

# Hinman Straub infuses community involvement into firm's culture

## Legal Aid Society's JFA campaign welcomes leadership

Community involvement is so important to the law offices of Hinman Straub that the firm created an internal committee to coordinate it and ensure it remained a priority. While attorneys and staff were always active in the community, development of the committee over one year ago formalized this commitment, making it an integral part of the firm's culture.

Laura Turnblom, James Potter and Kevin Quinn chair Hinman Straub's Community Involvement Committee. Laura is an associate attorney practicing health law and government relations; both Jim and Kevin are partners in the firm, with practice areas in litigation and education/government relations, respectively. Jim is also president of the Albany County Bar Association.

Together with the firm's shareholders, the committee decided to support the Legal Aid Society's Justice for All (JFA) campaign at the leadership level, which recognizes firms who donate a minimum of \$200 per attorney. Because Hinman Straub understands the need for legal services beyond what it can offer through pro bono services alone, it elected to make a significant financial contribution to Legal Aid to ensure a broad spectrum of services to those who truly need assistance.

## G. Kimball Williams

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attorney annually, he says, "The Legal Aid staff spends an incredible amount of time, disproportionately to time spent securing services, scrambling year to year to get funding. By having attorneys agree to support Legal Aid at this rate, it provides a steady, predictable stream of income and allows the Legal Aid Society to focus more on providing services."

Laura notes, "Economic barriers often preclude individuals from receiving necessary legal services. This lack of representation usually involves matters that affect an individual's most basic human needs, such as housing, health-care, disability benefits and food, things that many people take for granted."

Speaking specifically to Hinman Straub's contribution to JFA, she adds, "This support improves access to services that low-income individuals may otherwise



Laura Turnblom, Kevin Quinn and James Potter

be precluded from. Justice for All allows individuals to receive excellent legal services regardless of ability to pay."

Located on State Street in Albany, Hinman Straub P.C. provides expertise ranging from health law to insurance, financial planning, labor, education and government relations. Individual, institutional and corporate clients benefit from the firm's strong relationships with government, judiciary and business leaders and its well-established reputation.

Built over more than 70 years, Hinman Straub's extensive knowledge of

the intricacies and protocols of government positions it as a leader in the practice of government law, including advocating for clients before the New York State legislature and state regulatory agencies, drafting legislation, insuring implementation of new laws and guiding clients through the regulatory process. Nationally, clients turn to Hinman Straub for its expertise in New York State.

Through its Community Involvement Committee, the firm supports individual attorneys and staff as they participate in a wide range of community activities by volunteering, doing

## PROFILE:

## *justice for all leadership*

pro bono work, serving on boards and making financial contributions.

The Legal Aid Society's annual Justice for All (JFA) fundraising campaign enhances the ability of the Society to provide access to quality civil legal services for people in Northeastern New York. To contribute to Justice for All at any level, please contact Deanne Grimaldi, Development Director: [dgrimaldi@lasnny.org](mailto:dgrimaldi@lasnny.org) or (518) 689-6336.

## Disability Advocacy

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Although The Legal Aid Society handles the majority of its disability cases under the Disability Advocacy Project, some cases fall under its HIV Project, the Children's Law Project and certain protection and advocacy grants for the developmentally disabled and mentally ill. The statistics provided for 2005 reflect all projects handling disability cases.

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