



December 5, 2013 www.mcvpr.com

McV ALERT

McConnell Valdés presents achievements of its Pro Bono Program

The McConnell Valdés Pro Bono Program was established in 2006 to honor the Firm's 60th anniversary and our long-standing tradition of giving back to the community. We are only as strong as the community in which we live and work. For this reason, the Firm provides legal services free to those nonprofit organizations that, because of budget constraints, cannot afford to pay for them. Our attorneys counsel these institutions on tax exemptions, corporate governance, contracts, and employment matters to insure that Puerto Rico continues to have stable and robust organizations working hard to improve our communities and the lives of Puerto Ricans.

For the past seven years we have donated more than 8,000 hours with an estimated value of \$1.5 million dollars in free legal services to nonprofit organizations—from organizations that serve the homeless to art and science museums and environmental educations start-ups.

During our last fiscal year (2012-13), McConnell Valdés provided more than 1,700 hours with an estimated value of \$347,000 dollars in free legal services. To highlight the dedication and effort of those associates and paralegals who worked 25 hours or more on pro bono matters, McConnell Valdés recognizes the work they have performed by making a donation in their name to the nonprofit organization of their choice. The following associates and paralegal have earned the recognition for fiscal year 2012-13:

- Bibiana Cruz Martínez, Associate, Tax
- Ricardo J. García Negrón, Associate, Real Estate & Finance
- Sofía A. López Robles, Associate, Corporate
- Tatiana Román Orozco, Associate, Corporate
- Luz R. Martínez Rivera, Paralegal, Corporate

In past years, the following nonprofit organizations, selected by our associates and paralegals, have received the special donations:

- Corporación Fondita de Jesús
- EcoExploratorio
- Fundación Infantil Ronald McDonald Puerto Rico.
- Fundación Save a Sato, Inc.
- Hogar Albergue para Niños Jesús de Nazaret
- Hogar Albergue de Niños de San Germán (Portal de Amor)
- Hogar Cuna San Cristóbal, Caguas
- Hogar de Nuestra Señora de la Providencia
- Madrinas y Padrinos Pro Ayuda Pacientes de Cáncer
- Proyecto Laguna-Aula Verde
- Santuario Canita

McConnell Valdés is also proud of the collaborations and partnerships made with United Way of Puerto Rico, Puerto Rico Community Foundation, Fundación Angel Ramos, Asesores Financieros Comunitarios, and the University of Puerto Rico School of Law's Pro Bono Program to promote pro bono culture in Puerto Rico through seminars and free legal services to organizations that receive grants or request legal assistance from them.

Our commitment to serve others is a hallmark of the Firm's culture. We look forward to continue growing our Pro Bono Program in the coming year and count on your support to help us broaden the program's reach. We are very pleased to share these great news with you, our clients and friends, who have placed your trust on us throughout the years.

For inquiries regarding the Pro Bono Program, please contact Helen A. Salichs, Director-Pro Bono Program, at hs@mcvpr.com.

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