Sharing

Pro Bono and Community Service
A leg up, a helping hand.
Sharing is a simple concept that we embrace—and we have a global wealth of talent and resources to offer. Defending the unjustly accused. Helping struggling entrepreneurs get up and going. Assisting countries around the globe in empowering the impoverished. All around the world, our lawyers and professionals welcome the opportunity to help others by sharing—from pro bono legal services, community service and volunteerism to fund-raising and charitable giving. We have so much to give.
“We value our communities. We support and encourage the active involvement of our people in pro bono and community service.”

: FROM THE BAKER & MCKENZIE CORE VALUE STATEMENT
Baker & McKenzie’s commitment to pro bono and community service is as diverse as the people and places in which we operate. The fluent deployment of our worldwide talent, global legal knowledge, and shared passion to help local communities allows us the unique opportunity to impact some of the most significant and complex issues in the world today. We’re working at both the macro and micro levels to make a difference, as only a firm with our global scale and local knowledge and experience can.

Across our many offices, the range of activities in which we participate naturally varies. But there is a common thread throughout that connects us as a Firm—the efforts of our lawyers and staff to embrace opportunities to help others through pro bono legal services, community service and volunteerism, fund-raising and charitable giving. We believe it’s our responsibility as a global citizen and a privilege that is firmly embedded in our core values.

Social responsibility in our Firm is not an initiative or a professional obligation. Making the Firm a rewarding place to work is a responsibility we have to our communities and to ourselves. We are privileged to use the experience, knowledge and resources of our Firm to promote the values we share and improve access to justice by all.

Sincerely,

John Conroy
Chairman of the Executive Committee
Baker & McKenzie lawyers have recently worked with some of the world’s leading statesmen, jurists, economists and human rights advocates to focus attention on the critical role which the rule of law can play in alleviating poverty. This has been undertaken in support of the Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor.

Co-chaired by former US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Peruvian economist Hernando de Soto, the Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor, hosted by United Nations Development Programme, is the first global initiative to focus specifically on the link between exclusion, poverty and law. Its members include British Prime Minister Gordon Brown, United States Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and former Irish President Mary Robinson, Nobel Prize Laureate Shirin Ebadi of Iran, former President of Brazil Fernando Cardoso and President of the High Court of Benin Clotilde Aniouvi Medegan Nougbode.

The Commission addresses the needs of the world’s poor by recognizing that poverty causes people to live outside of the rule of law, and seeks to influence developing country governments and donor agencies to invest greater resources in targeted legal reforms to reduce poverty.

Our lawyers, working from nations whose great wealth owes much to well written laws and well run courts, supported the Commission’s Working Group on Access to Justice and the Rule of Law. Forty-five of our colleagues were the primary private-sector sources of legal assistance, pro bono, to the Working Group under the chairmanship of former Canadian Foreign Minister and Nobel Prize nominee Lloyd Axworthy.

Working from offices in Chicago, Dallas, London, Melbourne, Miami, New York, Palo Alto, San Diego, San Francisco, Sydney, and Washington DC, our lawyers generated research reports and recommendations in four areas: legal identity; access to legal services; formal and informal justice systems; and legal mechanisms for government accountability.

"I feel absolutely that we must realize that everyone is entitled to access to justice. It is not the privilege of the elite, or of the few who have the power. It is the right of everyone."

: Mary Robinson, UN Commission for the Legal Empowerment of the Poor,
  The Elders, Baker & McKenzie client
SHARING OUR TIME AND TALENT

• Every week, our lawyers visit the Salvation Army Life Centre in Melbourne and Salvation Streetlevel Mission in Sydney to provide legal advice and representation to homeless and disadvantaged individuals in the community on matters spanning public housing and social security to victim compensation and fines. We have helped more than 300 people since we began our weekly commitment in 2004.

• Volunteers from our Dallas, Chicago, San Francisco, Palo Alto, Washington DC, Houston, Miami and Toronto offices joined Habitat for Humanity International and Habitat partner families in building homes in nine cities across North America for the fifth consecutive year. We have helped build more than 30 homes over the past four years during our annual Day in Service.
As its name suggests, microfinance is the practice of making very small, unsecured business loans to poor but enterprising individuals and small groups in developing countries. The borrowers use the loans to acquire implements and materials needed to fashion products and provide services that sustain themselves and their families.

The benefits of microfinance are far out of proportion to the size of the loans, as recognized in the Nobel Peace Prize that was awarded in 2005 for the development of the practice.

Opportunity International is one of the world’s most prominent and effective originators of microfinance loans. And in writing legal documents that capitalize such loan programs, govern the programs in compliance with tax law, and deploy funds according to contributors’ wishes, our lawyers are helping Opportunity International create small businesses that would otherwise not get off the ground but, once begun, contribute significantly to economic development in the form of more secure family life, stronger communities, and more viable societies.

In providing these pro bono services, we are not helping Opportunity International give away money. We are helping Opportunity International lend and recover it at repayment rates that tower in the high 90-percent range.

Typical of the enterprises being financed, Opportunity International issued a loan in Honduras that enabled a village to buy a community oven to bake bread, replacing individual wood fires.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation contributed US$10 million. With our help, the funds were committed for loans to Africans living on less than US$2 per day and without other credit sources.

Opportunity International provides financial services and business training in 28 developing countries in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America. Its current loan portfolio exceeds US$500 million and its annual clientele numbers 1.1 million individuals, four out of five of them women.

“We the lawyers at Baker & McKenzie who provide pro bono counsel on microfinance enjoy the full support of management. Our Firm’s capabilities give us an innate advantage over most of our peers because our global experience and perspective inform all the work we do whether for pro bono or paying clients. We are proud to contribute this insight to be even a small part of Opportunity International’s important work.”

Craig Meland, Partner, Chicago
SETTING THE FOUNDATION

- Lawyers in Sydney spend their lunchtime visiting Bourke Street Primary School, which has a high population of disadvantaged students, to help them improve their reading and literacy skills. Since 2003, the Reach Out And Read! program has benefited more than 70 students, aged between 5 and 10 years old.

- We support the Deakin University and the University of Melbourne’s Willing & Able Mentoring Program by helping prepare students with disabilities—who are in their final year of tertiary study and intent on a legal career—on how to start out in the profession.

- We join the Royal Thai Airforce in providing needed equipment in rural community schools to facilitate satellite TV learning among underprivileged students. We have also built two libraries in the Kanchanaburi and Rachburi provinces.
Reform

:empowering lives

The Public International Law & Policy Group frequently answers the call to provide legal and political counsel to peace negotiations, war crimes tribunals, and in post-conflict constitutional drafting processes.

PILPG has assisted in preparing, drafting, and implementing the new constitution in Iraq during the past four years. Matters reached a critical juncture in 2007. PILPG needed help from a firm long experienced in international law, well versed in comparative constitutional law, and well regarded for insightful, broad-minded analysis. PILPG called on us.

Our colleagues were asked to review and suggest amendments to the Iraqi constitution. We were asked to urgently deliver a redlined version of the constitution tracking our edits and suggestions.

We delivered on the request and in the substance and speed of our contributions – including our proposal for the establishment of a human rights commission – demonstrated that PILPG and a deserving people engaged in a noble cause could count on us.

Among our tasks was a thorough review of the draft for logical and effective sequencing of constitutional provisions and for inconsistencies in concepts, such as the constitutional recognition of women and in the use of words.

We also drafted a new electoral law for Iraq, which was adopted. Electoral law establishes rules and procedures to govern the administration of elections and among other aspects may aim to achieve fair representation among minority groups.

PILPG continues its work on constitution drafting around the world where nations are rebuilding after a return to peace. PILPG professionals work alongside Baker & McKenzie volunteers to provide legal advice and guidance to government officials, Parliament members and others to develop enabling legislation for institutions created by the constitution and laws governing the judiciary, human, women’s and minority rights, and issues of federalism.

“Baker has a cadre of lawyers with an amazing experience, be it corporate, litigation, plus international law. So when we go in, and we’re working with the Iraqi government on amendments to their constitution, when we’re working with the Nepal government on drafting their new constitution, you have this depth of experience that Baker & McKenzie is able to make available to PILPG so that we can be effective and competent lawyers on any question that our clients may ask us.

“It’s very enjoyable to be in a conversation with Baker & McKenzie partners and associates because what they want to talk about is the commitment to making a difference, the commitment to social responsibility, the commitment to making the world a better place.”

: Paul Williams, Executive Director, Public International Law & Policy Group
MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN AUSTRALIA

• Our lawyers successfully lobbied the government for law reforms to give terminal cancer patients under the age of 60 tax breaks on compulsory retirement funds.

• At the request of PILPG, our Australian offices undertook a detailed review of Nepal’s Interim Constitution in the lead up to the April elections.

• We are helping address inequities in the fines system of North South Wales that further marginalize disadvantaged, homeless youth, and have discussed solutions and alternative strategies with key community and government stakeholders.
Asylum: a new home and new hope

People fleeing persecution in their homelands now have a clearer path to security, peace of mind, and opportunity in the UK thanks to a legal breakthrough achieved in part to our contribution as pro bono counsel.

Our lawyers acted for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, intervener in the case of a woman traveling through the United Kingdom on forged documents to flee her native Ethiopia. The House of Lords, the UK’s highest court, ruled on appeal in 2008 that the woman was entitled to the protections afforded by the international Refugee Convention in defending herself against charges filed under UK criminal law, even though the statute implementing the Convention in the UK did not expressly extend protection against the offense with which she was charged.

The decision resolves a significant area of uncertainty for similarly situated refugees, of whom there are many among the millions of persons who have fled beyond their native countries. Our contributions—conducting research, managing documents, and preparing court submissions—extend Baker & McKenzie’s long-standing relationship with the office of the high commissioner, which includes advising UNHCR on its legal intervention strategy in the UK.

With our colleagues acting in a similar role on behalf of the UNHCR, the House of Lords ruled in 2006 in the case of a female who entered the UK at age 15 from her native Sierra Leone that forced female genital mutilation amounted to persecution of women as a social group and therefore the protections of the Refugee Convention apply in such cases.

The United Nations General Assembly established the office of UNHCR in 1950 with a mandate to lead and coordinate international protection of refugees worldwide. UNHCR strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum, find refuge in another state, and return home voluntarily, integrate locally, or resettle in a third country.

In more than five decades, the agency has helped an estimated 50 million people restart their lives.

“The Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees greatly appreciates the expert pro bono legal services provided by Baker & McKenzie which involve the commitment of dedicated legal experts. Without their aid, UNHCR would not be able to respond to the myriad of cases of vital concern to our protection mandate.

The decisions by the House of Lords are hugely important for refugee protection globally and will be cited by courts and lawyers all over the world.”

Jacqueline Parlevliet, Deputy Representative, Officer in Charge UNHCR London
Peace: toward meaningful resolution

A global pro bono law firm that earned a 2005 Nobel Prize nomination for its work in peace negotiations, post-conflict constitutions, and war crimes prosecution asked us to create an international negotiations handbook for warring parties to use after the shooting stops.

The Public International Law & Policy Group has served as legal and international public policy counsel to 50 states and non-state entities including war crimes tribunals in Europe, Asia, and Africa. PILPG found that clients often succeeded in reaching peace conferences only to arrive at their bargaining tables ill-prepared to succeed in the negotiations.

PILPG sought additional counsel that had experience in cross-border advocacy, conflict resolution, corporate law, tax, civil and criminal litigation, and global capability.

Most important, PILPG needed counsel that shared its interest in assuring that key geopolitical peace processes did not fail for lack of skill, training, or legal representation at critical junctures.

With these demanding criteria in mind, PILPG called on us. More than 50 of our colleagues stepped forward. They served pro bono in an extraordinary year-long venture that produced a practical handbook based on our Firm’s principles of negotiation.

The handbook identified three salient points. First, winning or losing on any particular set of issues does not define negotiating success. Rather, success means achieving clearly identified goals and objectives that serve one’s interests. Second, first attempts rarely produce champions. Properly training prior to entering negotiations matters. Third, particular sets of skills need to be developed, techniques applied, and strategies employed to succeed in negotiations of the type and nature being attempted by PILPG and their clients with our support en route to broader peace, truer justice, and sounder societies.

The International Negotiations Handbook: Success Through Preparation, Strategy and Planning has been used in a variety of cases. Negotiators have trained in the United States, United Kingdom and Europe. Copies have been distributed to further reaches of the globe. The overall effect has been such that the handbook has become a publication of choice among PILPG clients.

“PILPG was interested in the approach Baker & McKenzie takes in negotiations. The point is not to reach some mediated resolution that is marginally acceptable to the parties. The point is to achieve your objectives, to achieve lasting success.”

- Tom Linguanti, Partner, Chicago
Children

:safeguarding their future

As the world’s largest independent organization for children worldwide, the International Save the Children Alliance upholds the interests of children around the world, delivering immediate and lasting improvement in the lives of children in over 120 countries worldwide.

As a global law firm with geographic reach equal to the task and expansive legal capabilities, we represent the interests of Save the Children, freeing its staff to concentrate on its important mission.

From emergency relief to long-term development, Save the Children is committed to bring about a better world for children so that they can have happy, healthy and secure childhoods.

The organization listens to children, involves them and ensures their views are taken into account. Save the Children secures and protects children’s rights — to food, shelter, health care, education and freedom from violence, abuse and exploitation. In appreciation of this mission, we became a long-term corporate partner of Save the Children through our London office in 2001. Since then our pro bono counsel has spanned a variety of legal matters in more than 20 countries. We have provided legal services related to merchandising, governance, organizational structure, global management, finance, fund-raising, IT contracts, and data protection. We analyzed and advised the organization on tax issues associated with recruiting a new secretary general in 2008.

A central component of our pro bono service is identifying, managing, and protecting Save the Children trademarks, logo and other intellectual property. This in turn helps to protect a fundamentally important asset, the Save the Children brand, and the many associated benefits. Among them: public recognition, contributor loyalty, and integrity of image that are essential for sustainable, effective service in the communities, countries, and global regions where children most need help.

“Baker & McKenzie provided invaluable help with our ongoing work to protect the Save the Children logo and brand around the world. As a truly global organization we rely on a strong, consistent identity that creates trust and understanding in an organization.”

Charlotte Petri-Gornitzka, Secretary General, International Save the Children Alliance
MEETING SPECIAL NEEDS

- We provide pro bono legal advice and raise funds for the local Ronald McDonald Centre Only Friends in Amsterdam, a unique sports facility designed for disabled and chronically ill children. We are also a Business Ambassador of War Child, a network of independent organizations working across the world to help children affected by war to deal with war experiences and to stimulate their personal development.

- Together with clients, our Manila member firm hosts an annual holiday party for orphans and street children residing at the Department of Social Welfare and Development’s Nayon ng Kabataan (Children’s Village). We also hold a monthly tutorial session for the facility’s first to fourth grade students as part of our Reading and Feeding Program, and helped purchase needed textbooks and other educational materials.
Community

: doing our part

Pro bono service by our lawyers reduces the legal expenses of Women for Women International and enables the organization to devote more resources directly to helping women in war-racked regions and oppressed societies.

Women for Women International already enjoyed pro bono assistance from one prominent firm when it set out to internationalize its US-based programs. It was beyond the firm’s pro bono capabilities, however, to cut a Gordian knot of corporate, tax, and regulatory issues surrounding the structuring of a business model best suited to the organization’s global mission. Based on recommendations by existing pro bono counsel, Women for Women International went to us specifically for a solution to such complexity.

Women for Women International provides material aid, rights education and job skills training to help women survivors in Bosnia, Congo, Kosovo and other places of civil war move from crisis and poverty to stability and self-sufficiency.

Their mission is to empower women who have survived conflict to regain their health, well-being and economic independence so they can become confident role models, entrepreneurs and community leaders.

Our colleagues also provide pro bono service to NetHope, a non-profit consortium of leading international NGOs actively using communications technology to strategically support relief, human development and conservation programs in more than 180 countries. NetHope members share IT resources to accelerate program response, collectively solve common technology challenges, improve operational efficiencies and maximize technology spending.

Helping NetHope enhance the way they share expertise and resources allows us to be a positive factor in improving hundreds of millions of lives in the remotest areas of the world.

Besides providing legal advice as to a corporate structure that accommodates its sustained success and growth, we help NetHope negotiate common agreements to get standardized, discounted rates from telecom, teleconference, web hosting and other service providers. Further, we are helping advise on the legal issues entailed with NetHope’s creation and implementation of a shared services model that, while common in the private sector, may set a best practice precedent for non-profit organizations.

"NetHope is setting a new standard for shared services in the global community of non-governmental organizations. It is a pleasure to help NetHope realize its vision, but even greater is the honor of being associated with its achievements."

-Peter Tomczak, Associate, Chicago

"It is always useful to find causes where you have a particular expertise and can be helpful – and the cause of Women for Women International is clearly commendable. It’s just that combination that appeals to me as one who is looking for opportunities to make meaningful contributions to especially worthwhile causes."

-Bob Hudson, Principal, Miami
**RISE TO THE CAUSE**

• Lawyers from our member firm in Kuala Lumpur, Wong & Partners, review various commercial contracts and policy agreements for the *Malaysian Federation of the Deaf*. The Federation helps advance the interests and rights of the hearing impaired through initiatives such as lobbying the government for equal opportunities.

• Through their pro bono relationship with the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, our Australia offices provide legal advice and representation to cancer patients who would otherwise be unable to afford a lawyer. In this first-of-its-kind legal clinic, we assist cancer patients on issues spanning powers of attorney, accessing superannuation, social security and income protection insurance.

• Hadiprutanto, Hadinoto & Partners, our member firm in Jakarta, serves as adviser to *Indonesia Business Links*, a non-profit foundation we helped establish in 2001 that raises awareness on corporate social responsibility (CSR) and provides a platform for companies to demonstrate leadership in effective CSR practices. The foundation convened the first CSR conference in Indonesia in 2006 and the second in 2008.
inspiring commitment and change

Earth Hour Ltd. inspires people by the millions to unite for one hour every year in a simultaneous commitment to help preserve a natural resource of outsize proportion, the climate of the planet.

Our Firm stands among the world’s very first to have recognized that growing interest in climate management across international borders would spawn a new area of law and that competence in its practice would drive progress in realizing so large an undertaking.

That these two forward-looking organizations should have joined forces seems, then, only natural.

Our collaboration with Earth Hour began after its inaugural event March 31, 2007. An estimated 2.2 million persons and 2,100 businesses in Sydney turned off their lights for one hour.

The success in Sydney fired ambition around the world, not all of it pure altruism. Earth Hour needed trademark protection.

So while our climate change practice drew us to the Earth Hour cause, it was our strong capabilities in intellectual property and trademark licensing, along with corporate structure, tax, and governance that helped Earth Hour to mature for the global stage.

On March 29, 2008, a beneficial darkness enveloped 50 million persons in 35 countries across seven continents and 18 time zones. The light of climate awareness had spread by an order of magnitude beyond the founding participants of Sydney. The appointed hour found our offices in Australia and—halfway around the globe—Chicago temporarily blacked out. The lights came back on as planned, but our offices’ energy consumption remained in permanent decline, while our commitment went on uninterrupted as our lawyers began preparing for Earth Hour Saturday, March 28, 2009.

"When Kyoto was signed, one of our partners in Sydney recognized that an entirely new area of law was about to emerge. Hardly anybody else in the legal profession took notice. Our executive committee said to run with it. Baker & McKenzie honors the entrepreneurial spirit. We enjoy the culture, and our clients enjoy the benefits."

— Byron Angelopulo, Partner, Sydney
The growth of Earth Hour over the last two years reflects the desire of individuals and businesses to begin the journey of addressing climate change. Baker & McKenzie was the first law firm to offer us their help — not only in protecting this unique brand but also in spreading its message.

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INVESTING IN A GREENER PLANET

- Our lawyers and staff provide financial aid and volunteer services to the Royal Thai Navy to help conserve mangrove trees and sea turtles in the Chonburi province. We are also assisting with the development of a new section in the Naval Museum designed to facilitate learning and a better appreciation for environmental issues.
Teaming up with clients

“I felt so fortunate to have had the opportunity to team with Baker & McKenzie when I was in-house. It’s wonderful to focus exclusively on pro bono work now and to help the Firm foster even more volunteer legal services through collaborations. The Firm really is well-positioned to team with its clients to serve local communities where we have offices and where our clients operate, and to assist on a global basis as we work with multinational clients on cross-border projects.”  

MADELEINE SCHACTER

At the forefront of pro bono teaming

In addition to the Firm’s service to the community, we actively engage in-house counsel in pro bono projects. For the Firm’s pioneering work in pro bono client teaming, we have been recognized with the first Corporate Pro Bono Partnering Award from the Pro Bono Institute.

Over the years, our efforts have spanned transactional matters, litigation in state and federal trial and appellate courts, counseling not-for-profit entities, international strategic policy counseling, and many others. Because of the Firm’s extraordinary breadth of pro bono legal services, clients can team with us on a broad range of initiatives, from community service projects that create synergies among employee volunteerism and corporate social responsibility to legal pro bono counseling. We also can help in-house counsel launch or expand companies’ pro bono programs.

We are the first law firm to hire a full-time experienced in-house lawyer to direct our client teaming pro bono practice.

DEDICATED COUNSEL

• Madeleine Schacter, our Special Counsel, Pro Bono, works exclusively on pro bono matters in an active practice representing pro bono clients and directing the Firm’s pro bono client teaming practice. For example, she recently teamed with in-house counsel to represent an international not-for-profit organization to analyze a proposed freedom of information law for the Republic of Yemen, and she participated in a workshop in Amman, Jordan with members of the Yemeni Parliament to re-draft the law.

Madeleine has several years of experience at a large law firm, two decades of in-house counsel experience, and extensive pro bono and public interest service. She is a founder and former chair of the Corporate Counsel for Pro Bono Coordinators, chair of the NYC Bar Association’s Pro Bono and Legal Services Committee, and member of the NY State Bar Association President’s Committee on Access to Justice.
Achieving more together

Collaboration between our lawyers and our clients in pro bono and community service initiatives enables us to enhance our contribution to our communities.

Our Monterrey office organizes an annual Golf Tournament to raise funds for Destellos de Luz ABP, a non-profit organization dedicated to preventing and treating blindness among low-income families in the community, and engages clients to participate.

At our annual Habitat for Humanity Wills Clinic in Toronto, we worked with Manulife Financial to provide wills and powers of attorney for families who have received housing through Habitat for Humanity.

Our pro bono activities in Kyiv involve helping facilitate the purchase of a multipurpose flow cytometer system for the Children’s Ward of the Institute of Oncology of the Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine. The instrument makes it possible to detect and precisely determine specific cancer types, even at the early stages of formation.

Under our Student Mentoring Programs, our staff mentor promising Year 9 students who are at risk of disengaging from school—sometimes as a result of unstable or violent home situations. ANZ joins our efforts to mentor students in Reservoir District Secondary College in Melbourne, and Merrill Lynch, in Chifley College, Mt Druitt in Sydney. This pioneering and effective youth mentoring program, which has assisted more than 150 children in less than five years, is now being implemented in other law firms, corporations and government departments.

Our Pen Pal Program, run with the New South Wales Department of Education, has given us an avenue to help raise literacy and motivate students in rural and remote areas to attend school. Since 2004, volunteer lawyers have exchanged letters with close to 600 students in Goodooga, Lightning Ridge, Walgett, and Hermindale, and sent books and educational puzzles. Today, the students also have pen pals with volunteers from ANZ and Merrill Lynch.

THE POWER OF TEAMING

- Our successful pro bono collaborations with clients have included:
  - Naturalization and immigration advocacy
  - Protection of children’s rights
  - Representation of survivors of domestic violence and child abuse
  - Representation of children with learning disabilities in proceedings to secure special education services
  - Development of strategic proposals for specific nations in conflict or seeking post-conflict stabilization
  - Challenges to the practices of predatory lenders

FOSTERING THE ARTS

- Our Amsterdam office sponsors the 20th century photo collection of the Rijksmuseum, a showcase of works by important Dutch and international photographers from the period. We also support the Committee for the Concertgebouw Foundation (Stichting Comité voor het Concertgebouw) which annually stages around 400 musical performances in The Netherlands that feature local and international artists across a broad range of musical genres.
Corporate Responsibility Award – Foreign Policy Association (2008)
In recognition of the Firm’s social responsibility efforts worldwide supporting various initiatives to promote the rule of law. The event marked the first time a law firm has ever been a recipient for this award generally recognizing global corporations committed to social responsibility

LitSupport CSR Firm of the Year – Mettle ALB Australasian Law Awards (2008) In acknowledgment of the Firm’s lead as an early adapter in helping clients meet their CSR obligations, particularly as regards climate change and the environment and the launch of the Clean Development Mechanism Rulebook

Award of Appreciation – President of the Republic of Indonesia (2008) For our support and contributions toward the reconstruction and other development efforts in Aceh province and the island of Nias, which were devastated by an earthquake and tsunami in December 2004

Distinguished Service Award for Outstanding Pro Bono Representation – Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates, Inc. (2008) For our work with COPAA on various projects aimed towards protecting the educational and civil rights of children with disabilities

Recognition – LINK Unlimited (2008) For more than 30 years of support to Chicago’s oldest scholarship and mentoring organization serving economically-disadvantaged African American youth

ACHS Quality Improvement Award – Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (2007) In acknowledgment of our Cancer Patients’ Legal Service at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute

National Literacy and Numeracy Minister’s Award – New South Wales Department of Education and Training (2007) For our efforts to improve literacy in rural and disadvantaged communities through our Pen Pal Program, providing learning support to more than 300 students in public education
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Baker & McKenzie defined the global law firm of the 20th century and is redefining it to meet the needs of the global economy of the 21st century.

Our clients tell us what makes us unique and special is the way we combine an uncompromising commitment to excellence with fluency in the way we think, work and behave—an instinctively global perspective, commercially pragmatic advice, a genuinely multi-cultural approach and a passion for collaborative relationships. With 3,900 lawyers in 38 countries, we have deep understanding of the language and culture of business the world over and are able to bring the talent and experience needed to navigate complexity across practices and borders with ease.