

WILSON SONSINI PRO BONO

Justice. Leadership. Community. Service.



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GIVES



2022 Pro Bono and Community Services Annual Report

FOR FISCAL YEAR FEBRUARY 1, 2021 - JANUARY 31, 2022
PREPARED BY THE PRO BONO COMMITTEE

WILSON SONSINI PRO BONO

Justice. Leadership. Community. Service.

Dear Clients and Friends,

We are pleased to share Wilson Sonsini's Pro Bono and Community Services Annual Report for fiscal year 2022. As in past years, the publication highlights just a small sample of the legal services, financial support, and volunteer efforts that our attorneys and staff generously provide to worthy nonprofit organizations and individuals in our local communities.

We are proud to have further strengthened our pro bono program in pursuit of justice and helping those with limited means to gain access to the legal system—and we remain inspired to do more. In fiscal year 2022, Wilson Sonsini attorneys and staff provided over 64,000 pro bono hours, participated in almost 80 community service projects, and raised nearly \$288,000 for charitable organizations and causes. In addition, the Wilson Sonsini Foundation contributed almost \$1.6 million to over 90 law-related organizations and nearly 130 community organizations. During calendar year 2021, the firm received substantial national recognition for these efforts, including the 2021 National Pro Bono Award from the Iranian American Bar Association, the Beacon of Justice Award from the National Legal Aid and Defender Association, and the 2021 Midwest Innocence Project Hero Award.

We hope you enjoy our latest Pro Bono and Community Services Annual Report. The need to support underserved communities and pursue justice has never been greater, and we are incredibly proud of our employees for their ongoing commitment to serving the communities in which we live and work.

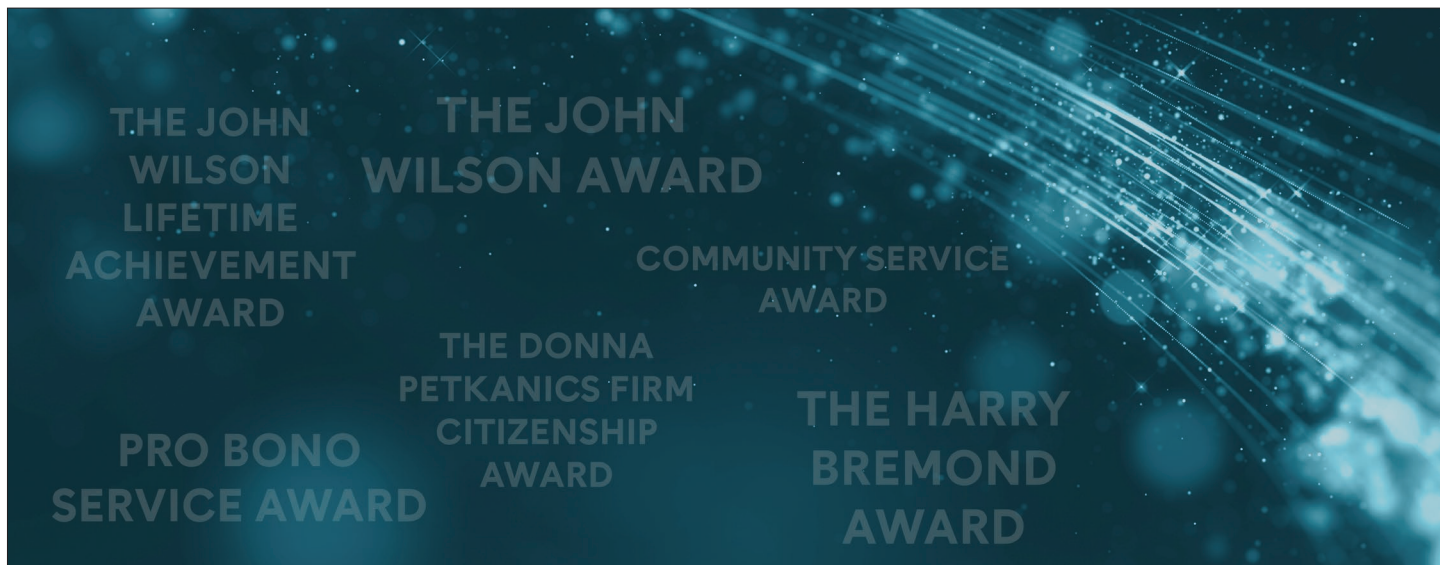
With best regards,



Doug Clark

Managing Partner

Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati



THE HARRY BREMOND AWARD

Created in 2020, the Harry Bremond Award is named for legendary retired Wilson Sonsini partner Harry Bremond, who has been actively involved in civil rights and helping to ensure access to justice for decades. This year, the award recognizes Dylan Savage, who was elevated to the firm's partnership in February 2022 and has consistently upheld Harry's excellence in character, leadership, and service to community throughout her career at the firm. In particular, Dylan has played a key role in two of the largest pro bono wins in firm history, the Medicare class action *Alexander v. Azar* and a Torture Victim Protection Act case against Carlos Mario Jiménez Naranjo.

THE JOHN WILSON AWARD

The John Wilson Award honors the memory of the firm's co-founder, John Arnot Wilson, who was actively involved in civic and nonprofit organizations. The award recognizes attorneys who have consistently upheld John Wilson's commitment to pursue excellence in the practice of law while serving the

community, and who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to the firm's pro bono clients and handled significant responsibility on pro bono matters. In addition, the firm is honoring select staff members who have provided outstanding service for pro bono clients.

For fiscal year 2022, the firm honored the following individuals:

Austin: Brandon Middleton-Pratt

Boston: Morgan Brown and David Sackstein

Brussels: Laura Brodahl and Nikolaos Theodorakis

London: John Lynch

Los Angeles: Stephanie Cheng and Jamie Otto

New York: Zachary Kravat and Alexia Syrmos, senior paralegal Lee Ann Almeida, and paralegal Melisa Desperak

Palo Alto: Mikaela Burkhardt, Chidera Dawodu, Theo Haboucha, Allison Ivey, Sigourney Jellins, Malavika Lobo, Doug McManaway, Cristina Mora, Tony Nguyen, Mary O'Brien, Stephen Olshemski, Courtney Reed, and Jason

Xu, and senior paralegal Diana Lopez

San Diego: Chloe Delehanty and Sai Upadhyayula

San Francisco: Lily Miller, Yana Pavlova, Toni Wormald, Ashley Yueh, and executive assistant Debra Jones

Seattle: Andrew Braff, Tyre Tindall, and executive assistant Rosanna Carter

Washington, D.C.: Laura Ahmed, Christina Clemens, Jonathan Davey, John Kenney, and Sean Semmler

Wilmington: Angie Flaherty and Emily Marco

THE JOHN WILSON LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Established in 2018, the John Wilson Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes retired partners for their decades of trailblazing service and leadership with respect to both firm pro bono and community service initiatives, as well as for being eminent members of the legal community more broadly. Previously, the award was presented to retired partner Harry Bremond.

Pro Bono & Community Awards

For fiscal year 2022, the firm honored Steven Guggenheim and Brad O'Brien with John Wilson Lifetime Achievement Awards.

THE DONNA PETKANICS FIRM CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Established in 2022, the Donna Petkanics Firm Citizenship Award is named for recently retired Wilson Sonsini partner Donna Petkanics, who set the standard for firm citizenship while serving as managing partner, member of both the firm's board of directors and the Wilson Sonsini Foundation's board of directors, and chair of several key committees during her more than 36 years at the firm. Each year, the award will honor individuals who embody Donna's longstanding commitment to firm values and advancement of the firm's unique culture.

For fiscal year 2022, the firm honored partner Herb Fockler, associate Nikkisha Smith, and senior manager of community affairs Gail McFall with Donna Petkanics Firm Citizenship Awards.

PRO BONO SERVICE AWARD

The Pro Bono Service Award recognizes attorneys and staff who have made significant contributions to the firm's pro bono program over the past year. These individuals are critical to the firm's efforts to meet the legal needs of low-income individuals and nonprofit organizations in the community.

The recipients of the fiscal year 2022 Pro Bono Service Award are:

Partners: Moe Fodeman, Michael Levin, Luke Liss, Chul Pak, and Mark Parnes

Associates, Of Counsel, and Counsel:

Christine Au-Yeung, Joshua Baskin, Danielle Bass, Cagla Boylu, Brian Brown, Sierra Bunnell, Dylan Byrd, Evan Campbell, Deirdre Carroll, Amara Conteh, Nomi Conway, Andy Cordo, David Cornell, Brian Currie, Kelsey Curtis, Mallory Davis, Qiming Deng, Nimit Dhir, Anurag Dubey, Genevieve Duran, Ken Edelson, Sarah Eller, Ohi Eromosele, Jake Greenberg, Paul Gross, Eric Grote, Paul Harold, Jessica Hartwell, Jon Hatcher, Ben Hawkins, Peter Hecker, Adam Iyob, Frances Jennings, Danielle Kassatly, Aaron Katz, Alexandra Keck, Craig Kenesky, Layan Khrais, Benjamin Kurland, Brandon Leahy, Shanna Lehrman, Zack Lenox, Brian Levy, Susanna Lichter, Shuo Liu, Jessica Lonergan, Grant Loriaux, Jonathan McGruer, Alex Moffitt, Evan Moore, Jeremiah Nelson, Jordan Nelson, Nedim Novakovic, Tonia Ouellette Klausner, Benjamin Potts, Ed Powell, Ajwang Rading, John Roberts, Zeke Rosenberg, Quincy Rush, Rosalind Schonwald, Steve Schultze, Baasil Shariff, Ava Shelby, Jacob Shepherd, Kathleen Snyder, Kimberly Stopak, Marsha Sukach, Shefali Tandon, Tasha Thomas, Feng Tian, Estefania Torres Paez, Jane Trueper, Mariah Volk, Jackson Walker, Kexi Wang, Alexander Weiner, Jordin Wilcher, Michael Wyszowski, Eva Yin, and Eve Zelinger

Staff: Ruben Ceja, Srividya Chandramouli, Delilah Crim, Shea Henneman, Cheuk Hei Ho, Joseph Lesniewski, Stacy Love, Candida Malferrari, Nick May, Rodolfo Munoz, Chitra Parandaman, Jason Parkhouse, Naomi Pierce, Moira Rueda, Maddie Smurzynski, and Johnson Truong

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The Community Service Award recognizes attorneys and staff who have made significant contributions to the firm's community service program over the past year. This award honors individuals who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to the program, both in terms of active participation in community service activities and leadership in community service efforts.

Austin: Darla Thomas

Los Angeles: Talin Gordnia

New York: Rachel Borok

Palo Alto: Kristin Ashby and Amorita Gaucin

San Diego: Genie Adamson

San Francisco: Kibibi Shaw

Seattle: Barbara Mery

Washington, D.C.: Hannah Allebach

Wilmington: KiAn Harris

IRANIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION'S NATIONAL PRO BONO AWARD

In March 2021, Wilson Sonsini was honored to receive the Iranian American Bar Association's (IABA's) 2021 National Pro Bono Award at the organization's Seventh Annual National Conference.

The pro bono award was given to Wilson Sonsini for the firm's groundbreaking work on racial justice advocacy and litigation. The IABA highlighted the firm's efforts to advance racial justice with nonprofit organization partners, its pledge of a \$15 million increase in pro bono legal services spread over three years dedicated to racial justice and civil rights work, and its establishment of



a 2021 Juneteenth Day of Service and Celebration, among other projects and service.

The IABA is the only national association of Iranian-American judges, attorneys, legal scholars, and law students in the U.S., with over 1,500 members and eight chapters nationwide. The IABA's mission is to: educate and

inform the community about legal issues of interest to Iranian-Americans; protect and advance the legal rights of the Iranian-American and other minority communities; and foster and promote the achievements of Iranian-American lawyers and other attorneys. The IABA is nonprofit, non-religious, and apolitical. The IABA's Seventh Annual National Conference was held virtually on March 27, 2021. Luke Liss accepted the award on Wilson Sonsini's behalf.

NATIONAL LEGAL AID AND DEFENDER ASSOCIATION'S BEACON OF JUSTICE AWARD

In July 2021, Wilson Sonsini was among 23 firms nationwide honored with the National Legal Aid and Defender Association's (NLADA's) 2021 Beacon of Justice Award, which recognized pro bono work to address systemic racial disparities in 2020. The awards were celebrated at NLADA's 2021 Exemplar Award Virtual Gala on June 9, 2021. [Click here](#) to view the 2021 Beacon of Justice Awardees digital book, which showcases the work performed by each of the winning firms. Wilson Sonsini's entry includes a video featuring Pro Bono Partner Luke Liss.

Wilson Sonsini has been engaged in important

and large-scale pro bono matters involving racial justice and civil rights since the founding of the firm's pro bono program by now-retired partner Harry Bremond, one of the first African American attorneys in the Northern California Bay Area. In 2020, the firm increased these efforts by pledging at least \$15 million in additional pro bono services focused on racial justice, and

engaging in such matters as the ACLU of Louisiana's Justice Lab project to combat discriminatory policing, volunteering over 2,000 hours for non-partisan election protection efforts, donating hundreds of thousands of dollars to nonprofits focused on racial justice initiatives, and developing various new pro bono initiatives and partnerships with both clients and nonprofits focused on racial justice and civil rights.

"We are honored and thankful to receive the Beacon of Justice Award from NLADA for our racial justice work," said Luke. "And I am personally grateful to our firm's leadership—starting with Doug Clark and Katie Martin—for their tremendous support and culture-setting in making our sustained efforts possible, as well as for the heart and dynamic of our dedicated attorneys and staff. We look forward to continuing to expand our efforts and creativity in pursuit of justice for those in need."

MIDWEST INNOCENCE PROJECT'S HERO AWARD

In 2021, Wilson Sonsini was recognized with the "Hero Award" for its work with the Midwest Innocence Project. The project involved 41 Wilson Sonsini attorneys partnering with in-house attorneys to complete 12 case assessments for the Midwest Innocence Project, whose mission is to educate about, advocate for, and obtain and support the exoneration and release of wrongfully convicted people in the Midwest.

WILSON SONSINI D.C. ATTORNEYS HONORED IN CAPITAL AREA PRO BONO HONOR ROLL

D.C. Court of Appeals Chief Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby and D.C. Superior Court Chief Judge Anita Josey-Herring released the 2021 Pro Bono Honor Roll,

2021 Wilson Sonsini Honors

which recognized the contributions of D.C. Bar members and others authorized to perform legal work who donated 50 or more hours of pro bono service during the last calendar year.

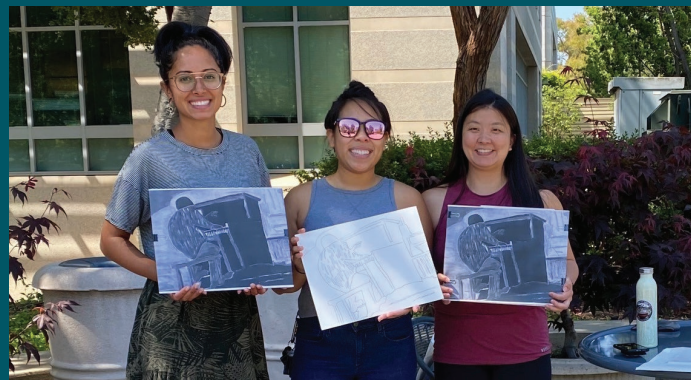
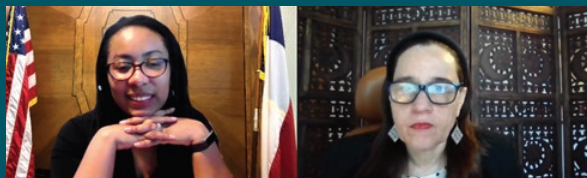
For their pro bono contributions in 2021, the following Washington, D.C., attorneys were included in the Capital

Area Pro Bono Honor Roll: Laura Ahmed, Jeffery Bank, John Ceccio, Sabin Chung, Christina Clemens, Amara Conteh, Robin Crauthers, Jacob Danziger, Jonathan Davey, Mallory Davis, Nimit Dhir, Khouryanna DiPrima, Jamillia Ferris, Paul Harold, Ben Hawkins, Steffen Johnson, Aaron Katz, Alexandra Keck, John Kenney,

Benjamin Kurland, Anthony Malone, Matthew McDonald, Scott McKinney, Alex Moffitt, Roxana Mondragon-Motta, Evan Moore, Estefania Torres Paez, Mark Rosman, Steve Schultze, Sean Semmler, G. Theodore Serra, Baasil Shariff, Tasha Thomas, Feng Tian, and Brett Weinstein.

Wilson Sonsini's Continued Commitment to Racial Justice

In September 2020, Wilson Sonsini announced a number of racial justice and civil rights initiatives, with Pro Bono Partner Luke Liss noting that “the firm is laser focused on new clients and initiatives focused on racial justice and civil rights.” The firm took action, implementing an annual Juneteenth Day of Service and Celebration, with the inaugural event held in June 2021; introducing a new Harry Bremond Award for pro bono service; and pledging to increase the value of pro bono legal services focused on racial justice and civil rights work by \$15 million over the course of the next three years (\$5 million per year). As of the end of fiscal year 2022, the firm has dedicated more than \$13 million in pro bono legal services within just the first two years of the pledge.





A Landmark for the Lost

On September 27, 2021, a federal court in Florida ruled that former Colombian paramilitary leader Carlos Mario Jiménez Naranjo, aka “Macaco,” is liable for the extrajudicial killing of Eduardo Estrada, a beloved community leader in the Middle Magdalena region of Colombia. Over a thousand people attended Eduardo’s funeral after he was brutally gunned down in 2001 by paramilitaries commanded by Macaco.

Macaco was the head of the *Bloque Central Bolívar* (BCB), a division of the paramilitary group called the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC). A self-described “killing machine,” the BCB murdered, disappeared, and tortured thousands of civilians. In the landmark ruling in September 2021, the court found that the BCB’s human rights violations were facilitated by the Colombian military. “The symbiotic relationship between state actors and paramilitaries, acknowledged for the first time by a U.S. court, enabled the BCB’s campaign of murder and torture,” said Dylan Savage, litigation partner at Wilson Sonsini, which served as co-counsel for plaintiffs alongside the Center for Justice and Accountability (CJA) and local counsel Kerrigan Estess

Rankin McLeod & Thompson. Macaco, like more than a dozen other high-ranking paramilitaries who demobilized in 2005 and began to take part in truth telling during Colombia’s Justice and Peace process, was extradited to the United States solely on drug trafficking charges in 2008. Many of these paramilitaries were implicated in human rights crimes, but their removal to the United States abruptly upended any opportunity for survivors to seek truth and reparations against them in Colombia. This case, which was filed in 2010 in the Southern District of Florida, refocused attention on the devastating human rights toll inflicted by Macaco. Daniel McLaughlin, Senior Staff Attorney at CJA, said at the time, “The United States government had the opportunity to prosecute Macaco for his human rights crimes when they sought his extradition from Colombia... Its decision to focus solely on narco-trafficking charges, however, means that today’s ruling may be the only accountability Macaco sees for his human rights crimes.”

Gustavo Gallón, Director of the Colombian Commission of Jurists, which represents the plaintiffs in Colombia, added: “We truly hope that the decision of the federal court in Florida will

contribute to our accountability efforts for the BCB’s killings and will also send a strong message to Colombian victims of human rights abuses not to lose hope.”

“This is a victory for truth,” said Claret Vargas, Senior Staff Attorney at CJA. “After over a decade of litigation and over a thousand pages of evidence—including statements by Macaco, admissions by former paramilitary members in depositions, expert reports, and eyewitness testimony—a court has acknowledged the facts surrounding Eduardo’s assassination and held the head of BCB liable.”

“While nothing will bring Eduardo back to his beloved community and family, we are thankful for the court’s ruling, the trust and perseverance of our clients, and our collaboration with CJA. From strategy meetings in Palo Alto, to a fact-finding investigation on the ground in Bogotá, to depositions of high-level former paramilitaries in Medellín, this was a true and sustained team effort. The result exemplifies how and why we pour our hearts into every matter,” said Luke Liss, Pro Bono Partner at Wilson Sonsini.

Healthcare Rights

CENTER FOR MEDICARE ADVOCACY AND JUSTICE IN AGING

Previously, in March 2020, Wilson Sonsini, along with co-counsel Center for Medicare Advocacy (CMA) and Justice in Aging, obtained a trial victory at the district court level on behalf of a nationwide class of Medicare beneficiaries to appeal adverse classifications that affected their right to Medicare coverage for often critical care. On January 25, 2022, following an appeal and challenge of the ruling by the defendant, a panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit issued an opinion stating, “we find no merit in these challenges. We therefore AFFIRM.”

Since then, this opinion has been affirmed once on appeal and, if not successfully further appealed, will protect the rights of hundreds of thousands of older or disabled Medicare patients to receive Medicare coverage for care they often desperately need. Luke Liss, Wilson Sonsini Pro Bono Partner and a member of the trial team, said, “We are thankful to the district court and the court of appeals for their time and careful attention in this matter. We are grateful for the opportunity to advocate in this case alongside our co-counsel for patients across the nation in need of critical care ... [O]ur hearts remain with those patients who have been deprived of [the right to appeal for inpatient coverage], as well as doctors and staff that have courageously advocated for them for many years. Fundamentally, this case is about fairness and care for older adults nationwide...”

Luke also expressed Wilson Sonsini’s appreciation and admiration for co-counsel, as well as for the courage and sacrifice of the former patients and doctors that testified at trial. He further noted that one witness was particularly



impactful, a physician who recounted to him on the stand an encounter with a patient who said she “just wanted to die” because her misclassification at the hospital stood to bankrupt her family. This testimony was noted in the Second Circuit’s opinion as an example of “evidence presented at trial [that] also demonstrated the emotional and psychological costs, beyond the financial costs, for a patient who is denied Medicare Part A coverage.”

The Wilson Sonsini team has been involved in this litigation against three separate administrations and overcame multiple motions to dismiss

and motions for summary judgment to get to a seven-day trial in Hartford, Connecticut, in August 2019. The trial team included attorneys David J. Berger, Steven Guggenheim, Luke Liss, Dylan Savage, Lindsey Edwards, and Alexander Brehnan, and paralegals Stacy Love and Stephanie Van Horn. A number of other Wilson Sonsini attorneys and staff have also assisted with the litigation during the years of the firm’s involvement, from 2015 through the present day.



LAWYERS FOR A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Wilson Sonsini was a co-founding member of the Lawyers for a Sustainable Economy (LSE) initiative at the 2018 Global Climate Action Summit. A first-of-its-kind initiative supported by Stanford Law School and Stanford's Precourt Institute for Energy, LSE offers free legal assistance to entrepreneurs and nonprofits taking on key sustainability challenges across multiple economic sectors in energy, transportation, and land use. The initiative initially aimed to deliver free legal services worth \$20 million by the end of 2020, including a \$2 million commitment by Wilson Sonsini. By the end of Phase 1 (2018-2020), the firm had donated a total of \$6.38 million in pro bono services to 27 clients—more than tripling its initial commitment. In 2021, the firm made a new commitment to donate \$4 million in legal services for Phase 2 (2021-2022), which was also exceeded.

TEJON RANCH LITIGATION

In December 2020, Wilson Sonsini filed a complaint in Kern County Superior Court in California on behalf of a consortium of prominent environmental groups comprising the Natural

Resources Defense Council (NRDC), Audubon California, the Endangered Habitats League, and the Planning and Conservation League. The lawsuit was filed against the Tejon Ranch Co. and Tejon RanchCorp, alleging they breached their obligation under the landmark Tejon Ranch Conservation and Land Use Agreement by failing to make promised payments to Tejon Ranch Conservancy—a nonprofit organization created under the agreement to oversee conservation of the protected lands at Tejon Ranch, foster scientific research, and manage public access. The purpose of the underlying Land Use Agreement is to preserve 90 percent of the 270,000-acre ranch in a natural state. As has been the case for the better part of the past year, the parties continue to engage in discovery. A jury trial is scheduled for December 2022.

THE SURFRIDER FOUNDATION

Wilson Sonsini represented the Surfrider Foundation—a grassroots nonprofit environmental organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the world's ocean, waves, and beaches—in filing an amicus brief to object to the rampant overdevelopment of homeowners situated directly on

the beach. The litigation involved a supposed “mobile home park” featuring luxury homes located very close to the shorelines of north San Clemente, California. A group of residents applied for individual, after-the-fact permits to add second stories to their homes, raising environmental and zoning concerns. The Surfrider Foundation decided to involve itself in the case to: (1) address egregious coastal development that induces coastal armoring and beach loss due to sea level rise and erosion; (2) support the preservation of coastal viewsheds and other coastal enjoyment opportunities; and (3) defend the strong coastal resource protection laws and regulatory system in California. Surfrider's brief was in support of the California Coastal Commission, which argued that the development should not be “deemed approved” under California law. The amicus brief focused on the strength of the coastal protection laws of the state, as well as a plain reading of the Permit Streamlining Act. Unfortunately, the California Fourth District Appellate Court ruled that the projects were “deemed approved” under California law. The case highlights that inappropriate coastal development in California is an ongoing issue that necessitates creative legal responses.

Environmental Protection

ENERGY PEACE PARTNERS

Since helping to form and establish initial sponsorship arrangements for pro bono client Energy Peace Partners (EPP) in 2017, attorneys in Wilson Sonsini’s Energy & Climate Solutions group have continued to support EPP’s novel efforts to expand the benefits of renewable energy to countries threatened by conflict, climate change, and energy poverty. A traditional renewable energy credit (REC) represents one megawatt hour of energy generated from renewable resources. EPP augments this concept by focusing on renewable energy projects in energy poor countries affected by conflict, providing for Peace Renewable Energy Credits (P-RECs) with certified peacebuilding co-benefits. EPP has facilitated several P-REC transactions between renewable energy project developers in sub-Saharan Africa and companies such as Microsoft, Google, Block, and REC broker 3Degrees, unlocking a new revenue stream that has supported high-impact renewable energy projects in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and South Sudan. P-REC sales have to date funded distributed mini-grids that are providing first-time electrification in rural communities, public streetlighting that has improved nighttime security, and the solar electrification of a hospital that serves displaced persons. In 2022, Microsoft transacted the largest P-REC deal to date and became the first repeat corporate P-REC buyer, extending its



support for the work of project developer Nuru in the DRC.

Wilson Sonsini attorneys have helped EPP draft agreements and other documents to extend the reach and impact of their P-REC programs. These efforts have included arrangements with 3Degrees for a planned P-REC Aggregation Fund for early-stage funding of projects throughout Africa, including Chad, DRC, Somalia,

South Sudan, and Uganda, and also foundational agreements with the International REC Standard Foundation (I-REC), which certifies the internationally recognized RECs on which EPP’s P-RECs are based. In parallel, the firm has assisted EPP with the incorporation of a California public benefit corporation and its application for federal nonprofit status.

The ACLU of Louisiana's Justice Lab Initiative

In 2020, Wilson Sonsini joined the ACLU of Louisiana's Justice Lab Initiative to challenge racially discriminatory policing practices and combat police violence against people of color. The campaign enlists law firms and law school legal clinics in bringing cases challenging racially motivated stops and seizures under the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments and any other applicable laws.

In cases filed as part of the ongoing effort, the firm represents Black women in two separate and ongoing civil rights actions, including one involving the use



of excessive force, against police officers and sheriff's department personnel in Louisiana. Wilson Sonsini will soon

undertake additional cases as part of this initiative, as well as other constitutional cases set to begin in 2022.

Veterans' Rights



Every year, thousands of veterans appeal their disability benefits to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims without the help of an attorney. In the summer of 2021, Wilson Sonsini helped to bridge that gap with contributions from veterans among its own ranks. The firm

took on eight different benefit appeals last summer alone, with assistance from U.S. Army veteran John Lynch and other Wilson Sonsini attorneys.

In one appeal, the firm won a favorable resolution for a 25-year-old Army veteran

named Manuel Palacios (not his real name). The Department of Veterans Affairs had given Palacios, who suffered a service-related ankle injury, a disability rating lower than his injury warranted. The low rating, in turn, affected his benefits. At the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, the VA agreed that its own Board of Veterans Appeals had failed to address all the information in the record in reviewing Palacios' disability level. In the most positive result Wilson Sonsini could achieve, the VA agreed to joint remand to the VA for a new decision.

These veterans appeals cases were so notable they were featured in a November 2021 *Law360* article, "[BigLaw Attys Take on VA Roadblocks To Help Fellow Veterans.](#)"



Wilson Sonsini continues to be very active in the immigration space, handling dozens of immigration cases at any given time, including more than 140 matters in calendar year 2021. The firm represents underrepresented individuals referred through several legal services organizations, including Community Legal Services for East Palo Alto, Bay Area Legal Aid, Kids in Need of Defense, and Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach, among others. Highlights from fiscal year 2022 included:

Afghanistan

As U.S. forces left Afghanistan in August 2021, over 20 attorneys at Wilson Sonsini mobilized to assist families from Afghanistan leaving the country. Working on an emergency basis, they sought humanitarian parole (special relief for those who would not normally be allowed to enter the U.S.) for more than 40 adults and 30 children in Afghanistan sponsored by families in the United States.

In late 2021, Wilson Sonsini also partnered with attorneys from various

law firms across the country to assist four female students from Afghanistan who left the country to pursue higher education.

Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area (Palo Alto)

Country: China

In October 2021, a Wilson Sonsini pro bono team won asylum for a Uyghur woman referred to the firm from the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area. The client, Sarah (not her real name), is a Uyghur woman who came to the United States from Usu, China, in 2015. While in China, Sarah experienced discrimination due to her ethnicity and was subject to violent abuse and harassment. She came to the U.S. on a student visa, but upon transferring universities, her visa became invalid. Sarah feared she would face persecution based on her ethnicity if she returned to Usu. Today, she lives in San Francisco and will be eligible to apply for her permanent resident card (green card) in 2022.

The pro bono team included Melissa Rick, Candida Malferrari, Rodolfo Munoz, Abenet Gebretsadik, Rosemarie Dean, and others.

Founded in 1968, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area (LCCRSF) works to advance, protect, and promote the legal rights of communities of color, low-income persons, immigrants, and refugees. Assisted by hundreds of pro bono attorneys, LCCR provides free legal assistance and representation to individuals on civil legal matters through direct services, impact litigation, and policy advocacy. The firm's partnership with LCCR started in 1994.

Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (Seattle)

Country: Guatemala

In September 2021, a Wilson Sonsini team from the Seattle office obtained lawful permanent residency for a young pro bono client referred to the firm from the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project. Originally from Guatemala, Paul (not his real name) came to the U.S. in 2015, making the arduous trip as a 16-year-old unaccompanied minor. After a long wait and much work, his application for permanent residency was finally granted. The team went above and beyond, recognizing early on that asylum might not be the best route and pursuing Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) instead.

The pro bono team included John Roberts, Diana Lopez, Naomi Pierce, Rose Carter, Yu-Shan Sheard, Dora Zepeda, and others.

The Northwest Immigrant Rights Project promotes justice by defending and advancing the rights of immigrants through direct legal services, systemic advocacy, and community education.

Sustainability

Wilson Sonsini has implemented numerous initiatives to reduce our impact on the environment, though we are actively and continuously looking for ways to improve upon our current practices. In addition, the firm is engaged in the U.S. EPA WasteWise Program, the U.S. EPA Green Power Partnership Program, and the U.S. EPA Energy Star Program.

Examples of our sustainability initiatives include:

- **Renewable Energy:** The firm purchases the equivalent of approximately 50 percent of the energy used in our global office operations in renewable energy, elevating us to the Leadership level in the U.S. EPA Green Power Partnership Program.
- **Built Environment:** When building out and retrofitting offices, the firm implements Leadership in Environmental Design (LEED) construction requirements and opts for Energy Star equipment, and continues to upgrade mechanical equipment and lighting to reduce energy use. We have also installed several electric vehicle charging stations at our Palo Alto campus.
- **Daily Operations:** Wilson Sonsini continuously looks for opportunities to reduce our environmental footprint in our daily operations. One example is the implementation of recycling programs in all of our office locations, as well as composting programs where possible.

We also factor the environment into our purchasing decisions and consider sustainable versions of various products (such as

compostable utensils and to-go containers). In addition, we have implemented sustainable food purchasing programs in our Palo Alto office cafe, as well as food donation programs for unused food, and make a point to purchase locally.

- **Benchmarking:** The firm is measuring and tracking greenhouse gas emissions for disclosure reporting through Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)



and EcoVadis systems, which has helped us better identify our carbon footprint and evaluate options to continue to reduce our environmental impact. We are actively looking to expand and improve our assessment, goal-setting, and mitigation practices in this area.

Annual Earth Day Activities

In April 2021, Wilson Sonsini offices firmwide celebrated Earth Day with a variety of virtual activities. Our Sustainability and Engagement teams shared useful information to promote environmental protection, including earth-friendly tips and resources, virtual tours of an aquarium and national parks, and educational programs.

The firm also hosted a virtual presentation by Junko Bryant, the

Assistant Director at Grassroots Ecology, about the critical role that native plants play in ecosystems and actions we can take to keep our watersheds healthy. Grassroots Ecology restores native plants to open spaces and neighborhoods, stewards creeks and watersheds, and provides hands-on nature education.

In addition to having a comprehensive pro bono program, the firm provides numerous opportunities for participation in hands-on community service projects and monetary support for worthy causes. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Wilson Sonsini attorneys and staff continued to participate in virtual service opportunities, including kit-packing projects, food and clothing drives, various fundraising campaigns supporting those in need, card-making for hospitalized children, and virtual build projects with Rebuilding Together Peninsula and Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley. All told, employees participated in nearly 80 community service projects during fiscal year 2022. Organizations with which they volunteered included nonprofits supporting hunger relief, human services, health, education, racial justice, and animals.



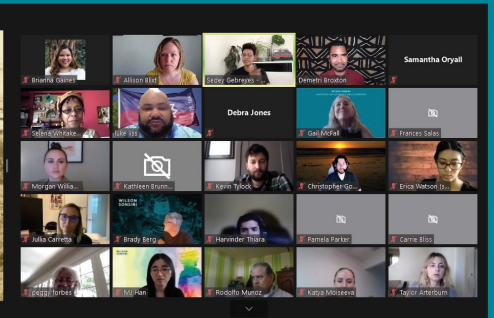
Highlights from the various firmwide activities include numerous projects honoring Juneteenth through a firmwide Day of Service and Celebration, fighting food insecurity by supporting local food banks, and walking and fundraising for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society through its Light the Night Walks throughout the United States.

INAUGURAL JUNETEENTH DAY OF SERVICE AND CELEBRATION

On June 18, 2021, Wilson Sonsini held its inaugural Juneteenth Day of Service and Celebration. Over 450 employees took part in various community service activities planned by dedicated volunteer



Area Urban League (AAUL). The day began with Austin volunteers putting together personal care kits for AAUL to distribute to homeless individuals in the community and continued with several events for youth served by AAUL's Project Ready student program. These included an "Interacting with Law Enforcement" presentation with



teams across the firm. These activities included creating kits or bags of snacks, school and art supplies, summer camp supplies, and care items; hosting career days for youth; providing learning experiences such as the Museum of the African Diaspora's (MoAD's) "Juneteenth - Art As We See It," an interactive arts education program where employees joined a virtual tour of photos capturing the energy and magnificence of Juneteenth celebrations; and viewing a cooking demonstration by Second Harvest of Silicon Valley where participants learned how to make Dump Cake, a traditionally Southern dessert, and heard about food insecurity and Second Harvest's commitment to nourishing the communities it serves. The day ended with a group discussion and debrief where colleagues gathered to share their thoughts about the day's activities and discuss their inspiration for 2022.

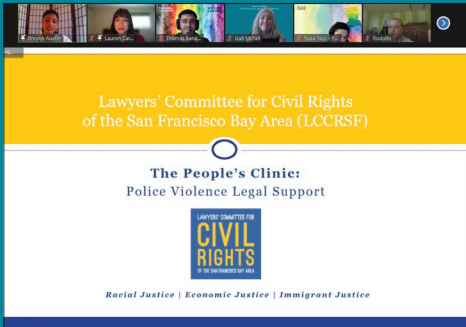
Austin: The Austin office hosted several projects in partnership with the Austin

special guest Craig Moore, Assistant District Attorney for Travis County; a lunch panel featuring local judges Lora Livingston and Aurora Martinez-Jones; and a career panel with Austin office attorneys and staff.

Boston: The Boston office participated in a backpack/school supplies project for youth served by Youth Villages – MA and NH. Volunteers put together backpacks filled with supplies for Youth Villages and wrote cards of encouragement. Youth Villages representatives Katie Dilly and Sarah Reilly spoke to Boston employees about their organization, and their colleague Salesha Smith gave a powerful performance of spoken word poetry.

California - Bay Area: The Bay Area offices held various presentations, including a CLE training for attorneys on assisting nonprofits with their legal needs in collaboration with the Justice & Diversity Center of the Bar Association of San Francisco's Community Organization Representation Project; a

Community Service



CLE training led by representatives from the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area (LCCR) covering LCCR's The People's Clinic: Police Violence Legal Support, enabling attorneys to volunteer for clinic projects; and a "Know Your Rights" presentation for youth served by Beyond Emancipation and its staff that provided information on constitutional rights in encounters with law enforcement.

Employees from the Palo Alto office took part in a snack bag project to support 120 youth participating in Mid-Peninsula Boys & Girls Clubs' (MPBGC's) summer camp program. In collaboration with Second Harvest of Silicon Valley, volunteers prepared nearly 500 snack



bags—enough to serve all youth participating in MPBGC's program across three different locations.

In addition, employees from the Palo Alto, San Francisco, and SOMA offices participated in an art kits project in partnership with the San Francisco African American Arts & Cultural District (SFAAACD). A representative

from SFAAACD presented an overview of the organization and volunteers learned how to trace an image onto art canvases for the kits. SFAAACD distributed the 100 art kits, each containing paint, brushes, and the canvas, in the Bayview Hunters Point community.

Los Angeles: The Los Angeles office organized a care kits project and clothing drive to serve low-income clients of The Bail Project, whose mission is to restore the presumption of innocence, reunite families, and challenge a system that criminalizes race and poverty by disrupting the money bail system. Volunteers prepared personal care kits with travel-sized essentials and donated clean, gently used clothing.

New York: The New York office held a virtual team-building activity presented by Unexpected Virtual Tours. The interactive experience celebrated the history and traditions of Juneteenth, including virtual tour guides live on location in Hampton, Virginia, and Austin, Texas. In addition, the office hosted a virtual career day for middle school youth served by Variety Boys & Girls Club of Queens, at which attorneys and staff spoke about their roles at the firm and legal experience.

San Diego: The San Diego office hosted a legal clinic in partnership with the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association and Community Advocates for Just and Moral Governance's Black Empowerment Conference. Wilson Sonsini attorneys held one-



on-one virtual conferences with Black entrepreneurs in the community, providing corporate, transactional, and IP advice. The office also organized a personal care kit project for homeless youth and their families served by Monarch School in San Diego.

Seattle: The Seattle office hosted a presentation by the Northwest African American Museum (NAAM). NAAM President and CEO LaNesha DeBardelaben provided an overview of the museum and its role and history in Seattle's Black community, as well as Juneteenth as a holiday. The museum's mission is to tell the story of the African American experience in the Northwest through exhibitions and programs on the visual arts, music crafts, literature, and history.

In addition, the office shared the Smithsonian Digital Volunteers: Freedmen's Bureau Project volunteer opportunity, which was open to employees from any office. Volunteers transcribed handwritten records from the Freedman's Bureau, helping to make these records accessible online for the public. The project also allowed volunteers to learn about the experiences of formerly enslaved men and women in the D.C. area during the Reconstruction Era.

Washington, D.C.: The Washington, D.C., office organized a book and school supplies project for youth served by J.O Wilson Elementary School and Everybody Wins! D.C. (EW!DC). EW!DC helps children thrive by building connections through reading and giving children the opportunity to share a joyful reading experience with someone who cares.

After a virtual presentation by EW!DC Program Manager Yashika Okon, firm volunteers collected books by Black authors/illustrators to be donated to EW!DC and wrote notes of

encouragement for the book recipients. They also collected school supplies for J.O. Wilson Elementary.

Wilmington: The Wilmington office participated in a summer camp supplies project for youth served by the Boys & Girls Club of Delaware (BGCD). Volunteers assembled summer camp supply bags and BGCD CEO John Wellon gave a presentation discussing BGCD's work with youth in the community, afterschool programs, and food pantries.

Summer Associates Project: The 2021 Wilson Sonsini summer associates participated in a special project in collaboration with Together We Rise (TWR), creating Sweet Cases, Superhero Kits, or Birthday Boxes (each of which involves a duffel bag filled with goodies) for foster youth served by

Harvest of Silicon Valley. Overall, more than \$61,500 (including \$13,500 from the Wilson Sonsini Foundation) was collected to help local nonprofits address food insecurity.

In addition, in November and December 2021, several of the firm's offices participated in virtual holiday fundraising campaigns to support local food banks, with the Wilson Sonsini Foundation also providing support. Overall, the campaigns raised over \$146,000 (including nearly \$80,000 from the Wilson Sonsini Foundation) for Capital Area Food Bank (Washington, D.C.), Central Texas Food Bank (Austin), City Harvest (New York), Feeding San Diego, Food Bank of Delaware (Wilmington), Greater Boston Food Bank, Los Angeles Regional Food Bank,

San Francisco Food Bank, Second Harvest of Silicon Valley, and University District Food Bank (Seattle).

WALKING IN SUPPORT OF THE LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY

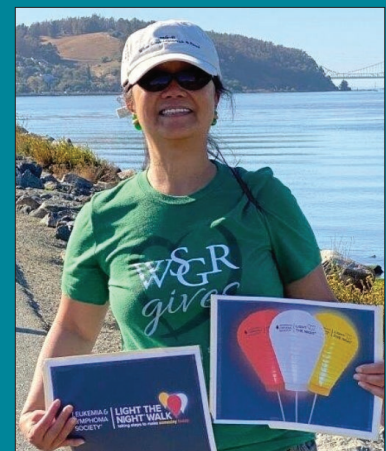
In October 2021, Wilson Sonsini participated in virtual Light the Night Walks nationwide to support the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) and its lifesaving research and patient support for individuals and families battling blood cancer. On October 15-16, employees throughout the United States, along with their "quaranteams," walked a variety of routes in numerous locations, ranging from neighborhoods and trails to beaches and national parks.

That same month, the firm held an online auction in support of LLS, with many great items donated by partners and staff, including a one-week vacation



at a Mountain Log home in the heart of the Adirondack High Peaks Region, a variety of excellent wines and coffees, tickets to sporting events and a musical, and numerous Wilson Sonsini-branded items. In total, the auction raised more than \$12,000 for LLS.

Firmwide, nearly 120 employees (including individuals from every U.S. office) participated in the walks and made generous in-kind contributions for the auction. Overall, employees and their friends and family made more than 200 donations totaling over \$75,500, including \$14,000 from the Wilson Sonsini Foundation and \$14,000 from Don and Marianne Bradley.



the organization. In addition, a TWR representative provided an overview of the nonprofit.

FIGHTING HUNGER

Employees from several Wilson Sonsini offices supported a variety of local nonprofit organizations to help fight hunger and provide food for those in need.

In the winter and spring of 2021, multiple firm offices participated in virtual fundraising drives to support local food banks, including Central Texas Food Bank, The Jacob & Cushman San Diego Food Bank, and Second

WILSON SONSINI FOUNDATION

Established in 1990, the Wilson Sonsini Foundation provides a vehicle for the firm's partners to make financial contributions to the community. Recognizing our professional responsibility to help those without means or with only limited resources gain access to the legal system, the Foundation's primary focus is providing critical funding for nonprofit, legal service, and law-related organizations.

In 2021, the Wilson Sonsini Foundation provided over \$975,000 in funding to law-related organizations nationwide, including:

Accountability Counsel	East Bay Community Law Center	National Partnership for Women & Families
AIDS Legal Referral Panel	Eastside Legal Assistance Program	National Women's Law Center
Americans Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus	Equal Justice Initiative	New York Legal Assistance Group
Americans Advancing Justice - Los Angeles	Equal Justice Society	Northwest Immigrant Rights Project
Anti-Defamation League	Equal Rights Advocates	Northwest Justice Project
Asian Law Alliance	Family Violence Appellate Project	OneJustice
Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach	Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence	Open Door Legal
Ayuda	Greater Boston Legal Services	The Phillips Black Project: A Public Interest Nonprofit Law Practice
Bay Area Legal Aid	Human Rights Campaign Foundation	Pro Bono Net
Bet Tzedek	Human Rights First	Public Advocates
Boston Bar Foundation	International Refugee Assistance Project	San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program
California ChangeLawyers	Justice & Diversity Center of the Bar Association of San Francisco	Sanctuary for Families
California Rural Legal Assistance	Katharine & George Alexander Community Law Center	Stanford University - Lawyers for a Sustainable Economy
Capital Area Immigrants' Rights Coalition	La Raza Centro Legal	Start Small Think Big
Casa Cornelia Law Center	Law Foundation of Silicon Valley	Tahirih Justice Center
Casa Marianella (Legal Clinic)	Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area	Texas Civil Rights Project
Center for Gender & Refugee Studies	Legal Aid at Work	Texas RioGrande Legal Aid (Texas C-BAR)
Center for Justice & Accountability	Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County	Tzedek DC
Children's Law Center	Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia	The Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program
Chinese for Affirmative Action (StopAAPIHate)	Legal Foundation of Washington (Campaign for Equal Justice)	Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association
Combined Campaign for Justice	MinKwon Center for Community Action	Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas
Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto	NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund	Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless
D.C. Bar Pro Bono Center	National Center for Lesbian Rights	Western Center on Law & Poverty
D.C. Volunteer Lawyers Project	National Center for Transgender Equality	The World Justice Project
Disability Rights Washington	National Legal Aid & Defender Association	
District of Columbia Bar Foundation		

2021 Wilson Sonsini Foundation Board

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Gail McFall serves as the Wilson Sonsini Foundation's administrator.



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