

Partner, Chicago

Pro Bono



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Education

J.D., Georgetown University
Law Center, 2002

B.A., University of Michigan, 1998

Bar Admissions

Illinois

New York

Associations

Founding Co-President, Law Firm
Antiracism Alliance

Former President, Association of
Pro Bono Counsel

Past Member, Board of Directors,
Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil
Rights

Past Executive Committee, New York
City Bar Association

Past Member, Board of Directors,
National Center for Access to Justice

Past Chair, New York City Bar
Association, Pro Bono and Legal
Services Committee

Past Chair, Sanctuary for Families Pro
Bono Council; Member of Sanctuary for
Families Legal Advisory Council

Brenna DeVaney leads Skadden's global *pro bono* practice, directing the firm's strategy, partnerships and delivery of *pro bono* services across offices worldwide. In this role, she manages the firm's relationships with leading legal services organizations, nonprofits and other external stakeholders, and works closely with corporate legal departments to design and expand innovative in-house *pro bono* programs and cross-sector collaborations. She also has extensive experience in large-scale legal mobilization and disaster response, coordinating rapid, high-impact legal efforts in times of crisis.

Ms. DeVaney's practice reflects a long-standing commitment to access to justice. She represents low-income individuals, including survivors of domestic violence, in family law matters, while also shaping firmwide initiatives that broaden the reach and impact of *pro bono* services globally.

A recognized leader in the *pro bono* community, Ms. DeVaney is the founding co-president of the Law Firm Antiracism Alliance, a coalition of law firms working collectively to address systemic racism. She is also a planner of Pando, a national *pro bono* leadership summit that brings together leaders across the legal profession to advance collaboration and innovation in *pro bono* practice.

Ms. DeVaney frequently speaks at national and international events that focus on *pro bono* leadership, access to justice and law firm-corporate partnerships. She also serves as an adjunct professor at University of Michigan Law School and Northwestern Pritzker School of Law.

Earlier in her career, Ms. DeVaney was a member of the firm's Government Enforcement and White Collar Crime Group, where she represented individual and corporate clients in federal and state criminal and regulatory matters and conducted internal investigations.

Ms. DeVaney has been recognized for her service by organizations such as the New York City Bar Justice Center, Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, the Legal Aid Society, Sanctuary for Families and the New York Family Court Volunteer Attorney Program.

Selected Publications

"Justice-Driven Pro Bono: Building Pro Bono Programs That Tackle the Justice Gap," *Reuters Legal News*, December 6, 2024

"Pro Bono's Superpower: Radical Connection," *Reuters Legal News*, October 2, 2024

"Pro Bono's Next Step: Applying a Practice-Based and Industry-Sector Approach," *Reuters*, July 15, 2024

"Large-Scale Legal Mobilization: A Model for Effective Pro Bono Collaboration," *Westlaw Today*, October 16, 2023

"The Law Firm Antiracism Alliance: Maintaining Momentum," *New York Law Journal*, January 12, 2022

"Why Now? Year One of the Law Firm Antiracism Alliance," *Reuters Legal News*, August 10, 2021