitable and arts organizations with their trademark and copyright needs, and representing victims of domestic abuse.

**Q:** Foley Hoag has been widely recognized for the varied sizes and scopes of its pro bono matters, from far-reaching national efforts like appealing DOMA to more individualized cases involving political asylum. What do you find so special about pro bono at Foley Hoag and the firm's Pro Bono Program?

**KINSLEY:** Foley Hoag's commitment is hugely appreciated because it's sincere. It's more than talk when the firm backs it up with a dedicated attorney and thousands of hours counted as though they were billable.

**HIOUREAS:** And through work on strategic litigation, we can work towards the progressive development of international law.

**LONDON:** Foley Hoag's commitment to pro bono work is genuine. The vast majority of our lawyers do pro bono work because they want to do the work, not because they want to help the firm's rankings or statistics, or out of a professional obligation.

**KINSLEY:** And, it's been really meaningful to see the firm mobilize repeatedly each time an awful new injustice rears its head.

### In a typical year, Foley Hoag...

- handles approximately **400 pro bono matters**
- contributes approximately **17,000 hours to its pro bono program**
- provides at least **3.5% of the firm's workload to pro bono efforts**
- serves the community through **board involvement**
- is active in numerous **charitable organizations**



### PIERRE D'ARGENT

SPECIAL COUNSEL - PARIS

Pierre d'Argent is special counsel at Foley Hoag and specializes in representing States before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and other international courts and tribunals.

## Q: What has been your most rewarding pro bono case?

**CAZABON:** I helped a young immigrant woman who was brutally controlled by her spouse. She was terrified that without immigration papers, she would be deported or even killed by her husband. I helped her obtain protection from abuse, legal immigration status, work authorization and her green card. She recently was awarded a scholarship to go to college, and told me that receiving it help changed her life - which has enabled her to change the lives of others.

**D'ARGENT:** I've advised Doctors Without Borders on issues related to the migration crisis in the Mediterranean. I thought it would be a good fit with our pro bono program. The representation consisted of a difficult legal issue, an important cause, and a Nobel Peace-prizewinning non-profit organization. What else could you ask for in pro bono?

**KINSLEY:** While I enjoy working with pro bono arts organizations, my DV clients are the most meaningful and rewarding, even on the bad days.

**HIOUREAS:** Two cases stand out for me: one was working on the appeal of a decision by the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia with respect to its denial of jurisdiction over crimes against humanity committed during the Khmer Rouge era; the other relates to international crimes committed during the Pinochet regime in Chile in a case brought against a former Lieutenant responsible for the detention, torture and killing of civilians in the 1970s.



### CHRISTINA HIOUREAS

#### COUNSEL - NEW YORK

Christina represents States, private and State-owned entities, and individuals on international disputes and public international law matters. She advises States on matters before the United Nations and its bodies and serves as arbitrator in international commercial disputes.

## Q: On a related note, what has been your greatest take-away from a pro bono case?

**CAZABON:** Pro bono really can make a difference in someone's life. I'd say my biggest take-away from all the pro bono matters I've worked on is the fact that so many people need help. That, and being poor shouldn't determine the outcome of your case.

**JAFFE:** Without fail, just how talented and committed Foley Hoag lawyers are.

**LONDON:** Each of my immigration clients are inspiring people. They are all children who came to the United States by themselves. Their courage is extraordinary.

## SETH JAFFE

PARTNER - BOSTON

Seth works on a wide range of environmental law issues, representing clients in the permitting/licensing of new facilities and offering ongoing guidance on permitting and enforcement related matters. He is one of the authors of the [Law & the Environment Blog](#).



## Q: What would you say to an attorney contemplating taking part in the firm's Pro Bono Program?

**LONDON:** Every attorney should do pro bono work. It's rewarding, and allows an attorney to vividly experience how the law impacts individuals and organizations in a different manner than the firm's paying clients. Practicing law in these different contexts has made me a more well-rounded attorney.

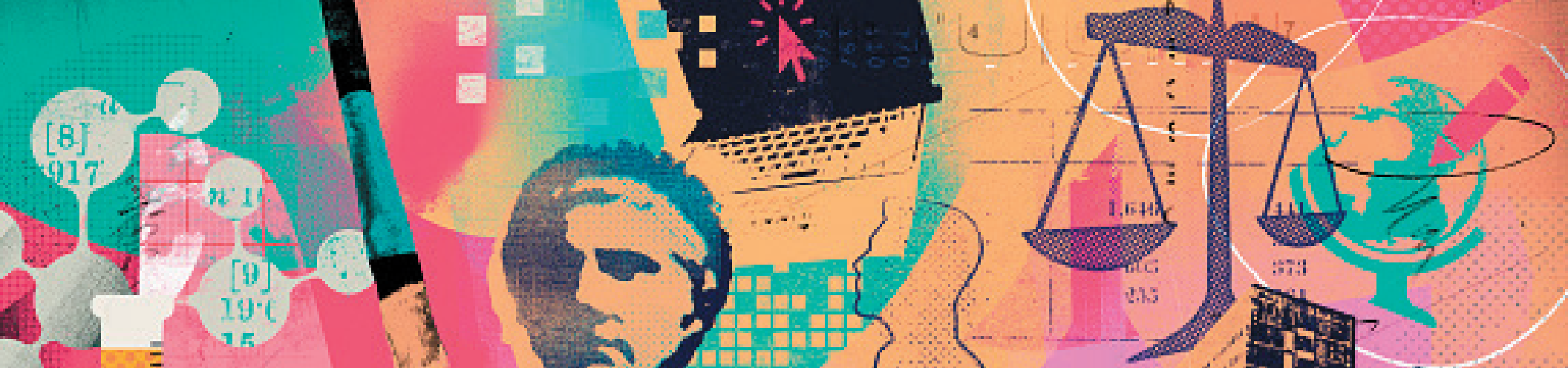
**JAFFE:** I tell attorneys - especially ones just starting out - to go for it. For associates, it's important to have a close working relationship with a partner. This ensures that the work is appropriate and efficient, and that the associate can learn from the Pro Bono Program as much as possible.



## SOME OF OUR PRO BONO PARTNERS







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