

HONOREE: RUTH SILVER TAUBE



We are privileged to present the 2015 Frances Schreiber Pro Bono Award to Ruth Silver Taube for her invaluable contributions to legal aid organizations that serve the most vulnerable working people of California.

ABOUT THE FRANCES SCHREIBER PRO BONO AWARD

Fran Schreiber is a pro bono attorney at the firm of Kazan, McClain, Satterley and Greenwood. She is also one of the founders of Worksafe, and has provided consistent leadership and assistance to the organization over a span of three decades in many capacities, including as a board member.

This special award is named in honor of Fran Schreiber for her extraordinary contribution of time and expertise to Worksafe's fight for safety, health, and justice for workers. Award recipients are those whose pro bono service has a major impact on Worksafe's ability to deliver the best advocacy, education, and assistance services possible in pursuit of our mission.

Ruth has been a mentor, a partner, and an inspiration to us at Worksafe. We are extremely fortunate to have Ruth on our side, to guide and to support us when the challenges we face are most daunting. In her many roles, her passion and strength always shine through. And she has taken on many roles over her impressive career so far.

Ruth is the Supervising Attorney of the Workers' Rights Clinic at the Katharine & George Alexander Community Law Center, an Adjunct Professor at the Santa Clara University School of Law, Special Counsel for the Legal Aid Society—Employment Law Center in San Francisco, and a partner at the Law Office of Silver & Taube. She has been instrumental in helping to lower the backlog of retaliation cases at the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement through her legal clinic at the Santa Clara University School of Law, which investigates retaliation claims filed with the Labor Commission.

She has also partnered with the Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California, the Filipino Bar Association, and the Pilipino Association of Workers and Immigrants to establish regular community law clinics for Vietnamese and Filipino American workers. She is the Coordinator of the Santa Clara County Wage Theft Coalition, a founding member of the Bay Area Equal Pay Collaborative, Legal Services Chair of the South Bay Coalition to End Human Trafficking, and an alternate delegate to the Santa Clara County Human Trafficking Commission.

What you may not know is that Ruth has direct experience with the health and safety challenges that many workers face on the job, because she was a tradeswoman before law school. Ruth worked as a journeyman machinist who rose to become the President of IAM Local 547 in District 93 and a Senior Field Representative for SEIU 535.

After law school, she served as a law clerk to the Honorable Ronald M. Whyte, District Court Judge, Northern District of California, San Jose Division, and worked as a federal mediator for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and as a panel mediator for the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division.

In addition to being recognized by Worksafe, Ruth is a recipient of the Unsung Hero Award from the Santa Clara County Victim Support Network, and the Commitment Award from the Alexander Community Law Center. Worksafe and many others have benefitted enormously from Ruth's tireless advocacy, and we are so thankful to her.