



Harter Secret & Emery LLP

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HARTER SECREST & EMERY RECEIVES LAW FIRM COMMITMENT AWARD FROM ERIE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROJECT

Buffalo, New York, December 11, 2018 – [Harter Secret & Emery LLP](#), a full-service business law firm with offices throughout New York, was recently honored by the [Erie County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project](#) (VLP) with the organization’s [Law Firm Commitment Award](#). The award was presented during VLP’s 2018 Pro Bono Awards reception.

The Law Firm Commitment Award honors the many ways in which a law firm assists VLP and the organization’s low-income clients. In presenting this year’s award to Harter Secret & Emery, VLP recognized HSE and its attorneys for being active supporters of the organization for nearly 30 years. Throughout decades of service to VLP, attorneys from Harter Secret & Emery have been active volunteers in the Pro Se Assistance Program (PSAP), have provided significant pro bono leadership and counsel to VLP clients, and have served on the VLP board of directors.

VLP officials made particular note of Harter Secret & Emery’s pro bono policy that not only urges attorneys to perform at least 50 hours of pro bono service annually, but treats authorized pro bono service as billable time.

“The work that VLP does on behalf of the most vulnerable members of our community exemplifies service and a commitment to justice,” said [John G. Horn](#), partner in charge of Harter Secret & Emery’s Buffalo office, and an active VLP volunteer. “Our firm, and the individual attorneys who practice at Harter Secret & Emery, value the tremendous good that VLP does on a daily basis. We are honored to work with and support VLP, and we are humbled by this recognition.”

[Lauren R. Mendolera](#), a senior associate in Harter Secret & Emery’s Litigation practice, currently serves on the VLP board of directors. Other Harter Secret & Emery attorneys identified by VLP for their

contributions to the organization include partners [Anthony D. Mancinelli](#) and [Amy L. Hemenway](#), and associates [Chloe J. Macdonald](#), [Anna S.M. McCarthy](#), and [Greg Scholand](#), among others.

The staff and volunteers at VLP provide free legal services to low income households and small not-for-profit groups in Western New York. A 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, VLP provides services by utilizing both its staff and a network of volunteers to represent clients. VLP offers a number of limited scope legal service opportunities for clients, helping them overcome obstacles so they can return their focus to supporting their families and keeping them safe. Created in 1983, VLP recruits, trains, and assists attorneys who volunteer to represent the organization’s clients on a pro bono basis.

About Harter Secrest & Emery LLP

Harter Secrest & Emery LLP is a full-service business law firm providing legal services to clients ranging from individuals and family-owned businesses to Fortune 100 companies and major regional institutions. With offices in Buffalo, Rochester, Albany, Corning, and New York City, New York, the firm is a recognized leader in litigation, corporate, employee benefits, environmental and land use, health care, higher education, immigration, Intellectual Property, labor and employment, real estate, and trusts and estates law. Harter Secrest & Emery has 35 *U.S. News - Best Lawyers* 2019 “Best Law Firms” top tier metropolitan practice group rankings—more Western New York rankings than any other law firm. The firm has been top ranked in *Chambers USA* for Corporate/M&A, Litigation, Immigration and Real Estate law and 45 attorneys are recognized as *The Best Lawyers in America*® for 2019. For more information visit www.hsela.com.

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