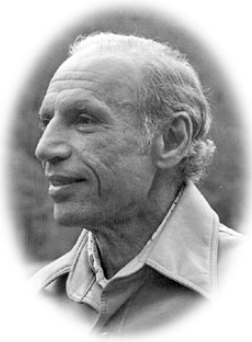
Pro Bono News

SUMMER 2020

This issue is dedicated to all of our attorneys and staff for their hard work and dedication to Pro Bono efforts. We are proud to announce the winners of the 2020 Marvin Frankel Award for Outstanding Pro Bono Contributions.

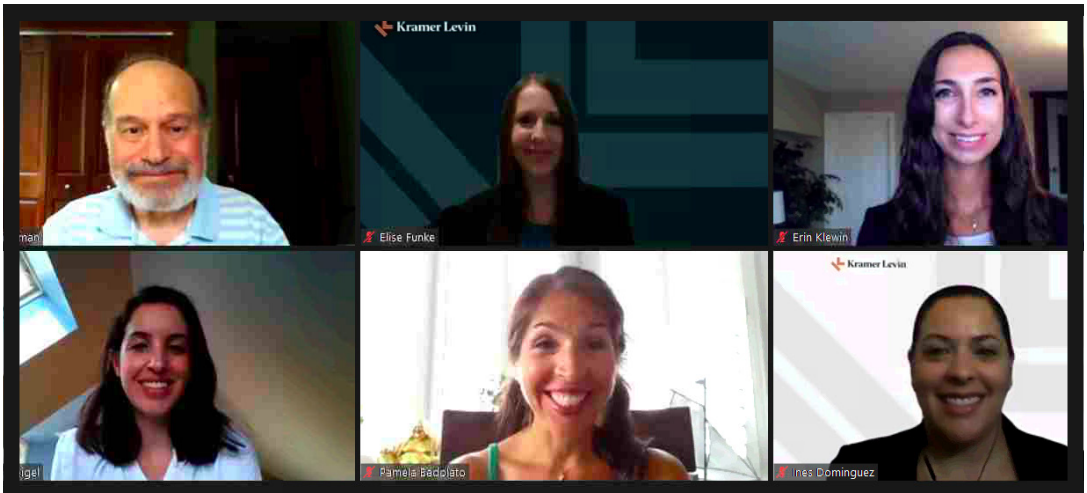


MARVIN E. FRANKEL (1920 – 2002)

Judge Marvin Frankel led by example in devoting a considerable amount of his time to pro bono legal causes he found important — most prominently as a founder and longtime chairman of the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights (now Human Rights First). Judge Frankel promoted this kind of public service here at Kramer Levin. To honor his memory and encourage the continuation of this important legacy, the Annual Marvin Frankel Award for Outstanding Pro Bono Contributions was created.

This year, our Marvin Frankel Awards celebration took place virtually on Thursday, July 30. We congratulated our 2020 winners of the Marvin Frankel Award for Outstanding Pro Bono Contributions! We also recognized those who rose to meet the firm's Pro Bono Challenge milestones for 100+, 50+ and 20+ hours of pro bono and community service, including board service, as well as staff who dedicated their time to assist with pro bono. The winners are recognized in this newsletter.

Thank you to the 2020 Selection Committee: **Chris Auguste**, **Anna Thea Bridge**, **Samantha Ettari**, **Aaron Frankel**, **Jamie Porco,** **Robert Schmidt**, **Gary Tarnoff** and **Jeff Trachtman**.



2020 Marvin Frankel Award winners.

Pro Bono Committee

Chris Auguste
Aaron Frankel
Co-chairs

Anna Thea Bridge
Director of Professional Development

Jamie Porco
Associate Director of Professional Development and Pro Bono Programs

Michelle Ben-David
Barry Berke
Dan Berman
Anna Boltyanskiy
Colin Bumby
PJ Campbell
Rita Celebrezze D'Souza
Samantha Ettari
Sarah Hanson
Barry Herzog
Susan Jacquemot
William Johnson
Jennifer Klein
Sam Koch
Michael Korotkin
Darren LaVerne
Hannah Lee
Daniel Lennard
Gil Liu
Laurence Pettit
Andrew Pollack
Eric Rubin
Jacqueline Ryu
Robert Schmidt
Norman Simon
Steven Sparling
Daniel Stewart
Gary Tarnoff
Jeffrey Taub
Jeff Trachtman
Reyhan Watson

Congratulations to our 2020 Marvin Frankel Award Winners

Individual Attorney Award

Elise Funke for her overall commitment to pro bono, including zealous representation of two clients for whom she secured parole for unjust sentences. Using her prior training as a restorative justice mediator, Elise and the Kramer Levin team secured release for one client after obtaining support from his victims, the Kings County District Attorney's office that prosecuted him, and officials from the governor's office. In another parole case, Elise fought for three years and enlisted the assistance of a forensic psychologist to secure parole for a victim of severe domestic violence.

Aaron Frankel presents award to Elise Funke.

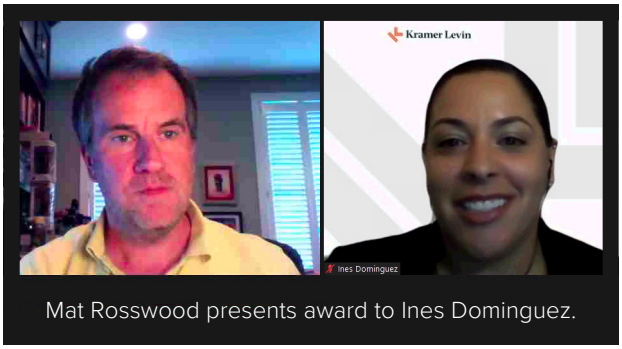
Alan Friedman presents award to the Her Justice Team.

Team Award

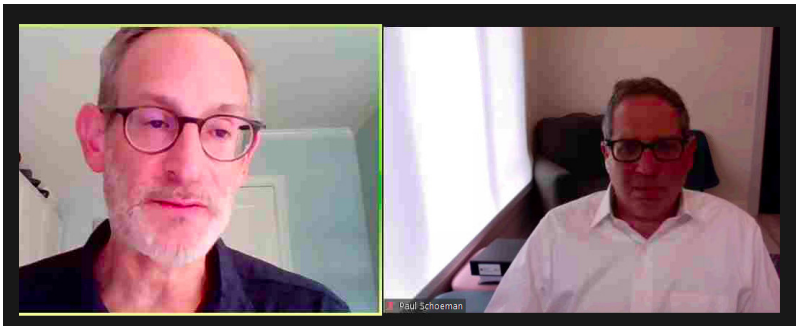
The **Her Justice Team**, which includes **Jessica Weigel**, **Erin Klewin**, **Alan Friedman**, **Pamela Badolato**, and former associate **Ross Peyser** for their dedication to representing a victim of domestic violence in contested child support, custody/visitation, and family offense proceedings. The team has spent significant time over two years handling both child support and custody trials, which have provided the attorneys with tremendous professional development opportunities.

Individual Staff Award

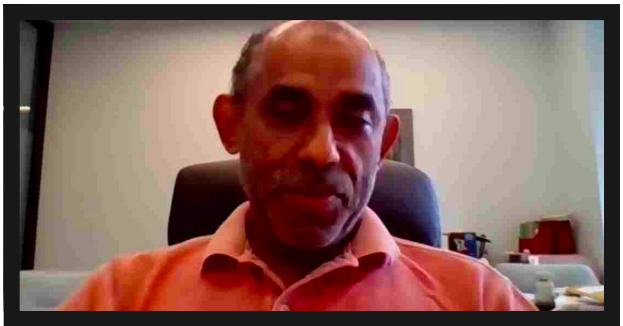
For the first time, we are recognizing an individual staff member for extraordinary efforts in helping our pro bono program. **Ines Dominguez** has served as an interpreter on more than a dozen pro bono matters and has volunteered her time in many of our on-site clinics.



Mat Rosswood presents award to Ines Dominguez.



Howard Spilko and Paul Schoeman give opening remarks.



Chris Auguste gives an overview of KL Pro Bono.

Pro Bono Challenge

We would like to thank our colleagues who met the firm's Pro Bono Challenge milestones for 100+, 50+ and 20+ hours of pro bono and community service, including board service. Our Pro Bono Champions completed more than 100 hours, our Pro Bono Advocates completed more than 50 hours, and our Pro Bono Counsel completed more than 20 hours of pro bono and community service work. We would also like to honor staff who have shown exceptional dedication to pro bono in 2019.

We encourage everyone to take the Pro Bono Challenge this year. We had nearly 216 Kramer Levin U.S. lawyers meet the challenge in 2019 at the 100-, 50- or 20-hour levels. We hope to increase that number in 2020. Please spread the word and feel free to contact **Chris Auguste**, **Aaron Frankel**, **Jamie Porco** or any of the members of the Pro Bono Committee if you want to find and work on a suitable pro bono matter.

Pro Bono Challenge Winners

100+ Hours

Astrid Ackerman
Samantha Alman
Christopher Auguste
Pamela Badolato
Rose Bagley
Andrew Baum
Nancy Bello
Michelle Ben-David
Charlotte Melbinger Bhandari
Anna Boltyanskiy
Jeffrey Braun
Sam Brill
Michael Calb
PJ Campbell
Justin Celt
Rupita Chakraborty
Angela Chan
Dayna Chikamoto
Christine Chu
Michael Chu
Kevin Cipolli
Sean Coffey
Michael Cohen
Charlotte Courtade
Eric Daniel
Michael Dell
Lydia Deutsch
Melissa Drennan
Rita Celebrezze D'Souza
Terron East
Karolina Ebel
Samantha Ettari
Michael Feuer
Samantha Ford
Aaron Frankel
David Frankel
Elise Funke
Alexander Gelb
Max Goldman
Steven Goldman
Hillel Goldstein
Nathan Gusdorf
Sarah Hanson
Michael Hardin
Sarah Heim
Inge Hindriks
Catherine Hoge
Tobias Jacoby
Susan Jacquemot
William Johnson
Arielle Warshall Katz
Karen Kennedy
Daniel Ketani
Mariya Khvatskaya
Matthew Klegon
Jennifer Klein
Erin Klewin
Sam Koch
Ilya Kontorovich
Daniel Kugler
Darren LaVerne
Daniel Lennard
Gilbert Liu
Jeruska Lugo Sanchez
Dana Lyons
Jessica McGrath
John McNulty
Jason Moff
Harry Morgenthau
Jeffrey Mulligan
Gary Naftalis
Zachary Naidich
Benjamin Neuhaus
Max M.L. Nowak
Emilie Oberlis
Claudia Pak
Allison Parr
Jonathan Pepin
Ross Peyser
Sheila Pozon
Julian Pymento
Julia Quigley
Shahriar Raafi
Daniel Rabinowitz
Denise Reid
Harold Robinson
Nolan Robinson
Eric Rosoff
Eric Rubin
Harry Rubin
Jacqueline Ryu
Seth Schinfeld
Daniel Schumeister
Nathan Schwartzberg
Hanna Seifert
Samuel Shepson
Joseph Shifer
Michael Sillerman
Jonaki Singh
Evie Spanos
Steven Sparling
Daniel Stewart
Eva Tanna
Jeffrey Trachtman
Eugene Travers
Timur Tusiray
Michael Vatcher
Elise Wagner
Emily Wajert
Alexis Wanzenberg
Reyhan Watson
Aaron Webman
Jessica Weigel
Irene Weintraub

50+ Hours

John Bessonette
Genevieve Burger-Weiser
Gregory Cage
Valerie Campbell
Clayton Campos
Andrew Charles
Kenneth Chin
Santo Cipolla
Sarah Cockrum
Caroline Gange
Rachel Goot
Jessica Halpert
Shannon Hedvat
Jerry Henriquez
Sara Hung
Billy Jump
Rachel Jurist
Alana Katz
Daniel King
Phillip King
Jefferson Lai
Hien Lien
Andrea Maddox
Austin Manes
J. Michael Mayerfeld
Izabel McDonald
Chase Mechanick
Tatiana Mejia Uribe
Danielle Moody
Stephanie Nguyen
Michael Oberman
Elizabeth Olaya Marquez
Alejandro Ortega
Anna Ostrom
Michelle Park
Ted Pilkati
Kelly Porcelli
Greg Proctor
Howard Rothman
Irena Royzman
Theodore Ruthizer
Anna Schoenfelder
Stephen Senie
Terrance Shen
Zoe Sternberg
Daniel Sugarman
Patrick Sullivan
Max Tierman
Carlos Tirado
M. Mendel Trapedo
Tatiana Mejia Uribe
Christine Willgoos
Christian Witzke
Erica Wolf
Ethan Wright
Renee Yao

20+ Hours

Peter Abruzzese
Nicole Alexa
Arthur Aufses III
Elisabeth Avallone
Mark Baghdassarian
Jeffrey Barlekamp
Joshua Becker
Philip Bentley
Daniel Berman
Erin Jones Bermeo
Douglas Buckley
Brittany Buhler
Avram Cahn
William Cavanagh
Marcus Colucci
Benjamin Edlin
Lynne Figman
Toni Finger
Alan Friedman
Matthew Friedrick
Jill Garfinkel
Jonathan Kane
Zachary Karlan
Mark Koestler
Shang Kong
Michael Paul Korotkin
Sara Lefkovitz
Jennifer Liu
Zachary Lupu
Douglas Mannal
Michael Martinez
Major McCargo
Thomas Molner
Kevin Moss
Jay Neveloff
Seth Niedermayer
Andrew Pollack
Jeffrey Price
Erick Ramirez
Shakti Rhys
Christian Roccotagliata
Jordan Rosenbaum
Robert Schmidt
Paul Selver
Marjorie Sheldon
Nadya Shirokova
Shaked Sivan
Gabriel Slamovits
Kyle Smith
Howard Spilko
Eitan Tabak
Narifumi Takeuchi
Gary Tarnoff
Nicholas Tarnowski
Jeffrey Taub
Jeff Tsai
Jonathan Wagner
Ouriana Walker
Andrew Ward
Josh Winefsky
David Yanvarashvili
Andrew Yong
Eleni Zanias
Michael Zimmerman

Special Recognition for Staff Contributions

Ashley Bazzarone
Anna Thea Bridge
Tatiana Cios
Ines Dominguez
Lillian Ge
Michelle Grant
Aileen Hernandez
Lucille Hollenstein
Samantha Lia
Jamie Porco
Mat Rosswood
Rachel Roth
Claire Saintil
Liliya Suris
Rachel Torres
Anda Totoreanu