



Philadelphia VIP proudly recognizes **Steve T. Park** for going above and beyond by *answering the call to serve.*

Thank you Steve!
June 2017 Volunteer of the Month

Described by staff as an “unsung-hero” for VIP cases, Steve Park is a dedicated volunteer attorney who works quickly to get the best outcomes for his clients. VIP Community Economic Development Coordinator Alison Merrick explains, “Steve has taken eight LawWorks cases in the past two years! He helps nonprofits incorporate or apply for tax-exempt status and quietly takes cases of the list, obtaining quick results.”



A partner at Ballard Spahr LLP, Steve’s commitment to pro bono sets a strong example. He is the Practice Leader of Ballard Spahr's P3/Infrastructure Group, and serves as bond, borrower's, and underwriter's counsel to various clients, including investment banking firms, higher education institutions, health care institutions, school districts, and municipalities. He also advises clients in all phases of transportation, infrastructure, and public-private partnership (P3) projects.

The Penn Law School Graduate first volunteered for Philadelphia VIP through his firm. “Ballard does an incredible job of encouraging a culture of pro bono,” says Steve. “They illustrate how important it is for lawyers and the firm as a whole to give back.” Before law school, Steve spent some time in the social work field and wanted to keep that passion alive by using his legal expertise to give back to his community.

As a part of VIP’s LawWorks program, each nonprofit Steve has counseled through VIP is located directly in Philadelphia. “I’ve worked with an organization that helps battered women in Latin America, another that advocates for early-childhood education in our City, and an arts and science-integrated, community empowerment organization,” says Steve. “Each nonprofit client is so appreciative and happy with the speedy turn-around.”

The time and effort spent on these cases is credited to Steve’s amazing work ethic, but he praises Philly VIP for the effective process. “I love volunteering for VIP,” he says. “You do such a great job vetting the cases and giving me all of the requisite info before-hand. It’s a great system and it allows me to do what I can to help quickly.” He adds, “It’s easy to get lost in your day-to-day work, but pro bono service keeps you grounded. It’s important to have a broader understanding of what’s going on in our city and in people’s lives. That way, you can really make a difference.”

Steve is a dedicated volunteer who is committed to helping his community. We applaud his partnership in helping VIP achieve access to justice for all.