



Tamara Serwer Caldas

Pro Bono Partner

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Tamara Serwer Caldas heads the firm's Pro Bono Program and leads the firm's attorneys in providing pro bono legal services to low-income clients, community groups and nonprofit organizations.

Prior to joining the firm, Ms. Caldas served as Deputy Director of the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation (AVLF) since 2011. She worked with AVLF in a number of capacities since joining in September 2005, including serving as Managing Attorney since 2007. At AVLF, she developed civil pro bono projects that met the personal attorney and professional needs of attorneys while advancing the ideals of justice and fair treatment of all people in the legal system. Prior to joining AVLF, Ms. Caldas was an attorney in the Atlanta office of a Georgia-based adoption and assisted reproductive technologies law firm, where she handled adoptions, guardianships and legitimation and custody proceedings. Previously, Ms. Caldas served as a Senior Staff Attorney for the Southern Center of Human Rights. Among other duties, she recruited and worked with pro bono counsel to support large-scale civil rights litigations and served as lead or co-counsel for civil rights actions in federal and state trial and appellate courts challenging unconstitutional conditions of confinement on behalf of people incarcerated in Alabama and Georgia.

After graduating from law school, Ms. Caldas served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Martha Craig Daughtrey for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in Nashville, Tennessee. While attending law school, she clerked for the Honorable Bea Ann Smith of the Third Court of Appeals of Texas and led the school's Women's Law Caucus and Public Interest Law Association. She also spent several months at the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, Alabama, assisting with civil rights lawsuits on behalf of immigrants, prisoners and death row inmates.

Ms. Caldas has received numerous awards and recognitions over the years. She was honored in 2017 by the *Fulton County Daily Report* with its "Distinguished Leader" Award. In 2013, Ms. Caldas received the Rita A. Sheffey Public Interest Award from the Atlanta Bar Association and the EPIC Inspiration Award: *Unsung*



Devotion to Those Most in Need awarded by Emory University. In 2008, she was a recipient of the Harold Keller Public Service Leadership Award by the Stennis Center for Public Service Leadership. In 2003, Ms. Caldas was recognized as a Georgia Lawyer “On the Rise” by the *Fulton County Daily Report*. She is a certified mediator.

Education

University of Texas School of Law, J.D. (1997) *with honors*

LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas, Master of Public Affairs (1997)

Princeton University, A.B., English, Certificate in Theater and Dance (1992) *cum laude*

Admissions

Georgia (1999)

Texas (1998)

Court Admissions

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia (1999)

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit (2001)

Clerkships

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit - Honorable Martha Craig Daughtrey (Sep 1997-Sep 1998)

Professional & Community Activities

Anti-Defamation League of Atlanta, Class Leadership Program, Member (2012-2013)

Congregation Bet Haverim, Education Committee, Chair (2013-2014)

Congregation Bet Haverim, Board of Directors, Member (2013-2014)

Housing Georgia, Steering Committee (2013-2014)

Atlanta Bar Association, Public Interest Law Section, Executive Committee (2011-2013)

Health Education Law Partnership, Advisory Council, Member (2012-2013)

American Bar Foundation, Fellow (2007-2013)

Insights

[News Releases](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Receive USPTO Patent Pro Bono Achievement Certificates

May 1, 2020



[Perspectives](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend's 2019 Pro Bono By the Numbers

March 17, 2020

[Publications](#)

A Whirlwind Tour at the Mexican Border Cuts Through the Noise

January 22, 2020

[In The News](#)

2019 Colorado Super Lawyers Pro Bono Spotlight on Giving

April 24, 2019

[In The News](#)

The Extra Mile: Kilpatrick Townsend

April 23, 2019

[News Releases](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend Honored for Pro Bono Work at Atlanta Bar Association's "Celebrating Service" Event

November 1, 2018

[In The News](#)

Pro Bono Honorees Recognized for Battling 'Ordinary Injustice'

October 24, 2018

[In The News](#)

Kilpatrick Wins Asylum for Transgender Woman in Hard-Fought Pro Bono Case

May 29, 2018

[News Releases](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend Serves as Co-Counsel with Southern Poverty Law Center in Department of Homeland Security Suit

April 4, 2018

[In The News](#)

Professional Excellence 2017: Distinguished Leaders, Tamara Serwer Caldas

July 1, 2017



[News Releases](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend Joins Other Law Firm Leaders for Legal Aid Funding

March 10, 2017

[Alerts](#)

KT is...Pro Bono · Clemency

March 9, 2017

[In The News](#)

SPLC Launches Pro Bono Project to Ensure Detained Immigrants Have Access to Counsel

March 7, 2017

[News Releases](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend Honored for "Global Citizenship – Pro Bono Dispute of the Year" by The American Lawyer

October 1, 2015

[News Releases](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend Receives Pro Bono Law Firm Award From Children's Law Center of Central North Carolina

September 23, 2015

[In The News](#)

The Slave Next Door

August 1, 2015

[News Releases](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend Ranks in the Top 20% Of the American Lawyers' Pro Bono Survey

July 15, 2015