



2022-2023 Committee Year Highlights

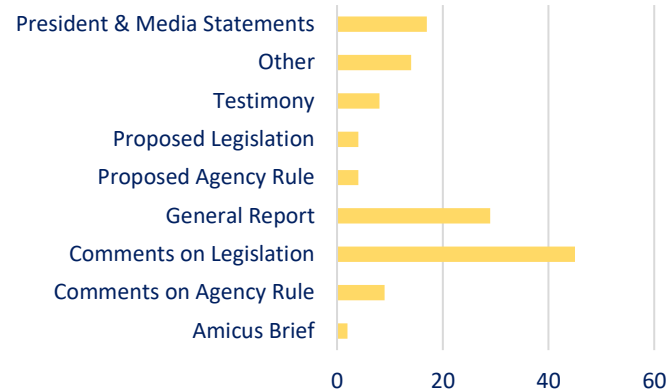
POLICY DEPARTMENT

Covering the Period of Sept. 1, 2022 – Aug. 31, 2023

NEW YORK CITY HIGHLIGHTS

- Issued a statement opposing the Adams Administration’s efforts to make the provision of shelter to unhoused persons in NYC discretionary rather than a legal obligation
- Submitted testimony to the City Council in support of legislation to further limit communication between City agencies and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
- Presented testimony to the NYC Council regarding the Mayor’s new directive on “mental health involuntary removals”
- Urged Mayor Adams and Schools Chancellor Banks to swiftly investigate substantial claims of inadequate education in any of NYC’s schools; separately, urged the Mayor and Chancellor Banks to include a financial literacy requirement in the NYC high school curriculum

TYPES OF REPORTS ISSUED



INTERNATIONAL WORK

- Issued multiple statements on the independence of lawyers and judges, including: condemning the attempted assassination of Philippine lawyer Karen Quinanola-Gonzales; urging Bolivia to implement the UN Special Rapporteur’s recommendations to strengthen judicial independence; condemning the assassination of Mexican judge Roberto Elias Martinez; requesting intervention on Reza Khandan’s arrest in Iran; deploring the persecution of lawyers representing anti-corruption journalist José Rubén Zamora in Guatemala; criticizing the criminalization and sentencing of Virginia Laparra and other anti-corruption prosecutors and judges in Guatemala; and condemning the Mexican President’s attacks on judicial independence
- Joined the UN Global Compact, which includes a commitment to champion and further human rights, climate change mitigation, sustainable development, and anti-corruption goals
- On the 30th Anniversary of World Press Freedom Day, urged the Russian Federation to release WSJ journalist Evan Gershkovich and to end its systematic attacks on press freedom
- Issued a statement condemning the death of Ms. Mahsa Amini and the Iranian Government’s use of force against peaceful protesters; condemned the illegitimate Russian referenda held in the Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk, and Zaporizhzhia regions and the subsequent illegal annexation of these Ukrainian territories by Russia; and wrote a letter to the Nigerian government and presidential candidates urging that they enable and protect free and fair general elections

NEW YORK STATE HIGHLIGHTS

- Supported several bills in connection with the NYS budget that were signed into law, including: support for the judiciary budget and civil legal services funding; support for Homeowner Protection Program (HOPP) funding; increased funding for immigration legal services; and funding for NYS’s Public Campaign Financing Program
- Released a report and recommendations promoting racial equity in NYS courts and full implementation of Secretary Jeh Johnson’s 2020 recommendations; submitted testimony for a public hearing of the Pandemic Practices Working Group of the Commission to Reimagine the Future of New York’s Courts; and released comments on the future of the New York Bar Exam
- Supported multiple bills that passed both houses and await action by the Governor, including: repeal of Judiciary Law § 470 to permit nonresident NY-licensed attorneys to practice in the state without maintaining office space in NY; increased use of unsworn declarations in place of notarized affidavits or affirmations to promote efficiency in state civil proceedings; the “Clean Slate Act” which automatically seals criminal conviction records for civil purposes after reasonable waiting periods; and the Preserving Family Bonds Act which would give Family Court judges the discretion to order continued contact between children and their families of origin after a parent’s rights are terminated

142 Reports issued or updated

54% 74 committees drafted or signed onto reports



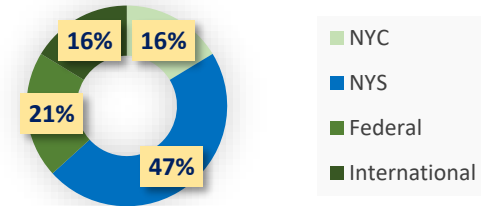
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- Saw progress on several priority bills, including: a bill to provide internet access to people living in temporary housing throughout NYS; proposed amendments to Article 9 of the CPLR to reform and modernize class action administration in NY courts; and proposed amendments to the UCC – the “New Emerging Technologies Amendments” – which would modernize and clarify the UCC so that it effectively governs important transactions in digital assets

JURISDICTION BREAKDOWN



FEDERAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Called on President Biden to extend full U.S. assistance to the International Criminal Court in connection with its investigation and prosecution of war crimes in Ukraine
- Supported Electoral Count Act reform and applauded passage of the Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act (part of the Consolidated Appropriations Bill, 2023), which will help avoid attempted subversion of future presidential elections and ensure that the composition of each state's electoral delegation accurately reflects the results of a free and fair election in that state
- Submitted comments in opposition to a proposed rule which would effectively bar nationals of certain countries from accessing asylum procedures at the U.S. southern border
- Sent letters to the U.S. Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service commenting on SECURE 2.0 guidance priorities; to the SEC on the proposed “Safeguarding Rule” under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940; and to the U.S. Treasury Department on the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network’s (FinCEN)’s rule proposal regarding Beneficial Ownership Information access and safeguards
- Submitted report to the FTC opposing a proposed Non-Compete Clause Rule which would broadly ban virtually all non-compete clauses
- Submitted comments on the U.S. Sentencing Commission’s proposed amendments to the Federal Sentencing Guidelines Manual regarding the use of acquitted conduct in sentencing; and issued comments on proposed amendments to the Federal Rules of Evidence designed to sharpen the distinction between summaries (admissible as evidence to prove the content of voluminous admissible documents) and illustrative aids (which may not be admitted as evidence but may be presented to help the finder of fact understand admitted evidence)

Many thanks to the Committees that engaged in policy and advocacy work in 2022-2023!

African Affairs Committee	Corrections and Community Reentry Committee	Independence of Lawyers and the Judiciary Task Force	Private Investment Funds Committee
Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee	Criminal Courts Committee	Insurance Law Committee	Pro Bono and Legal Services Committee
Animal Law Committee	Criminal Justice Operations Committee	Inter-American Affairs Committee	Profession, Council on the Professional Ethics Committee
Antitrust & Trade Regulation Committee	Digital Technologies, Task Force on Disability Law Committee	International Affairs, Council on International Commercial Disputes Committee	Puerto Rico Task Force
Arbitration Committee	Domestic Violence Committee	International Human Rights Committee	Real Property Law Committee
Asian Affairs Committee	Education & the Law Committee	Judicial Administration, Council on Juvenile Justice Committee	Rule of Law Task Force
Bioethical Issues Committee	Election Law Committee	Legal Problems of the Aging Committee	Securities Regulation Committee
Business & Human Rights Working Group	Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation Committee	Legal Referral Service Committee	Senior Lawyers Committee
Children and the Law Committee	Entertainment Law Committee	LGBTQ Rights Committee	Sex & Law Committee
Children, Council on	European Affairs Committee	Litigation Committee	Small Law Firm Committee
Civil Court Committee	Family Court & Family Law Committee	Mass Incarceration Task Force	Social Welfare Law Committee
Civil Right to Counsel Task Force	Federal Courts Committee	Mental Health Law Committee	State Courts of Superior Jurisdiction Committee
Civil Rights Committee	Foreign & Comparative Law Committee	Mergers, Acquisitions & Corporate Control Committee	Technology, Cyber & Privacy Law Committee
Commercial Law and Uniform State Laws Committee	Government Ethics & State Affairs Committee	Military & Veterans Affairs Committee	Trade Secrets Committee
Communications & Media Law Committee	Housing & Urban Development Committee	New York City Affairs Committee	United Nations Committee
Compliance Committee	Housing Court Committee	Patents Committee	Vance Center for International Justice
Consumer Affairs Committee	Immigration & Nationality Law Committee		White Collar Crime Committee
Cooperative & Condominium Law Committee			Women in the Legal Profession Committee
Corporation Law Committee			

The City Bar is Member and Committee Driven: Join Us!

About Us: The [Policy Department](#) coordinates the City Bar’s policy work, legislative activity, and advocacy. Our committees participate in shaping public policy in a variety of ways and it is our job to facilitate these activities and ensure that the City Bar’s reports are communicated to the key players at the most impactful times.