

IMPACT ATLAS



100%
PARTICIPATION
BY FULL-TIME US LAWYERS
IN PRO BONO ENGAGEMENTS

2013 Pro Bono
Annual Report

HUNTON &
WILLIAMS

PRO BONO IMPACT



LAND CONSERVANCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Hunton & Williams lawyers represent on a pro bono basis a number of land conservancy and environmental organizations that seek to conserve and protect the nation's environment and national parks for future generations.

► *In 2012 Hunton & Williams lawyers dedicated more than 1,000 pro bono hours to nonprofit organizations that seek to provide a clean and sustainable world for our children.*

Lawyers at Hunton & Williams LLP get involved in pro bono work because it is the right thing to do, and because it strengthens our skills and our communities. With more than 800 lawyers in 19 US and international offices, our pro bono practice continues to expand into new communities and causes, cultivating numerous opportunities to partner for the public good.



ADOPTIONS

Hunton & Williams lawyers and staff in the Los Angeles office have paired with The Alliance for Children's Rights in taking active roles in both local and National Adoption Days throughout the year, during which time courts across the country open their doors to finalize long-awaited adoptions of foster children. During the fiscal year of 2013, Hunton & Williams Los Angeles lawyers and staff assisted with adoptions of 18 foster children, devoting more than 180 pro bono hours to these cases.

► *Firmwide, Hunton & Williams lawyers dedicated more than 500 hours to adoption cases for foster children.*



IMMIGRATION

Hunton & Williams Dallas lawyers secured asylum for an Eritrean woman and a member of her family who fled Eritrea following her release from a government prison. While in prison she had been tortured for refusing to reveal the whereabouts of her husband, who unbeknownst to her had gone AWOL from Eritrea's National Service. Several years before this incident the woman had been arrested, imprisoned and tortured for allegedly stealing travel documents from her place of employment and giving them to Eritrean citizens who wanted to flee the country. She was detained upon entry into the US and paroled in the public interest. Hunton & Williams lawyers and staff spent more than 650 pro bono hours on the case to secure asylum for this client.

► *Hunton & Williams lawyers spent more than 3,500 hours on asylum and immigration cases for victims of crime or violence in 2012.*



ANIMAL RIGHTS

Hunton & Williams Norfolk and Washington lawyers provided legal assistance to Chimp Haven, a nonprofit sanctuary for "retired" research chimpanzees after the National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced that it would transfer 100 chimpanzees no longer needed for research to a facility in Texas where they would remain caged. In 2002 Congress had passed the CHIMP Act, which established that retired chimpanzees would be sent to live in large social groups in outdoor habitats. Chimp Haven, located in northeast Louisiana, was selected as the only facility in America permitted to house such chimpanzees because of its open environment. The founding members of Chimp Haven, experts in primatology and chimpanzee behavioral management, recognized that the decision to relocate these chimpanzees to a facility where the chimps would be confined in cages, instead of relocating them to the approved sanctuary, appeared to be a clear violation of federal law. Hunton & Williams lawyers agreed and determined that the proposed actions by NIH were in violation of the CHIMP Act. Legal materials were provided to Chimp Haven, which represented to NIH that Hunton & Williams was ready to file suit on behalf of their organization so that the retired chimpanzees would be properly relocated. As a result, NIH publicly stated that as many chimpanzees as possible will be moved before August 2013 and that "eventually all 100 chimpanzees will be relocated to Chimp Haven."

► *Hunton & Williams lawyers partnered with The Humane Society of the United States on a number of cases in 2012. More than 400 hours were dedicated to animal rights cases on a pro bono basis.*



DISABILITY ASSISTANCE

A Hunton & Williams Atlanta lawyer recently assisted a nonprofit client in establishing a program to broadcast book readings to blind and disabled children by volunteer lawyers. For more than 30 years Georgia Radio Reading Service (GARRS) has been broadcasting via special radios and Internet access the audio readings of copyrighted materials for registered adults who are blind or disabled. Because the new program involved checking out children's books from libraries for broadcast readings, potential partnering libraries and lawyers were concerned about possible copyright issues. The Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta (PBPA) referred GARRS to Hunton & Williams to assist in providing legal support for the new program in view of applicable copyright laws. Because of the work of the firm, GARRS will be able to continue with the program and disabled children will have the continued benefit of listening to broadcast book readings.

► *Hunton & Williams lawyers provided more than 650 hours of pro bono legal advice to nonprofit organizations that support and protect individuals with disabilities.*

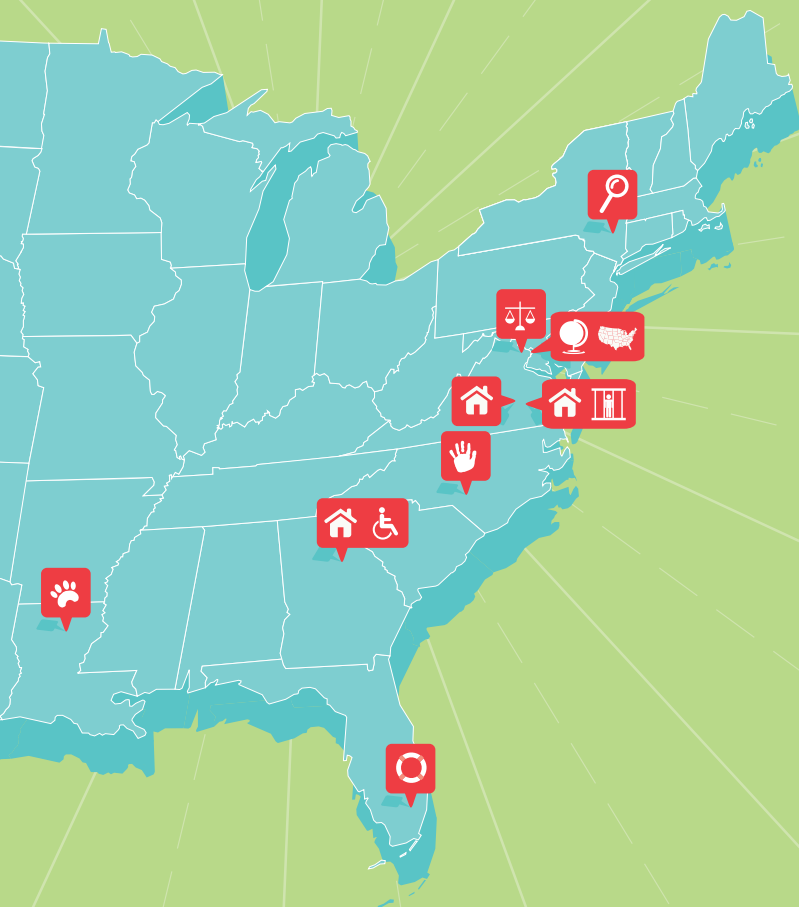




VETERANS

Since 2008, Hunton & Williams has provided pro bono legal assistance to veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, seeking disability benefits through a partnership with the National Veterans Legal Services Program (NVLSP). With staggering unemployment, enormous health care costs and the highest rate of PTSD among service members, Iraq- and Afghanistan-era veterans and their families are in great need of disability, discharge and veterans benefits. Lawyers from Hunton & Williams have represented more than 100 veterans on multiple, multiyear claims to date. The firm also participates in a project with NVLSP to redress injustices in military separations before the Army Board for Correction of Military Records and the Physical Disability Board of Review. Hunton & Williams currently has more than 100 NVLSP volunteer lawyers.

► **Hunton & Williams lawyers dedicated more than 2,000 hours on a pro bono basis to veterans in their appeals for better benefits in 2012.**



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD PRO BONO PARTNERSHIP

In 2012, Hunton & Williams formed a partnership with the United States Coast Guard in an effort to help service members and their families with their legal needs on a pro bono basis in the firm's Miami, New York, Washington and Norfolk offices. In the partnership's first case, Miami lawyers assisted a US Coast Guard member in collecting compensatory and punitive damages for property that had been stolen and sold while the service member was out at sea. On the basis of a federal statute that prohibits the enforcement of liens against active duty service members absent a court order, in late 2012, Hunton & Williams filed a suit in federal court to collect damages for the stolen property. The court entered a final default judgment awarding the firm's client the damages.

► **In the partnership's first year, Hunton & Williams lawyers have dedicated more than 275 hours to the legal needs of Coast Guard service members and their families.**



ELDER LAW

Many elderly citizens lack the means to obtain basic estate planning counseling and critical documents such as wills, advance medical directives and powers of attorney. Their situations are often compelling. Even those with few assets want to be certain that they protect what they have for their families from unnecessary medical expenses or potential mismanagement as they lose the ability to manage their own finances. Lawyers in our McLean and Dallas offices partner with firm clients to draft critical documents for low-income elderly residents. The firm works with local legal aid organizations to staff several wills clinics several times throughout each year.

► **In 2012, Hunton & Williams lawyers dedicated more than 800 pro bono hours to drafting wills, advance medical directives and powers of attorney for elderly or hospitalized individuals.**



INNOCENCE PROJECT MICHAEL W. HASH CASE



In January 2013, the *National Law Journal* named Hunton & Williams to their annual Pro Bono Hot List for the firm's involvement with the Michael W. Hash case. Hash was convicted of capital murder in 2001 in Culpeper County, Virginia, and sentenced to life imprisonment without the chance of parole at the age of 19. Convinced that Hash was innocent and that his trial was unfair, the Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project approached Hunton & Williams to take on Hash's federal habeas petition. Richmond partner Matthew Bosher and investigator Stan Lapekas led a team of Hunton & Williams lawyers in the case. In February of 2012, a federal judge in Roanoke, Virginia, granted full habeas corpus relief for Hash based on the "outrageous misconduct" of Culpeper law enforcement officials. Hash's conviction was vacated and he was released from prison. In August, the special prosecutor assigned to review the case declined to retry Hash and now the Hunton & Williams team is pursuing a civil suit for Hash against the Culpeper officials responsible for his wrongful conviction. The Hunton & Williams team of lawyers and staff has dedicated more than 3,000 hours to representing Hash.

► **In 2012, Hunton & Williams lawyers dedicated more than 1,500 hours to the Michael W. Hash case, the David W. Boyce case, the Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project screening committee and other Innocence Project referrals.**

NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL'S 2013 PRO BONO HOT LIST FOR WORK WITH THE MICHAEL W. HASH INNOCENCE PROJECT CASE



CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

During the fiscal year of 2013, lawyers in the Charlotte office assisted the Council for Children's Rights (CFCR) with more than 10 children's cases. The office began a signature initiative with CFCR to protect the best interest of children in high-conflict custody disputes and with sexual or physical abuse allegations. Charlotte and Raleigh lawyers also assist children through the North Carolina Guardian ad Litem program. The NC GAL program represents the needs of abused, neglected or dependent children whose cases come before the courts.

► **Hunton & Williams lawyers dedicated more than 4,500 hours to protecting the rights and best interests of children during 2012.**



SOUTHSIDE LEGAL CENTER NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICE

Since the Southside Legal Center's establishment in 1995, more than 2,000 individuals and organizations have contacted the clinic for assistance with various legal matters. Hunton & Williams opened the neighborhood pro bono office to provide low-income Atlanta residents with family, housing, business, guardianship and elder law assistance on a pro bono basis. The clinic, located in downtown Atlanta, has represented more than 400 individuals and organizations. The clinic is staffed by Hunton & Williams' Atlanta lawyers, including the Atlanta office's full-time pro bono fellow Brian Green. Atlanta pro bono coordinator Toni Poole screens potential clients for eligibility and then schedules them for intake interviews with a Hunton & Williams lawyer who has volunteered to do intake.



► *In 2012, Hunton & Williams Atlanta lawyers provided more than 2,000 hours to Southside Legal Center clients and referrals.*



CHURCH HILL OFFICE

More than 20 years after its opening in 1990, the Church Hill office remains a beacon in the Hunton & Williams pro bono program. The office, located in the Church Hill neighborhood of Richmond, continues to support low-income residents with guardianships and family and real estate law. Sandy Reynolds has coordinated the office's efforts since its opening. Britt Olwine, the Richmond pro bono fellow, spends 100 percent of her time on pro bono projects through Central Virginia Legal Aid and the office's referrals. To date, more than 800 different Hunton & Williams lawyers and staff have served more than 4,700 clients in the Church Hill office.



► *In 2012, Hunton & Williams lawyers dedicated more than 2,000 hours to pro bono clients in the firm's Church Hill office, helping low-income residents with uncontested divorces and guardianship, custody, domestic violence and landlord/tenant matters.*

45,743 HOURS DONATED GLOBALLY TO PRO BONO CLIENTS



INTERNATIONAL

Lawyers in Hunton & Williams' Washington and London offices represented Manav Sadhna, an NGO based in India that seeks to "brighten the future of underprivileged children." Referred by Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services, the organization



sought US and UK visa assistance and an understanding of child labor laws in the US in connection with *The Ekatva Oneness Tour*, a program in which 16 children from the slums of Ahmedabad toured the US and United Kingdom to perform a dramatization of Mahatma Gandhi's messages of love and "Oneness."



CHARLOTTESVILLE OFFICE

Hunton & Williams opened a pro bono office on the campus of the Legal Aid Justice Center in Charlottesville in 2005. Housed at the historic "Rock House," the partnership teams firm lawyers with University of Virginia School of Law students to handle various matters primarily on behalf of victims of domestic violence. Cases include protective order and child custody cases for victims of domestic violence, applications for political asylum and other immigration petitions, including U visas on behalf of crime victims, VAWA self-petitions on behalf of abused spouses of US citizens or permanent residents, and Special Immigrant Juvenile petitions for young immigrants in the United States without their parents. Support and assistance with cases is provided by a full-time pro bono Hunton & Williams associate in Charlottesville.



► *In 2012, Hunton & Williams lawyers dedicated more than 1,300 hours to pro bono clients in the firm's Charlottesville office.*



INTERNATIONAL CHILD ABDUCTION

Lawyers in the New York office represent a father in an international child abduction case proceeding under the Hague Convention. The case raises two issues: the availability of equitable tolling to the filing period for a petition for the return of the child, and whether persons lacking legal immigration status can qualify as "settled" under the Convention. In response to the team's petition for a writ of certiorari, the Supreme Court of the United States called for the views of the solicitor general. At the invitation of the solicitor general, the team traveled to Washington, DC, and advocated the client's position before representatives from the Department of Justice, the State Department, the Department of Homeland Security and the Office of the Solicitor General.

► *Hunton & Williams lawyers spent more than 1,800 hours on three international child abduction cases during 2012.*

For more information about the Hunton & Williams pro bono program, please contact: George H. Hettrick, pro bono leadership committee chair, at 804.788.8324 or ghettrick@hunton.com.

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