Insights: News Releases

Kilpatrick Townsend Honored by American Lawyer Third Annual Global Legal Awards

JULY 20, 2015

ATLANTA (July 20) - Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton announced today that the firm was honored for its pro bono work by ***American Lawyer's*** **Third Annual Global Legal Awards**. The firm was recognized as an honoree for the **Global Pro Bono Dispute of the Year** award for its work in the Signal International Litigation.

The Global Legal Awards aim to honor all law offices—including in-house legal departments—that played a substantial role in the most distinguished international work performed between Jan 1, 2014 and April 15, 2015, across a wide range of disciplines. This year's winners include nine financial deals, six disputes, nine corporate deals and six examples of social responsibility. The winners and honorees, named below, will be recognized at the Global Legal Awards dinner on September 28, 2015, at Gotham Hall in New York City.

"We are extremely proud of this achievement," said **Tamara Serwer Caldas**, Kilpatrick Townsend Pro Bono Partner. "Kilpatrick Townsend's commitment to pro bono helps define and differentiate us. This recognition is a testament to the firm's desire to deepen and broaden our engagement in pro bono work that has a meaningful impact on the lives of people who have suffered injustice."

Since the summer of 2013, Kilpatrick Townsend has represented 17 of the 500 foreign guest workers from India who asserted human trafficking and other claims against Signal International, the company that brought them here on the false promise of permanent residence visas, and also against Signal International's Indian recruiter and U.S. immigration lawyer. After class certification was denied, our firm, along with several other national firms, filed suit on behalf of various groups of plaintiffs. The case for our 17 plaintiffs is pending in federal court in Beaumont, Texas, was scheduled for November, but has since been stayed as a result of a bankruptcy filing by Signal. Notably, prior to the bankruptcy filing, Kilpatrick (along with other firms) was instrumental in negotiating a settlement agreement designed to resolve all of the labor trafficking cases against Signal, subject to approval by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court. The settlement provides for a payment of $20 million to be split amongst the plaintiffs in the various lawsuits and also requires Signal to issue an apology to the trafficking plaintiffs.

"By using the deep bankruptcy and restructuring experience at Kilpatrick and among terrific co-counsel at the other firms and non-profits, we were able to arrive at a settlement that we anticipate will provide meaningful compensation for the trafficking victims and some measure of justice to our clients," said **Shane Ramsey** a partner in Kilpatrick's Bankruptcy and Financial Restructuring practice in New York.

For more information on Kilpatrick Townsend's commitment to pro bono, please click here.

For more information about Kilpatrick Townsend, please visit: www.kilpatricktownsend.com.

Follow the firm on Twitter: @KTS_Law.

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