



Foster
Garvey

REBUILDING Together

The 2021 Foster Garvey
Pro Bono Report

ON THE COVER



“Untitled”

*By Curtis Caton
(2019)*

This painting was created by Curtis Caton, a former lifer and currently a prolific artist, whose poignant story of transformation is featured on page 6.

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LETTER FROM

the Pro Bono & Community Service Committee Co-Chairs

In a year of flux and uncertainty, we take this opportunity to celebrate the work done to bring a measure of hope and security to our pro bono clients. Like the broader communities of which our firm is a part, we have spent this past year rebuilding, adapting and cautiously experimenting with solutions to the hardships of COVID-19.

2021 was a year that challenged our most steadfast optimists, beginning with a historic assault on the nation's Capitol, and compounded by a pandemic whose tenacity defied expectations and dashed reopening plans. But even against this backdrop, hope persevered, and Foster Garvey attorneys found enough footholds to weather a year of adversity. Through their efforts, our firm created oases of opportunity, safety, and community for our clients and ourselves in a time of continued unease.

In defiance of a crisis that has acutely impacted those reliant on public transportation, we brought successful impact litigation to lift driver's license suspensions for more than 100,000 low-income Washington residents who can now drive their children to school and themselves to their jobs. While the pandemic has made it harder than ever for families, friends and neighbors to unite in person, Foster Garvey attorneys redoubled our support of community centers creating safe spaces for neighborhoods and communities to meet. We have also continued our work to secure freedom for prisoners serving life or near-life sentences, and asylum for immigrants facing deportation, thereby reconnecting these clients with family and opening the door for them to re-engage with their communities.

This year, we have also seen the ways in which our pro bono efforts have rebuilt connections and brought people together within the firm, even while most of us continue to work remotely. As we navigate these dramatic changes, we're excited to expand on our efforts by developing signature projects that will facilitate widespread, collaborative engagement on issue-focused pro bono projects. One early success in this vein has been the mass participation by Foster Garvey attorneys in the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative's Legal Reform Fund, a project aimed at enhancing women's economic empowerment throughout the world. We look forward to curating more projects like this in the years to come.

Please join us in recognizing our colleagues' important pro bono efforts over the past year and in imagining new opportunities to serve our communities going forward.



Kelly Mennemeier and Malcolm Seymour, Co-Chairs of the Foster Garvey Pro Bono & Community Service Committee

PRO BONO

In 2021

3,890

Attorney Hours in 2021

Foster Garvey devoted 3,890 attorney hours to pro bono legal services in statistical year 2021, valued at more than \$2 million and equivalent to 2.1 percent of total billable hours. Of these hours, 2,955 (1.6 percent of total billable time) were in service to individuals of limited means and organizations primarily addressing the needs of these individuals.

>\$2M

Value of Pro Bono Work

Foster Garvey’s Pro Bono Honor Roll celebrates those firm members who make especially significant contributions to the firm’s pro bono efforts. Thank you to the 18 Foster Garvey attorneys who qualified for the Honor Roll by providing more than 50 hours of pro bono legal services in 2021.

2.1%

of Total Firm
Billable Hours

Thomas Ahearne*	Jeanne Barenholtz	Devra Cohen
Joy Ellis	Claire Hawkins	Paul Heer*
Benjamin Hodges	Eryn Karpinski Hoerster*	John Hoerster*
Uzodinma Irozuru*	Brooks Lindsay*	Kelly Mennemeier
John Ray Nelson	Leo Peng	Michelle Rusk
Jacob Scholl*	Malcolm Seymour	Nancy Stephens*

**Exceeded 100 hours of pro bono legal service*

EARNING A MAJOR VICTORY

for Drivers Unable to Pay Moving Violation Fines



Eryn
Karpinski Hoerster



Kelly
Mennemeier



In October 2020, Foster Garvey, in collaboration with the ACLU of Washington, filed a complaint on behalf of four individuals seeking invalidation of RCW 46.20.289, the statute that mandates that the Washington Department of Licensing (DOL) suspend a person's driver's license when the person fails to respond to a notice of traffic infraction or pay the associated fine. The complaint alleged that this statutory scheme was unconstitutional because it allowed the DOL to suspend driver's licenses without first determining if a driver was financially able to pay a fine, in violation of the Due Process, Equal Protection and Excessive Fines clauses of the Washington Constitution.

Foster Garvey and the ACLU of Washington filed a motion for summary judgment in February 2021, to which the DOL filed a cross-motion for summary judgment. After a compelling oral argument delivered by the Foster Garvey legal team, the Thurston County Superior Court ruled RCW 46.20.289 unconstitutional “as applied to individuals who are indigent” because individuals are not provided procedural due process in the form of an “ability to pay” hearing before they are stripped of their driver’s licenses. The Court entered an injunction halting license suspensions on the basis of failure to appear or pay a civil moving violation until January 2023, when an amendment to the statute goes into effect. The court order also rescinds past suspensions and requires the waiver of mandatory relicensing fees for those who previously had their licenses suspended under RCW 46.20.289.

This was an extraordinary win for the impacted individuals and the coalition of activists, legislators, and community members who had been fighting this injustice. A great number of individuals who lost their licenses under the challenged statute relied on their vehicle as their sole means for going to work, traveling to essential health care appointments and, in some cases, having a warm and dry place to sleep at night. If these individuals were caught driving with a suspended driver’s license, they also faced potential criminal consequences — including incarceration. As a result of this litigation, an estimated 100,000 individuals in Washington have had their driver’s licenses reinstated.

The litigation success was a collaborative effort of many parties, including the ACLU of Washington and Foster Garvey attorneys Kelly Mennemeier and Eryn Karpinski Hoerster. We are honored and grateful to have been able to participate in this extraordinary change.

“...an estimated 100,000 individuals in Washington have had their driver’s licenses reinstated.”

MAKING THE MOST OF A SECOND CHANCE

to Build a Purposeful Life

More than 20 years ago, Curtis Caton was sentenced to life in prison following a third-strike robbery. After learning about him through the Seattle Clemency Project, Devra Cohen, Brooks Lindsay, Kelly Mennemeier and Michelle Rusk took on Curtis' case with the intent to file a petition for clemency on his behalf.



"Untitled" by Curtis Caton (2019)



Devra
Cohen



Kelly
Mennemeier



Brooks
Lindsay



Michelle
Rusk

The Foster Garvey team learned that Curtis had experienced significant trauma in his childhood, including the murder of his sister, with whom he had been close. In the aftermath of that event, Curtis' mental health suffered, and he committed several robberies as a young man. He had worked on bettering himself, but his mental health took another unfortunate turn when he learned that his sister's killer was scheduled for release from prison. Upon receiving this news, Curtis became highly intoxicated and robbed a woman. He was then charged with robbery and sentenced under Washington's three-strikes law to life in prison.

During his incarceration, Curtis availed himself of every available opportunity to find purpose in life and make himself a better person. He exhausted the educational and therapeutic opportunities available to him as a lifer, and he participated in — and subsequently led — programs that facilitated

self-healing and redemption. He discovered creative outlets for his emotional expression, becoming a prolific artist. He also served as a mentor and friend to numerous fellow inmates. His confidence, grace and humility in the face of his many life challenges inspired the awe of the Foster Garvey legal team.

In light of Curtis' remarkable self-transformation while in prison, Foster Garvey successfully secured the support of the Clark County Prosecutor's office in seeking his release. With that support, the team pivoted from petitioning the governor for clemency to instead filing a joint motion with the prosecutor requesting that the Court vacate Curtis' third-strike conviction and resentence him under a different (non-strikeable) offense. The Court granted this motion. Curtis was resentenced to time served and was immediately released. The Foster Garvey team then worked with the Seattle Clemency Project to ensure that Curtis received transportation, housing and other support upon release.

Curtis has now moved to Oklahoma, where he has property and family connections. He has secured stable employment in a managerial role, is exhibiting his artwork in two galleries, and is engaged to be married in the summer of 2022.



“Untitled” by Curtis Caton (2019)

“Curtis was
resentenced
to time served
and was
immediately
released.”

ADVANCING WOMEN'S ECONOMIC RIGHTS GLOBALLY



Mike
Brunet



Cinda
Fernald



Benjamin
Hodges



Dan
Keppler



Mikaela
Louie



Sara
Sandford



Malcolm
Seymour



Paul
Trincherro



Erin
Milos White



Matt
Yium



Yeli
Zhou

Despite some progress toward global gender parity, many countries still have laws that prevent women from working specific jobs or laws that grant their husbands power to prohibit women from working at all. Women in some corners of the world live with flawed and broken legal systems, and they lack the resources, tools and training to advocate for their rights. According to the World Bank, the gender pay gap alone causes countries around the world to lose approximately \$160 trillion U.S. dollars in wealth.



The American Bar Association’s Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI) launched a Legal Reform Fund (LRF) project in 2021, with support from the U.S. Department State’s Office of Global Women’s Issues. Sara Sandford, a former Foster Garvey attorney and ABA ROLI board member, helped champion LRF out of her passion for global women’s issues and inspired Foster Garvey attorneys to volunteer in large numbers in support of the project. The program has identified four partner countries — Mexico, Guatemala, Timor-Leste and Indonesia — where it will conduct interviews, local and remote research, focus groups, and ultimately project implementations aimed at making measurable on-the-ground improvements in the economic empowerment of local women. The program is focused on five core issue areas within the broader context of women’s economic rights, informed by research from the World Bank, World Economic Forum, and ABA ROLI’s own expertise: access to institutions; barriers to employment; ownership and management of property; ability to build credit; and ability to travel freely.

As one of three participating law firms, Foster Garvey is contributing a team of 10 attorneys from the Seattle, Portland and New York offices. The Foster Garvey team is divided into smaller teams assigned to

one of the four partner countries. Each team begins by carrying out a comprehensive assessment of the gender equality landscape in that country, which includes interviews with key stakeholders and analysis of the legal, regulatory and related policy reforms. Participating attorneys act as researchers and interviewers, inquiring about the legal, institutional and cultural barriers in each country to women’s economic empowerment.

Once initial research is completed, Foster Garvey will work with ABA ROLI and other nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and attorneys to recommend targeted initiatives aimed at strengthening the institutions that promote women’s economic empowerment in each of the participating partner countries. Attorneys will develop implementation plans and provide legal and technical assistance to participating partner governments to advance the reforms recommended by these analyses.

Foster Garvey is honored to actively participate in the LRF project, in partnership with Dechert LLP and Jenner & Block, and to support meaningful policy reforms that aim to empower and elevate women on the margins of global society.

CHAMPIONS OF JUSTICE IN WASHINGTON STATE



Billy
Etter



John
Hoerster



Ron
Knox

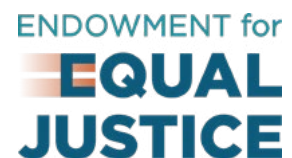


Brooks
Lindsay



Rob
Morrison

The Legal Foundation of Washington (LFW), Campaign for Equal Justice (C4EJ), and Endowment for Equal Justice (EEJ) are very closely aligned sister organizations that share a common mission: to provide unrestricted funding for Washington State’s civil legal aid network. C4EJ provides current funding and EEJ provides long-term funding for LFW’s grants to civil legal aid organizations that provide direct civil legal aid, impact litigation, policy reform, and systemic advocacy. A particular focus in 2021 was to support legal aid programs that provided acute relief for low-income families who have been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including those needing assistance with eviction defense, access to unemployment benefits, escaping domestic violence, protecting immigrants’ rights to benefits and assuring workplace safety. Also of critical importance is LFW’s Race Equity Grants Fund that seeks to build power within communities that have been most impacted by structural racism, particularly in the justice system. In 2021, LFW’s grants exceeded \$10 million, of which more than \$2 million was provided by C4EJ and almost \$1 million was provided by EEJ.



Foster Garvey has partnered with many of LFW's grantees over the years including Columbia Legal Services, Communities Rise, Eastside Legal Assistance Program, Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, Northwest Justice Project, Solid Ground, Team Child and The Seattle Clemency Project. Foster Garvey attorneys have played a significant role in providing pro bono services and taking on leadership responsibilities for these grantee organizations, as part of an effort to dismantle systemic barriers to equitable justice.

Foster Garvey is honored to have been recognized by LFW and C4EJ as a Champion of Justice in 2021, as has been the case for many years. And, in 2021 several Foster Garvey attorneys played important roles in support of LFW, EEJ and C4EJ.

Foster Garvey attorney Billy Etter serves on the Board of C4EJ and also helped C4EJ hold a successful 2021 Beer and Justice program in Spokane.

Foster Garvey attorney Brooks Lindsay has played an important role in building support for C4EJ from newer attorneys by helping develop and lead the Associates Campaign for Equal Justice (ACFEJ). Brooks has been a leader of ACFEJ since its inception. He was a member of the founding Associates Committee in 2019, co-chaired the Associates Committee in 2020, and led the third year of participation by Foster Garvey Associates in 2021. Over this time, Brooks led various fundraising efforts of Associates from all of the participating law firms. In 2021, Foster Garvey raised more than \$13,000 for the ACFEJ, and in the aggregate, the Associates from the 12 participating law firms raised more than \$140,000, significantly exceeding the ACFEJ's ambitious \$100,000 goal.

Foster Garvey Public Service Counsel John Hoerster was Co-President of EEJ in 2021 (and President from 2015-2020). He co-chaired the Reach 20 Initiative, which grew the endowment to more than \$23 million, making it the nation's largest endowment in support of civil legal aid, and he played a leadership role in developing EEJ's new 2022-2024 Strategic Plan.

“...relief for low-income families who have been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Foster Garvey attorney Rob Morrison serves on EEJ's Justice Society Committee and will be helping EEJ meet its new strategic goal to grow its Justice Society from 35 members who have named EEJ in their estate plans to 200 members.

Retired Foster Garvey attorney Ron Knox serves on EEJ's Board, chairs its Board Support Committee and its Racial Equity Task Force, and moderated EEJ's 2021 six-part racial equity series, Let's Talk About (In)justice.

UNLOCKING HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

for Households of Color in Oregon



Thomas
Scott

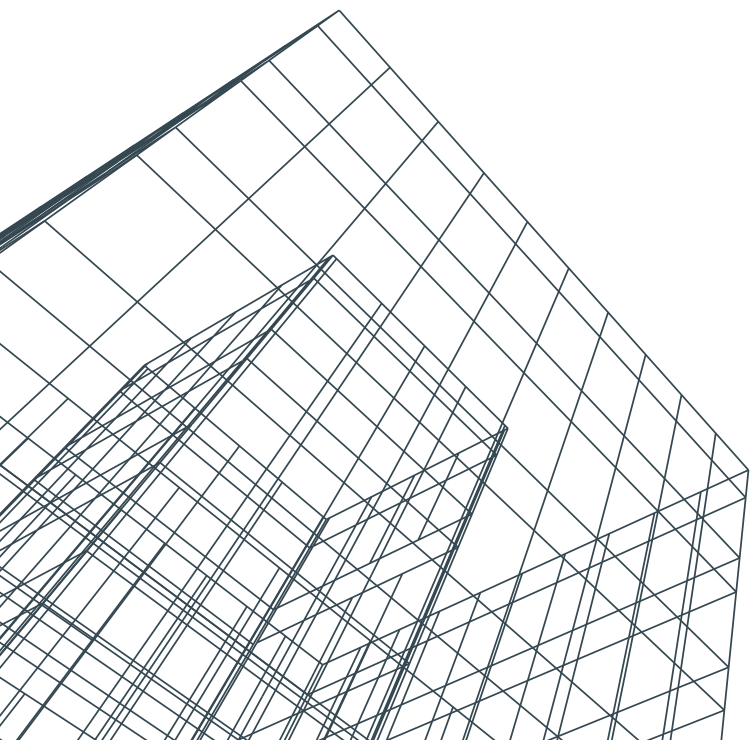


“By serving as their trusted counsel, he helps them transition into proud homeownership.”

With the rising cost of homes in Oregon, combined with a short supply and increasing demand for housing, many families and working people are being priced out of their communities. It is especially difficult for people with lower incomes and people of color to acquire a home given historic unfair practices. According to a *Portland Mercury* article, Stacie Sanders, a policy and advocacy director at Housing Oregon, stated, “The last time we built a lot of housing, suburbia, there were a lot of people excluded from that... [T]here was redlining and steering and unfair loan practices, so I don’t know that we’ve ever seen in American history where everybody was included.”

Proud Ground is an Oregon-based, HUD-approved nonprofit organization that seeks to alleviate this disparity by helping lower-income, first-time home buyers achieve homeownership in Clackamas, Clark (Wash.), Multnomah, Lincoln and Washington Counties through the Community Land Trust model. In order to create affordable homeownership opportunities, Proud Ground provides financing to low-income home buyers in an effort to help them exit unpredictable rental markets and unstable housing situations. In exchange, those home buyers agree to price restrictions and other resale limitations in order to preserve affordable housing for future home buyers in the Proud Ground program. Proud Ground also works with partners to administer grant funding, guide and educate home buyers, and manage the entire process of the real estate transaction on behalf of home buyers in the program.

Foster Garvey attorney Thomas Scott plays a key role in closing home purchases for Proud Ground home buyers. He helps them understand the legal implications of the agreements associated with the home buyer program, which includes restrictive covenants, deeds of trust, land leases and corporate governing documents. Sometimes, language barriers and inexperience can pose roadblocks for first-time home buyers, and Tom helps them navigate what can be an overwhelming process. By serving as their trusted counsel, he helps them transition into proud homeownership.



HELPING YOUTH FIND THEIR VOICE

Through the Power of Storytelling



Melissa
Edwards



Mikaela
Louie



John
Hoerster



Kelly
Mennemeier



Claire
Hawkins

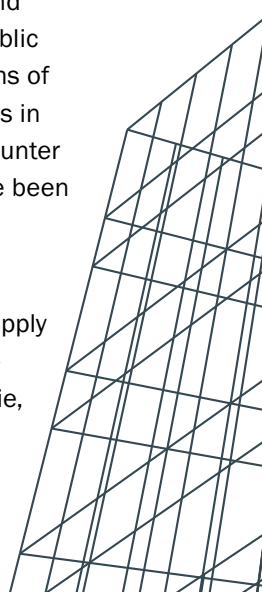


Mary
Ruffin

We.APP Speak With Purpose (SWP) is a youth-focused public speaking program that offers classes for public speaking combined with creative expression in the forms of storytelling, improvisations, and other presentation and performance art styles. Its mission is to cultivate an inclusive learning environment to help students, especially students of color, develop their own voice, confidence, and identity using creative public speaking skills. SWP partners with the Seattle, Highline and Summit public school districts to design a customized curriculum that is offered as an elective or Language Arts course during the school day.

SWP is designed to enable young scholars discover their unique voice and create original work that expresses their view on education, home and life. Its project-based methods use writing and public speaking to empower participants to present ideas that reflect their distinctive perspective. SWP programs apply a three-pronged strategy: scholar advocacy, counter-storytelling, and shifting adult mindsets and perceptions. SWP classes develop student and educator verbal and nonverbal communication skills for effective public speaking, self-advocacy and dismantling systems of oppression. The program also supports teachers in establishing a culturally responsive lens that counter oppression by advocating for scholars who have been historically disadvantaged.

Foster Garvey teamed up with SWP to help them register as a nonprofit in Washington state and apply for 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status with the IRS. The Foster Garvey team, which includes Mikaela Louie, John Hoerster and Mary Ruffin, also helped SWP



“Foster Garvey is delighted to help SWP bring to fruition its mission of elevating and supporting youth voices.”



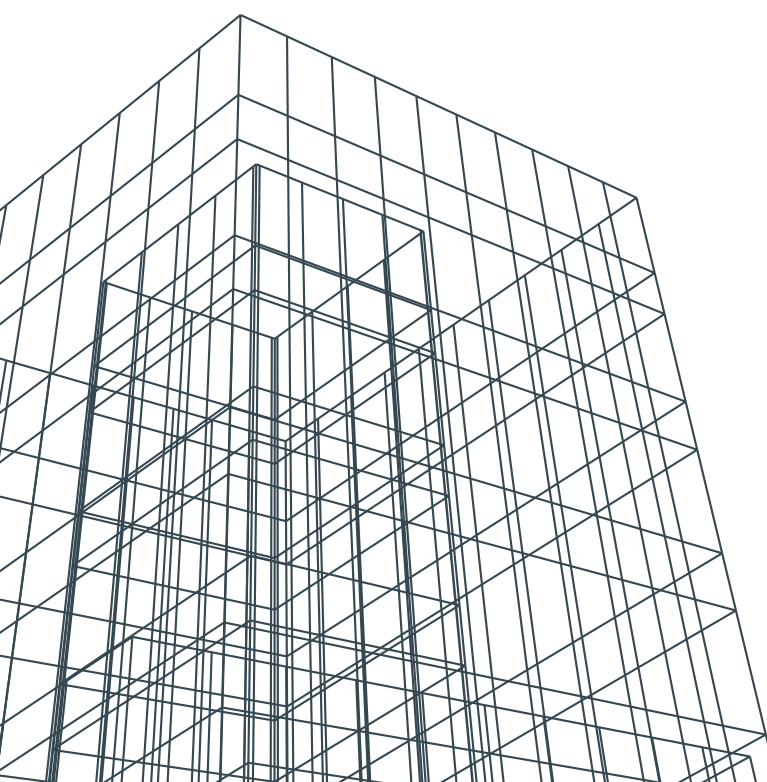
navigate how to operate as a 501(c)(3) entity while their application is pending so that SWP can receive funding (that will be retroactively recognized as tax deductible) to begin their operations in January 2022.

Simultaneously, Kelly Mennemeier has advised and provided support in employment matters, including a review of the organization’s employee handbook, procedures and policies. Claire Hawkins, with the assistance from Melissa Edwards, has provided intellectual property counseling to help SWP evaluate next steps in connection with possible rebranding and expansion of their services and reach, and to adhere to best practices in branding and related IP issues to preserve and protect We.APP’s trademarks and other valuable assets.

Foster Garvey is delighted to help SWP bring to fruition its mission of elevating and supporting youth voices. For more information, visit SWP’s website: theweappstudio.com.

To learn more about SWP’s programming, visit these links below:

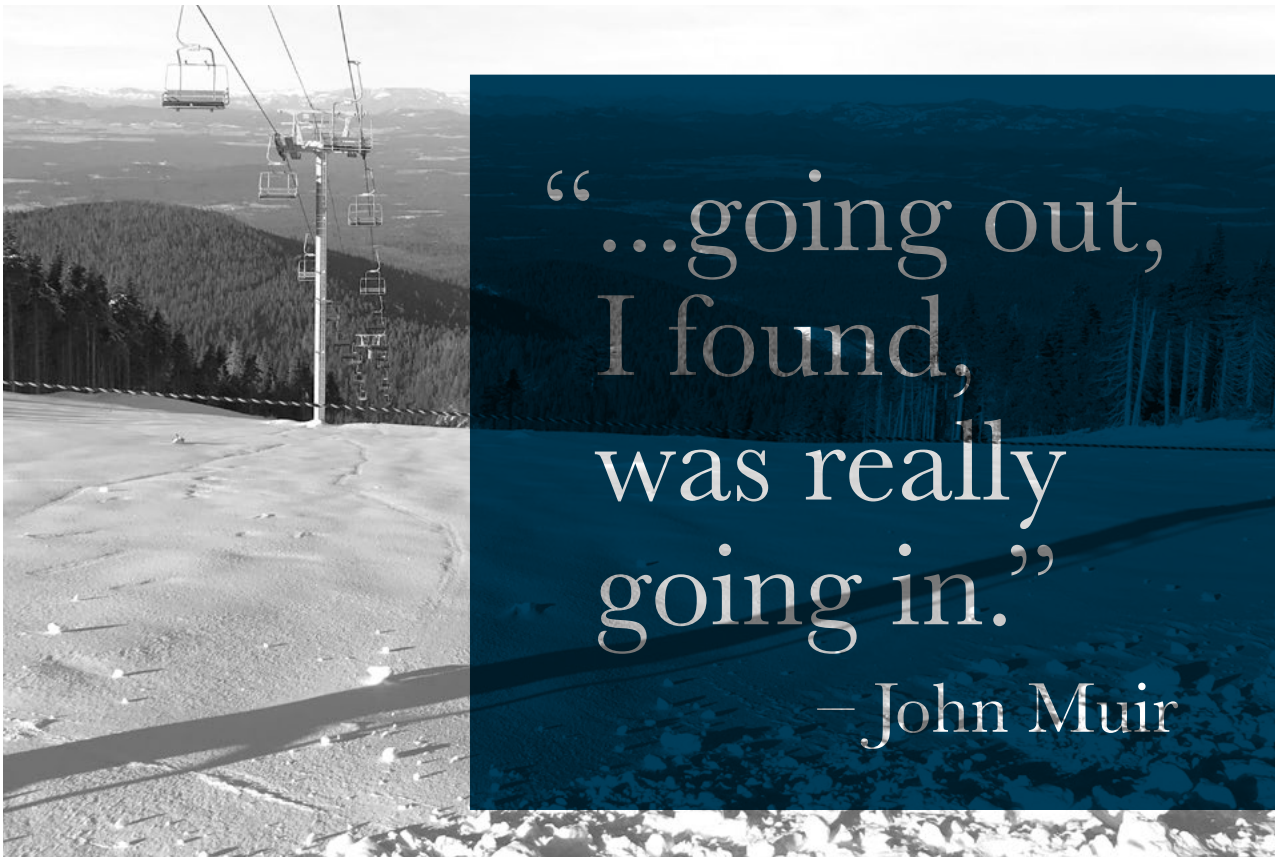
- [Seattle University We.APP Article](#)
- [Reclaiming Our Identity](#)
- [We.APP 2020-2021 Year In Review](#)
- [2019 Rising Voices Oratory Showcase](#)



GOING MOUNTAINS BEYOND MOUNTAINS



John Ray
Nelson



“...going out,
I found,
was really
going in.”

— John Muir

“I only went out for a walk, and finally concluded to stay out till sundown, for going out, I found, was really going in.”

— John Muir

John Ray Nelson’s love for the snow, mountains and alpine skiing has led him to dedicate more than 30 years as a volunteer Patroller with the Mount Spokane Ski Patrol (MSSP) and the National Ski Patrol (NSP). MSSP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization formed in 1938 to provide emergency first aid, transportation and skier safety education services to guests of the Mount Spokane Ski & Snowboard Park. John, during his shifts as a Patroller, has provided first responder care and transport to countless skiers and snowboarders, with injuries ranging from sprained wrists to femur and pelvic fractures. During his tenure, he has acquired new treatment skills as better boots and bindings have reduced the number of lower-leg breaks and sprains, while terrain parks and aerial features have led to more upper-body trauma and head injuries. While the idea of venturing out to fresh powder first attracted John to ski patrolling, it turned out to be caring for injured guests and working with his fellow patrollers that gave John the most satisfaction. Through the years John has mentored dozens of younger patrollers as they passed through the Patrol and on to careers in areas including education, medicine and public service.

John has also been recognized for substantial leadership and legal contributions to the Ski Patrol. He served as Director of the MSSP in 2015 and 2016, and has received awards and honors at the local, regional, divisional and national level, including the NSP’s Distinguished Service Award — among the highest honors NSP can bestow, and which requires at least 20 years of service to the national organization.

John started providing pro bono legal advice to his local patrol in 1995, as Counsel to the MSSP Board of Directors. To this day, he attends monthly board meetings and advises the MSSP and its members regarding pertinent regulatory and contract issues. In 2005, he was asked to serve as legal adviser to the Inland Empire Region of the Pacific Northwest Division, and in 2019, he was asked to serve as Legal Adviser to the NSP’s Pacific Northwest Division (PNWD), advising the Board that oversees NSP’s work in Washington, Oregon and most of Idaho. In that capacity, he also serves on the NSP’s National Legal Committee, with the legal advisers from the eight other NSP National Divisions, providing counsel to the National Organization. In August of 2020, John was honored at the PNWD Convention with the Division Director’s Award — a discretionary honor the Director can award to a single Patroller from among the thousands who serve in the five regions and 44 Patrols that comprise the PNWD — for exemplary service at the division and national levels.

RECOGNIZING

2021 Pepper Schubert Barer Public Service Award Recipients

In 2021, Foster Garvey established the Pepper Schubert Barer Public Service Awards to celebrate attorneys and staff who have made extraordinary contributions in the arenas of pro bono and community service. The Awards pay homage to the firm's history of public service, as exemplified by the legacies of Lou Pepper, Ken Schubert, Jr. and Stan Barer.



From left to right: Will and his oldest brother, Ray

Will Blockson

Will Blockson, a Records & Document Services Coordinator in the Seattle office, has drawn from his own experiences to serve others and be a leader and advocate in Seattle's kidney disease community. Will has been battling chronic kidney disease for more than a decade and was on dialysis for three years before receiving a new kidney from his oldest brother, Ray. Understanding the frustrations related to the mistreatment and misconception of kidney disease and the lack of awareness surrounding it, Will has taken

an active role in mentoring others afflicted by the disease. He devotes his time to educating young people about the disease, including the symptoms to look out for, resources for finding help, and ways to cope with side effects from medications. He has also been an invaluable contributor to Northwest Kidney Center's annual Kidney Health Fest for approximately 12 years. Additionally, Will volunteered to work with the genetics team at the University of Washington by participating in a four-year study to examine whether genetics play a role in the occurrence of the disease. Will has spoken before Washington state legislators in Olympia about his experiences, expressing the importance of increasing awareness for diagnosis, prevention and treatment. To this day, Will continues to push for increased education about kidney disease. Will is a pillar of strength in the kidney disease community – a counselor and confidant offering steadfast support to those suffering from the disease and mental health challenges that can result from living with it.



Nancy Stephens

Nancy Stephens, a Principal in the Seattle office, has demonstrated a commitment to public service through her longstanding pro bono work across the Puget Sound region and, in particular, by helping organizations aimed at strengthening the African American community. Nancy has donated a substantial portion of her time to representing First African Methodist Episcopal (FAME), the oldest church founded by African Americans in Seattle, which now boasts more than 1,000 members and ministries that serve the poor and the disenfranchised. She has also long volunteered her time and experience in the guidance and development of the MLK FAME Community Center, a non-profit organization and vibrant community hub created by members of FAME. The center fills a gap in the community by providing a meeting place and a reasonably priced multi-purpose venue equipped with auditorium, gymnasium, community room, classroom and conference room. From 2001 to 2018, Nancy served as either the chair of or an advisor for the Youth and Law Forum, an organization focused on bringing together different parts of the African American community to build bridges and foster positive dialogues between youth and law enforcement. Additionally, each year Nancy plays an instrumental role in assisting the Greater Seattle (WA) Chapter of the Links with awarding scholarships to high school seniors of African American descent who have demonstrated exemplary leadership in their family, school and community. This organization has awarded more than \$2 million in scholarships and grants-in-aid to deserving students in the Puget Sound region. Nancy also dedicated several years of time and efforts to serving Foundation House at Northgate, which provided a safe, secure and reliable community for its assisted living and independent living residents until it had to close its doors due to financial difficulties resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nancy also serves as legal advisor to The Washington Rhinestone Club, a nonprofit offering scholarship opportunities to African American young women in their first year of college and is a member of The Seattle Chapter of The Girl Friends which in addition to social activities, provides scholarships to high school students. She continues to offer reduced rates to clients from underserved communities and is generally available to assist Foster Garvey pro bono clients with trademark and copyright matters.

PAUL HEER

Named 2021 "Outstanding Young Lawyer" by the Washington State Bar Association



Paul Heer, an attorney in the firm's Investment Management group in Seattle, was named the 2021 APEX Award Recipient for "Outstanding Young Lawyer" by the Washington State Bar Association (WSBA). He was presented with the award on December 13, 2021, by Washington state Representative Tarra Simmons during a live telecast of the virtual APEX Awards program. The event also included cameo appearances by Supreme Court Justices, legislators and several other prominent leaders from the Washington state legal community.

Each year, the Outstanding Young Lawyer award recognizes one attorney who has made significant contributions to the professional community, especially the community of young lawyers, within their initial years of practice.

The annual APEX — Acknowledging Professional Excellence — Awards honor exemplary members of the Washington state legal community, including legal professionals, judges and members of the public. Each year, the Outstanding Young Lawyer award recognizes one attorney who has made significant contributions to the professional community, especially the community of young lawyers, within their initial years of practice.

Paul was recognized for his devotion to pro bono work and, in particular, his commitment to making structural and institutional change. A hallmark of his pro bono work has been his involvement with

the Seattle Clemency Project, where he also serves as Board President. In conjunction with the Seattle Clemency Project, he has successfully represented two pro bono clients with life or long sentences in their petition for early release. In one of these cases, Washington Governor Jay Inslee adopted the unanimous recommendation of the state's Clemency and Pardons Board and commuted the life sentence of Paul's client, a historic exercise of the Governor's executive clemency power.

Paul was also applauded for the impact he has made beyond the assistance to his clients. His work product, process and approach have been adopted as a standard by local organizations and other pro bono attorneys. Many advocacy groups rely on Paul's guidance and mentorship, and utilize his pro bono work as a template in civil rights litigation and for training the next generation of advocates.

MIKAELA LOUIE

Named Alzheimer's Association 'Volunteer of the Year'



Mikaela Louie, an Associate in the firm's Health Care group in Seattle, has been named the 2021 recipient of the Clacey McNary Volunteer of the Year Award by the Alzheimer's Association Washington State Chapter.

Mikaela was selected as this year's "Volunteer of the Year" out of approximately 580 Alzheimer's Association volunteers throughout the Washington State Chapter service area for her commitment and dedication as a full-mission volunteer serving the support, care, education and research efforts of the organization. She was officially presented with this esteemed honor at the Alzheimer's Association's 2021 Discovery Conference on Friday, April 23, 2021.

"This is truly a well-deserved achievement that speaks volumes about her devotion to the Alzheimer's Association and the important ways she has supported its mission," said Foster Garvey Co-Chair Rafael Stone.

Mikaela's story of becoming involved with the Alzheimer's Association is a personal one. Nearly 10 years ago, her mother was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's disease. From that point on, Mikaela has devoted her time and efforts with the organization to drive a more inclusive narrative, advocate for equitable services and fight for a cure.

Since 2014, Mikaela has served on the Board of Directors for the Alzheimer's Association Washington State Chapter, including in her current role as Board Chair. She also serves as Co-Chair of the chapter's

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee. Additionally, Mikaela is the Alzheimer's Advocacy Ambassador to U.S. Representative Pramila Jayapal of Washington's 7th Congressional District. Since Mikaela embarked on her journey toward a future without Alzheimer's, Congress has approved an additional \$2.5 billion in federal research funding for Alzheimer's disease. Washington state also passed the Alzheimer's State Plan, which aims to provide support to individuals and families living with Alzheimer's and other dementias. Mikaela recently joined the Dementia Action Collaborative, a public-private partnership charged with implementing the Alzheimer's State Plan.

The Clacey McNary Volunteer of the Year Award commemorates one of the Alzheimer's Association Washington State Chapter's most dedicated and dependable volunteers. "We are tremendously proud of Mikaela and the leadership she has brought to an organization that is near and dear to her heart," said Foster Garvey Co-Chair Diana Shukis.

MARY RUFFIN

Presented the University of Washington Law Justice Charles Z. Smith Award for her Distinguished Public Service Work



Mary Ruffin, Law Clerk in Foster Garvey’s Real Estate, Land Use & Environmental Group in Seattle, was selected for the 2020-2021 University of Washington Law Justice Charles Z. Smith award in recognition of her outstanding public service work and exemplary leadership qualities. The award, presented to only one student at University of Washington, Seattle University and Gonzaga University Schools of Law, honors Justice Charles Z. Smith’s legacy

as the first person color to serve as a Justice on the Washington State Supreme Court and his unwavering commitment to advancing justice, equality and public service.

Mary’s compassion and dynamism as a student leader set her apart. Her public service roles at the University of Washington included serving as President of the Black Law Students Association (BLSA), a Board Member of the Minority Law Students Association, and a student liaison at the Washington State Minority and Justice Commission. She was also a member of The Dean’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee.

As the BLSA President, Mary focused heavily on advocating for marginalized students and increasing diversity in the law school. This included regular meetings with the Dean and with university donors to increase scholarship opportunities for first generation law students and increase outreach efforts at the high school and undergraduate level. She also partnered with the Center for Human Rights and Justice to create an annual BLSA scholarship in the amount of

\$10,000-\$15,000 (the William E. Covington Public Interest Scholarship) for underrepresented students participating in public sector internships over their 1L/2L summer. It is entirely student driven and heavily grounded in students supporting one another. Since its inception, the scholarship has provided two students with funding to alleviate the financial burden that comes along with doing much needed public interest work in our local communities. Another unique aspect was that much of the funding effort focused on introducing “A Day’s Pay” donations from students working in the private sector who wanted to support their colleagues pursuing public interest work. Approximately one-third of the funding for this program came from these student donations, with the remaining funds coming from public donations.

Mary's drive and passion to advocate for the underrepresented continues in her work post-law school. She is a member of Foster Garvey's Opportunity Progress Council. She is also currently working on the Nehemiah Initiative, the revitalization of the Church properties within the African American community in the Central District neighborhood of Seattle. Additionally, she is a Board Member of Solid Ground, a Seattle-based organization that provides employment, food and shelter programs and services to help families overcome poverty.

LEADERSHIP TOMORROW'S CLASS OF 2022



Mikaela Louie has been named to the Leadership Tomorrow Class of 2022. Leadership Tomorrow is a Seattle-based organization devoted to cultivating civic leaders from the Puget Sound region. Each year, Leadership Tomorrow selects 80 influential members across the public, private and nonprofit sectors for its 10-month Flagship Program. Class members have all demonstrated a deep commitment to making the region a more equitable and just place for everyone.

The Leadership Tomorrow cohort will examine current issues from a systemic point of view, consider diverse perspectives and practice collaborating across differences. Focus areas for this year's cohort include developing leadership skills; identifying and dismantling systemic racism; understanding regional issues; and building community.

In her legal practice, Mikaela is devoted to helping hospitals and health care providers on a wide range of matters, including regulatory compliance, health information privacy, data security, contracting, licensing, certificates of need and governance. In addition to her work with the Alzheimer's Association Washington State Chapter, Mikaela is also a member of the Board of Directors for The Cross Cultural Health Care Program.

In Memoriam: **STANLEY BARER**

“...we can take comfort from the many ways he changed our lives and our world for the better...”

Stanley Barer passed away peacefully in his Seattle home on December 13, 2021, following a decade-long battle with pancreatic cancer. Stan was a named partner of legacy firm Garvey Schubert Barer and served as Of Counsel to the firm even after his retirement. Foster Garvey's Pepper Schubert Barer Public Service Awards pay homage to Stan's legacy of public service.

After graduating from Walla Walla High School, Stan earned his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Washington, as the first of his family to graduate from college. He then served as legal counsel for the U.S. Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, including helping to write and navigate passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. From 1965 to 1967, he was Assistant U.S. Attorney in Seattle and then returned to Washington, D.C. to serve as Chief of Staff for U.S. Senator Warren Magnuson for five years.



In 1974, Stan joined Garvey Schubert Barer and began what would become a focus of his professional career: rebuilding U.S.-China trade relations, including his watershed 1979 legal opinion that led to the reopening of direct shipping and aviation between the United States and the People's Republic of China for the first time since 1950.

In 1982, Stan co-founded Saltchuk Resources, a family of more than 30 transportation and distribution companies. He served as Chairman of Saltchuk until 1994 and was named Chairman Emeritus in 2001. Stan continued his relationship with Garvey Schubert Barer throughout his long career, serving as Of Counsel until 2019.

In 2010, Stan and his wife Alta founded the Barer Institute for Law & Global Human Services at the University of Washington (UW) School of Law. The Barer Institute focuses on the multidisciplinary role of law in promoting improved outcomes in health, education, economic development and the rule of law in developing countries and countries in political transition, including identifying and mentoring emerging lawyer-leaders who will be at the forefront of developing and implementing innovative solutions to pressing global challenges. Stan also served on the UW's Board of Regents from 2004 to 2012.

Over his career, Stan earned global recognition for his achievements, including the 2021 Gates Volunteer Service Award presented to individuals whose philanthropy and service have taken the UW to new heights. In 2011 and again in 2018, Stan was honored in Beijing at the Great Hall of the People with Lifetime Achievement Awards for his work in furthering relations between China and the United States. In 1996, he was honored with the National Admiral of the Ocean Seas Award, the most prestigious maritime transportation award in the U.S.

“Stan was the one who really enabled trade and commerce between the United States and China, and especially the Pacific Northwest,” former U.S. Ambassador to China and former Washington state Governor Gary Locke said in a tribute to Stan. UW President Ana Marie Cauce wrote: “We will miss Stan dearly, but we can take comfort from the many ways

he changed our lives and our world for the better, including inspiring each of us to lead with our values: to be generous, to live with integrity and to seek the common humanity we all share.” And, Foster Garvey Co-Chair Diana Shukis observed: “Stan set his sights on building connections in an ever-expanding multicultural world and played a central role in breaking down national and international barriers, leaving an indelible impact across the globe.”

Stan was an extraordinary attorney, entrepreneur and philanthropist who profoundly impacted civil rights, politics, international trade and education — a true witness and participant in shaping our collective history.



Photo credit: Courtesy of the University of Washington



The Docking of the M.V. Liu Lin Hai ship at the Port of Seattle in 1979 following a three-decade hiatus of direct shipping relations between the People's Republic of China and the United States



Service to Community Organizations

In 2021, Foster Garvey and its attorneys supported numerous community-focused organizations in the form of pro bono legal assistance, donations and board service.

These organizations include:

ACLU of Washington Foundation	Commercial Real Estate Women	InvestED
Africa Investor	Communities Rise	Issaquah Schools Foundation
Alzheimer's Association, Washington State Chapter	Congregation Beth Shalom of Lawrence	Japan-America Society for the State of Washington
American Heart Association	Congregation Kesser Israel	Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle
American Public Television Stations	Cornish College of the Arts	Jewish Lawyers Guild
Arbor School of Arts & Sciences	Cross Cultural Health Care Program	Judge Charles V. Johnson Youth & Law Forum
Arboretum Foundation	DC Bar Foundation	Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF), Seattle Guild
Aristedes de Sousa Mendes Foundation	Democracy Lab	King County Bar Foundation
Asian Bar Association of Washington	Downtown Seattle Association	Kitsap County Consolidated Housing Authority
ASSISTA Immigration Assistance	Economic Alliance Snohomish County	Korean Bar Association
Auction of Washington Wines	ELC Development	Ladybug House
B'nai B'rith International	Endowment for Equal Justice	Law Firm Antiracism Alliance
Basketball Club of Woodinville	Epilepsy Foundation Legal Defense Fund	Lawyers for Literacy
Benaroya Hall	Federal Bar Association Pro Bono Committee	Leadership Tomorrow
Big Foundation	First AME Church	Legal Foundation of Washington
CASA of Marion County	Forth	Legal Voice
Center for Children & Youth Justice	Foundation House at Northgate	Loren Miller Bar Association
Center for Media Democracy	Free Speech for People	Madeline School Endowment Fund
Central Waterfront Oversight Commission	Friends of Mt. Spokane State Park	Maple Leaf Community Council
Chamwino Connect	Global Minimum	Mentoring & Inspiring Women in Radio
Children's Alliance	Goodwill Baptist Church	Meridian School
Civic Learning Council, WSBA	Healing the Culture	MLK Family Arts Mentoring Enrichment
Classroom Law Project	Innova Foundation	Mother Attorney Mentoring Association (MAMA) Seattle
College Success Foundation	International Community Health Services (ICHS)	Mt. Spokane Ski Patrol
Columbia Legal Services		

Multnomah Bar Foundation	Washington State China Relations Council	Seattle Symphony
Municipal League of King County	Washington State Climate Action Team	Seattle Theater Group
NAACP	Washington State Department of Ecology Advisory Committees on Water Resources, SEPA and Climate Change Impacts	Seattle University
National Association of Broadcasters Leadership Foundation	Washington State Gambling Commission	Seattle University Law School Alumni Board
National Lawyers Guild-Seattle	Washington State Wellesley Club	Shoreline Public Schools Foundation
North Seattle Community Accountability Board	WeApp	Shunpike Arts Collective
Northwest Immigrant Rights Project	Western Rivers Conservancy	Sigma Phi Epsilon Building Corporation
Northwest Indian Bar Association	Women on Boards Project	Snoqualmie Valley Shelter Services
Northwest Justice Project	Oxfam	Sound Cities Association
Northwest Tribal Court Judges Association	Parents for a Better Downtown Seattle	South Asian Bar Association of Washington
Oregon Campaign for Equal Justice	Park Slope Schoolhouse	Spokane Scholars Foundation
Oregon Episcopal School	PHAME	St. Charles Catholic Church
Oregon Innocence Project	Planned Parenthood Columbia Willamette	St. Mark's Cathedral
Oregon PTA	Portland Alumni Chapter of Tri Delta	St. Rose School
Oregon Women Lawyers	Portland Tax Forum	Techbridge Girls
Our Home: Inclusive Community Collaborative	QLaw	The Allen Institute
Oxfam	Quest Center for Integrative Health	The Girl Friends, Seattle Chapter
UW Law, Society & Justice Department Advisory Board	Rainier Valley Corps	The Learning Tree
UW School of Law, Global Business Institute Advisory Board	Rare Genomics Institute	The Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc.
UW School of Law, Global Business Institute Advisory Board	Risk Management Society of Washington	The Links, Greater Seattle Chapter
Veterans Consortium	SABAW Joint Minority Mentorship Program	Union of Reform Judaism
Washington Association of School Administrators	Seattle Children's Theater	United Negro College Fund
Washington Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Seattle Clemency Project	University of Portland, Owen Klinger Scholarship Fund
Washington Council of School Attorneys	Seattle Colleges	University of Washington Foundation
Washington Innocence Project	Seattle Hotel Association	UW Evans School of Public Policy & Governance Advisory Board
Washington Lawyers for the Arts	Seattle Indian Health Board	UW Jackson School of International Studies Advisory Board
	Seattle Jazz Fellowship	
	Seattle Opera	

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