

Honoring Our Own

Each year, Ballard Spahr honors every lawyer and paralegal who has performed more than 50 hours of pro bono service. The firm also recognizes four individuals or groups who have made significant pro bono contributions during the past year, and donates \$1,000 to a charitable organization chosen by the honorees. These awards are in addition to the \$25,000 Alan J. Davis award recognizing outstanding public service.

In 2010, the honorees were:

Legal Aid Clinic Team (Atlanta). Attorneys from Ballard Spahr's Atlanta office (**Joseph P. Anderson, J. Scott Anderson, Cecilia Andrews, Bruce Becker, Charley Brown, David Cornett, Winston Folmar, Robin Gentry, John Graves, Kevin Hathcock, J. Gibson Lanier, Scott Marty, Rebecca McFadyen, Mary An Merchant, Jennifer F. Miller, D. Brian Shortell, and Seth Trimble**) turned out last summer to organize and staff a clinic to provide residents of the Living Room, Inc., with living wills and advanced-care directives. Living Room, Inc., is a nonprofit organization that helps find affordable housing for low-income individuals living with HIV or AIDS. The Atlanta Office Legal Aid Clinic Team has designated its donation to be divided between Atlanta Legal Aid Society and Living Room, Inc.

Frederic (Rick) L. Ballard, Jr. (Washington, D.C.). Rick has been an engaged leader in the nonprofit sector for many years, and the pro bono program regularly relies on him for advice and supervision in matters involving nonprofit organizations. In addition to volunteering his own services, Rick is an active and engaged mentor and supervisor for young lawyers, providing them with valuable training on substantive tax issues and the highest standards of client service. Rick has designated his donation to be made to the Washington Area Women's Foundation.

Tangled Title Team (Philadelphia). Over the past several years, **Frederic W. Clark, Jeffrey Meyers, Aldie Loubier, and Francine Appleton** have donated hundreds of hours to "tangled title" matters, helping low-income homeowners establish clear title to their homes. Clearing title for these homeowners is significant in that it is frequently a prerequisite for them to apply for heating and repair grants, settle tax liens, or refinance their homes. The team maintains a constant docket of these cases, contacting legal services to send a new one whenever they resolve an existing matter. The Tangled Title Team has designated its donation to be made to the Tangled Title Fund at Philadelphia Volunteers for the Indigent Program.

Juvenile Justice Training Materials Project (Philadelphia). As a result of the 2008 scandal involving judicial misconduct in sentencing juvenile defendants in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, the Defender Association of Philadelphia developed a project to improve and standardize the level of representation provided to juveniles across Pennsylvania. Since July 2008, **Amy Shellhammer** has led a team of Ballard Spahr attorneys (**Aisha Barbour, Lisa Cuifolo, Mark Furletti, Kelley Grady, Emily Heersink, Jocelyn O'Brien, and Alexandre Turner**) in researching and drafting chapters addressing common topics for a statewide training manual. The Juvenile Justice Training Materials Project has designated its donation to be made to the Defender Association of Philadelphia.