BROOKLYN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION A

Annual Partnership Awards Benefit

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2013, 6PM
Skadden, Arps

is proud to support

Brooklyn A

and congratulates tonight’s honorees

Michael Cooper
The Judge Harold Tyler Award

David Lopez
The Sargent Shriver Award
6:00 pm  **Cocktails & Dinner**

7:00 pm  **Welcome from the Master of Ceremonies**

ROMA TORRE
NY1

**Welcome Remarks**

MARTIN S. NEEDELMAN, Executive Director & Chief Counsel
PAUL J. ACINAPURA, General Counsel
Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
JAMES H.R. WINDELS
Davis Polk & Wardwell
Board Chair, Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A

**Guest Speaker**

GLENN LAU-KEE
Kee & Lau-Kee
President-elect, New York State Bar Association

7:30 pm  **Award Presentations**

Special Remarks/Denis Berger Award
MARTY MARKOWITZ
Brooklyn Borough President

Judge Harold R. Tyler Award
MICHAEL A. COOPER
Sullivan & Cromwell

Pro-Bono Service Awards

Sargent Shriver Award
DAVID LOPEZ
Community Activist and Poet

8:30 pm  **Thank you remarks**

ROMA TORRE
NY1
GREETINGS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND GENERAL COUNSEL

Dear Friends of Brooklyn A,

We are truly thankful that you have come tonight to share in the recognition of the extraordinary Honorees at this year’s Annual Partnership Awards Benefit and to celebrate the progress that Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A has made in promoting justice over the past 45 years. Your attendance at this Event is a testament to the commitment that you have made in assisting us in advancing and protecting the interests of the communities we serve throughout Brooklyn. We are thrilled to be able to count on you as a supporter of Brooklyn A and our mission.

We use the Event as a moment to pause and honor those who champion the right to high-quality and accessible legal services and those who support Brooklyn A and its partnerships with the wonderful community-based organizations in our neighborhoods. Without your support this critical legal work would not be possible, and for that we express our sincere gratitude.

The Event has a rich history at Brooklyn A as an annual tradition dating back to 1987. It is an occasion that for 25 years has allowed us to honor the significant and inspiring work of individuals from our community, legal, and corporate partners whose exemplary contributions and actions both empower communities and enable essential access to justice. We are proud to recognize this year’s honorees and how their own dedication and values align so closely with the core tenets of Brooklyn A.

Michael Cooper is the recipient of this year’s Judge Harold R. Tyler Award given to a lawyer with a strong commitment to public service. Throughout his highly successful legal career at Sullivan & Cromwell LLP and as former President of the New York City Bar Association, Michael Cooper has exemplified a consistent and inspirational dedication to public service. Michael served as Co-Chair of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law from 1993 to 1995. From 1981 to 1983 he was president of the Legal Aid Society and chaired the Board of Pro Bono Net from 2000 to 2010. Mr. Cooper has also chaired a task force of the New York City Bar Association which studied employment opportunities for the previously incarcerated. Michael’s commitment to public interest illustrates the significant impact that the practice of law can have on the community at large.
David Lopez is the recipient of this year’s Sargent Shriver Award. David was born in Williamsburg, and since his early adolescence he has been committed to serving his community and culture in so many significant ways. As an activist Mr. Lopez has helped children facing the possibility of dropping out of high school by working as a family associate. He also systematically changed the way tenants were being taken advantage of during his years as a mediator in Housing Court. Because of his great work in Court he was recruited by the New York City Commission of Human Rights, where he investigated potential human rights abuses for over 20 years. David is also an accomplished poet, whose poetry focuses on the struggles that disadvantaged communities and individuals face. Currently David serves as the chairman of South Side United HDFC (Los Sures), is a member of Brooklyn A’s Board of Directors, and is working with fellow activists for release of political prisoner Oscar López Rivera. In all of these endeavors David continues to carry on his tradition of inspiring others in his community through his words and actions.

We also honor Marty Markowitz, our extraordinary and long-serving Brooklyn Borough President, with the Denis Berger Award. Mr. Markowitz has been a tremendous advocate for Brooklyn and its neighborhoods, bringing the businesses and public interest organizations of our borough together in joint efforts to preserve the vibrant cultures of Brooklyn while simultaneously focusing on improving the quality of life for all Brooklynites. Marty began his career in public service as a community organizer, and after becoming borough president in 2001 he has remained steadfast to his commitment of advocating for the economic, social and cultural interests of Brooklyn.

Each honoree shares with Brooklyn A the type of dedication in serving the community that is necessary for establishing long lasting change. This past year marks an exciting time for Brooklyn A as recent restructuring has allowed us to be more independent in our approach to providing legal services. As a result Brooklyn A is now more than ever committed to addressing issues by working with community-based organizations and a variety of other local partners and networks. We are especially proud of being a legal services organization that focuses on involvement and synergy within a community. We believe that a successful strategy for combating injustice is one that solves the problems of individuals and communities as a whole; empowering them to build, grow, and sustain their neighborhoods.

We look to the future with a sense of hope and enthusiasm and are continuously encouraged by the support of our partnerships with law firms, businesses, and community organizations. Thank you all for standing with us and continuing to support our mission of building communities, ensuring opportunities, and achieving justice!

Martin S. Needelman
Paul J. Acinapura
2013 PRO BONO SERVICE AWARDS

PAMELA KAPLAN
Kelley Drye & Warren LLP

VICTORIA E. ANDERSON
Kelley Drye & Warren LLP

ROBERT SAFRON
Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP

MINA C MASIAMI
Paul Hastings LLP

LINDA REGIS HALLINAN
Pepper Hamilton LLP

CHRIS HOWARD
Pepper Hamilton LLP

RICHARD DAVIS
Richard J Davis

LINDSEY CONRAD KENNEDY
Debevoise & Plimpton LLP

TRICIA SHERNO
Debevoise & Plimpton LLP

HOLLY SAWYER
Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP

THOMAS PEASE
Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP

DAVID SCHWARTZ
Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP

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Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

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Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

NICHOLAS MONTORIO
Herrick, Feinstein LLP

MITCH MCGUFFEY

DANIEL ROSS
Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP

DEREK SILVERMAN
Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP

STACEY HARKLEY
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP

MIRIAM BUHL
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP
2013 HONOREES

Judge Herold Tyler Award
MICHAEL COOPER
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

Sarget Shriver Award
DAVID LOPEZ
Community Activist and Poet

Denis Berger Award
MARTY MARKOWITZ
Brooklyn Borough President
2012
Denis Berger Award
MARIADELE PRIEST
Capital One Bank
Sargent Shriver Award
DIANA REYNA
NYC Council Member, 34th District
Judge Harold R. Tyler Award
WILLIAM F. CAVANUAGH, JR.
Patterson, Belknap Webb & Tyler

2011
SARGENT SHRIVER (1915-2011) (posthumously)
Special Olympics International
DAN NISSENBAM
Urban Investment Group of Goldman Sachs Bank
HARVEY LAWRENCE
Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center

2010
TOMMY MOORE AND JUDITH LIVINGSTON
Kramer, Dillof, Livingston and Moore
STEVE FLAX
M&T Bank
MILDRED TUDY JOHNSTON
Crispus Attucks Community Counsel

2009
JOHN D. FEERICK
Fordham University School of Law
EILEEN AULD
Citi
FATHER JOHN POWIS
Bushwick Housing Independence Project

2008
BETTINA B. PLEVAN
Proskauer Rose LLP
VINCENT F. PALAGIANO
Dime Community Bancshares, Inc.
LUIS GARDEN ACOSTA
El Puente

2007
PAUL J. CURRAN, (1933-2008)
Kaye Scholer LLP
BRENDAN J. DUGAN
St. Francis College
MARIA CONTRERAS-COLLIER
Cypress Hills Child Care Center

2006
ROBERT C. SHEEHAN
Skadden, Arps, Meagher & Flom LLP & Associates
TERRI THOMSON
Thomson Strategies LLC
BARBARA SCHLIFF
Los Sures (Southside United Housing Development Fund Corporation)

2005
JOHN CALLAGY
Kelly Drye & Warren LLP
THOMAS EARLY
Elderplan
DR. CLAUDE OFFORD
Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center

2004
EVAN DAVIS
Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP
MAUREEN BATEMAN
Evercore Trust Company
MICHAEL ROCHFORD
St. Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation Corp.

2003
JAMES F. GILL
Bryan Cave LLP
FREDERICK W. HILL
Retired, J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.
JEFFREY E. DUNSTON
Northeast Brooklyn Housing Development Corp.

2002
ZACHARY W. CARTER
Dorsey & Whitney LLP
MACDARA LYNCH
Pfizer Global Manufacturing
SISTER PEGGY WALSH
Southside Community Mission

2001
BARBARA PAUL ROBINSON
Debevoise & Plimpton LLP
MARLYN G. GELBER
Brooklyn Community Foundation
MAURICE A. REID
Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center
2000
FREDERICK A. O. SCHWARZ, JR.
Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP
JOHN M. IMPERIALE
J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.
DAVID D. PAGAN
Los Sures (Southside United Housing Development Fund Corporation)

1999
PATRICIA M. HYNES
Allen & Overy LLP
FRANCES A. RESHESKE
Con Edison
ADBUR RAHMAN FARRAHAN
Oceanhill-Brownsville Tenants Association

1998
BARRY H. GARFINKEL
Skadden, Arps, Meagher & Flom LLP & Associates
MAGDA N. YRIZARRY
Verizon
JOHN F. MULHERN
Nuestros Ninos Child Development School

1997
CONRAD HARPER
Retired, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
MICHELLE NEUGEBAUER
Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation

1996
HENRY L. KING
Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP
ANGELA M. BATTAGLIA
Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council, Inc.

1995
JUDGE HAROLD T. TYLER, JR.,
(1922-2005)
Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP
Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center

1993
SARGENT SHRIVER, (1915-2011)
Special Olympics International
SALLY HERNANDEZ-PINERO
East Harlem Business Capital Corporation
VITO J. LOPEZ
New York State Assemblyman
PHILIP A. WHEELER
United Auto Workers, Region 9A

1987*
ROBERT MACCRATE
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP
CHARLES J. HYNES
New York State Medicaid Fraud Prosecutor
DAVID TRAGER, (1937-2011)
Brooklyn Law School
SALLY HERNANDEZ-PINERO,
East Harlem Business Capital Corporation

* An additional event in 1987 honored over 40 community leaders.
For Michael Cooper, the obligation to do pro bono legal work and to support organizations doing that work has been a core part of his personal professional ethic for as long as he can remember. Beginning with his earliest days in the Litigation Group at Sullivan & Cromwell, Michael felt that as a member of the Bar, he ought to devote some of his professional time to providing legal services to individuals who could not afford to pay for them. As he advanced to serve as the managing partner of the Group, he worked not only to contribute his time to pro bono matters, but also to encourage and inspire others at the Firm to do so by coordinating the Firm’s extensive pro bono activities. Sullivan & Cromwell, a strong supporter of pro bono work since its inception, stood behind Michael’s efforts not only to help organizations like Brooklyn Legal Services A Corporation, but also to earmark a permanent place in our community for these much needed services.

Over the years Michael has defended the Legal Aid Society in a malpractice case, has pursued constitutional and statutory claims on behalf of patients confined in the psychiatric emergency rooms of public hospitals, and has represented a detainee at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station. But much like Judge Tyler, his commitment to public service has always gone beyond the individual matter. He has sought to make lasting changes to our community’s ability to serve those in need. Thus, at the request of former New York Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye, he chaired the Legal Services Project, which sought permanent funding of civil legal services to the poor. And as chair of a task force of the New York City Bar Association, he studied employment opportunities for the previously incarcerated.
From 1981 to 1983 he was president of the Legal Aid Society. A decade later he was co-chair of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law from 1993 to 1995. In addition, he chaired the board of the New York State Lawyer Assistance Trust, as well as the board of Pro Bono Net. He is a director of Volunteers of Legal Service, Inc. and an emeritus member of the Vance Center Advisory Board.

Michael brings his extensive experience in business-related litigation, including shareholder derivative suits, antitrust and securities actions, and investigations by antitrust, securities and banking regulators to all of his legal work. He has represented three prominent law firms, as well as special committees of two corporate boards and has extensive experience as a commercial arbitrator in both domestic and international disputes. He has served as a court appointed and private mediator and as a referee in state disciplinary proceedings.

In addition to his service on the boards of public service organizations, Michael also served as president of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York from 1998 to 2000, having previously chaired the Association’s Executive Committee. He is a past president and a member of the Board of Regents of the American College of Trial Lawyers and was president of its Foundation. He has chaired the Commercial and Federal Litigation Section and Civil Rights Committee of the New York State Bar Association, served on the ABA Task Force on Civil Trial Practice Standards, and been a trustee of the Federal Bar Council.

A graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School, Michael is active in Harvard Law School’s alumni affairs, having served on the Board of Overseers Committee to Visit the Law School, been president of the Harvard Law School Association of New York City and chaired the Harvard Law School Fund. He is currently Co-Chair of the Harvard Law School Senior Advisory Network.
David Lopez is a lifelong resident, activist and poet of Williamsburg. Having been just the second person in his family to be born in the United State and having lived in the Southside for most of his life, David has witnessed firsthand the challenges that have and continue to face the culture and community within the transformative neighborhoods he grew up in.

David’s penchant for fighting for the betterment of his community started at an early age, as David remembers having to skip classes in high school with his friends in order to attend marches and rallies. After high school David took a position as the first family associate at Eastern District Highschool where he worked with families of students who were facing the possibility of dropping out of school. Then after graduating from college with an associate degree in the applied arts David began working for the non-profit organization South Side United HDFC (Los Sures) which advocates for affordable housing in Williamsburg. Moving from Los Sures, David worked for the corporation counsel of the NYC law department and then for an education based organization for high school students.

David went on to work as a coordinator for the mediation program with the Brooklyn Housing Court. As a mediator David made substantial strides in making court mediation a much more fair process by ensuring that tenants were properly informed of their rights in the process. Another issue David spearheaded was changing the nature of the relationships between the mediators and housing lawyers, as these often resulted in a disadvantage to the tenants since mediators should be impartial parties. Because of David’s impact he was asked
to facilitate the same changes in the NY Housing Court.

After three years of working as a mediator David was recruited by the New York City Commission of Human Rights due to his growing reputation as an effective change maker and champion for the community. David’s role was to work in the field; investigating potential abuses and violations of human rights while also helping to peacefully preserve and organize communities. David had a long and accomplished career with the Commission, all together working 30 years with the city.

David also remained active in working with community organizations outside of his professional career. Months after he stopped working for Los Sures he was asked to serve on the Board of Directors where he now acts as Chairman. Brooklyn A also has had strong ties with David, as he worked with the organization since our first Executive Director and currently sits on our Board of Directors. David is additionally working with fellow activists for release of political prisoner Oscar López Rivera.

David is not just a man of action, but also of words. He started writing in poetry in college and has since recited his poems at borough halls, major universities, and in Puerto Rico. His work has been featured in anthologies and he received special mention in an anthology from Seton Hall.

All those who consider other people are beautiful people. Collectively we are great. Individually we all have our own journeys, but we only become great when are together, when we are one as a group. That’s when we pass the test of time, individually we are all going to die and leave this earth. But the collective idea can always live on. — DAVID LOPEZ
No one works harder for all 2.6 million Brooklynites than Marty Markowitz. Since entering Borough Hall in January 2002, Marty has reinvigorated the office of borough president, serving as the tireless chief advocate for Brooklyn’s economic, social and cultural interests, while initiating and promoting efforts to improve Brooklynites’ quality of life.

Born and raised in Crown Heights, Marty graduated from Wingate High School in 1962. He received his B.A. in Political Science after attending evening sessions at Brooklyn College from 1962 to 1970. Elected to the New York State Senate in 1978, Marty represented Central Brooklyn for 23 years. In 2001, he was elected to the office of borough president; he was honored to be re-elected to his third term in 2009.

Marty began his career in public service in 1971, at the age of 26, by organizing the Flatbush Tenants Council, which grew into Brooklyn Housing and Family Services, the largest tenants’ advocacy organization in New York State. In 1973, he founded the Senior Citizens League of Flatbush, an organization that is still going strong — in fact Marty proudly joined the League in 2006 at the youthful age of 60.

As borough president, in addition to setting an ambitious agenda focused on the core issues of his more than three decades in public service — housing, neighborhood preservation and community development — Marty has enacted programs to boost civic pride, improve health, promote tourism and empower young Brooklynites. As a longtime advocate for seniors, he fought vigorously to keep Brooklyn senior centers open when they were threatened with closures due to budget cuts. Marty’s efforts to save Brooklyn’s financially troubled medical institutions resulted in the preservation of maternity and pediatric units at Long Island College Hospital as...
well as the critical services provided by school medical clinics. Marty has also called for increased parental and community engagement in schools and has supported policies that improve graduation rates and prepare Brooklyn students to compete and succeed in the global economy. His office was instrumental in creating two new schools in Brooklyn: the High School for Innovation in Advertising and Media and the Brooklyn Academy of Global Finance.

Marty’s efforts to stimulate and grow Brooklyn’s economy include revitalizing Coney Island, re-zoning Greenpoint-Williamsburg and Downtown Brooklyn, lowering auto insurance rates, cleaning up Newtown Creek, encouraging development of the Brooklyn Cruise Ship Terminal, wooing regional corporate headquarters, large manufacturers and retailers, startups and green businesses, and lobbying on behalf of Brooklynites for the affordable housing and jobs attached to Barclays Center, a state-of-the-art arena. Marty was instrumental in bringing the New Jersey Nets to Brooklyn, the first professional sports team since 1957.

The annual Brooklyn Book Festival was spearheaded by Marty in 2006 and has become the largest literary festival in the northeast and the second largest on the eastern seaboard. Two of the largest, free concert series in New York City were founded by Marty: the Martin Luther King Jr. Concert Series, now in its 30th year; and the 34th Annual Seaside Summer Concert Series, both of which Marty continues to host. Efforts continue to build New York City’s first seasonal amphitheater, located in Coney Island, a project that Marty was pleased to initiate. And he was instrumental in saving Loew’s Kings Theatre, which will be the largest indoor theater in Brooklyn when it is restored to its former glory as a venue for live performances. Marty is the proud publisher of Brooklyn!!, a quarterly newspaper that champions the borough and delivers to more than 400,000 residents.

Just as important are programs like Shop Brooklyn, the Lighten Up Brooklyn and Take Your Man to the Doctor campaigns, Camp Brooklyn, the jobs-for-youth Summer HEAT program, Dine in Brooklyn restaurant week, the smART Brooklyn Gallery Hop and Brooklyn Tourism, all of which have helped make Brooklyn a better place to live, work and raise a family.

Marty married his wife, Jamie, in 1999 and they recently celebrated their 13th wedding anniversary. They are the proud parents of Beep, an African Grey Parrot.
Glenn Lau-Kee is the president-elect of the New York State Bar Association. He will become the president of the Association in June, 2014, succeeding the current president, David Schraver of Nixon & Peabody in Rochester, New York.

Glenn is a partner of Kee & Lau-Kee, PLLC, a small firm located on Broome Street in lower Manhattan and concentrates on a transactional practice of real estate and business matters. He began his practice in the New York office of Coudert Brothers in Hong Kong in 1975. He was also a partner in the White Plains firm then known as Koo, Larrabee, Lau-Kee & Lane, LLP.

Glenn served as a member of the Board of Directors of Legal Services for New York City from 2001 to 2008, and within that organization, also served as a board member of Manhattan Legal Services and most recently, Queens Legal Services.

He has served as a director of the New York Bar Foundation, the New York County Lawyers’ Association, the NYCLA Foundation and The Fund for Modern Courts. He is also on the Board of Trustees of the U.S.-Asia Institute in Washington, DC.

Glenn also serves on the Board Emeritus of the YMCA of Greater New York, having served as Vice Chair of the Board of Directors and chair of the Y’s Finance Committee and Audit Committee. He recently received the order of the Red Triangle, the Y’s highest award.

He has also received, together with his father, Norman Kee, the Honorable George Bundy Smith Pioneer Award from the Commercial and Federal Litigation Section of the New York State Bar Association, and the Honoree of the Year Award from the Chinese American Planning Council.

Glenn has served as a Commissioner of the Commission on Human Rights of the City of New York, as a member of the New York State Judicial Screening Panel for the First Department, and on former Chief Judge Judith Kaye's Commission to Examine Solo and Small First Practice and Commission to Promote Public Trust and Confidence in the Legal System. He is a David Rockefeller Fellow of the New York City Partnership, a Fellow of the American Bar Association Foundation, and a Fellow of the New York Bar Foundation.

He received his B.A. from Yale University in 1971 and his J.D. from the Boston University School of Law in 1974.
This year we are honoring a group of people whose work has helped to maintain this city we call home and preserve its reputation as one of the greatest places on earth. Whether they are working directly in New York City communities, finding ways to finance community development, or the overall work they’ve done for low-income communities, their labor has benefited countless residents of New York and they have contributed to a higher quality of life for New Yorkers. Thus we could not think of anyone more fitting to MC this event than Roma Torre, one of the most exceptional New Yorkers on television.

You may see Ms. Torre on TV regularly during her mid-day shift on New York 1’s ‘News All Day’ or doing her theater reviews for New York 1’s ‘NY1 On Stage’. Perhaps you remember her from her award winning coverage on the award winning program ‘Inside City Hall’, once referred to as the ‘60 minutes of local television’. You also might know her from her work at News12 Long Island, the first 24 hours local news network in the country, reporting, anchoring, hosting a weekly news program, and serving as the station’s TV and film critic.

However, perhaps what you don’t know about Ms. Torre is that she has won more than 25 broadcasting awards, including an Emmy for reporting and anchoring the Avianca plane crash disaster in 1991. In 1993, she and “News All Evening” anchor Lewis Dodley were honored by New York Magazine’s “Best Of” edition as the best news anchors in New York. In 2003 she was the recipient of the Newswomen’s Club of New York’s 2003 Peggy Award for Broadcasting, for her review of the Broadway show “Big River.”

Roma Torre is the daughter of Marie Torre, a print journalist for the N.Y. Herald Tribune and the first journalist to go to jail for protecting a source of information. Marie Torre served a ten day sentence right after giving birth to her daughter Roma.

Roma graduated with a degree in English and history from Tufts University. While in Boston, she started a theater company with fellow student Ed Lopez which, although lasting only three years, indicative of her passion for acting would lead to several roles on soap operas and off Broadway productions. The partnership with Ed thrived. They married in 1991.

Ms. Torre, a mom of two, works to keep us informed about and invested in our city. She has spent the past decade plus covering the issues facing New Yorkers with an almost personal conviction. As a parent, a patron of the arts, a journalist and a New Yorker we are honored to have her with us tonight.
Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A) has provided high-quality, neighborhood-based civil legal services to low-income individuals, families, community groups, and nonprofit organizations in Brooklyn for over forty-four years. While we are broadening our focus toward expanding services throughout all of Brooklyn and beyond, our efforts have typically focused on neighborhoods where much of the borough’s poverty is concentrated, including: Williamsburg, Greenpoint, Bushwick, Oceanhill-Brownsville, East New York, Bedford-Stuyvesant, Cypress Hills, Starrett City, City Line, East Flatbush, Flatlands, and Canarsie.

Established in 1968 as part of the federally-funded legal services program, Brooklyn A embraces the value that lawyers have in combating poverty. We endorse the idea that legal services programs are responsible to low-income communities, and are thus charged with the responsibility of identifying, understanding their needs, participating in addressing the problems confronting those communities.

**WHAT WE DO**

We offer representation and advocacy:
- To tenants and tenant associations to prevent their displacement and to ensure decent living conditions;
- To counter predatory lending practices; and
- To support community and economic development efforts undertaken by nonprofit, neighborhood-based organizations.

We also provide education, counseling and outreach not only directly to our target population but also to other stakeholders, including community boards, community-based organizations (CBOs), advocacy groups, and the offices.
of elected officials. The range of these interventions is designed to allow us to extend our reach as far as possible in providing accessible services, and our activities include: workshops, educational meetings, informational materials, and skill-building sessions.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CED)
Through its role as the lawyer for CBOs and their initiated projects, Brooklyn A’s CED Program provides critical legal support and representation to CBOs and community development corporations (CDCs) that, amongst a variety of community services, seek to: create, develop, and operate new and rehabilitated affordable housing, provide high quality health care services, develop community-wide sustainable development strategies, provide support and educational services to youth from infancy through college, and generally work for social and economic justice in local low-income communities. CED attorneys, as general counsel, provide CBOs with ongoing, comprehensive legal counsel in their daily operation and functioning and at all stages of project and program development, thereby increasing their client’s organizational strength, the effectiveness of the services they deliver and their ability to meet their community’s needs.

CONSUMER AND ECONOMIC ADVOCACY
The goal of the Consumer and Economic Advocacy Program is to empower underrepresented consumers to assert their rights in the marketplace and courts, and financially stabilize. As Brooklyn A was establishing our consumer rights practice, the foreclosure crisis was beginning to seriously impact low-income homeowners. In response, we expanded our foreclosure defense work as a part of our consumer rights practice. We provide legal assistance, including advice, advocacy and litigation services, to homeowners facing foreclosure and/or victimized by predatory lending practices.

PRESERVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING
The goal of the Housing Program is to preserve tenancies and increase affordable housing for low-income clients. We represent tenants individually and collectively through tenants’ associations in Supreme and Housing courts, defending them in eviction proceedings, and, if necessary, bringing affirmative cases to ensure that their landlords provide essential services and perform adequate repair and maintenance work. This work is done in conjunction with community organizations that promote the expansion of resources for affordable housing and try to minimize the loss of currently affordable units. Further, the Housing Program directly supports HDFC apartment building cooperative corporations and community coalitions.
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Rev. Peter A. Mahoney
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Henry Parr
Avina Rivera
November 20, 2013

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A  
Shriver Tyler MacCrate Center for Justice  
260 Broadway, Suite 2  
Brooklyn, New York 11211

Dear Friends:

I would like to extend my warmest greetings to Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation and its honorees on the occasion of tonight’s Annual Partnership Awards Benefit.

Since 1968, Brooklyn Legal Services has helped Brooklyn’s low-income residents fight discrimination and displacement. By providing free and accessible civil legal services and partnering with vital community organizations, Brooklyn Legal Services has assisted thousands of New Yorkers with issues including healthcare, education, and housing. These vital services are essential, and I thank you for your commitment and devotion to the most vulnerable of our society.

It is with great pleasure that I also congratulate tonight’s honorees: Michael Cooper, with the annual Judge Harold Tyler Award, and David Lopez with the Sargent Shriver Award. On behalf of my constituents and all the residents of Brooklyn, I thank Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation and tonight’s honorees for your dedication and hard work and wish you continue success in the future.

Sincerely,

Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress
December 22, 2013

Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to welcome everyone to the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A’s Annual Partnership Awards Benefit.

New York has long been known as a place where people of all backgrounds can work hard and have a fair chance at success. Our attorneys, especially, have been instrumental in helping us uphold this reputation by promoting justice and driving our social and economic progress. Since 1968, Brooklyn A has served the people of our City, working to protect public interest and providing competent, quality legal assistance to our residents. The efforts of this outstanding organization made an important difference in the lives of countless individuals and families, and we applaud Brooklyn A and all those associated with it for their ongoing commitment to strengthening the Brooklyn community.

On behalf of all New Yorkers, congratulations to tonight’s honorees – Michael Cooper, who will receive the Judge Tyler Award, and David Lopez, who is the recipient of this year’s Sargent Shriver Award. Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable event and continued success.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor
Dear Friends,

It brings me great pleasure to join the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation at their Annual Partnership Awards Benefit.

As Public Advocate for the city of New York, I would especially like to extend my congratulations to this year’s honorees:

- Michael Cooper, "Judge Harold R. Tyler Award"
- David Lopez, "Sargent Shriver Award"

I am inspired by the work of the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation and the service that they have provided to the people of Brooklyn. For over four decades, Brooklyn A has empowered the people of Brooklyn by granting them access to free civil legal services. I am deeply proud of the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation for enabling New Yorkers to overcome obstacles of discrimination and financial hardship and I am grateful that they will continue to serve our great city for years to come.

Please accept my best wishes on this very special occasion.

Warm regards,

Bill de Blasio

Public Advocate for the City of New York
November 20, 2013

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is a pleasure to welcome you all to the Annual Partnership Awards Benefit hosted by Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A).

With the help of your partnerships, individual, and organization-based support, Brooklyn A is able to further its vision and efforts to offer free and accessible civil legal services on a community-based level to the neighborhoods throughout Brooklyn. An organization that began in 1968, Brooklyn A has continued to remain at the forefront of legal services for some 6,000 low income residents who face discrimination, displacement, and lack of resources in their own communities. Due to your patronage, Brooklyn A is provided with the tools they need to defend the rights of low income residents to remain in their homes and strive for a higher quality of life.

Brooklyn A is unique in the field of legal services because of its constant partnership and collaboration with vital community organizations. As a result, your support benefits not only Brooklyn A but also a vast network of community-based institutions that work in a wide array of fields, including healthcare, childcare, educational opportunities, and support services. The reach of your contributions, therefore, extend further than you may suspect.

On behalf of every community organization that has collaborated with Brooklyn A, and every citizen whose life has been touched by the efforts of these collaborations, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for your ongoing support.

Additionally, I would like to commend this year’s honorees: Michael Cooper, with the annual Judge Harold Tyler Award, and David Lopez with the Sargent Shriver Award.

My best wishes for a wonderful evening and the ongoing promotion of social and economic justice. Many thanks for your participation and support.

Sincerely,

Joseph R. Lentol
November 20, 2013

Dear Friends,

Greetings to everyone gathered here tonight at Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A’s (Brooklyn A) Annual Partnership Awards Benefit!

One of the great privileges and joys of serving on the City Council is being able to see first-hand the extraordinarily good work being done by so many groups and organizations around the city. In neighborhoods all across the five boroughs, these groups are working hard to help strengthen our communities, improve our quality of life, and ensure that our city continues to grow and thrive.

On this special night of celebration, I would like to thank Brooklyn A and its dedicated staff and team for the critically important work that they are doing here in our city. Thanks to their efforts, thousands of New Yorkers and their families have been provided with the tools they need to defend their right to remain in their communities and homes.

Congratulations as well to this year’s honorees, Michael Cooper and David Lopez.

My best wishes to everyone for a wonderful evening. Enjoy!

Sincerely,

Christine C. Quinn
Speaker
Davis Polk is proud to support **Brooklyn A** in its vital efforts to improve the quality of life in the neighborhoods it serves.
Debevoise is pleased to support Brooklyn A

and we join in honoring
Michael Cooper
and David Lopez
KELLEY DRYE & WARREN LLP

congratulates

BROOKLYN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION A

and its Honorees

Michael Cooper
David Lopez

for their dedication and support in providing high quality legal assistance to low-income individuals and groups in Brooklyn
Congratulations

Dime Salutes
Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A and the 2013 Annual Partnership Awards Honorees

Like many of us, Dime Savings Bank of Williamsburgh understands what it means to serve the community. We bring almost 150 years of friendly, professional service to neighbors, businesses and community organizations across the New York area. That’s why we’re proud to support the efforts of Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A and salute all of the 2013 Annual Partnership Award honorees.

26 branches to serve you throughout Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau and the Bronx. Call 800.321.3463 for information.
We are proud to continue our support for

**Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A**

and to celebrate its

**Annual Partnership Awards Benefit**

We join in congratulating tonight’s honorees

**Michael Cooper**
recipient of the
**Judge Harold Tyler Award**

and

**David Lopez**
recipient of the
**Sargent Shriver Award**

November 20, 2013
Southside United HDFC - Los Sures would like to congratulate Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A on its Annual Partnership Awards Benefit

Special Congratulations to David Lopez Chairman of the Los Sures Board on receiving the Sargent Shriver Award Your decades of service to the Williamsburg Community have not gone unnoticed. You make us all very proud.
We are proud to support

Brooklyn Legal Services’ Annual Partnership Awards Benefit

and congratulate our friend and colleague

Michael A. Cooper

recipient of the Judge Harold Tyler Award
BEST WISHES

to

Martin S. Needelman

and to the

Members of the Board and Professional and Administrative Staff

of

BROOKLYN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

CONGRATULATIONS

to

Honorees

Michael Cooper

and

David Lopez

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Salutes

David Lopez

& Michael Cooper

We thank you for your leadership and service to the communities we serve!

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At M&T Bank, we know it's important to support the people, businesses and organizations in all the communities we serve – and that's what we've been doing for more than 155 years. Because when our community succeeds, we all succeed.
Heartfelt Congratulations to

MICHAEL A. COOPER
2013 Recipient of the Judge Harold Tyler Award

Our sincere appreciation for all you do to bridge the justice gap
The Pro Bono Net Board of Directors

probono.net

CONGRATULATIONS TO
ALL OF THE DESERVING HONOREES
AND TO
BROOKLYN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION A FOR
OVER FORTY YEARS OF COMMITMENT TO BROOKLYN COMMUNITIES

Morris Kirschner Perpetual Charitable Trust
Cye E. Ross, Attorney at Law
30 Vesey Street, Suite 1800
New York, N.Y 10007
(212) 732-0843
Congratulations to the Honorees and Brooklyn Legal Services Corp. A
For working to bring justice to people And communities most in need.
Thanks to BKA for your support of the Cypress Hills Community School.
Thanks to David Lopez for his friendship, Poetry, activism, and passion in helping Neighbors and communities to wake up! Smell the coffee! combat injustice and Win victories, big and small.
Maria Jaya & Roy Pingel

Congratulations to Mike Cooper
--Betsy and Ken Plevan

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S
to our friend

David Lopez
and
All the Honorees

Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation

Board of Directors & Staff
Congratulations to the 2013 honorees and for the continuing commitment of Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A to the people of Brooklyn.

Brooklyn Bar Association Foundation, Inc.
Andrew M. Fallek, Esq., President
Avery Eli Okin, Esq., CAE, Executive Director

The family of Jessica Rose congratulates Brooklyn A staff and its community partners-clients for another year of facilitating projects that help meet the critical needs of Brooklynites who are amongst the most underserved in New York City.
THE PRINTING OF THIS JOURNAL was made possible by a generous contribution from the Law Firm of Davis Polk & Wardwell, LLP.

Thank you!

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A