

Foley Hoag Attorneys Participate in New BBA Service Innovation Project

Legal professionals, organizations and state agencies gathered to discuss the cradle-to-prison pipeline issue.

Pro Bono Managing Attorney **Rebecca Cazabon**, associate **Caroline Donovan** and counsel **Chris Hart** were recently involved in a briefing discussion at the **Boston Bar Association (BBA)** regarding the cradle-to-prison pipeline issue.



The cradle-to-prison pipeline is the disproportionate tendency of minors and young adults from minority and disadvantaged backgrounds to become incarcerated due to increasingly harsh school policies that often dovetail directly into the juvenile justice and criminal justice systems. The briefing discussion was the first step in the Boston Bar Association's new Service Innovation Project, which seeks to engage lawyers in service and help create innovative solutions that address systemic injustices in the community.

Chris and Caroline participated in the various discussions along with lawyers from other firms, legal services organizations, advocacy groups and state agencies. Rebecca served as Chair of the Advisory Committee for the event.

Speakers for the event included Jessica Berry, Deputy Director, Children's Law Center of Massachusetts; Hon. Jay D. Blitzman, First Justice for the Middlesex Juvenile Court and Presiding Justice, Lowell Juvenile Court; Matt Cregor, Education Project Director, The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Economic Justice; Prof. Susan A. Maze-Rothstein, Teaching Professor and Director of the Legal Skills in Social Context (LSSC) Program, Northeastern University School of Law; Janelle Ridley, Boston Public Schools; and Marlies Spanjaard, Director of Education Advocacy, The EdLaw Project.

After a panel discussion on the issue, experts facilitated interactive breakout groups with attendees to encourage dialogue around how the bar can bring forth much needed solutions.

Foley Hoag Attorneys Offer Free Legal Help to Small Businesses at "BizGrow"

Partners **Daniel Clevenger**, **Patrick Connolly**, **Jennifer Audeh**, and summer associates **Alissa Clarke**, **Patricia Perez**, and **Alyssa Pratt** recently participated in **BizGrow**, an annual event hosted by the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Economic Justice that connects small businesses with free legal consultations and technical business support.

Over 280 entrepreneurs registered to attend this year's BizGrow event, which featured more than 20 technical assistance workshops on topics such as contracts, lease negotiation, raising capital, doing business online, health insurance, and more. Attorney volunteers also provided entrepreneurs with free one-on-one consultations to discuss their legal questions or issues concerning their small businesses. Those interested in receiving ongoing legal assistance were referred to law firms for pro bono counsel.

In one afternoon, BizGrow is able to help hundreds of entrepreneurs, who otherwise may not have access to critical legal and business resources.

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