



PHILADELPHIA BAR FOUNDATION

Promoting Equal Access To Justice Since 1964

Access to Justice Awards Celebration

November 9, 2023



Program Book



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Welcome from the President



It is a pleasure to join in celebration this evening with members of our community to support our extraordinary civil legal aid community and the outstanding pro bono work done by lawyers throughout our region. We have a wonderful program planned for you, beginning with the music of Michael Stegossi, a poem from Mary Mance, the celebration of our award recipients Professor Seth Kreimer and the law firm of Holland & Knight, a message from Governor Josh Shapiro and an inspirational keynote speech from Joanna McClinton - the Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.



Civil legal aid organizations fight tirelessly every day for a fairer and more equitable society. Our nonprofit partners are on the front lines every day providing much-needed services to individuals and families in Philadelphia and throughout the Commonwealth to protect their access to housing, education, healthcare, and numerous other rights. The Philadelphia Bar Foundation proudly provides these organizations unrestricted funds to support this work. Our general operating support allows these organizations to pursue an array of strategies to best serve the direct needs of their clients, while having the flexibility to respond to changing circumstances and pressing needs.

Our Access to Justice Awards benefit celebrates all who support the work of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation, as well as the outstanding public interest and pro bono attorneys who help remove barriers to justice. For those in need of legal aid services, your support changes lives and makes challenges that seem insurmountable a little easier to confront. Research shows that for every dollar invested in legal aid, that dollar results in at least an \$11 benefit. Support of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation is an investment in our community, improving family stability, safe housing, educational opportunities, healthcare, employment opportunities, and increased income for food, clothing, and other basic human rights.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation, thank you for your support throughout 2023. Your commitment to sustain the work of the Foundation is critical and essential to our city.

Meredith S. Auten
President, Philadelphia Bar Foundation
Partner, Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP





Welcome from the Benefit Co-Chairs

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Philadelphia Bar Foundation's 2023 Access to Justice Awards Celebration!

We join you in celebration of our community's commitment to advancing and expanding access to justice and to honor the indispensable contributions of pro bono and public interest lawyers whose work and dedication help make the justice system fairer and more accessible for everybody. We also take this occasion to express our profound gratitude to our 2023 Philadelphia Bar Foundation supporters. You help make the work of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation possible, as we work together to transform Philadelphia's civil legal aid system, remove barriers to justice, and overcome systemic racial and economic inequities. Through the support of our donors, we mobilize the collective resources of the legal community. We are grateful for the community's continued dedication to our mission.

Please enjoy this evening of music, poetry, and inspirational speeches from our honorees. We are thankful for the continued support of individuals throughout the region, our law firm partners, and the businesses who help the Philadelphia fulfill its mission of equal access to justice. We join you in celebration of our community's commitment to advancing and expanding access to justice. We are proud and grateful to honor the indispensable contributions of pro bono and public interest lawyers, whose work and dedication help make the justice system fairer and more accessible for everybody.

Jennifer S. Coatsworth, Esq.

Co-Chair Access to Justice Committee

Margolis Edelstein

Melanie J. Foreman, Esq.

Co-chair Access to Justice Committee

Marshall Dennehey

Niki T. Ingram, Esq.

Co-chair Access to Justice Committee



Honoring those who drive impactful legal change for all Philadelphians

Congratulations to this year's honorees who continue to dedicate themselves to the fight for equitable legal access and representation.



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About the Event



Our Mission:

The Philadelphia Bar Foundation aspires to provide equal access to justice for all Philadelphians and people throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We strive to ensure that individuals, families and communities understand their rights under the law and to have those rights fulfilled. We seek to eliminate systemic inequities and allow all individuals and communities to flourish.

About the 2023 Access to Justice Award Celebration

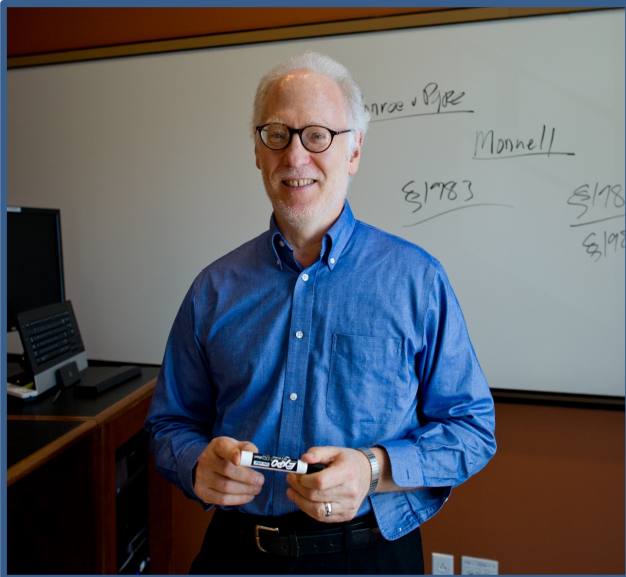
Each year, the Philadelphia Bar Foundation celebrates Philadelphia's public interest community, civil legal aid organizations, and the businesses that partner with the Bar Foundation through the annual Access to Justice Awards Celebration.

2023 Award Recipients



The 2023 **Pro Bono Award** recipient Holland and Knight is being recognized for its remarkable effort in 2022 to provide training and pro bono services in support of thousands of Afghan asylum seekers, providing high-quality legal counsel with dignity and respect.

Holland & Knight



Professor Seth Kreimer

Philadelphia Bar Foundation Award recipient Professor Seth Kreimer has taught at Penn Law for over four decades. His work has focused on civil rights, civil liberties, and access to justice issues. His impact is apparent in the analysis of privacy, abortion regulation, assisted suicide, and same sex marriage. Professor Kreimer has also advised and mentored a generation of public interest lawyers as a community leader, public interest attorney,



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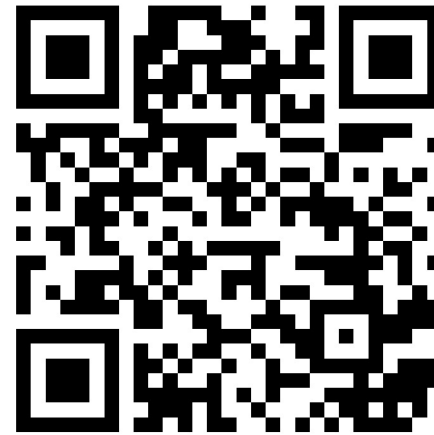
We're big fans of people who look out for people.

Congratulations to the 2023 Access to Justice Award Recipients. Hard work doesn't always get the recognition it deserves, so when it makes a community better, we take notice. Thank you for all your efforts, and keep making us stronger.



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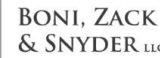
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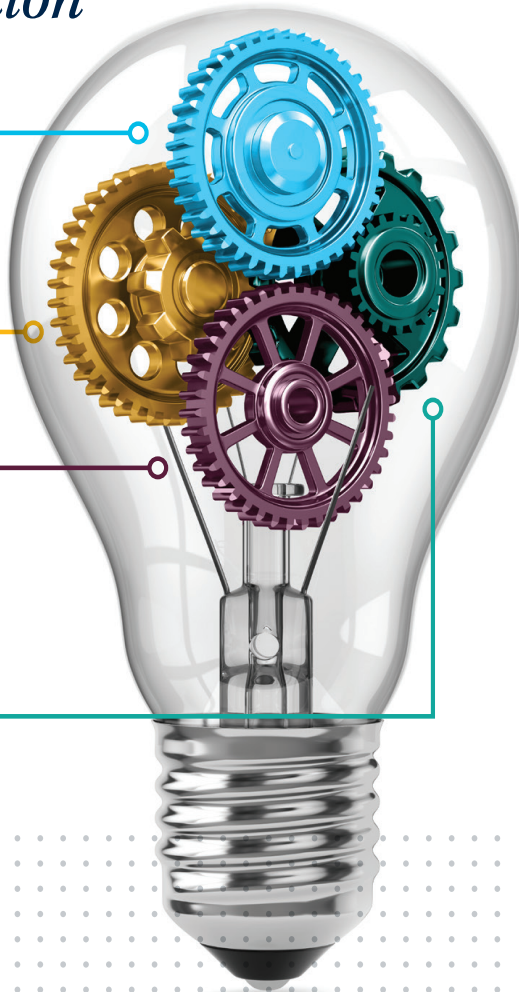
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Kenneth W. Gemmill Professor of Law
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RebuttalPR proudly supports the
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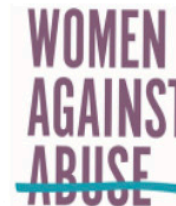
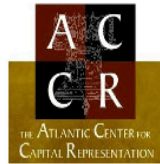
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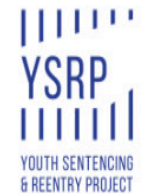
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Our Nonprofit Partners



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Special Thank You To...



The Philadelphia Bar Foundation would like to thank those who donated their talent to the Access to Justice Award Celebration!

- Music by Michael Stegossi: Music for all Reasons and Seasons
- Event emcee Cherri Gregg
- Floral arrangements by Botanic Village
- Spoken Word Presentation by Mary Mance
- Communication and Development intern Matthew Shuster



Michael Stegossi



Cherri Gregg



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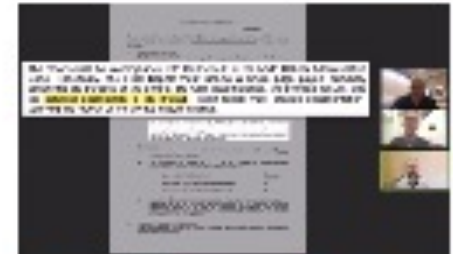
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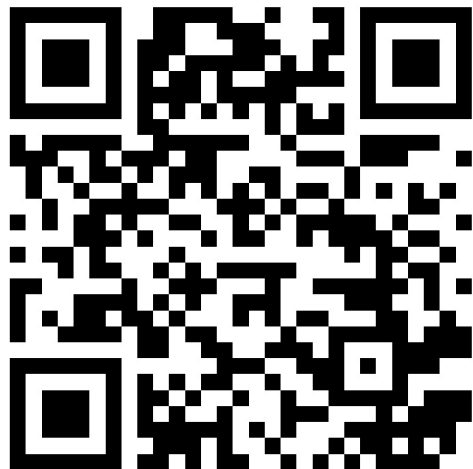


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Promoting Equal Access To Justice Since 1964

A large, semi-transparent version of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation logo is centered in the background. It features a hand holding a scale of justice, with the hand positioned at the top and the scale below it. The background of the entire slide is dark blue with a pattern of colorful, out-of-focus circles in shades of purple, blue, and green.

Thank you for your support!

Please visit www.PhilaBarFoundation.org to learn how you can support equal access to justice in Philadelphia