

NEWS FROM THE CENTER
The **BROWN RUDNICK CENTER**
FOR THE PUBLIC INTEREST

IT HAPPENED IN JULY-AUGUST, 2004.

We thought that you would be interested in reading about these Center-related activities.



CHARITABLE GIVING	PRO BONO
COMMUNITY SERVICE	PUBLIC INTEREST

www.brownrudnickcenter.com

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- The **Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation** is a non-profit, tax exempt organization making grants to improve inner-city education. Formed in 2000, the Foundation has made more than 30 awards to worthy programs in Boston, Hartford, Providence and NYC through its *Insight/Foresight* and *Relationship* Grant Programs.
- The Foundation was established through the generous contributions of the partners of Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP, continuing the Firm's tradition of providing extraordinary service to its clients and its community. The Firm also created **The Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest** in 2001 to serve as an umbrella organization for the Firm's pro bono legal work, charitable giving, community involvement and public interest efforts. The Center also provides legal, volunteer and administrative support for the Foundation's activities.
- More information may be found @ www.brownrudnickcenter.com

Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Hosts Judge Robert Carter in Evening Conversation.

Leading Civil Rights Advocate and Judge Is Interviewed by Harvard Law School Professor Charles Ogletree

Boston, MA, August 20, 2004 – Famed civil rights attorney and judge, Robert L. Carter (in photo at right), who argued the *Brown v. Board of Education* school desegregation case before the United States Supreme Court, was the guest of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation last evening. Judge Carter was interviewed by Harvard Law Professor Charles J. Ogletree. Following the interview, he took questions from about 100 guests at Brown Rudnick's Event Center in Boston.

Attended by area business and civic leaders, as well as public interest advocates and students, the group heard Judge Carter share his recollections of giving the lead argument in *Brown* before the United States Supreme Court prior to the its landmark 1954 decision. The judge also spoke of his personal experiences attending law school, serving in the military, arguing 22 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court (incredibly, he won 21 of them, many with enormous social significance), as well as his views on the state of race relations and the role of the Court today. He is now a Senior Judge in the Southern District of New York.

Judge Carter was interviewed by Harvard Law School Professor Charles Ogletree, a leading scholar and expert on the social changes that followed *Brown v. Board of Education*. He is the noted author of many journal articles and the recently published "All Deliberate Speed" about the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision and its aftermath. Professor Ogletree is also the Director of the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice and served as legal counsel to Anita Hill in the confirmation hearings for Justice Clarence Thomas.



< Judge Robert Carter @ Brown Rudnick.

Executive Director of the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest, **Al Wallis**, welcomed the group. "We are honored to have the opportunity to spend the evening with Judge Carter and to celebrate his extraordinary contributions to the pursuit of justice. Improving inner-city education is the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation's focus, and so it is natural that we would have a keen interest in the legal changes brought about by *Brown v. Board of Education* and take a special pride in having Judge Carter visit Brown Rudnick to share his reflections with us." (continued...)

Judge Carter Honored with Charitable Donation, cont...



^ Judge Carter (left) interviewed by Prof. Ogletree.



Following the interview, Judge Carter answered many questions from the audience. He commented on the figures that most influenced his career, his experience working with the NAACP, both with and after the departure of Thurgood Marshall, and his reactions to recent statements in the press regarding social inequality, parental responsibilities, and social change.

The evening concluded with two awards of recognition and support. First, on behalf of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation, **Forrest Milder**, the Foundation's treasurer and chair of the committee that organized the event, presented a rosewood clock to the judge, with the inscription "To Robert Carter, whose vision, intellect, and eloquence changed the course of American history." Then, in honor of Judge Carter's contributions to civil rights and educational opportunity, Foundation president and director **Carl Axelrod** (with Professor Ogletree on left in photo > at right) presented the Foundation's check for \$5,000 to the recently formed Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice Foundation. The Institute focuses on a variety of issues relating to race and justice, and it is chaired by Professor Ogletree.



^ Brown Rudnick's Steve Greenbaum, Managing Director of Litigation (and former clerk to Judge Carter) introduces his daughter Sara to the Judge as Al Wallis looks on.



PROFILE: Center Volunteers Mentoring Hartford Public School Students.



Center for the Public Interest Encouragement Leads to Long-term Student Mentoring by Brown Rudnick Hartford Office Partner and Its Office Manager.

Q. How and why did you begin mentoring students?

David Golden, Partner @ Brown Rudnick: A couple of years ago, the American Leadership Forum and Brown Rudnick's Center for the Public Interest held a meeting in the Hartford office to encourage our employees to mentor students. I thought that mentoring would be a good way to give something back to the community. I wanted to serve as a "big brother" to a younger student and was directed to a mentoring program at Breakthrough Magnet School in Hartford.

Diana Nelson, Office Manager @ Brown Rudnick: I also got involved in mentoring as a result of the presentation through the Center and chose to mentor a high school student. I liked the idea of working with a young person one-on-one to achieve a tangible result – getting accepted into college and figuring out how to finance it. I connected with Career Beginnings, a high school mentoring program in Hartford, and began mentoring an East Hartford High School senior last fall.

Q. Could you describe your mentoring experience?

David: I spent one afternoon a week with my mentee, a seventh grader. We mostly did one-on-one activities that gave us a chance to talk, such as sports, games, and creative projects. In addition, a 2003 grant from the Center for the Public Interest enabled us to take our mentees out to dinner and a show. While my mentee graduated from Breakthrough this year, I plan to continue my friendship with him outside of the official scope of mentoring. Meanwhile, I'm looking forward to getting a new student in the fall, probably a second grader.

Diana: In addition to attending Career Beginnings group meetings, I worked one-on-one with my mentee to fill out college applications, complete FAFSA forms, and apply for scholarships. We also went out for dinner, to the movies, and to visit local colleges. We developed a terrific relationship, and I'm sure that we'll keep in touch well after she heads off to college this fall. After I guide my own children through the college application process, I'm definitely going to sign up to mentor again, this time guiding a freshman through four years of high school.

THE BROWN RUDNICK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION CORP.

Making a significant contribution to inner-city education & the quality of life
in Boston, Hartford, NYC & Providence.

Foundation Grants in Action.

Grant Recipient
COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS, INC.

www.csi-online.org

CSI has been delivering supervision, treatment and comprehensive, individualized services to help socially disadvantaged adults and juveniles in need of supervision, support and treatment for more than thirty-four years. Referrals are received through contracts with all branches of the state and federal juvenile justice and criminal justice systems and social service agencies. Clients include youth and adult offenders and those determined to be at risk of involvement with either the juvenile or criminal justice systems.

With a Relationship Grant from the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation, CSI has continued to build upon last year's successful creation of a mock trial program for juveniles in their care. During July, volunteers from Brown Rudnick and other law firms worked with the juveniles during the summer and coached them through their participation in the mock trial held at a courthouse in a juvenile courtroom before a juvenile court judge. When a student "lawyer" stood to cross-examine a witness, one parent in attendance exclaimed proudly to the courtroom: "That's my son!"



▲ Brown Rudnick attorney **Sandra Davis** (seated) coaches one of the Community Solutions Mock Trial teams this July in Hartford's juvenile court.

Foundation Grants in Action.



^ Supporting the Volunteer Lawyers Project.

(Left to right) Hardhats on, Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest Executive Director **Al Wallis**, VLA Executive Director Jim Grace, Brown Rudnick's Chief Administrative Officer **Beth Hurley** and VLA Board member Anita Lauricella tour the future Midway Studios artist space in Boston's Fort Point Channel.

Foundation Grant Recipient **VOLUNTEER LAWYERS FOR THE ARTS**

www.vlama.org

Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts of Massachusetts, Inc. (VLA) is a non-profit organization established to meet the legal needs of the state's artistic community. The current VLA was incorporated in September 1989 through the joint efforts of the Boston Bar Association, the Artists Foundation and the City of Boston's Office of Cultural Affairs. VLA is the only organization in Massachusetts designed specifically to address the legal concerns of the arts community. VLA provides a Legal Referral Program, seminars and workshops to artists and arts organizations from all creative disciplines including, among others, visual arts, music, literary arts, performing arts, film and video.

Resources for arts programs are scarce in many public schools. To address this, in September, with a Relationship Grant from the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation, VLA will launch an arts competition in the Boston public schools to select artwork for use in producing a 2004 VLA holiday card for 2004.

Volunteers through the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest will serve on a committee judging entries and help with an awards ceremony. Additionally, Brown Rudnick attorneys participate on the VLA pro bono panel which helps to provide legal representation to low-income artists.

PROVIDING PRO BONO LEGAL REPRESENTATION.

The BRBI Pro Bono Commitment.

BRBI is committed to equal access to justice. Thus far in the fiscal year 2005 (2/1/04 – 1/31/05) the Firm has devoted the following number of hours to pro bono legal representation in the United States:

HOURS: 4461

New Pro Bono matters initiated by BRBI in July & August, 2004 include: >

Pro bono in Rhode Island.

Brown Rudnick Pro Bono Committee member, **Angel Taveras** and Center Executive Director **Al Wallis** recently met with the staff of this Rhode Island Bar Association's Volunteer Lawyers Project to discuss the need for legal assistance to the poor in the state. As a result of that meeting, the Providence office has made a commitment to take on several new pro bono cases in the coming year. Chief Justice Williams of the Rhode Island Supreme Court has written to Brown Rudnick expressing his appreciation for the Firm's commitment.



BRBI Attorney	Matter
Lawrence E. Uchill, Forrest Milder & Dan Gusenoff	Assistance with Charitable College Scholarship Fund.
Carol Ennis	Bankruptcy for indigent individual through Boston Bar Volunteer Lawyers Project .
Jerome B. Tichner	General corporate representation for national non-profit organization working on early childhood education.
Bruce H. Bagdasarian	Representation of non-profit organization creating a holocaust monument.
Damon A. Treitler & Bob Dushman	Intellectual property advice to non-profit educational organization.
Michael Hickey	Boston Housing Court attorney-of-the-day program.
Brian J. Lamoureux	Representation of indigent individual to obtaining a security deposit (through RI Volunteer Lawyers Project).



PRO BONO IS AT THE CENTER.



- **Accolades to Carol Ennis.**

At its July meeting, The Brown Rudnick Pro Bono Committee presented a Pro Bono Accolade Award to paralegal **Carol Ennis**.

In recognition of her extraordinary diligence in pursuing pro bono opportunities. Carol no sooner finishes one pro bono project than she is seeking the next one, representing poverty clients in bankruptcy matters through the Boston Bar Association's Volunteer Lawyers Project to assisting homeless clients through the Lawyer's Clearinghouse on Affordable Housing and Homelessness. In photo at left, Pro Bono Committee Chair, Andy Strehle, presents Carol with the Accolade.

- **Legal Advice to Pro Se Litigants.**

Through the Center, Brown Rudnick staffed several days of the Boston Housing Court Attorney of the Day Program in which free legal advice is provided to unrepresented landlords and tenants at the court. Each Brown Rudnick Summer Associate (at right with Paul Laudano) participated at least once, along with Brown Rudnick attorneys **Margaret Pinkham, Paul Laudano and Michael Hickey**.

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PRO BONO IS AT THE CENTER.



- **Providing counsel to the Democratic National Convention's Host Committee in Boston.**

On a pro bono basis, Brown Rudnick served as general counsel to Boston 2004, the host committee for the Democratic National Convention. Attorney **Cheryl Cronin** lead this effort and with **Carl Axelrod, Nancy Wilsker, Scott Consoli, Ed Hershfield, Brenda Cotter** and others, worked tirelessly to deal with all of the complexities and unique issues affecting the convention.



^ Brown Rudnick Pro Bono Committee Chair, attorney Andy Strehle, speaks with Senator Evan Bayh during a convention-related event at the firm's Boston office.

Amicus Brief filed in *Hancock*.

"[T]he Commonwealth has a duty to provide an education for *all* its children, rich and poor, in every city and town of the Commonwealth at the public school level, and that duty is designed not only to serve the interests of the children, but more fundamentally, to prepare them to participate as free citizens of a free State to meet the needs and interests of a republican government, namely the Commonwealth of Massachusetts." *Hancock v. Driscoll*, Civ. No. 02-2978, at 3-4 (Mass. Super. Ct. Apr. 26, 2004) ("Hancock Report"), citing *McDuffy*, 415 Mass. at 606.

So ruled Judge Margot Bostford in a case now on appeal to the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, *Hancock v. Driscoll*. Stressing the nature of remedial relief that will be necessary to remedy the constitutional short-comings in education found by Judge Bostford, Brown Rudnick filed a friend of the court (amicus) brief in the case on behalf of MassPartners for Public Schools ("MassPartners"). Founded by a coalition of leading Massachusetts public school organizations in 2000, MassPartners is an alliance of diverse organizations representing teachers, parents, principals, administrators, school committee members, and superintendents, all of whom are united in their goal of supporting public schools in their efforts to improve student achievement.

Brown Rudnick's **Samantha Gerlovin** took the lead in writing the brief, with the support of **Robert Dushman** and **Al Wallis**.

Compassion in Action: Pitching in at Rosie's Place.

CENTER



Towels
Needed.

Through the Center, Brown Rudnick volunteers prepared and served lunch to homeless women and children on several days this summer. (Rosie's also received pro bono legal support from Brown Rudnick.)

Visits were coordinated by Brown Rudnick's **Donna Fakharpour, Laura Robinson & Kym Patrico**. Participants (some of whom are shown in photos ^ >) included Al Wallis, Rebecca Fordon, Barbara Leen, Rachel Meltzer, Andrew Sroka, Ben Welch, Donna Dileo, Katie Burgener, Erin Gannon, Jason Marshall, Kevin Prussia, Keith Walsh, Corinne Wilde, Patty Muse, Carlotta Patten, Beth Hurley, Fran Federico and her son, Nicholas.



During one of the Center's volunteer visits, Rosie's staff mentioned that their free clothing center was suffering a shortage of towels this summer, as homeless women were in particular need of them during the hot weather. The Center launched an immediate "towel drive" in Brown Rudnick's Boston office. A week later, the Center delivered 100+ towels to the shelter .

Helping to Improve Our Community.

CENTER

• Helping the United Way in Boston.

Brown Rudnick's **Al Wallis** and **Pauline Kosowan** offered guidance on "Best Practices Campaign for Success" to United Way of Massachusetts Bay Employee Campaign Managers at an August training session held by the United Way.

• Helping public school students in Hartford.

In August, the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation approved an Insight/Foresight grant to be made to the Hartford Public Schools through the Hartford Education Foundation. Brown Rudnick partner **Tom Ritter** was the co-applicant. The grant will be used to support participation by 5 classes in the JASON Project, a unique science teaching program.

• Helping improve the public health in the Northeast.

...**Cheryl Cronin**, a partner at Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP in Boston and practice leader for its government law & strategies group, received the "Volunteer of the Year" Award from the American Heart Association Northeast Affiliate.

- From the *Boston Business Journal*
"On the Move", July 2 -8, 2004

• Helping Head Start in Providence.

Brown Rudnick attorneys **Brian Lamoureux**, **Charlie Normand** and **Angel Taveras** reached into their pockets to buy a table at Providence Head Start's annual fundraiser which pays tribute to the parents who volunteer their time to Providence Head Start. They then donated all of their tickets to Head Start families who wished to attend the event.

• Helping Children Learn to Read in Providence.

Brown Rudnick volunteers **Alison Hayes**, **Christine Hebert**, **Geri Riccio**, **Kate Silva** and **Barbara Carreira** have been visiting the Fox Point Health Center to read to children waiting for their pediatric appointments. The volunteer reading is done in conjunction with the Reach Out and Read Program, a recipient of grant funds from the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation.

Last Words...



^ Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Directors Honor Judge Robert Carter, August 19, 2004.

Front row, from left: Harvard Law School Professor Charles Ogletree and Judge Robert Carter. Middle row, from left: Director Nancy Wilsker and Executive Director Al Wallis. Back row, from left: Directors Liz Ritvo, Paul Hartnett, Mike Dolan, Forrest Milder, Carl Axelrod and Brown Rudnick CFO Barry Berman.

Please contact Al Wallis or Kym Patrico to discuss any matters regarding the Brown Rudnick Center for Public Interest.

And finally, apologies for any errors or unintentional omissions which may from time to time occur in the Center e-mail news – maybe even this one.

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