

Nonprofits and Community Economic Development

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS SERVE ON THE FRONT LINES OF OUR COMMUNITIES TO PROVIDE A WIDE ARRAY OF services that many members of society need yet cannot afford. Perkins Coie attorneys advise our nonprofit community partners in their business-related legal needs so they can operate successfully, fulfill their missions and focus on the needs of the clients they serve. Our transactional attorneys also provide advice and counsel to low-income individuals launching their own businesses and striving to improve their own lives. Through our pro bono service to these clients, we help to encourage community economic development.



2018 SPECIAL OLYMPICS USA GAMES
HOST CITY | SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Excerpt from Perkins Coie's
2017 PRO BONO ANNUAL REPORT
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Getting Ready for the 2018 Special Olympics USA Games

When the more than 4,000 athletes and coaches expected to participate in the 2018 Special Olympics USA Games take their marks in July, all eyes will also be on the host city, Seattle. We are proud to have played a role in supporting this national sports competition that showcases the abilities of athletes with intellectual disabilities and celebrates inclusion for all.

An event of this magnitude requires years of preparation, and each time the event is held, a new local organizing committee must be established. In November 2015, Bellevue partner **Jason Kuzma** did just that—he formed a nonprofit corporation and, most importantly, helped it obtain 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. This was critical to allow our client to go about the vital task of fundraising.

Perkins Coie has continued working with the 2018 Special Olympics USA Games organizers in the months running up to the games, assisting them with

agreements for licensing, vendors and sponsorships. Additional areas of counsel included financings, and Bellevue partner **Philip Thompson** assisted with personnel and volunteer matters.

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Kuzma is thrilled to have been able to help, remembering a staff member in Bellevue who was a state champion in a Special Olympics swimming event. “It’s a good cause and good for Seattle,

plus our clients are sophisticated and smart. You can’t beat it!” Kuzma expects to continue his pro bono work with the nonprofit organization post-games through wind down, and hopes

there will be surplus funds he can help the group hand down to the 2022 Special Olympics USA Games. ■