

LEADING LIGHTS

Here we list 56 “Leading Lights”: law firms who responded to our survey and whose pro bono efforts during 2016 stood out



Several factors played a role in drawing up this list. These include firms’ answers to the survey with regards to institutionalisation of the practice and examples of their recent pro bono cases. We also asked for feedback from clearing houses, the Vance Center and other pro bono professionals, and considered the development of firms’ pro bono practices if they participated in last year’s survey, as well as further research. The list includes behemoths of the regional legal community that can bring significant resources to bear, and small firms from whom personal dedication can make a significant difference.

While this is by no means an exhaustive list (for a start it only mentions firms that participated in our survey), we hope it will give readers an idea of the efforts that firms across Latin America are taking to provide free legal services to those in need.

Of course, it should be noted that simply participating in this survey demonstrates awareness among all participants of the need for pro bono and each one had interesting developments to report. We hope that all respondents will continue to advance their pro bono practices and come back to us to report their efforts in the years to come.

Alessandri
Araquereyna
Arias, Fabrega & Fabrega
BMA – Barbosa, Müssnich, Aragão
Baker McKenzie*
Barros & Errázuriz Abogados
Basham, Ringe y Correa
Benites, Forno & Ugaz Abogados
BLP
Bofill Mir & Alvarez Jana Abogados
Brigard & Urrutia Abogados
Bruchou, Fernández Madero & Lombardi
Bulló Abogados
Carey
Cavelier Abogados
Central Law
Chevez, Ruiz, Zamarripa y Cía SC
Consortium Legal
Creel, García-Cuéllar, Aiza y Enríquez, SC
Demarest Advogados
Dentons**
Estudio Beccar Varela
Estudio Olaechea
Ferrere*
García & Bodán
García Sayán Abogados
Gómez-Pinzón Zuleta Abogados
Grasty Quintana Majlis & Cia
Guevara & Gutiérrez SC – Servicios Legales
Guyer & Regules

Hogan Lovells*
Indacochea & Asociados
Jones Day
KLA – Koury Lopes Advogados
M&M Bomchil
Marval, O’Farrell & Mairal
Mattos Filho, Veiga Filho, Marrey Jr e
Quiroga Advogados
Morales & Besa
Morgan & Morgan
Olmedo Abogados
Pacheco Coto
Pérez Bustamante & Ponce Abogados
Pinheiro Neto Advogados
Posadas, Posadas & Vecino
Pérez Alati, Grondona, Benites, Arntsen & Martínez de Hoz (h)
Rodrigo, Elías & Medrano Abogados
Sánchez Devanny
Sanjinés & Asociados Abogados
Sfera Legal
Siqueira Castro Advogados
TozziniFreire Advogados
Urenda, Rencoret, Orrego y Dörr Abogados
Von Wobeser y Sierra SC
Yataco Arias Abogados
Zapiola Guerrico & Asociados

*All local law offices in Latin America

**Dentons Muñoz and Dentons Cardenas & Cardenas

The Vance Center advances global justice by engaging lawyers across borders to support civil society and an ethically active legal profession.

The **Vance Center** is a unique collaboration of international lawyers catalyzing public interest innovation. A non-profit program of the **New York City Bar Association**, we bring together leading law firms and other partners worldwide to pioneer international justice initiatives and provide pro bono legal representation to social justice NGOs.

The Program on Pro Bono Representation advises clients with projects in:

- **human rights and access to justice**, including transitional justice, LGBT, women's, children's and prisoners' rights atrocity prevention
- **good governance**, including transparency, media development and press freedom
- **the environment**, including marine, freshwater, and biodiversity conservation, climate change, pollution prevention, and human rights and the environment

Vance Center clients include large and small social justice NGOs, such as:

- Human Rights Watch
- Amnesty International
- United Nations Joint Office on the Prevention of Genocide and the Responsibility to Protect
- Asociación Interamericana para la Defensa del Ambiente
- United Nations International Law Commission, Special Rapporteur for the Protection of the Environment in Relation to Armed Conflict
- Asia Catalyst
- Legal Resources Centre – South Africa
- Corporación Humanas – Colombia
- The Nature Conservancy
- Pronatura Noreste
- Legal Response Initiative
- Transparency International
- Access Info Europe
- Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project
- Media Development Investment Fund

In addition, our **Program on Strengthening the Legal Profession** builds an ethic and practice of global engagement on behalf of vulnerable, disadvantaged individuals and communities. The program engages law firms, bar associations, law schools, and pro bono clearinghouses with innovative initiatives, including Women in the Profession, African Legal Fellows, and the Pro Bono Initiative for the Americas.

The Vance Center manages the **Pro Bono Network of the Americas**, along with Fundación Pro Bono Chile, and supports international human rights agencies, including United Nations Special Rapporteurs and Working Groups and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. Member of the International Coalition on the Responsibility to Protect, the International Legal Assistance Consortium, and the Coalition for an Effective African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, we have consultative status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

The **Vance Center Committee**, composed of leading lawyers from international law firms and the corporate and public sectors in New York City, constituted as a Special Committee of the New York City Bar Association, provides strategic direction, core financial support, and programmatic leadership. Because law firms contribute their time and expertise, the total value of the Vance Center's programs to our clients is five times our budget.

We proudly take our name from **Cyrus R. Vance** – former U.S. Secretary of State, New York City Bar Association President, and prominent private lawyer – who exemplified ironclad commitment to fundamental rights through collaborative problem solving.