# UPDATE



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At the Washington Lawyers' Committee's 2014 Founders' Reception, attendees listen as Committee Co-Chair Theodore A. (Ted) Howard, Partner, Wiley Rein LLP, addresses the crowd. See article and more photographs on page 11.

#### Committee's Justice Reform Initiative Advances

Significant work continues following the July 12, 2013, release of the Committee's groundbreaking report, Racial Disparities in Arrests in the District of Columbia 2009-2011: Implications for Civil Rights and Criminal Justice in the Nation's Capital, with cocounsel authors from Covington & Burling LLP.

Assisted by a panel of distinguished senior and retired judges—the Hon. John Ferren, the Hon. Rufus G. King III, the Hon. James Robertson, the Hon. Ricardo Urbina, and the Hon. Patricia M. Wald—the report concluded that despite relatively equal numbers of white and black adults in the city, well over 80% of those arrested were African American. Over 90% of drug arrests were of African Americans, despite the fact that drug use is virtually identical across racial lines throughout the city, and 96% of all arrests were for non-violent offenses.

(Continued on page 7)

#### Committee's Report Finds Affordable Housing Tools Underused in Region

On June 17, 2014, the Committee released its report on affordable housing entitled *Unfulfilled Promises: Affordable Housing in Metropolitan Washington*. The report was prepared by a team of lawyers from **Hogan Lovells US LLP** in conjunction with the Committee's Fair Housing Project.

The report provides an overview of the affordable housing landscape in Washington, DC and surrounding jurisdictions in Maryland and Virginia. It examines the seven tools that are most likely to be effective for creating substantial amounts of affordable housing in the region, such as housing production trust funds, harnessing public property for affordable housing goals, effective public/private partnerships, inclusionary zoning, accessory dwelling units, employer-assisted housing, and emergency rental assistance programs.

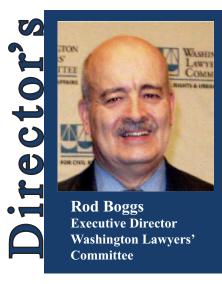
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#### WASHINGTON LAWYERS' COMMITTEE

# Corner



In this issue of the *UPDATE*, we are especially pleased to note important victories recorded by our DC Prisoners' Project cases and the continued overwhelmingly positive response to our 2013 report on racial disparities in arrests in the District of Columbia

In particular, we appreciate the invaluable assistance provided by a panel of distinguished retired and senior judges and a team of attorneys at **Covington & Burling LLP** in the preparation of this report. The recent passage of marijuana decriminalization legislation by the DC Council is one important result that this work has helped to make possible.

Similarly, we are very grateful for the excellent work of a team of volunteers at **Hogan Lovells LLP** that prepared our comprehensive report on the state of affordable housing in the DC metropolitan area. This report puts an issue with major civil rights implications in a much-needed regional perspective.

It is also appropriate to acknowledge the expanding work of the Committee's DC Public School Partnership Program that is now operating in 45 local schools, providing enrichment services to more children than ever before.

We are most grateful for the efforts of the nearly 50 area law firms, government offices and businesses that are working so effectively on this effort. In the year ahead, we will look to expand this work to even more schools and add a component of general counsel support for parents and principals.

In addition, I am very pleased to note that in recent months the Committee has elected seven new members to the Committee's Board of Directors and, remarkably, appointed more than 100 new members to its Boards of Trustees and Associate Trustees.

This infusion of new leaders is bringing incredible energy to our work and promises that our organization will have the ability to continue responding to emerging issues in our community.

As we welcome these new leaders, we are also recognizing the incredible contributions of a number of Board Members and former Co-Chairs who will be concluding their Board service at the end of the year.

As noted on the following page, this distinguished group of leaders made extraordinary contributions to the growth of our organization and is responsible for many of our most notable achievements.

Finally, on the occasion of this year's Wiley Branton Awards Luncheon, I would like to thank especially all of the law firms and individuals who have contributed so generously with their financial and pro bono support. This support is essential to our success and greatly appreciated.

This year, we are making a major effort to reduce the Committee's heavy reliance on income from unpredictable sources, such as attorney's fees, by expanding our base of support from annual law firm and individual giving. The encouraging response to our appeals over the past six months is very positive sign.

Strong and continuing support from all of our friends and supporters will help assure the Committee's future ability to best serve our clients and advance the cause of civil rights in our community.

## **Disability Rights**

#### Blind Contractors File Website Accessibility Lawsuit Against General Services Administration

On April 22, 2014, the Committee with co-counsel **Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP** filed a lawsuit on behalf of federal contractors and the American Council of the Blind against the General Services Administration (GSA), alleging that GSA failed to provide an accessible website for blind federal contractors who must register and renew their federal contractor registration annually.

The GSA, the federal executive agency responsible for administering the federal government's non-defense contracts, is responsible for ensuring that recipients of federal funding comply with the Rehabilitation Act, which prohibits the federal government and recipients of federal funding from discriminating on the basis of disability, including blindness.

#### Social Security Administration Sued by Former Employee for Lack of Parking Accommodation

The Committee and co-counsel **Morrison & Foerster LLP** are currently representing a former employee of the Social Security Administration (SSA) in Baltimore who was denied medical parking required by mobility difficulties arising from Lyme Disease and fibromyalgia.

The employee, Ms. Shochet, was ultimately forced into early retirement because of the lack of accommodation. She had been representing herself pro se before an Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Administrative Law Judge for the last 3 years, and helped to expose a pattern and practice of unreasonable denials of medical parking at SSA, which the Committee is investigating. **Veris Consulting, Inc.**, a member of the Committee's Corporate Advisory Board, is providing damages analysis in the case.

#### Distinguished Board Member and Co-Chair Recognition

The Washington Lawyers' Committee is proud to recognize the distinguished Committee Board Members listed below who have either concluded their Board service within the past few years or have announced their intention to conclude their Board service at the end of 2014. New Board Members have been elected to succeed them at their firms or former firms, thus assuring a smooth and efficient leadership transition.

These individuals played central roles in the Committee's development over decades and each served with distinction as a Committee Co-Chair and/or Board Member. In addition, each has played an active role in many of our most notable cases and advocacy work. Their prodigious efforts have contributed immensely to advancing the cause of equal justice in our nation. For this, we owe them a tremendous debt of gratitude and have recognized them as a group at the 2014 Wiley A. Branton Awards Luncheon.

James N. Bierman, Foley & Lardner LLP - Co-Chair 2005-06

David J. Cynamon, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pitman LLP - Co-Chair 2004-05

Ronald S. Flagg, Sidley Austin LLP - Board of Directors 2004-2013

Marc L. Fleischaker, Arent Fox LLP - Co-Chair 1990-91 & 1999

John A. Payton Jr., Wilmer Cutler & Pickering - Co-Chair 1996-97

Roger E. Warin, Steptoe & Johnson LLP - Co-Chair 2000-01

Thomas S. Williamson Jr., Covington & Burling LLP - Co-Chair 1992-93

### Fair Housing

#### Report Finds Affordable Housing Tools Underused in Region

(continued from page 1)

Challenges to providing adequate levels of affordable housing in the region include a lack of sufficient funding for affordable housing programs, citizens' NIMBY ("not in my back yard") concerns, and developers taking advantage of readily available exceptions and exemptions in the currently strong real estate market. The report notes the lack of a regional strategy to the affordable housing crisis that prevents a coordinated approach to addressing these issues.

The report concludes that targeted actions in every local jurisdiction aimed at strengthening the best programs and focusing on effective execution of those programs are most needed for increases in the affordable housing stock and improvements in affordable housing in the region.

#### Committee Helps Homeowners Obtain Dismissal of Suit by Foreclosure Company

The Foreclosure Law Center, P.C., a foreclosure rescue company that has been the subject of numerous complaints, filed a retaliatory defamation suit against our clients, Kathleen and Franklin Scot Zang, on July 19, 2013. The Committee and co-counsel **Ballard Spahr LLP** successfully defended the Zangs in the defamation matter.

Kathleen Zang had paid the Foreclosure Law Center, P.C. for their purported help in avoiding foreclosure. Ms. Zang alleged in her pleadings that the Foreclosure Law Center, P.C., failed to perform its contractual obligations to Ms. Zang, and then filed a frivolous defamation lawsuit against her in Pennsylvania state court after she requested a refund.

The Committee, with co-counsel Ballard Spahr LLP, defended Ms. Zang in the defamation lawsuit and moved for permission to file counterclaims against the Foreclosure Law Center, P.C. On May 13, 2014, the Foreclosure Law Center, P.C. dismissed its defamation lawsuit against Ms. Zang.

#### Fourth Circuit Requests Certified Question to Maryland Court of Appeals in Hunters' Brooke Arson Case

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit has certified a question to the Maryland Court of Appeals in the Hunters' Brooke arson case. On behalf of the homeowners, the Washington Lawyers' Committee and co-counsel **Akin Gump Strauss**Hauer & Feld LLP are briefing the scope of liability under a Maryland statute that applies to licensed security guard companies.

The lawsuit was originally filed in 2005 by Akin Gump on behalf of 32 African-American and other minority residents at Hunters' Brooke, a new single-family housing development in Charles County, Maryland. The complaint alleged the arsons were racially motivated.

After resolving the claims of two homeowners living in the development at the time of the arsons, the claims of 30 plaintiffs who had not yet moved into their homes at the time of the arsons were dismissed by the court and appealed. The Fourth Circuit's decision to certify this question, at the homebuyers' request, will allow the Maryland Court of Appeals to determine the scope of liability for licensed security guard companies under Maryland law.

## Immigrant and Refugee Rights

# Pregnancy Discrimination Lawsuit Filed Against Chipotle

In February 2014, the Committee and co-counsel **Debevoise & Plimpton LLP** filed a complaint in US District Court for the District of Columbia against Chipotle Restaurants on behalf of a Spanish-speaking woman who was terminated by the restaurant after disclosing she was pregnant. **Arnold & Porter LLP** has succeeded Debevoise & Plimpton LLP as counsel in the case. The facts in this case have been cited recently by the DC City Council to support efforts to amend DC law to require that accommodations be made for pregnant employees.

#### DC Area Construction Company Sued For Denying Wages

The Committee and co-counsel **Latham & Watkins LLP** are representing workers of Tito Contractors who were denied wages for regular hours worked and not paid time-and-a-half for overtime hours over a period of many years, in some cases for more than a decade. Tito Contractors also retaliated against the workers when they complained about the wage and hour violations. The complaint was filed on October 18, 2013, in the US District Court for the District of Columbia, as a class action and collective action with seven named plaintiffs. The case was certified as a collective action in 2014.

# An Interview with Hogan Lovells US LLP Attorneys, Authors of Affordable Housing Report

Hogan Lovells US LLP attorneys, Associates Meghan Edwards-Ford, Laura Biddle, Lisa Strauss, and Joanna Huang, led by Hogan Partner Mary Anne Sullivan, worked with the Committee's Fair Housing Project on the publication of the recent report, "Unfulfilled Promises: A Regional Survey of Tools for Creating and Preserving Affordable Housing," released June 17, 2014. They spoke with UPDATE staff about their experiences in coordinating the preparation of the report.

**Q:** What led you and your firm to get involved with the Committee's Fair Housing Project and this assignment?

A: Hogan Lovells US LLP has a long history of probono service with the Committee and in the region. We believe that affordable housing is a civil, economic, and human rights issue, and we are deeply interested in measures that could improve the standard of living for all of the region's residents.



Hogan Lovells US LLP Attorneys (L/R): Meghan Edwards-Ford, Mary Anne Sullivan, Laura Biddle, Lisa Strauss, Joanna Huang.

(Continued on next page)

## **Equal Employment Opportunity**

# Employee Wins Pregnancy Discrimination Case Against Property Management Company

The Committee with co-counsel Heller, Huron, Chertkof & Salzman, PLLC recently obtained a victory at trial on behalf of a worker who brought a pregnancy discrimination claim against the property management company that hired her.

Aieda McCallum was a top-performing leasing consultant for Archstone property management company when she announced that she was pregnant with twins. She was terminated two weeks later, purportedly for a data-entry error she made during a routine training program, and after her supervisors made disparaging comments about her pregnancy and her continued ability to work. The case was tried before a jury in federal court in Baltimore during April 2014. The jury returned a verdict in favor of Ms. McCallum,

finding that she had been terminated because of her pregnancy and awarding her compensatory damages.

#### Lawsuit Filed By Former School Employee With Disabilities

The Committee, along with co-counsel **Arnold & Porter LLP** filed suit against the Board of Education of Harford County, Maryland on behalf of Jennifer Forte, a woman with severe cognitive disablities. The school system initially hired Ms. Forte and provided her with reasonable accommodations to allow her to do her job in the mailroom. However, those accommodations were later taken away and Ms. Forte was ultimately fired for "performance issues." Ms. Forte also faced hostility at work because of her disablity and was never given the support she needed. The complaint, filed in early May, brings claims under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, the Maryland Fair Employment Practices Act, and Maryland common law.

(See Wage Theft Report article, page 10)

# An Interview with Hogan Lovells US LLP Attorneys, Authors of Affordable Housing Report (continued from previous page)

- Q: What was your team's experience in working with the Committee?
- A: It was a pleasure working with the Committee. We appreciate the Committee's involvement and feedback in shaping this report. Working on this report has been incredibly rewarding for each of us.
- Q: Were you surprised by the findings of the report?
- A: The lack of affordable housing in the Washington, DC region has been well publicized, but we were surprised by just how dire the situation has become in all of the jurisdictions we studied. We were also surprised by the fragmented nature of funding for affordable housing, both at the federal and local levels.
- **Q:** Would you recommend this type of pro bono assignment to other firms?
- A: Absolutely. This project presented a timely opportunity for in-depth exploration of an issue that affects every resident of the D.C. metropolitan area. Preparation of this report was a valuable learning experience!

## DC Prisoners' Project

#### Committee's Justice Reform Initiative Advances (continued from page 1)

Since publication, the report has attracted significant local and national media attention. To date, it has been cited and Committee staff and co-counsel authors have been requested to speak about the report's conclusions and recommendations in more than three dozen print, radio, television, and online media interviews and articles across the country. The report was also identified in the media as an important factor in the recent passage of marijuana decriminalization legislation by the DC Council.

The Committee is currently preparing two follow-up studies that examine conditions of confinement, and the collateral consequences of arrest and conviction, which affect thousands of District residents with criminal records.

"We are gratified by the positive actions that have already resulted from the Committee's report on racial disparities, and the interest expressed in our upcoming reports scheduled for release over the next year," said the Committee's Executive Director Rod Boggs. "We consider this to be some of the most important work that the Committee has ever undertaken."

# Injured Prisoner Awarded Damages for Inadequate Medical Care

With co-counsel **Winston & Strawn LLP**, the Committee's DC Prisoners' Project recently achieved a victory in the case of *Jones v. U.S.*, a lawsuit brought against the Federal Bureau of Prisons on behalf of a 39-year-old inmate who received inadequate medical care for serious injuries sustained in prison.

In December 2007, while housed at a federal prison in Hazelton, West Virginia, the inmate was injured in a prison riot when he slipped and fell on the blood of a fellow inmate who had been stabbed. He was severely injured in the fall and received inadequate medical care for his injuries. As a result, he will likely not be able to walk unassisted for the rest of his life.

The bench trial occurred in January 2014. On April 7, the judge awarded more than \$900,000 in damages for the inmate's medical care and for pain and suffering.

#### Bureau of Prisons Miscalculated Incarceration Lawsuit Settles

On June 9, 2014, the DC Prisoners' Project with co-counsel **Skadden**, **Arps**, **Slate**, **Meagher & Flom LLP** settled the case of *Ford v. Mitchell*, involving a prisoner who was sentenced on drug possession charges to a short period of imprisonment, to be followed by three months of supervised release, but due to a miscalculation by federal authorities, was over-incarcerated for years. The Committee and co-counsel Skadden filed a complaint seeking damages in September 2010. In November 2011, Mr. Ford died, but the case was pursued by his children on behalf of his estate.

#### Progress Made in ADX Lawsuit

Continued discovery and settlement talks by the DC Prisoners' Project with co-counsel **Arnold** & **Porter LLP** in the highly publicized case Cunningham v. US Bureau of Prisons (formerly Bacote et al. v. U.S. Bureau of Prisons), a putative class action litigation filed on June 18, 2012, have led to initial improvements by the Bureau of Prisons

(Continued on page 10)

#### **Public Education**



At the 2014 School Partnership Recruitment Luncheon (L/R): Kent Withycombe, Washington Lawyers' Committee Public Education Project Director; Najla Husseini, Director of Community Partnerships in the DC Public Schools Office of Family and Public Engagement; Rod Boggs, Washington Lawyers' Committee Executive Director; Shereen Williams, Special Assistant to DC Public Schools Chancellor Kaya Henderson; and Mark Guerrera, Partner, Sidley Austin LLP.

#### 2014 School Partnership Recruitment Meeting Held

More than 50 attendees from DC law firms and businesses met on May 21, 2014, to promote more educational partnerships with DC public schools. Organized by the Washington Lawyers' Committee and hosted at **Sidley Austin LLP**, the annual recruitment luncheon featured remarks by Rod Boggs, Sidley Austin partner Mark Guerrera, and Shereen Williams, Special Assistant to DC Public Schools Chancellor Kaya Henderson. Ms. Williams strongly endorsed the Committee's DC Public School Partnership Program, and urged new organizations to partner with DC public schools.

Since Fall 2013, the Committee's Education Project has arranged new partnerships between Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP and Hart Middle School; Savills Studley and Hendley Elementary School; and Tower Legal Services and Turner Elementary Schools. The Project also guided a new partnership between McDermott Will and Emery LLP and Stuart Hobson Middle School. Squire Page 8

**Patton Boggs**' school partner, Francis Stevens Education Campus, became a part of the School Without Walls. Finally, **Kirkland & Ellis LLP** formalized its school partnership with Marie Reed Elementary School in Adams Morgan.

Firms involved in the school partnership program provide much-needed academic enrichment and related support for about 11,000 students at 45 public schools. Many more schools are awaiting partnerships. For more information, contact Kent Withycombe at (202) 319-1000, ext. 145, Kent Withycombe@washlaw.org.

#### Cooking for Kids Bake Sales Benefit DC Public Schools

Twelve law firms raised over \$9,000 to benefit DC public schools by competing in the Committee's 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Cooking for Kids Bake Sale and Taste-Off on March 10, 2014. Participating firms held bake sales at their offices to raise funds for their schools, then sent their best entries to the Committee's office for the Taste-Off competition. Culinary experts Frank Ruta, Aggie Chin and Alex Kramer determined the top three entries in the cake, pie and cookie categories.

#### 9th City-Wide GeoPlunge Tournament Held

Arent Fox LLP, DC Public Schools and the Committee hosted the 9th city-wide GeoPlunge Tournament at the National Portrait Gallery on November 14, 2013, with 280 students from 36 DC public schools participating. GeoPlunge is the award-wining geography card game invented by Arent Fox partner Alan Fishel. The Ludlow-Taylor Elementary team, coached by Veris Consulting, won the Intermediate Division, and Goodwin Procter LLP coached a West Education Campus team that was Comeback Champion. Shepherd Elementary and Deal Middle School teams won the Junior and Senior Advanced Divisions, respectively. Josephine Bias Robinson, DC Public Schools' Chief of Family and Public Engagement, presented the awards. Additional tournaments were held in March and May 2014.

## Corporate Advisory Board

#### Corporate Spotlight on Savills Studley

In November 2013, 20 **Savills Studley** brokers and staff began remotely tutoring first graders in reading at Hendley Elementary School through Tutormate and in coordination with the Washington Lawyers' Committee's DC Public School Partnership Program. Additional Savills Studley volunteers worked with law firms to support the same literacy program at other partnership schools.



With a computer, a phone line and software in each classroom, Savills Studley tutors were able to call in each week and "meet" with a student over the phone, reading stories and doing word exercises together on their respective computer screens. Savills Studley is proud to be part of this innovative approach to literacy.

"It has been extremely rewarding for us to work with the Washington Lawyers' Committee and with students on a weekly basis, helping them with their reading and tracking their progress," said Lois Zambo, Vice-Chairman and Co-Regional Manager in Savills Studley's Washington, DC office.

Savills Studley is the leading global commercial real estate services firm specializing in tenant representation. The firm pioneered the conflict-free business model of representing only tenants. Its comprehensive platform includes brokerage, project management, corporate services and strategic portfolio solutions.

#### **Corporate Advisory Board Activities**

The Committee's Board of Directors launched the Corporate Advisory Board (CAB) in 2010 to offer the business community the opportunity to participate with the Committee in accomplishing our mission of addressing issues of discrimination and poverty in our community. The CAB is chaired by Jay Frankl, Senior Managing Director, FTI Consulting. Other members include Savills Studley, Tower Legal Solutions, and Veris Consulting, Inc.

The CAB companies offer business perspectives and advice on Committee matters; work with Committee lawyers and co-counsel to provide legal services and support on Committee cases; serve as partners with the Committee's Education Project in the DC public schools; and attend Committee events throughout the year while establishing closer ties with our many supporting law firms.

The Committee recognizes participating CAB companies during Committee events, and in print and online publications. For more information about the Corporate Advisory Board, contact Deputy Director Rhonda Cunningham Holmes at: (202) 319-1000, x111; or rhonda holmes@washlaw.org.

#### High School Partnerships Mentor Teams in DC-Wide Mock Trial

Thirty-four teams from 15 DC public high schools competed in the annual city-wide Mock Trial Tournament at DC Superior Court on March 20 and 26, 2014. The Committee coordinated all of the Mock Trial mentors, including those provided by School Partnership Program firms: Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP\Anacostia, Woodson; Bracewell & Giuliani L.L.P.\Banneker; Dickstein Shapiro LLP\Ellington; Williams & Connolly LLP\Dunbar; Arent Fox LLP\Eastern; Coburn & Greenbaum PLLC\IYP; Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP\School Without Walls; and O'Melveny & Myers LLP\Washington Metropolitan. Veris Consulting, Inc., provided expert witness preparation. Other firms and organizations providing mentors were: Venable LLP; Baker Botts L.L.P.; US Navy JAG Corps; and the US Department of Justice. For information on mentoring, contact Kent Withycombe at (202) 319-1000, x145, kent withycombe@washlaw.org.

#### **Arrivals**

#### **New Board Members**

The Washington Lawyers' Committee is pleased to welcome 11 new members to the Board of Directors.

They are: L. Scott Burwell (Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP); John Devaney (Perkins Coie LLP); Joseph D. Edmondson, Jr. (Foley & Lardner LLP); William R. Hanlon (Goodwin Proctor LLP); George Kostolampros (McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP); Harry Lee (Steptoe & Johnson LLP); Jack McKay (Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP); John Relman (Relman, Dane & Colfax PLLC); Donald J. Ridings, Jr. (Covington & Burling LLP); Jeffrey D. Robinson (Lewis Baach PLLC); and Barbara S. Wahl (Arent Fox LLP).

#### **New Staff**

Elliot M. Mincberg, a former partner at Hogan & Hartson (now HoganLovells US LLP), has joined the

Washington Lawyers' Committee as Senior Counsel. Most recently, he served as General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations and as Senior Counsel at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, and as Chief Counsel for Oversight and Investigations for the US House of Representatives Judiciary Committee.

He also previously worked as Vice President, General Counsel and Legal Director at People for the American Way. He is a graduate of Northwestern University and Harvard Law School.

#### **Visiting Attorney**

**Natalie Lilavois** is a Visiting Attorney with the Committee's DC Prisoners' Project. She is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and DePaul University College of Law.

#### Report on Washington's Wage Theft Claims Process Published

On February 6, 2014, the Washington Lawyers' Committee, along with the national Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law and the Employment Justice Center, released the report Stolen Wages in the Nation's Capital: Fixing DC's Broken Wage Theft Claims Process.

The publication highlights how businesses fail to comply with current wage and hour laws and are rarely held accountable for wage and hour violations.

The report outlines legislative proposals that could establish the District of Columbia as a leading jurisdiction in combatting wage theft.

# Progress Made in ADX Lawsuit (continued from page 7)

(BOP) in mental health treatment of inmates at this facility, and even a new nation-wide mental health care policy. The new policy excludes most men and women with serious mental disabilities from the highest security prisons.

The case was brought on behalf of prisoners with serious mental illness held in the notorious federal facility in Florence, Colorado, known as the "supermax" or "ADX." The lawsuit alleges inadequate medical care for mentally ill inmates at the facility. It is one of the most complex and ambitious cases the Project has ever filed, and it has attracted nationwide media coverage. The lawsuit alleges that the defendants have violated BOP policy and the US Constitution by failing to diagnose and treat prisoners at ADX with serious mental illness. This case can be followed at <a href="https://www.supermaxlawsuit.com">www.supermaxlawsuit.com</a>.

## **Annual Campaign**

#### 2013/2014 Annual Funding Campaign Advances

For the 2013-2014 Annual Campaign, the Committee has received contributions of \$130,391 from 22 firms and \$340,101 from 854 individuals as of June 12, 2014. These figures do not include contributions to the Committee's Wiley Branton Awards Luncheon or special gifts directed to the John Burke Fund, Judge Louis F. Oberdorfer Memorial Fund, or the Founders' Fund. To be included in the current year's campaign, gifts from individuals and firms should be sent to the Committee by the end of the campaign year on November 30, 2014.

The Committee acknowledges all of its contributors for their gifts to the Committee, and expresses appreciation for the service of all Associates and Partners who coordinated funding drives for the benefit of the Committee at their law firms.

In particular, we thank attorneys at **Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP** for leading in the Associates Campaign category, and **Wiley Rein LLP** for leading in both the Partners Campaign and Combined Associate & Partner Campaign categories.

#### 2014 Founders' Reception Held May 5

Over 100 of the Washington Lawyers' Committee's supporters, including Co-Chairs, Board Members, Trustees, and staff attended the Committee's 2014 Founders' Reception on May 5 at the beautiful home and gardens of Georgetown Law School Professor Emanuel Tersh Boasberg III in Washington, D.C.

Current Committee Co-Chairs Theodore A. Howard, a partner at **Wiley Rein LLP**, and Lewis S. Wiener, a partner at **Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP**, along with the Committee's Executive Director Rod Boggs welcomed attendees to the reception and acknowledged long-time supporters. Rod Boggs praised the vision of the founders who were involved in the Committee's creation. Mr. Boggs expressed his appreciation for the contributions that the Committee has received from its many supporters and their law firms. Committee Co-Chair Lewis S. Wiener encouraged everyone present to support and attend the Committee's 2014 Wiley Branton Awards Luncheon on June 18.



2014 Founders' Reception attendees included (L/R): James Sandman, President of the Legal Services Corporation; Rhonda Cunningham Holmes, Washington Lawyers' Committee Deputy Director; and Ronald Flagg, Vice President for Legal Affairs, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, Legal Services Corporation.



Also attending the 2014 Founders' Reception were (L/R): Da'aga Hill Bowman, Washington Lawyers' Committee's Director of Development and Communications; and Nkechi Taifa, Senior Policy Analyst, Open Society Foundations and Convenor of the Justice Policy Roundtable.

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The Washington Lawyers' Committee acknowledges the following corporations and foundations for their contributions and commitments to Committee Projects and Programs this year:

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