BROOKLYN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION A
50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2018
NEW YORK MARRIOTT AT THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE
We Proudly Support the

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A’s
50th Anniversary Celebration

and Congratulate
Fellow Honorees

Martin S. Needelman
and Paul J. Acinapura

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
PROGRAM

6:00 P.M.
COCKTAIL RECEPTION

7:15 P.M.
WELCOME FROM THE MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Gerson Borrero
NY1

OPENING REMARKS
Jessica A. Rose
Executive Director, Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A

Thomas McC. Souther
Chair, Board of Directors, Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A

7:30 P.M.
AWARD PRESENTATIONS

PRO BONO APPRECIATION AWARD
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
Accepted by: Harlene Katzman, Esq.
Pro Bono Counsel and Director, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
Julia Kohen, Esq.
Counsel, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
Presented by Jessica A. Rose
Executive Director, Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A

BROOKLYN A’S 50TH ANNIVERSARY AWARDS
Paul J. Acinapura, Esq.
Former Co-Executive Director, Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
Presented by Maurice Reid
Former President & CEO, Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center
Michelle Neugebauer
Executive Director, Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation

Martin S. Needelman, Esq.
Former Co-Executive Director & Current Chief Counsel Emeritus
Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
Presented by Diana Reyna
Former City Council Member & Former Deputy Borough President
Antonio Reynoso
New York City Council Member

9:30 P.M.
CLOSING REMARKS
Jessica Rose
Executive Director
Joshua Hoffman
Chief Financial & Operating Officer
Thomas McC. Souther
Chair, Board of Directors
Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
Dear Friends of Brooklyn A,

This year, Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A) celebrates and honors a true milestone—our 50th Anniversary—50 years of providing critical legal services and fostering unique and deep collaborations amongst our clients, legal advocates, community partners, and dedicated supporters.

As part of this year’s annual event, we recognize two of Brooklyn A’s longest-tenured advocates and former Co-Executive Directors—Martin S. Needelman, Esq. and Paul J. Acinapura, Esq. Their work alongside their colleagues at Brooklyn A and their community partners in pursuit of true social and economic justice for the communities of Brooklyn has had immeasurable impact. We are delighted to present the Pro Bono Appreciation Award to Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP for their invaluable contributions to Brooklyn A through their long-running externship program. For more than 10 years, the program has enabled Simpson Thacher & Bartlett associates to work for a four-month rotation as attorneys in Brooklyn A’s CED Program. I’ve worked closely with these externs and have seen how the Simpson externship has truly enabled the CED Program to amplify its reach and deepen its impact.

We are also grateful to Gerson Borrero for serving as the Emcee this evening. Deep thanks also go to our Host Committee and Board for helping to ensure the success of this 50th Anniversary celebration.

As Brooklyn A’s new Executive Director, it has been especially meaningful to take on this role in our 50th year. As Brooklyn A charts the course for its next 50 years, we reflect and recognize the staff of Brooklyn A over its history – from its founding leaders, Cesar Perales, Mark Spires and Tom Rothchild who established our first offices in 1968 in Williamsburg, Brownsville, and East New York; to past staff attorneys Larry McGaughey and David Glasel who worked with tenant advocates in 1973 to create Southside United HDFC (Los Sures); to Paul who worked with community leaders like Joe Francois and Maurice Reid to found the Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center in 1977; to Hillary Exter who, with Paul, worked with community activists and Michelle Neugebauer to form and grow the Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation in 1983 (all partnerships which have lasted to this day); to Rick Wagner working with the Puerto Rican Legal Defense Fund (now LatinoJustice PRLDEF) to represent the Parents Association of PS 16 in the “Wall case” against Board of Education segregation of Hasidic Jewish girls from the larger student body in 1986; to Foster Maer’s challenge in 1991 in federal court of the City’s continuing violation of the 1976 Fair Housing consent decrees (again with LatinoJustice PRLDEF and with pro bono counsel Steel & Bellman); to the opening in 2000 of our Bushwick office with it first Managing Attorney, Carol Horwitz, who also directed the Comprehensive Rights Unit that served clients infected or affected by HIV/AIDS; to Marty and Shekar Krishnan’s representation of the Broadway Triangle Community Coalition in a lawsuit commenced in 2009 against the City of New York challenging a rezoning of the Broadway Triangle based on fair housing-rooted arguments…these stories and individuals are just a few of the hundreds of stories and staff that have filled the history book of Brooklyn A. For 50 years we have had passionate, intelligent and hardworking staff commit themselves to our mission and to standing side by side with our clients to demand and struggle for social and economic justice – from the halls of Brooklyn Housing Court, to the conference rooms and court rooms of bankruptcy court, to the closing tables of multi-national banks, to the streets of Brooklyn. I humbly and gratefully raise my glass for a much-deserved brindis to Brooklyn A’s amazing Board, managers and staff past and present. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

For half a century, Brooklyn A has advanced social and economic justice through innovative, collaborative, neighborhood-based legal representation and advocacy. Thank you for joining us in celebrating this milestone and the continuation of our critical work in the coming decades.

Jessica A. Rose
THANK YOU TO OUR
HOST COMMITTEE

John Feerick
Fordham Law School

Steve Flax
M&T Bank

Marilyn Gelber
Brooklyn Community Foundation

Jerry Goldfeder
Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP

Harlene Katzman
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

Michelle Neugebauer
Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation

Betsy Plevan
Proskauer Rose LLP

Diana Reyna
Athena Consulting Group Inc.

Patricia Strong
DIME Bank

Johari Jenkins Taylor
Con Edison

Antonia Yuille Williams
Con Edison

Stephen Younger
Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP
ABOUT BROOKLYN A

Brooklyn A’s mission is to advance social and economic justice and empower communities through innovative, collaborative, high-quality neighborhood-based legal representation and advocacy.

What We Do

Consumer & Economic Advocacy (CEA) Program: Brooklyn A provides legal assistance, including advice, advocacy and litigation services to homeowners facing foreclosure, seeking relief through loan modification as well as Chapters 7, 13, and 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code. We have a particular focus on serving the aged and preserving their home equity. Finally, we are spearheading a project to combat “house flipping” in overheated real estate markets.

Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic (LITC): The clinic assists income-eligible taxpayers with Internal Revenue Service (IRS) issues. We also provide workshops to community groups who are low-income and/or speak English as a second language to inform them of their rights and responsibilities as taxpayers.

“Tax issues can be a serious barrier to prosperity. Our program educates people on their rights and helps our clients to exercise them. When people know their options, they can push past obstacles and on to new opportunities.”

— Tamara del Carmen, Deputy Director, Consumer & Economic Advocacy Program Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic
Community & Economic Development (CED) Program: We partner with and provide legal services to dozens of effective community-based organizations (CBOs) and community development corporations (CDCs) each year that have a demonstrated commitment to our common goal of social and economic justice. These partnerships have expanded health and dental care services, produced new and rehabilitated affordable housing, provided more childcare, developed community centers, and created minority and community-owned businesses and jobs.

Small Business Support Project (SBSP): This year, we launched the Commercial Lease Assistance (CLA) Program of our new Small Business Support Project (SBSP), through which we assist small businesses throughout New York City in all matters pertaining to commercial leases. Through this program, we hope to strengthen local communities by ensuring that small businesses have the support and guidance necessary to negotiate a fair commercial lease. An ecosystem of vibrant small businesses is essential to both revitalizing and stabilizing our local communities.

Preserving Affordable Housing (PAH) Program: Brooklyn A’s housing work involves combating tenant harassment, housing discrimination, and enforcing fair housing laws. When defending tenants’ rights, we utilize an array of methods—community organizing, affirmative civil rights litigation, and eviction defense. Collaboration with city, state, and federal officials to enforce housing laws and develop legislative solutions is also an integral part of our strategy. This, coupled with our demonstrated commitment to building community-based coalitions, has made us a leading voice in New York City’s ongoing public discourse about affordable housing and tenants’ rights.

“Growing up, I relied on community health centers like UHP and personally know the positive impact it has on the lives of communities too used to having their health problems ignored or under-treated, and for whom affordable, culturally sensitive healthcare is out of reach without these kinds of facilities.”

— Meah Clay, Director, Community & Economic Development Program

“Our Commercial Lease Assistance program is integral to helping small business thrive. As rental prices continue to rise throughout the city, commercial spaces are no exception, threatening to displace or put our of business hundreds of local businesses—many of which are owned by women, immigrants, and people of color.”

— Kenrick Ross, Program Manager, Community & Economic Development Program

“Universal access has changed the game for tenants in housing court in that they can now have the upper hand in saving their affordable housing. BKA has been listed as one of the providers under the Mayor’s initiative representing tenants and protecting one of the most crucial rights in their lives.”

— Gregory E. Lewis, Director, Preserving Affordable Housing-Group Representation Unit
“To me, Brooklyn A is connected. It evolves with issues and looks at how to address social policy. It’s always considering how we, as well as the nation, address problems, and what that really means to our constituents.”

– Jeffrey Dunston, Chief Executive Officer, Northeast Brooklyn Housing Development Corporation

“Soup to nuts, every single project—education, affordable housing development, economic development—that we have ever engaged in, Brooklyn A has been there as our counselors, our advisors, our hand holders. Looking forward to another 50 years of progress and advancement for our neighborhoods with the partnership and support of Brooklyn A!”

– Michelle Neugebauer, Executive Director, Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation

“The partnership of BKA and BMS has provided a tremendous opportunity to have an impact on improving the health condition of our community. Without Paul’s efforts, Paul’s assistance, Paul’s guidance, the expansion of BMS from one site to now 8 sites would not have taken place. And so it’s the relationship that is really the glue of the growth and success of BMS.”

– Maurice Reid, Former President & CEO, Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center
“Brooklyn A has represented and continues to represent our health care center at every phase of our growth and expansion for over 25 years. We trust and value Paul and the CED team immensely.”

- Patricia Fernandez, Chief Executive Officer, Bedford-Stuyvesant Family Health Center

“North Brooklyn Neighbors (formerly NAG) and Brooklyn A are longtime allies in the struggle against displacement and for equitable development in our community. Marty has been our friend, lawyer and partner since the beginning!”

- Anthony Buissereth, Executive Director, North Brooklyn Neighbors

“Make the Road NY and Brooklyn A are partners in our joint community struggles and in our legal advocacy work. BKA’s CED team has represented MTR in many transactional matters over the years, ranging from a strategic merger to our first ever land acquisition and development project to smaller funding and lease agreements. We applaud the decades of service Marty and Paul have given to the communities we mutually serve!”

- Deborah Axt, Co-Executive Director, Make the Road New York

“Congratulations Marty for a job well done and many more good years. We appreciate his passion, persistence legal acumen and as well as his offbeat but well timed humor. We share our love and admiration for Paul as well. They were our dynamic duo! Thank you for being in the fox hole with St Nick’s Alliance in the struggle against displacement.”

- Rolando Guzman, Deputy Director Community Preservation, St. Nick’s Alliance

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- Rolando Guzman, Deputy Director Community Preservation, St. Nick’s Alliance
“Marty thank you so much for everything you have done for CUFFH & our neighborhood we wouldn’t be here without you. Congratulations Marty!”

- Rob Solano, Executive Director & Co-Founder, Churches United for Fair Housing

“Marty is never afraid to take a risk or speak out if the goal is social justice. In the mobilization against displacement, he is fearless in speaking out regardless of the power or position of the person he’s addressing. He is a great inspiration to those of us who want to do good for all; he takes bold stances and challenges you to follow him into the fight.”

- Emily Gallagher, Greenpoint Sexual Assault Task Force

“Brooklyn A helped to form Trey Whitfield School and has been by our side ever since. There is no way we could have survived without their advice, legal service, love and support. Paul and his team have been and are trusted counsel and friends.”

- A.B. Whitfield, Founder, Trey Whitfield School

“People’s Firehouse, Inc. was formed as a result of a community struggle for justice and access to critical services. Brooklyn A and Marty have been with us and others in similar struggles for decades.”

- Daniel Rivera, Executive Director, People’s Firehouse
“Throughout the organization’s work in the community Paul has been an active partner. Brooklyn Corp “A” has been our attorneys in the development of over 350 units of low-income housing developed through the Tax Credit programs; he participated in the creation of a several low-income tenant owned cooperatives and the creation of a number of for-profit enterprises designed to create jobs for the community. CSHDC has been involved with the development or rehabilitation of over 75 buildings in Oceanhill, Brownsville, East New York, and Bedford Stuyvesant. The organization would not have been able to serve these communities with Paul and Brooklyn Corp “A”. ”

– Albion Liburd,
Executive Director/CEO, Community Services for Housing Development Corp.

“Catholic Migration Services is so grateful for BKA’s tremendous service to the Brooklyn community for 50 years. It has been our pleasure to work closely with BKA to preserve affordable housing in Bushwick, and we look forward to many more successes from BKA over the next 50 years.”

– David Colodny, Director of Legal Services, Catholic Migration Services

“CHCCC would never have been able to attain what we have attained had it not been for our partnership with Brooklyn A and the guidance that Paul has provided over the years”

– Maria Contreras-Collier, Director, Cypress Hills Childcare Corporation

“If Brooklyn A hadn’t been here to set up Los Sures, and hundreds of other organizations, then who knows if we would even exist. It’s great to have pro bono law firms and they’ve done a tremendous amount, but they can only do so much. It’s important to have someone who’s part of the community and who’s actually answerable to the community.”

– Cathy Herman, Freeh Sporkin & Sullivan, LLP and Freeh Group International Solutions, LLC, Southside United HDFC
2018 PRO BONO PARTNERS

Brooklyn A is able to broaden its impact and amplify its efforts through the support of our dedicated pro bono partners. On behalf of Brooklyn A and our clients, thank you for all of the many hours of service you delivered this past year!

Cleary Gottlieb
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MARTIN S. NEEDELMAN

“Marty has been a remarkable force in the community and for Brooklyn A for the 50 years that the organization has been active. He started out as a lawyer representing tenant associations and worked his way up through the ranks, becoming a leader of the organization. One of Marty’s traits that I think is unique is his ability to marshal support from the community, from the organization, to rally around a problem in the community.”

– Thomas McC. Souther
Chair, Board of Directors,
Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A

PAUL J. ACINAPURA

“Paul brings to the organization an interesting area of work, which he’s done for 50 years, and which many organizations, until very recently, hadn’t been doing which is transactional legal representation. He’s developed a program that provides services to community organizations seeking to develop housing, childcare programs, and schools. This has enabled Brooklyn A to serve its communities in a much more expansive way than traditional legal services organizations have been doing.”

– Valerie Hing
Vice-Chair, Board of Directors,
Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A

PRO BONO APPRECIATION AWARD

SIMPSON THACHER & BARTLETT LLP

Harlene Katzman, Esq.
Pro Bono Counsel and Director,
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

Julia Kohen, Esq.
Counsel, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

“Working full-time at Brooklyn A really enables associates to develop skills they might not get to develop until later in their career at the firm. They gain experience working independently and having direct contact with clients.”

– Harlene Katzman, Esq.
Pro Bono Counsel and Director, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
For 49 years, Marty Needelman has dedicated himself to providing legal services to low-to-moderate income clients in Brooklyn. The vast majority of his career has been with Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A. He started as a Staff Attorney, but for the last 34 years he has served as Project Director, Executive Director, Chief Counsel, and now as Chief Counsel Emeritus. Following his graduation from Boston University Law School, he became an AmeriCorps VISTA Attorney with the Southside Community Mission in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, a CBO that provides legal and social services to immigrants, senior citizens, youth, and the homeless. Throughout his career, Mr. Needelman has received many honors and awards, including the Pro Bono Award from the Brooklyn Bar Association in 1992, the 1998 Risk Taker of the Year Award from Jews for Racial and Economic Justice, the 2010 Louis Lefkowitz Award from the Fordham Law School Public Interest Center for his contributions to the law as it affects urban communities, and Boston University Law Schools “Silver Shingle” award in 2016.

An adoring husband, father and grandfather to his wife, America Ruiz, his children Joseph and Laura and granddaughters Chaily, Shiraz, and Noemi—Marty is a part of the living history of North East Brooklyn and an enduring example of what it means to be a community lawyer and a zealous advocate of and loyal partner to the communities served by Brooklyn A.
PAUL J. ACINAPURA

Paul Acinapura has worked at Brooklyn A since graduating from Rutgers School of Law, coming on as a Staff Attorney in the Evictions Prevention Unit in 1973 through his retirement in 2017. In 1976, he established the Community & Economic Development (CED) Program at Brooklyn A and served as its Director for over 25 years. In his roles as Co-Executive Director & General Counsel, Mr. Acinapura was responsible for the overall operations, functioning, and leadership of the organization. Mr. Acinapura has received multiple awards and honors, including the 2012 Annual Men of Distinction and Women of Valor Award from the New York State Senate and the 1999 Public Service Award from the New York County Lawyers’ Association (NYCLA) for his distinguished service as a public-sector lawyer.

Paul has epitomized throughout his career Brooklyn A’s motto of “building communities, ensuring opportunity and achieving justice.” He has served as counsel to hundreds of non-profit community-based organizations impacting the lives of literally hundreds of thousands of low income residents throughout New York City by providing quality, culturally sensitive, affordable housing, healthcare, and educational opportunities and other critical community and economic development support. He has been the recipient of numerous other awards including the 2013 New York Law Journal’s Impact Award. His wife Rose, sons Micah and Gabe, daughter-in-law Liz, and grandchildren Eleanor and Oliver are also a source of great joy.
Ndutkwe Agwu
Deputy Program Director

Travis Arrindell
Deputy Program Director

Sarah Block
Development & Communications Associate

Kamau Butcher
Staff Attorney

Eliseo Cabrera
Staff Attorney

Joseph Calaceto
Development & Grants Associate

Sam Chiera
Staff Attorney

Dana Christensen
Senior Staff Attorney

Meah Clay
Program Director

Chris Colon
Community Outreach & Intake Specialist

Tamara Del Carmen
Deputy Program Director

Dennis Donnelly
Staff Attorney

Angela Escobar
Senior Staff Attorney

Bruno Daniel Garcia
Community Outreach & Intake Specialist

Caitlin Gillies
Staff Attorney

Blair Hill
Staff Attorney

Joshua Hoffman
Chief Financial & Operating Officer

Catherine Humphre vile
Skadden Foundation Fellow
BROOKLYN A STAFF

Alexander Knipenberg
Staff Attorney

Shekar Krishnan
Director of Legal Advocacy & Strategic Partnerships

Lina Lee
Deputy Program Director

Anne Leonardo
Development & Communications Coordinator

Adam Meyers
Senior Staff Attorney

Shekar Krishnan
Director of Legal Advocacy & Strategic Partnerships

Lina Lee
Deputy Program Director

Anne Leonardo
Development & Communications Coordinator

Adam Meyers
Senior Staff Attorney

Gina Mitchell
Senior Staff Attorney

Mary Lou Moul
Paralegal

Rachel Nager
Staff Attorney

Martin Needelman
Senior Counsel

Ted Olds
Columbia Law/Kirkland Ellis Fellow

Kristie Ortiz
Deputy Program Director

Rosemarie Peralta
Paralegal & Intake Specialist

Michelle Perez
Paralegal & Intake Specialist

Samantha Rauer
Senior Staff Attorney

Austen Refuerzo
Senior Staff Attorney

Charnyl Revere
Director of Operations & Special Projects

Marilia Richards
Staff Attorney

Janna Levin
Senior Staff Attorney

Gregory Louis
Program Director

Corina Lozada
Staff Attorney

Mateja Lucic
Legal Advocate & Communications Specialist

Carmen Manzano
Paralegal & Intake Specialist

Lee McRae
Program Director

Rosemarie Peralta
Paralegal & Intake Specialist

Samantha Rauer
Senior Staff Attorney

Austen Refuerzo
Senior Staff Attorney

Charnyl Revere
Director of Operations & Special Projects

Marilia Richards
Staff Attorney
Kennedy Rivera
Paralegal & Receptionist

Jessica Rose
Executive Director

Ken Ross
Program Manager

Millie Sandoval
Paralegal & Organizing Specialist

Yaa Sarpong
Staff Attorney

Shimon Sieskel
Receptionist

Chris Sina
Senior Staff Attorney

Francis Taveras
Paralegal

Kailah Torres
Administrative Assistant

Luz Torres
Receptionist

Sakeena Trice
Staff Attorney

Ezi Ukegbu
Senior Staff Attorney

Jack Underwood
Staff Attorney

Marlon Vargas
Administrative Assistant

Ashley Vega
Receptionist & Intake Officer

Lillybeth Ventura
Administrative Assistant

Kevin Worthington
Legal Advocate

Jacqueline Yuan
Simpson Thacher Extern

Diwali Ys
Receptionist
An integral part of Brooklyn A and one of the reasons for its sustainability, impact, and consistent adherence to its mission over the past 50 years has been our Board of Directors, which has always reflected the very best of the New York City legal sector and the communities we serve. We thank our current Board members as well as all past Board members for all of your hard work and dedication to Brooklyn A and the communities we serve.

**OFFICERS**

**Thomas Mcc. Souther, Chair**
Partner, Freeh Sporkin & Sullivan LLP

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Executive Director, Central American Legal Assistance

**Jyotin Hamid**
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**Julia Kohen**
Counsel, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

**Harvey Lawrence**
President and CEO, Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center

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**Harold Green**
President, Cypress Hills Local Development Corp., Inc.
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KDL&M

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Bettina B. Plevan
Freeh Sporkin & Sullivan, LLP and Freeh Group International Solutions, LLC

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16 MAUJER STREET HDFC
Cypress Hills Child Care Corporation
Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation
Pitta Bishop & Del Giorno LLC
Capital One

Morrison Kirschner Perpetual Charitable Trust
Sargent Shriver Peace Institute
The Rose Family

BMS Family Health and Wellness Centers
Bedford-Stuyvesant Family Health Center
PLI Practising Law Institute
The Firehouse North Brooklyn Community Center
November 2, 2018

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered for this celebration of Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A and its 50 years of service in providing neighborhood-based legal representation and advocacy.

In many communities throughout New York State, those working in the law generously offer resources of support and service to economically disadvantaged individuals and families. For half a century, low- and moderate-income residents in the borough of Brooklyn have received assistance from the dedicated team at Brooklyn A in the form of legal counseling, services, and representation which are unaffordable or otherwise inaccessible to them.

On this occasion, you honor distinguished individuals who carry out their work with humanitarian spirit and a sense of social consciousness. I join in offering congratulations to your honorees — Martin S. Needelman, Esq. and Paul J. Acinapura, Esq. — recognized for their service to Brooklyn A, its clients, and communities. I also applaud the team at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, LLP for their longstanding program of outreach to people and communities in Brooklyn. All affiliated with Brooklyn A are commended for advancing the ideals of social and economic justice by opening doors of opportunity and improving the quality of life for many.

Warmest regards and best wishes for an enjoyable evening.

Sincerely,

ANDREW M. CUOMO
November 1, 2018

Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to welcome everyone to Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A’s 50th Anniversary Celebration.

A key pillar of New York City’s lasting strength is our outstanding and diverse legal sector that has always been fundamental in advancing justice and fueling social progress. As my administration furthers our efforts to make New York the fairest big city in America, it is crucial that we also expand access to civil legal services and quality representation for all our residents, and for half a century, Brooklyn A has remained a leader in providing legal assistance and support for low-income individuals, families, community groups, and nonprofit organizations across the borough. Through its core programs focused on preserving affordable housing, consumer and economic advocacy, and community development, this organization has served as a powerful voice for New Yorkers, defending their rights and helping to build solid foundations for the neighborhoods it serves. I am proud to join in celebrating this incredible milestone in Brooklyn A’s history as we continue to work together to fulfill our shared vision of a more equitable future for all people.

On behalf of the City of New York, congratulations to this year’s honorees. I offer my best wishes for a wonderful anniversary celebration and continued success.

Sincerely,

Bill de Blasio
Mayor
Dear Friends,

It is a privilege to send greetings to everyone attending Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A's 50th Anniversary Celebration. Congratulations to tonight's honorees on their well-deserved recognition.

I am grateful to organizations like the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A for their commitment to promoting social and economic justice. From advocacy and neighborhood-based legal representation, Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A has played an important role in protecting our vulnerable populations since its inception. It is my sincere hope that its continued work inspires others to become invested in the eradication of inequality and inequity by aiding those in need and creating vibrant, healthy communities.

Please accept my best wishes for a wonderful celebration and many more years of continued success.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator
Dear Friends,

I am honored to congratulate Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A) on its 50th Year Anniversary. The advocacy and legal representation provided to the North Brooklyn community is commendable and a great public service.

As you know, Legal Services (BK-A) was created by Congress during the Civil Rights and anti-poverty movement to address historically-based inequities and to operate in low-income communities. In addition, it allowed for a community governed board of directors that is representative of its clients and their priorities. I am proud to know that BK-A has remained true to these founding principles.

I must also congratulate this year’s honorees-Martin S. Needelman, Esq. and Paul J. Acinapura, Esq., for their decades of service to Brooklyn A, the families, children, non-profits, and small businesses they represent. Their vision and leadership served a critical role in strengthening, empowering and preserving the communities in North Brooklyn. They believe that justice is not a commodity reserved for the privilege, but a basic right for all people. Whether through individual case work to help clients gain access to rights and benefits they are entitled to or class-action lawsuits that have changed laws and governmental polices, Brooklyn A has overwhelmingly protected the rights of and improved the quality of life for countless of our fellow citizens. The lives of so many have been enriched because of their efforts.

In addition, I want to thank and congratulate Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP for their invaluable contributions to our communities through their long-running Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP Externship. And commend the attorneys, support staff, and the Board for your tireless dedication and commitment to social and economic justice.

Best wishes for a great evening! La Lucha Sigue!

Sincerely,

Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress
November 1, 2018

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
260 Broadway, Suite 2
Brooklyn, New York 11211

Dear Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to all gathered at the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A)’s 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Brooklyn Legal Services is steadfast in its commitment to advance social and economic justice and empower communities through innovative, collaborative, neighborhood-based legal representation and advocacy. For fifty years, Brooklyn Legal Services has provided high-quality legal assistance to those in need and continues to play a vital role in developing vibrant and healthy communities.

I join Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A in recognizing the contributions of this evening’s distinguished honorees: Martin S. Needelman, Esq.; Paul J. Acinapura, Esq.; and Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP. It is thanks in part to the support of individuals like tonight’s honorees, that Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A is able to continue its many good works on behalf of our shared communities.

Please accept my best wishes for a wonderful Benefit and much continued success!

Sincerely,

Grace Meng
Member of Congress
November 1, 2018

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

Dear Friends:

It is my great pleasure to send greetings from the State Senate as you gather for Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A’s 50th Anniversary Celebration, and to congratulate and thank all of the attorneys, staff, volunteers, and contributors who help Brooklyn A serve and strengthen Brooklyn neighborhoods.

For 50 years, Brooklyn A has promoted social and economic justice by offering high-quality legal representation and advocacy for individuals, families, and organizations. Through its services, Brooklyn A protects the rights of tenants and consumers, supports sustainable and equitable community development, and ensures that its clients achieve just resolutions of difficult problems. This crucial work empowers individuals and whole neighborhoods—and makes our whole city better.

I also join you in congratulating tonight’s honorees, Martin Needelman, Esq. and Paul J. Aciapura Esq., for their many years of dedicated service to the community in their roles as Co-Executive Directors of Brooklyn A, as well as Simpson Thacher & Bartlett for providing invaluable resources to Brooklyn A through its Externship program.

Once again, I commend Brooklyn A for its outstanding work and I offer my congratulations and thanks for another year of great service to our communities. I hope you have an enjoyable and successful event tonight!

Sincerely,

Brian Kavanagh

250 BROADWAY, SUITE 2011, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007, 212-298-5565
BOROUGH HALL, 209 JORALEMON STREET, SUITE 300, BROOKLYN, NY 11201, 718-875-1517
November 1, 2018

Dear Friends,

Best wishes to Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn) on your 50th Anniversary Celebration.

For fifty years, Brooklyn A has been promoting justice, protecting the public interest and empowering communities through quality legal assistance ce. As a result of your efforts and determination to preserve the communities and fight on behalf of low-income residents, Brooklyn A has helped to improve the lives of countless individuals and families with a myriad of issues.

Additionally, I congratulate this year’s honorees, Martin A. Needleman, Esq. and Paul Acinapura, Esq, former Co-Executive Directors of Brooklyn A for their decades of service to clients and communities and to the Pro Bono Appreciation Awardee, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP for their contributions to Brooklyn A through their Externship program.

Again, my very best wishes for a wonderful evening and my appreciation for the ongoing promotion of social and economic justice.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Abbate, Jr.
Member of Assembly

50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
Dear Friends,

I would like to congratulate Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A) on their 50 years of providing first-class, legal representation and advocacy for Brooklyn residents. Brooklyn A’s work in providing opportunities and resources for deserving Brooklynites has vastly improved lives.

A special congratulations goes to this year’s honorees Martin S. Needelman, Esq. and Paul J. Acinapura, Esq. who have dedicated decades of service to Brooklyn A. I applaud them both for their unwavering commitment to representing low and moderate income individuals. I would also like to extend congratulations to Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP for the Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP Externship which has provided an invaluable educational experience to those who participated.

Brooklyn A has tirelessly protected individuals from discrimination, while empowering them to fight for themselves. Brooklyn A has a proven record of strong community relationships. Their efforts have been an overall beacon of hope. I wish Brooklyn A many more years of success as they continue to advocate for economic and social justice in our communities.

Sincerely,

Walter T. Mosley
New York State Assemblyman
57th Assembly District

WTM/la
November 1, 2018

Dear Friends,

It is an honor to extend my warmest wishes and congratulations to all participants who are gathered here on the 50th Anniversary Occasion of the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A).

As we celebrate the work of this year’s honorees, I would like to recognize the great work of your organization, dedicated to providing high-quality legal assistance to individuals, families, not-for-profit community-based organizations, community development corporations, and coalitions keen to develop and sustain vibrant, healthy, and improved quality of life for countless of our fellow citizens. Your mission to continually advance social and economic justice and empower communities through innovative, collaborative, neighborhood-based legal representation and advocacy, is worthy of recognition.

I extend my best wishes to the honorees: Martin S. Needelman, Esq., Paul J. Acipanura, Esq., and Simpson Thacher & Barlett LLP. Their diligence had undoubtedly made a lasting impact, leaving our communities stronger and more vibrant. These individuals stand as a testament to the positive impact that people with determination, talent and energy can have in our community.

I wish the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A) much success in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Steven H. Cymbrowitz
Member of Assembly
November 1st, 2018

Dear Friends:

As the New York State Assemblywoman for the 53rd Assembly District representing the communities of Bushwick and Williamsburg, it is with great honor that I welcome you to Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A, (Brooklyn A) on their 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Brooklyn A continues to support the community with the programs set forth in place to help those seeking legal services. They work tirelessly to ensure that residences of the Bushwick and Williamsburg community are given representation, advocating for tenant rights, affordable housing, foreclosure defense, and community-based development. Thank you for your hard-work and dedication in strengthening families and keeping communities empowered.

I would also like to commend tonight’s honorees: Martin S. Needleman and Paula J. Acinapura the former Co-Executive Director of Brooklyn A, along with Simpson, Thatcher, Bartlett LLP for your esteemed contribution to the betterment of our community.

I look forward to our continued partnership for the many years to come.

Sincerely,

Martiza Davila
Member, New York State Assembly
53rd Assembly District
November 1, 2018

Dear Friends:

I am thrilled to extend my congratulations to Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A) for 50 years of service to our borough. Thank you for the tremendous work you do to provide legal representation and advocacy for Brooklynites.

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A’s mission to defend tenants’ rights, preserve affordable housing, and organize in the community is so important to our city. Brooklyn A has spent the last 50 years advocating for social and economic justice, and through its core programs, addressing the housing and legal needs of that so many of our neighborhoods face.

Congratulations to this year’s honorees, my friend and colleague Martin S. Needelman, Esq. and Paul J. Acinapura, Esq., who are being recognized for their decades of legal service at Brooklyn A. I also wish to congratulate Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP for its contributions to our communities.

I wish Brooklyn A a wonderful time at their 50th Anniversary Celebration and again my warmest congratulations for the years of success. I look forward to working with you all in the next 50.

Sincerely,

Jo Anne Simon
Member of Assembly
November 1, 2018

Thomas McC. Souther, Esq.
Board Chair
260 Broadway, Suite 2
Brooklyn, NY 11211

Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to extend my sincerest greetings to all those gathered this Thursday, November 1st, 2018 for the 50th Anniversary of Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation. This wonderful event represents a celebration of leadership in your organization and individual members who have made ongoing contributions to society.

Today, I congratulate the exceptional honorees whose perseverance has proven to be invaluable to our community and who have led the way for many New Yorkers as a mighty and powerful force:

Martin S. Needelman, Esq.
&
Paul J. Acinapura, Esq.

On behalf of the 55th Assembly District, I would like to thank Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation and Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP for their commitment, dedication, and outstanding service to the community. Best wishes for a joyful evening and congratulations again, on this most auspicious occasion.

Sincerely,

Latrice Monique Walker
Member, New York State Assembly
October 24, 2018

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
619 Throop Avenue, 3rd Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11216

Dear Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A,

I bring you greetings as you celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of “Corp A.” Founded in 1968, your offices have provided our communities with advocates and legal representatives of the highest quality for half a century.

I want to extend my congratulations to this year’s honorees- Martin S. Needelman, Esq. and Paul J. Acinapura, Esq.- for their indefatigable service to our community, borough and state.

I would like to thank Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A and its honorees for taking the reins to combat inequality and inequity within our communities and ensuring that high quality legal representation is available to everyone. I am so proud of the work you do and the many accomplishments of your great organization. Please know that you will have my continued support.

Sincerely,

Tremaine S. Wright
Member, NYS Assembly
56th AD
October 22, 2018

Dear Friends,

Congratulations to Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A) on 50 years of advancing social and economic justice by providing high-quality, neighborhood-based legal representation and advocacy. You have substantially improved the lives of countless Brooklynites by protecting affordable housing, combatting tenant harassment and housing discrimination, fighting predatory lending, and representing community organizations that provide education, health care, community development, and other social services.

I also extend my sincere congratulations to this year’s honorees—Martin S. Needelman, Esq. and Paul J. Acinapura, Esq.—for their decades of service to Brooklyn A, its clients, and the communities they serve. As a result of your tireless efforts, Brooklyn A has improved the quality of life for thousands of low- and moderate-income individuals, families, and their communities.

In addition, I’m pleased to congratulate Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP for their important contributions to Brooklyn community-based organizations through their long-running Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP Externship.

I am grateful to all the staff and board members of Brooklyn A for your hard work and dedication. Your relentless pursuit of justice on behalf of your clients has empowered communities and contributed to strong, healthy neighborhoods across our great borough.

I wish you a wonderful evening and continued success for many years to come!

Sincerely,

Eric Gonzalez

Eric Gonzalez
November 1, 2018

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
260 Broadway, Suite 2
Brooklyn, New York 11211

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to extend best wishes to all attending Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A’s 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Since 1968, Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A) has done exceptional work to provide free and comprehensive legal services for thousands of New Yorkers in Brooklyn. Brooklyn A is committed to representing individuals and families on critical issues, ranging from housing and consumer rights to increasing access to education and healthcare. In addition, Brooklyn A partners with non-profit community based organizations on informative workshops and advocacy programs. These efforts to assist and empower low-income community members have made a positive impact on our City.

Congratulations to tonight’s honorees: Martin S. Needelman, Esq. and Paul J. Acinapura, Esq. Their commitment to Brooklyn A’s mission of equal access and justice is evident in all they do.

Thank you to Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A for bringing us together tonight to celebrate community and service. Please accept my best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

Scott M. Stringer
New York City Comptroller
November 1, 2018

Dear Friends:

As Speaker of the New York City Council, I am delighted to extend my personal greetings to everyone gathered here tonight at Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A’s (Brooklyn A) Annual Partnership Awards Benefit and 50th Anniversary Celebration!

Every day, our city’s nonprofits are on the ground in our communities, delivering vital services to New Yorkers and their families and working tirelessly to help ensure that our city remains a place of hope and opportunity for all.

And while these nonprofits are as diverse and dynamic as the City itself, they are bound by a common commitment: bettering the lives of those who call this city “home”.

That’s a commitment that the City Council and I are proud to share, and I would like to thank Brooklyn A and its dedicated team for the critically important work that they are doing to help provide free, high-quality legal services for individuals, families and community-based organizations here in Brooklyn and throughout New York City. Our city is a stronger, better place, thanks to organizations like theirs, and we’re deeply grateful for their service.

Congratulations as well to this year’s honorees.

I hope everyone has a wonderful time tonight! Enjoy!

Sincerely,

[Signature]

COREY JOHNSON
Speaker
November 1, 2018

Thomas McC. Souther, ESQ., Board Chair
Brooklyn Legal Services 260 Broadway
Brooklyn NY 11211

Dear Friends,

Congratulations to Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A) for 50 years of providing high-quality, neighborhood-based legal representation and advocacy.

BLSCA has provided high-quality legal assistance to low-income individuals and community groups throughout north and central Brooklyn for over 50 years. They address the systemic problems facing the communities they serve by providing a combination of full legal representation, brief advice/services, and legal education to vulnerable populations including low-income working poor, unemployed, disabled, elderly, immigrants, families in crisis and the community-based organizations that serve them. The three core programs of the organization are: Community and Economic Development, Preserving Affordable Housing, and Consumer and Economic Advocacy.

The services that BLSCA provides are vital to many of my constituents and the organization has repeatedly proven itself as a provider of much needed services. Given the current crisis of affordability of housing in New York City and ongoing gentrification of our districts, BLSCA’s services are needed now more than ever.

Congratulations to this year’s honorees—Martin S. Needelman, Esq. and Paul J. Acinapura, Esq.—for their decades of service to Brooklyn A, its clients, and the communities they serve. In addition, I’m pleased to congratulate Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP for their invaluable contributions to our communities through their long-running Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP Externship.

My best wishes for a wonderful evening and the ongoing pursuit of true social and economic justice for all.

Yours in Partnership,

Laurie A. Cumbo
Majority Leader of the New York City Council
November 1st, 2018

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to offer my congratulations to Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A on the occasion of their 50th Anniversary Celebration. This tremendous organization has made an incredible impact in our community by advancing the cause of social and economic justice.

As an elected official, I believe it is our moral imperative to help those seeking improved living conditions, better education, and a safer environment in which to raise a family. The leadership of Brooklyn Legal Services shares this belief, and that is why they have established such a powerful legacy of community-based advocacy. Our city is a better place for so many of our residents because this organization, and for their efforts, I am most appreciative.

I would like to extend my gratitude to this evening’s honorees: Martin S. Needleman, Esq. and Paul J. Acinapura, Esq. each of whom has made an important contribution towards improving our community. Their dedication to fighting injustice and poverty is creating a better future for the next generation of New Yorkers. I would also like to congratulate Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP as the recipients of the Pro Bono Appreciation Awards.

Thank you so very much, and have a wonderful evening.

Truly Yours,

Mathieu Eugene
Council Member
40th District, Brooklyn
November 1, 2018

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation
260 Broadway, Suite 2
Brooklyn, NY 11211

Dear Friends,

Please accept my best wishes for Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation’s Annual Dinner, celebrating 50 years of service to the community. It is an honor to recognize your organization to mark this special occasion.

For 50 years, Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A) and its dedicated team members have been committed to its mission – to advance social and economic justice through innovative, collaborative, neighborhood-based legal representation and advocacy. Since its founding, Brooklyn Legal Services has been providing high-quality legal assistance to individuals, nonprofits and various community groups – the bulk of which do not have the financial means to afford private representation.

It is a pleasure to congratulate two of Brooklyn A’s longest-tenured advocates and former Co-Executive Directors – Martin S. Needelman, Esq.; and Paul J. Acinapura, Esq. – in recognition of their many accomplishments and service to the community. I’d also like to congratulate your Pro Bono Appreciation awardees – Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP – for their invaluable contributions to Brooklyn Legal Services.

As you take this moment to reflect on your past and look towards the future, please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable event and continued success.

Very truly yours,

Eric A. Ulrich
Council Member
November 1, 2018

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
Shriver Tyler MacRake Center for Justice
260 Broadway, 2nd Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11211

Dear Friends,

I am honored to congratulate Brooklyn Legal Services for 50 years of providing high-quality, neighborhood-based legal representation and advocacy.

It is with great pleasure that I celebrate this year’s honorees—Martin S. Needelman, Esq. and Paul J. Acinapura, Esq. — for their decades of service to Brooklyn Legal Services, its clients, and the communities they serve. As a result of your tireless efforts on behalf of low- and moderate-income individuals, families, and communities, you have helped improve the quality of life of many of our fellow New Yorkers.

I also applaud Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP for its invaluable contributions to our communities through their long-running externship.

Congratulations to these honorees and all attendees of this year’s gala. Your diligence has made a lasting impact, leaving our communities stronger and more vibrant.

Best wishes for a productive year. I look forward to continuing our shared struggle for true social and economic justice for all.

Sincerely,

Margaret S. Chin
Council Member, District 1
Lower Manhattan
November 1, 2018

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to congratulate Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A) on their 50th Anniversary Celebration.

For 50 years Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A has been providing high-quality, neighborhood-based legal representation and advocacy for low and moderate income families and individuals and are to be commended for reaching this monumental milestone.

I am very pleased to congratulate the honorees – Martin S. Needelman, Esq. and Paul J. Acinapura, Esq. for their commitment and dedication to its clients, and the communities they serve. I also extend my heartfelt congratulations to Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP on receiving the Pro Bono Appreciation Award.

Best wishes and continued success to Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A.

Sincerely,

Alan N. Maisel
Councilman - 46th District
November 1, 2018

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
260 Broadway, 2nd Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11211

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to extend congratulations to Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A), which for 50 years now has been providing high quality, neighborhood-based legal representation and advocacy.

Allow me to congratulate this evening’s honorees, Martin S. Needelman, Esq. and Paul J. Acinapura, Esq. for their decades of dedication to Brooklyn A, its clients, and the communities they serve. Thanks to your great efforts on behalf of low- and moderate-income individuals, families, and communities, Brooklyn A has had a tremendously positive impact on the lives of so many New Yorkers.

I’m also very happy to congratulate Simpson Thatcher & Bartlett LLP for its immeasurable contributions to our communities through its longstanding Simpson Thatcher & Bartlett LLP Externship.

Best wishes for a great evening and for continued success in working on behalf of our fellow citizens.

Sincerely,

Chaim M. Deutsch
Council Member, 48th District
November 1, 2018

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
Shriver Tyler Macrate Center for Justice
260 Broadway, 2nd Floor
Brooklyn NY 11211

Dear Friends,

It is my honor to offer my sincerest congratulations to the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A) on your 50th Anniversary Celebration, and to your distinguished honorees, Martin S. Needelman and Paul J. Acinapura.

Your dedication to social and economic justice advocacy while providing the incomparable, neighborhood-based legal representation are remarkable attributes. As a result of your determination to fight for low-income residents, Brooklyn A has helped improve the quality of life of countless New Yorkers.

I offer my deepest gratitude to Brooklyn A, and in particular to tonight’s honorees. I extend my best wishes for this evening, and for continued success in the years to come.

Very truly yours,

Rory I. Lancman
November 1st, 2018

Dear Friends,

It is an honor to welcome everyone to Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A)’s 50th Anniversary Celebration.

For half a century now, Brooklyn A has served as a beacon of justice in the borough of Brooklyn and New York City at large.

As our borough faces the pernicious pressures of gentrification, displacement, and rising property values, Brooklyn A has been unwavering in their defense of working class New Yorkers and committed to the preservation of our neighborhoods. Thanks to their efforts, Brooklyn A has improved quality of life for thousands of New Yorkers.

Their commitment to building a more just and inclusive community is truly remarkable. On behalf of every community organization that has collaborated with Brooklyn A, and every citizen whose life has been touched by these efforts— I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude. I would also like to recognize the phenomenal work by all of Brooklyn A’s staff, attorneys, and advocates.

The success of Brooklyn A is due in large part this evening’s honorees: Martin (Marty) S. Needelman, Esq. and Paul J. Acinapura, Esq. Thank you both for your decades of service to Brooklyn A and our community. Under your leadership, Brooklyn A has continuously strived for the advancement of social and economic justice. This mission has been realized because of your persistent advocacy and dedication to the pursuit of justice.

Furthermore, I would like to congratulate Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, this evening’s recipient of the Pro Bono Appreciation Award. Thank you for your contributions to Brooklyn A and the work that they do within our community.

I wish everyone a delightful evening and look forward to many more years of paving the way for justice together.

Sincerely,

Antonio Reynoso  
34th District  
Brooklyn & Queens
November 1, 2018

Dear Friends:

It is an honor to pay tribute to Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation (Brooklyn A) on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary celebration at the annual Partnership Awards Benefit.

Since its founding, the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation has been a stalwart in the community for its representation of individuals, families, not-for-profits, and community development organizations in our urban environment with both a professional and a personal touch. Brooklyn A’s partnership with community organizations to advance social and economic justice to empower communities through collaborative, neighborhood-based representation is commendable and necessary for the sustainability of our neighborhoods.

Congratulations to Brooklyn Legal Services Executive Director Jessica A. Rose, to this year’s honorees Martin S. Needelman, Esq. and Paul J. Aciapura, Esq., to the recipients of the Pro Bono Appreciation Award, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, and to all the guests who have gathered to recognize the Brooklyn Legal Service Corporation’s continuing efforts on behalf of the communities it serves.

Sincerely,

BARRY S. GRODENCHIK
Council Member

BSG: ry
November 1, 2018

Dear Friends:

It is an honor to pay tribute to the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A) on the occasion of their 50th Anniversary celebration.

Since its founding, Brooklyn A has worked to advance social and economic justice by empowering communities through legal representation. Skilled attorneys have provided countless individuals, families and not-for-profit organizations with legal assistance in an effort to sustain galvanized communities. With programs that provide education and advocacy, Brooklyn A has truly impacted the lives of countless New Yorkers in its impressive 50 years of service.

Congratulations to Executive Director Jessica A. Rose and the entire team at the Brooklyn A for your continuing efforts on behalf of the communities you serve, and best wishes for a wonderful event.

Sincerely,

ADRIENNE ADAMS
Council Member, 28th District

AA: sy
November 1, 2018

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
Shriver Tyler MacCrater Center for Justice
260 Broadway, 2nd Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11211

Dear Friends,

_Congratulations on your 50th anniversary celebration!_

Since its founding in 1968, the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A has undertaken the invaluable work of providing high-quality, neighborhood-based legal representation and advocacy.

Please extend my regards to this evening’s distinguished honorees – Martin S. Needelman, Esq., Paul J. Acinapura, Esq., and Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP. Their contributions have undoubtedly made a lasting impact, working with organizations like yours to strengthen communities and advance social and economic justice.

Thank you for your continued service and receive my best wishes for continued success in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Carolina Rivera
Skadden proudly supports Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A.

We congratulate tonight’s honorees, Paul Acinapura, Marty Needelman, and Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP at Brooklyn A’s Annual Awards Benefit.
Dime is proud to support Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A

CONGRATULATIONS ON CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

Dime understands the importance of serving and supporting our communities. For over 150 years, we have been providing friendly, professional service and valuable support 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 extend our congratulations for 50 years of community service.

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Santander®, applauds Brooklyn A for making a real difference.
KELLEY DRYE & WARREN LLP
congratulates
PAUL ACINAPURA
MARTY NEEDELMAN
and
BROOKLYN LEGAL SERVICES
CORPORATION A

for their longstanding dedication and support in providing high quality legal assistance to low-income individuals and groups in Brooklyn.
We are proud to continue our support for

**Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A**

and to celebrate its 50th Anniversary!

*We join in congratulating tonight’s honorees*

**Martin S. Needelman**

and **Paul J. Acinapura**

*recipients of the Pro Bono Appreciation Award*
BEST WISHES

to

Jessie Rose

and the

Members of the Board of Directors, Professional and Administrative
Staff and Clients

of

BROOKLYN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION A

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CONGRATULATIONS

to

Distinguished Honorees

Our Dear Friends and Clients

Martin S. Needelman

and

Paul J. Acinapura

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

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Exemplary Service, Personalized Attention, Innovative Solutions.

Our team at **Federated National Land** is proud to support the outstanding legal assistance that **Brooklyn Legal Services** has provided to individuals, families, community organizations and small businesses for a half century.

**Congratulations** on your incredible achievements and for the dedication and leadership for this year’s honorees:

**Martin S. Needelman, Esq.**
**Paul J. Acinapura, Esq.**

and

**Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP**

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Fax: 646-564-3001

**New Jersey Office**
100 Lakeview Avenue, Suite 1
Jamesburg, NJ 08831
Tel: 732-722-1850
Fax: 732-812-8075

info@federatednlnl.com • www.federatednlnl.com
Salutes

Our good friends and community fighters:

**Marty S. Needelman**

&

**Paul J. Acinapura**

For your many years of legal representation and advocacy, fighting on behalf of residents and community rights, and your tireless efforts to keep families and community together!

2 Kingsland Avenue ▪ BK
www.stnicksalliance.org
BROOKLYN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION A

50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

THE BMS FAMILY HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTERS FAMILY SALUTES YOU

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE, CONTRIBUTION TO OUR MISSION AND TO THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE

"I HAVE LEARNED THAT PEOPLE WILL FORGET WHAT YOU SAID, PEOPLE WILL FORGET WHAT YOU DID, BUT PEOPLE WILL NEVER FORGET HOW YOU MADE THEM FEEL"

MAYA ANGELOU
Congratulations
to
Marty and Paul
for their decades of service
and to
Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
for
Fifty years of commitment

*Morris Kirschner Perpetual Charitable Trust*

*Cye E. Ross, Trustee*
*30 Vesey Street, Suite 1800*
*New York, New York 10007*
*(212) 732-0843*
Davis Polk warmly congratulates Marty Needelman, Paul Acinapura, and Brooklyn A on 50 years of service to our communities and neighborhoods.
To Brooklyn A’s past and present Board, management, and staff, and to its outstanding partners like Simpson and Thacher:

Thank you for making Brooklyn a place where future generations of Brooklynites, of which our Isabela and Zachary are a part, can grow, remain and thrive.

The Rose-Belkin-García-Rosen family

*Here’s to the next 50 years of Brooklyn A!*
M&T Bank. Understanding what’s important.

At M&T Bank, understanding what’s important means realizing the role a bank plays in people’s lives. And then living up to those responsibilities, by helping families, businesses and communities thrive. It’s what we’ve been doing for more than 160 years.

Learn more at mtb.com.
Congratulations on your 50th Anniversary Brooklyn A!

As well as to Paul and Marty for their unwavering commitment to social justice.

In words of Evan Esar: "You can't do anything about the length of your life, but you can do something about the width and depth."

This message embodies your determination to improving the quality of life in Brooklyn's marginalized communities and enhancing the lives of its residents. We owe you a debt of gratitude. A toast to a lives well lived!

Cypress Hills Child Care Corporation
Kramer Dillof Livingston & Moore

Salutes

Brooklyn A Legal Services

on this historic night and Congratulates

Marty and Paul

who have selflessly championed such a

noble crusade

217 Broadway
New York, N.Y. 10007
(212) 267-4177 • FAX (212) 233-8525
www.kdlm.com
Sargent Shriver Peace Institute

celebrates

Brooklyn A’s 50 years of outstanding legal services for the poor and the stewardship of

Martin S. Needelman, Esq.

and

Paul J. Acinapura, Esq.

Bobby Shriver, Maria Shriver, Timothy Shriver, Mark Shriver and Anthony Shriver, Trustees;
James R. Price, III, Executive Director;
Lucy Di Rosa, Director of Content and Communications;
William Josephson, Senior Advisor.
The People’s Firehouse, Inc. congratulates Brooklyn A Legal Services for its half century of service to the people of North Brooklyn!
We also honor the decades of service of former Co-Executive Directors Martin S. Needelman and Paul J. Acinapura!
Congratulations to

BROOKLYN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION A

On your 50th Anniversary!

Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation
Honors and thanks

Marty Needelman and Paul Acinapura
You are true Brooklyn Heroes!

Board of Directors & Staff
Thank you Marty Needleman, for nurturing, inspiring, training and leading by example, through so many community movements in which we have worked together.

North Brooklyn Angels
North Brooklyn Neighbors (was NAG)
Firehouse Community Center
Ascension Church
Greenpoint Mobilization Against Displacement

We are so proud to know you!

Felice Kirby
Father John Merz
Ryan Kuonen
Congratulations to Brooklyn A for 50 years of dedication to the community! Thank you, Paul Acinapura and Marty Needelman, for your tireless devotion to the mission of Brooklyn A!

Freeh Sporkin & Sullivan, LLP
www.FreehSporkinSullivan.com
On behalf of JC YES, we want to thank you for all the help and support throughout the years for our community.

Marty is a tireless fighter and advocate for all. We want to wish you a lot of success and luck in all his endeavors!

And congrats to the other honorees!

Warm Wishes from:
Jewish Coalition for Youth Education & Support

Marcos Masri - President
Joel Goldstein - Vice President
Chaim Ruttner - Executive Director
Stout is proud to support Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A and congratulates tonight’s honorees.

Martin S. Needelman, Esq.
Paul J. Acinapura, Esq.
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

Would like to congratulate
Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
On their 50th Anniversary of
Providing Legal Representation and
Advocacy, Creating Healthy Communities

1177 Avenue of the Americas
www.pli.edu
Congratulations to Marty and Paul for great careers serving the community.

- Bob, Rob and Will Sheehan
Thanks so much for this very special honor, particularly with Paul, my long term partner in leading Brooklyn A. Indeed, it’s been an honor and privilege to have had (and continue to have!) the opportunity to represent and work with tenants associations, community coalitions, and their great organizers (such as Barbara Schliff!) and organizations, and to be part of Brooklyn, City, State and national groups continuing the fight for justice for all!!

And, PS, a special, special thanks to my wife America, and children, Joseph & Laura, for having tolerated my doing all this non-family work for so, so long!!!!

– Marty