

## 2015-J2528

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Laura Mona upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Paul J. Curran Award for Pro Bono Service by the Prisoners' Legal Services of New York

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, Laura Mona has given not only of her time and energies but also of her competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special honor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Laura Mona upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Paul J. Curran Award for Pro Bono Service by the Prisoners' Legal Services of New York; this momentous occasion was celebrated at its 4th Annual Pro Bono Event on Wednesday, October 22, 2014, at the Albany Barn, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Paul J. Curran Award for Pro Bono Service was established in honor of the late Paul J. Curran, who served as the Chairman of Prisoners' Legal Services' Board of Directors for more than a decade; this auspicious award is presented to the volunteer who most embodies a commitment to defending the rights of incarcerated New Yorkers by providing pro bono services; and

WHEREAS, Laura Mona earned a bachelor's degree from Rochester Institute of Technology in 2007; she went on to Albany Law School of Union University where she graduated magna cum laude in 2012; and

WHEREAS, An Associate with Hiscock & Barclay in its Albany office, Laura Mona focuses her practice in the areas of Environmental, Energy and Regulatory Law; and

WHEREAS, Volunteerism is an essential element of all societies; it

provides a way in which the human values of community, caring and serving can be sustained and strengthened; and

WHEREAS, Active within the community she so ably serves, Laura Mona devotes her time to pro bono matters for Prisoners' Legal Services and the Legal Project's Domestic Violence Program; she is a member of the NDNY Federal Court Bar Association and the New York State Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, In addition, she is involved in mentoring programs through Albany Law School, and is an active member of the Hiscock & Barclay's Women's Forum, where she participates in the Women's Forum Networking Events throughout the Capital District; and

WHEREAS, The recipient of numerous awards and accolades, Laura Mona was selected as a 2013 Empire State Counsel Honoree by the New York State Bar Association; she received both the National Order of Barristers Award and the Robert A. Barker Award for Service to the Moot Court Program from Albany Law School in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her community service, a period of constructive involvement, Laura Mona has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Laura Mona has displayed throughout her life; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Laura Mona upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of

the Paul J. Curran Award for Pro Bono Service by the Prisoners' Legal Services of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to Laura Mona.