

# LAWYERS ALLIANCE FOR NEW YORK

## INDIVIDUAL HONOREE

**ANDREW DALIN**, *Dentons US LLP*

**Expert and practical volunteer helps nonprofits navigate complex employee benefit issues**

Pro bono employment law support is one of the most needed areas of legal assistance to nonprofits, yet it's incredibly difficult to come by. Andrew Dalin has helped a variety of nonprofits in New York City navigate complex employment law and employee benefits issues, dedicating countless hours to helping these organizations. A notable example is his work with the **New York Immigration Coalition** (NYIC), where he played a significant role in developing the organization's Employee Manual and Retirement Plan. This legal work enables NYIC to better serve its dedicated employees who work tirelessly to support immigrant and refugee organizations throughout New York City. Additionally, Mr. Dalin invested more than 100 hours assisting the **Queens Community House**. He provided crucial guidance on its 403(b) plan, resulting in cost savings for the organization, enhanced Board governance, and improved employee benefits. Mr. Dalin first volunteered with Lawyers Alliance in 2008, when he provided assistance on a pension plan for **Forestdale**, a social service and welfare organization which serves approximately 3,500 clients each year from high-need communities throughout Brooklyn and Queens, ensuring retirement security for its employees.

**Q. How and why did you first become involved with Lawyers Alliance?**

Dentons has always encouraged pro bono work. I found Lawyers Alliance to be the perfect partner as the nonprofit sector has a great need for pro bono assistance with retirement plan matters.

**Q. Share a tip for making time for pro bono.**

Once you accept a pro bono client matter, the client should be given the same attention as any other client.

**Q. Share a fun or unexpected moment from pro bono work through Lawyers Alliance.**

Working closely with the staff at pro bono clients and learning about the great services they provide to their communities has been very rewarding.

**Q. What's the most rewarding aspect of pro bono work?**

Navigating the client to a positive result and the sincere thanks received from them is the most rewarding aspect.

"I worked with Andrew Dalin when I was at New York Immigration Coalition and then reached out to him when I started at Queens Community House. For both NYIC and QCH, Andrew explained the complex governing legal framework and then helped us comply in a practical, user-friendly way. This has allowed QCH to provide compliant benefit programs to its staff and created a solid foundation for the organization to bring on more staff to carry out expanded programming. In fact, QCH grew almost 50% in the time Andrew was working with us."

— Sara Rakita

*Chief Operating Officer, Queens Community House*



**Employment:**

Dentons US LLP  
*Counsel, Pensions,  
Benefits and Executive  
Compensation Practice*

**Graduate of:**

Pace University School of  
Law

**Lawyers Alliance clients:**

Forestdale  
Kingsbridge Heights  
Community Center  
New York Immigration  
Coalition  
Queens Community  
House