Greenberg Traurig Pro Bono Team Honored at 2018 NOFAS Celebration of Champions Event

Global law firm Greenberg Traurig, LLP’s pro bono team has been honored for their legal advocacy by the National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS) at their 2018 NOFAS Celebration of Champions benefit held Nov. 14 in Washington, D.C. The firm’s General Counsel, Martin I. Kaminsky, accepted the award on behalf of his colleagues.

WASHINGTON (PRWEB) November 19, 2018 -- Global law firm Greenberg Traurig, LLP’s pro bono team has been honored for their legal advocacy by the National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS) at their 2018 NOFAS Celebration of Champions benefit held Nov. 14 in Washington, D.C. The firm’s General Counsel, Martin I. Kaminsky, accepted the award on behalf of his colleagues.

Greenberg Traurig’s pro bono team was recognized— alongside Senators Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Lamar Alexander (R-TN), and Elizabeth Parra Dang of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention— as leading advocates for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders’ (FASDs) prevention and treatment.

“We are incredibly proud to receive this distinction from NOFAS and to be part of this effort to support people and communities living with and affected by FASDs,” said Litigation Shareholder Caroline J. Heller, chair of the firm’s Pro Bono Program.

The Greenberg Traurig team, led by Litigation Shareholder Joel Max Eads and Litigation Associate Beth A. Norrow, worked for 15 months on mitigation and expert discovery and succeeded in securing a court order vacating the life sentence of Florida inmate James Butler. Heller connected Butler to the firm.

As a juvenile, Butler, who has Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, was sent to an adult prison after his conviction for minor offenses. When he was repeatedly victimized while he was incarcerated, he killed his attacker in self-defense. Due to his disability and earlier inadequate legal defense, Butler was sentenced to life in prison without parole, and served 23 years until Greenberg Traurig’s pro bono team’s successful intervention.

NOFAS is the only international nonprofit public health advocacy organization that works to prevent prenatal exposure to alcohol, drugs, and other substances known to harm fetal development. The organization also works to raise awareness, educate and support women before and during their pregnancy, as well as individuals, families, and communities living with FASD and other preventable intellectual/developmental disabilities. For more information, visit http://www.NOFAS.org.

About Greenberg Traurig’s Pro Bono Program: Greenberg Traurig lawyers across the firm’s offices provide pro bono legal services to the indigent and working poor, as well as to numerous civic and charitable organizations dedicated to assisting them. The firm focuses its resources on specialized and interrelated issues including civil rights and affirmative action, anti-human trafficking, family law matters, criminal appeals, immigration and political asylum, housing, and homelessness.

About Greenberg Traurig, LLP: Greenberg Traurig, LLP (GT) has more than 2,000 attorneys in 38 offices in the United States, Latin America, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. GT has been recognized for its
philanthropic giving, was named the largest firm in the U.S. by Law360 in 2017, and is among the Top 20 on the 2018 Am Law Global 100. Web: www.gtlaw.com Twitter: @GT_Law.
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