

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 16, 2019

BROOKLYN BAR ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROJECT CELEBRATES THE ORGANIZATION'S ANNUAL GALA ON MAY 14, 2019 AT 1 HOTEL BROOKLYN BRIDGE

Brooklyn, New York — The Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project (“VLP”) held its annual gala on Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at the 1 Hotel Brooklyn Bridge from 6 PM - 10 PM. Adam Shepherd, Senior Vice President, Macquarie Group and VLP Board Member emceed the event.

The VLP Annual Gala – the organization’s premier fundraising event - celebrates the work of extraordinary individuals who have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to serving the public good and equal justice. This year, the VLP proudly honored **Dedication to Justice Awardee John S. Kiernan, Partner, Debevoise & Plimpton LLP and Tradition of Excellence Awardee Gregory K. Palm, Senior Advisor, The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.**

“We are privileged to recognize the incredible achievements of our honorees, both inspirational leaders in the legal field. We are grateful for their generous support which ensures that the VLP can continue to provide critical legal services and access to justice to thousands of Brooklyn residents,” said Heidi Lee Henderson, Executive Director of the VLP.

The VLP also presented the **Champion of Justice Awards** to three accomplished individuals who in their pro bono work represent the very best of their profession: **Emmanuel Fashakin, Jr., Associate, Debevoise & Plimpton; Jessica Klein, Special Counsel – Pro Bono, Sullivan & Cromwell LLP; and Genevieve Spruill, Pro Bono Coordinator, The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.**

The event co-chair committee included award presenters, Shannon Rose Selden, Partner, Debevoise & Plimpton LLP and John P. Mead, Partner, Sullivan & Cromwell LLP as well as John D. Amorosi, Partner, Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP; Jeffrey B. Gewirtz, Executive Vice President, Business Affairs and Chief Legal & Compliance Officer, BSE Global; David J. Greenwald, Chairman, Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP; Jyotin Hamid, Partner, Debevoise & Plimpton LLP; Colin D. Lloyd, Partner, Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP; Stephen G. Rooney, Partner, Mayer Brown LLP; Bradley I. Ruskin, Senior Partner, Proskauer Rose LLP; Karen P. Seymour, Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary, The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.; and Stephen P. Younger, Partner, Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP.

Gala Host Committee members included VLP Board Members Caroline Conway, Deputy General Counsel, Stonepeak Infrastructure Partners; Sean Mikala Gray, Director, Commercial Risk, Capital One; Mark Lande, Senior Managing Director and Counsel, Island Capital Group LLC; Adam Shepherd, Senior Vice President, Macquarie Group and Board president, Lynn E. Judell, Of Counsel, Schwartz Sladkus Reich Greenberg Atlas LLP; as well as Shamika Dighe, Investment Banking Analyst, Barclays; and Michael Leahy, Vice President, Deputy General Counsel and Head of Litigation, AIG.

“The VLP Gala is always a special evening. To celebrate such remarkable individuals alongside hundreds of spirited and generous supporters who share in the VLP’s mission, motivates us all to do even more to advance equal access to justice. Lead by the tremendous efforts of our co-chairs and host committee, and VLP Board, the night was truly a success,” said Lynn Judell, President of the VLP Board of Directors.

About the VLP:

The mission of the Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP) is to ensure that the legal system is accessible to those who, because of special needs or the overwhelming burdens of poverty, would not otherwise have their rights protected or their voices heard. Since 1990, the VLP has harnessed the powerful pro bono commitment of the private bar to provide critical legal services and equal access to the justice system to thousands of Brooklyn residents. As an essential legal lifeline, the VLP remains uniquely responsive to the evolving legal needs of Brooklyn's overlooked and underserved communities.

For more information please visit: www.brooklynvlp.org.

Press Contact:

Melissa Starr | Director of Development
718-473-9209 | mstarr@brooklynvlp.org

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