



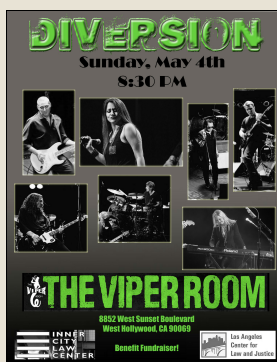
In this issue:

- Pro Bono Spotlight
- Welcome, Associate Board
- Teen Client Story
- LACLJ's 2014 Gala

Connect
with us!



Benefit Concert this Sun.



Diversion, Latham & Watkins' house band, is hosting a benefit concert this Sunday (May 4) at The Viper Room in West Hollywood!

You can purchase tickets [here](#) or at the venue prior to the event. Proceeds benefit LACLJ and Inner City Law Center.

For more information, please contact Linda@lajl.org.

Pro Bono Spotlight: Cultural and legal bridge to safety

Donna moved to the United States after getting married in India. Since then, she had to endure reproductive and verbal abuse by her husband. Without a support network or access to transportation, Donna also lived in isolation at home with her one-year-old son. She would find refuge in video chatting with her parents or watching Indian TV programming, but her husband cut off these cultural ties—shutting off the phone line and Internet whenever he left for work. Donna dealt with this for four years until her husband struck her while she was holding her son. For Donna, the physical abuse that put her son in danger was the last straw, so she sought help from LACLJ.

Through LACLJ's ADVOCATE project, which connects victims of violence to pro bono attorneys, Donna's case was placed with [Puneet V. Kakkar](#), an attorney at [Caldwell Leslie](#). Puneet co-counseled with LACLJ Supervising Attorney Carmen Goldberg, spending two full days in trial to explain the complex pattern of isolation and emotional abuse that Donna experienced. As a result of their advocacy, the Court granted Donna a protective order and sole custody of her son. Donna can now take back control of her life and move on to a safer future with her child!

LACLJ's pro bono partnership was crucial in helping Donna achieve safety. "Combining an experienced litigator who understood the cultural issues with my experience in Family Law allowed us to fully advocate for the client," said Carmen.

Puneet really went above and beyond to help our client. On top of understanding her culture, he also took the time to learn about the nuances of domestic violence in immigrant communities.

—Carmen Goldberg

Young professional leaders join LACLJ family



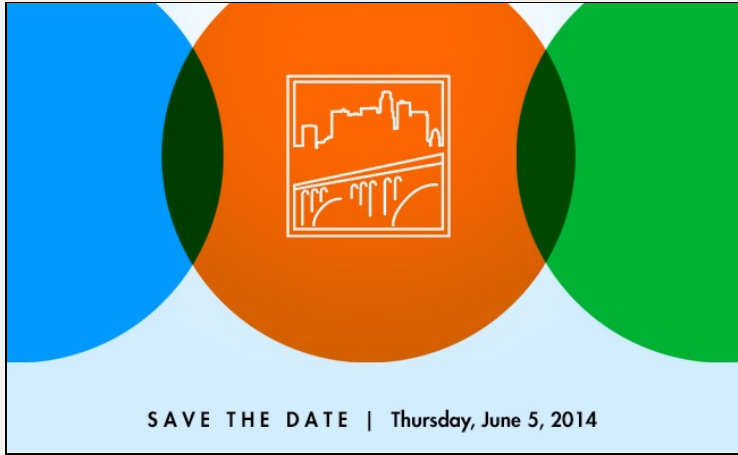
We are excited to introduce the members of **LACLJ's Associate Board**: **Timothy Crouch**, Assistant Director of Administration at Harvey Mudd College; **Miles Fuller**, Attorney at Sidley Austin LLP; **Sabina Jacobs**, Attorney at Latham & Watkins LLP; and **Eric Matolo**, Managing Economist at Nathan Associates, Inc.

The Associate Board was created to provide young professionals the opportunity to develop leadership skills and expand their networks through community involvement. As ambassadors of LACLJ, Associate Board members volunteer their time, talents and professional expertise to advocate for LACLJ's work to stabilize low-income families in crisis.

>> Click [here](#) to get to know LACLJ's Associate Board members. For more information, contact Linda Reyes at linda@lajl.org.

LACLJ helps teen establish security for family and future

Andrea, an undocumented victim of repeated sexual assault by a 30-year-old man, learned she was pregnant at age 14. When she went into prenatal care, the medical staff reported the crime to the police, and Andrea's parents quickly put her into therapy. Andrea came to LACLJ looking for family law advice, but because her abuser was uninterested in being part of the child's life, a paternity or custody case was not necessary. LACLJ provided Andrea and her family with immigration services to help stabilize her situation. Attorneys Carolina Andrade and Sharon Balmer-Cartagena also helped Andrea's support network, including her monolingual Spanish-speaking parents and minor brother. Sharon applied for the entire family to obtain U Visas, and their application was recently approved! This adjusts their immigration status and also gives work authorization to all family members. Andrea, who is now a junior in high school, and her family now have the economic and legal stability to raise her 2-year-old son. Andrea is currently looking into colleges and plans to eventually attend law school.



SAVE THE DATE | Thursday, June 5, 2014

We hope you will join us for [LACLJ's 41st Anniversary Awards Gala](#) on **Thursday, June 5, 2014** at the Omni Hotel at California Plaza in Downtown Los Angeles. We will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of our [Teen/LA](#) program. This year, we are honoring the following community heroes:

Maria Shriver
Justice Award

Los Angeles Dodgers
Corporation of the Year Award

Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP
Pro Bono Partner of the Year Award

Click [here](#) to purchase tickets, sponsorships and tribute pages. For more information about the event, please contact Linda Reyes at linda@lajj.org.

Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice

1241 S. Soto Street, Suite 102, Los Angeles, CA 90023

Phone (323) 980-3500 // Email: info@lajj.org