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Volunteer Attorney Accomplishment for Internal and External News

Date:March 9, 2017Name of Attorney:Greg DolinskyName of Firm:Dechert LLP

Client Served: PIBLY Residential Programs (PIBLY)

Accomplishment: Helped PIBLY Residential Programs negotiate a commercial lease for additional office space in the Bronx to accommodate a growing staff and expansion of services for adults with mental illness.

Specific Case Highlights: PIBLY Residential Programs provides safe, affordable housing and supportive services for more than 500 adults in the Bronx with mental illness. PIBLY provides a range of transitional and permanent housing alternatives offering various degrees of support and supervision. Services are designed to promote independence and successful community integration.

In 2013 New York State reached a settlement allowing residents of adult homes with mental illness to live more independently, creating a path to live in their own homes with supportive services. PIBLY Residential Programs was chosen by the New York State Office of Mental Health to be the housing provider for the approximately 330 affected individuals in Bronx County.

Greg Dolinsky of **Dechert LLP** volunteered to assist PIBLY in negotiating a commercial lease for additional office space. The process of finding and securing space ultimately took months, as an initial deal didn't work out. In December 2016, PIBLY signed a lease for space on Westchester Avenue in the Bronx. The space is being renovated and will be ready for occupancy this month. The new office space will accommodate 13 additional staff members who are working on the first phase of this initiative.

Thomas Jennings, Executive Director of PIBLY Residential Programs, said, "We negotiate residential leases for our clients, but don't often enter into commercial leases and needed legal assistance as we searched for our new office space. Greg inspired confidence and was always remarkably responsive to our needs and time pressures. He left no stone unturned during our search and made us feel like an important client."

About Lawyers Alliance: Lawyers Alliance for New York is the leading provider of business and transactional legal services for nonprofit organizations and social enterprises that are improving the quality of life in New York City neighborhoods. By connecting lawyers, nonprofits, and communities, Lawyers Alliance for New York helps organizations to develop affordable housing, stimulate economic development, promote community arts, strengthen urban health, and operate and advocate for vital programs for children and young people, the elderly, and other low-income New Yorkers. During the past year, staff attorneys at Lawyers Alliance worked with 1,600 volunteer attorneys to represent approximately 700 nonprofit clients on 1,200 matters.

Inquiries: Please contact Marketing and Communications Manager Emily Crossan at 212-219-1800 ext. 233 or ecrossan@lawyersalliance.org with questions or requests for additional information.