

## NEWS

### Grasty and Carey take pro bono award

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**CORRECTION:** Chile's Pro Bono Foundation has recognised Grasty Quintana Majlis & Cía and Carey & Cía as joint law firms of the year, and not Carey alone, as reported in yesterday's briefing.

Grasty sets a target for its lawyers to take on 20 hours of pro bono per year, and says it comfortably exceeds that target with its lawyers giving over an average of 40 hours a year to pro bono work.

Partner Michael Grasty says, "We are very proud of our involvement with Fundación Pro Bono and of our contribution to pro bono activities, and especially proud of the, "Estudio Jurídico Destacado" recognition which we received for the work we've done during 2008."

"Pro bono work is important for us, and our track record shows this commitment because we believe in equal access to justice. Without good lawyers, this principle is nothing more than a nice objective. Furthermore, the payment which we receive from many of our pro bono clients, in the form of eternal gratitude and appreciation, clearly digs deep into your soul and makes you feel grateful that you can help and want to ask for more," he adds.

In April this year, three of the firm's associates compiled a report giving a legal analysis of bullying in schools and the legal resources available to the victims of bullying.

As well as laying out the legal precedents established to protect children from bullying, the report gave particular attention to the phenomenon of cyber bullying, and the need to create laws to address it.

Following the report's publication, the three lawyers prepared a support manual for teachers and school authorities, to be distributed in schools throughout Chile.

The firm also represented Héctor Lorca and Juana Manríquez in bringing an action for the murder of their son Eduardo. The trial resulted in a five-year prison sentence and a fine of 50,000,000 Chilean pesos, payable to the couple in compensation, for the defendant.

One of the firm's current projects is the Fundación Educación 2020 initiative, aiming to give the poorest 20 per cent of the country's students the same access to education as the richest 20 per cent.

Grasty is a member of Fundación Pro Bono and a signatory of the Pro Bono Declaration of the Americas, which aims to promote and stimulate pro bono projects in Latin America.

Morales & Besa's Guillermo Morales also received a special mention at the awards for his contribution to the development of pro bono in Chile.

LATINLAWYER apologises for the omission in reporting the matter yesterday, and for any confusion caused.

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