

DLA Piper is honored to be the 2008 recipient of the ABA Pro Bono Publico Award. The firm has consistently encouraged all our lawyers to participate in pro bono and giving back to the many communities in which we work. We are proud of our accomplishments, but it is the effect on the people that we serve that is truly most rewarding.

DLA Piper has made a staggering impact with its pro bono work throughout the US and around the globe. The firm's pro bono program is widely considered one of the most robust and innovative models among large law firms today. In 2007, the firm devoted over 120,000 hours to pro bono work.

The firm works on all types of pro bono matters. What makes the program at DLA Piper unique, however, is the firm's "Signature Project" model, which focuses tremendous resources – both human and financial – on an array of target areas and key organizations. Deviating from the industry model of ad hoc pro bono services, DLA Piper has developed strategic projects in partnership with nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, foundations, and corporate clients. These projects aim to aggregate and focus our legal skills to develop innovative solutions to challenging social problems and provide world class legal services to the most vulnerable and underserved members of the global community.

Most of DLA Piper's major US offices, as well as the firm's national real estate practice group, participate in a dedicated signature project. A list of our most significant signature projects to date includes:

- Rebuilding Property Ownership  
Partnering with the Mississippi Center for Justice and The Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights to help victims of Hurricane Katrina clear title to land to rebuild devastated areas
- Access to Education  
Improving the educational outcomes of low-income children in New York City through direct representation of children in suspension and special education matters, and representation of Head Start nonprofits throughout the city
- Fighting Against Hunger  
Supporting the fight against hunger, across the country and around the world through organizations like America's Second Harvest and The Global FoodBanking Network
- Access to Justice Commission  
Representing the Commission and working to improve access to justice for all in Washington, DC
- Serving Those Who Serve Our Country  
Assisting veterans with disability claims and appeals and small businesses in San Diego
- Empowering Students and Their Families  
Providing legal services and academic support to improve educational outcomes in Baltimore City
- Defeating Child Pornography  
Protecting children against pornography and abuse
- Pathways to Freedom for Immigrant Victims of Domestic Violence  
Helping abused immigrant women in Northern Virginia secure legal status in the US
- Special Education  
Repairing the system for resolving special education disputes in Washington, D.C.
- Advocates Against Violence  
Advocating for safety and justice for battered women in Atlanta

In addition to the Signature Projects, DLA Piper created New Perimeter, a new nonprofit affiliate in 2005. Through New Perimeter, lawyers provide legal support for projects of global concern, including health care, hunger, housing, economic development, law reform and human rights. New Perimeter gives DLA Piper lawyers the opportunity to devote 250 to 1,000 hours, and in some cases work full-time, on projects such as drafting new judicial laws in Kosovo, restructuring a micro-lending project, assisting a law school in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, developing a worldwide food bank system and creating a human rights center in Southern Africa. The mission of New Perimeter is to provide enhanced organizational structure to DLA Piper's strategic approach to international pro bono work. The College of Law Practice Management (COLPM) recently recognized New Perimeter with an InnovAction Award, an annual award that

recognizes lawyers, law firms and other legal service providers whose bold and inventive strategies are changing the landscape of pro bono work.

The large-scale pro bono program that DLA Piper has developed is supported by a full-time pro bono partner, four full-time regional pro bono managers (each of whom is a practicing attorney), and a partner coordinator in each office. Through this management structure, opportunities to participate are extended across the entire firm and all firm lawyers are required to provide pro bono work services every year. The firmwide enthusiasm for pro bono is evident in the remarkable successes our lawyers have achieved on behalf of their clients.

We are truly grateful to the ABA for this award; it is a testament to each and every one of our lawyers who puts in such hard work for those in need. Communities around the globe continue to require help in a broad spectrum of issues, and this award only feeds our drive to assist whenever and wherever we can.