

The background is a collage of images related to law, finance, and politics, arranged in a diamond pattern. The images include: hands shaking over a document, a hand holding a \$20 bill, a classical building facade, a hand holding a \$50 bill, a hand holding a pen over a document, a hand holding a small statue of Lady Justice, a hand holding a document with a scale icon, a hand holding a document with the word 'DIVORCE', a hand holding a document with the word 'VOTE', and a hand holding a document with the word 'VOTE'.

ATRA

American Tort
Reform Association

NEW YORK
2017-2023

CAMPAIGN FINANCE ANALYSIS

*Plaintiffs' Firms &
PAC Contributions*

POWER PLAYERS: TOP PLAINTIFFS' FIRM DONORS

Since 2017, the Top 20 plaintiffs' firms for statewide political giving in New York state contributed a combined total of more than \$4.7 million. Two of those firms – Sacks & Sacks and Gair, Gair, Conason – contributed more than \$500,000. Two additional firms – Block O'Toole & Murphy and Kramer Dillof – contributed more than \$400,000.

Top Plaintiffs' Firm Donors In New York Since 2017	
Law Firm	Total Given
Sacks & Sacks	\$553,350
Gair, Gair, Conason	\$538,480
Block O'Toole & Murphy	\$469,042
Wingate Russotti & Shapiro	\$443,383
Kramer Dillof	\$420,089
Joseph Miklos	\$303,075
Subin Associates	\$216,350
Martin Harding & Mazzotti, LLP	\$204,696
Leav & Steinberg, LLP	\$187,125
The Jacob Fuchsberg Law Firm	\$168,050
Finkelstein & Partners	\$159,848
Belluck & Fox	\$159,175
Rappaport Glass Levine & Zulllo LLP	\$156,086
Pasternack Tilker Zeigler	\$130,775
Duffy & Duffy	\$130,675
Law Offices of Richard S. Binko	\$100,100
Edelman & Edelman, P.C.	\$98,900
Hach & Rose	\$92,925
Law Offices Of David B Golomb	\$86,000
Jacoby & Meyers	\$83,550
Grand Total	\$4,701,674

(Source: [New York State Board Of Elections](#))

TOP RECIPIENTS FROM TOP PLAINTIFFS' FIRMS

Fifteen separate campaign committees received more than \$10,000 from top trial lawyer campaign contributors since 2017. Much of the money given by the Top 20 plaintiffs' firm donors went into the coffers of LawPAC, the political action committee affiliated with the New York State Trial Lawyers Association. LawPAC received nearly \$3.25 million from these firms since the beginning of 2017. Three other campaign committees received more than \$100,000: current New York Governor Kathy Hochul, former New York Governor Andrew Cuomo and current New York Attorney General Leticia James.

Top Recipients from Top 20 Plaintiffs' Firms for Campaign Contributions Since 2017	
Campaigns And Committees	Total Received
LawPAC of New York - ID# 15024	\$3,249,228
Friends for Kathy Hochul - ID# 16851	\$465,554
Friends of Andrew Cuomo - ID# 9438	\$272,500
James For NY - ID# 1383	\$123,000
Kings County Democratic County Committee - ID# 13512	\$62,500
Friends Of Carl E Heastie - ID# 18525	\$41,400
Eric Gonzalez For Brooklyn District Attorney - ID# 20397	\$34,438
James for NY 2026 - ID# 308810	\$32,500
New York Workers' Compensation Alliance-Wca,Nywca - ID# 6450	\$28,525
Schneiderman 2018 - ID# 15442	\$25,500
Friends Of Andrea Stewart-Cousins - ID# 7493	\$19,500
Gonzalez 2021 - ID# 22556	\$16,000
Tedisco For Senate - ID# 18651	\$14,960
Friends Of James Skoufis - ID# 14459	\$14,000
Ray Tierney for District Attorney - ID# 165128	\$12,000

(Source: New York State Board Of Elections)

LAWPAC AND ATL PAC RECIPIENT ANALYSIS

Due to strict campaign contribution limits to individual candidate committees,[1] two trial lawyer-affiliated political action committees, LawPAC (the political arm of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association) and ATL PAC (the political arm of the New York State Academy of Trial Lawyers), have been used to bundle trial lawyer contributions for distribution in bigger chunks than would be allowed for individual contributions.

Since 2017, LawPAC received \$6,039,510 in campaign contributions and spent \$6,153,659 over that same timeframe. Twelve separate campaign committees received more than \$50,000 from LawPAC since 2017, with much of that money going to Democratic candidates and causes. Two committees – the Democratic Assembly Campaign Committee and the NYS Democratic Senate Campaign Committee – each received more than \$800,000 in contributions from LawPAC.

Top Recipients From LawPAC Since 2017	
Campaigns And Committees	Total Received
Democratic Assembly Campaign Committee	\$864,700
NYS Democratic Senate Campaign Committee	\$810,708
NYS Senate Republican Campaign Committee	\$329,200
New York State Democratic Committee	\$297,300
James For NY	\$133,700
Republican Assembly Campaign Committee	\$129,800
Speaker Heastie PAC	\$120,000
Friends For Kathy Hochul	\$79,700
Andrew Cuomo 2018	\$69,700
Hoylman For Senate	\$64,600
Ramos For State Senate	\$57,100
Friends Of Andrea Stewart-Cousins	\$51,600

(Source: New York State Board Of Elections).

[1] “Contribution Limits,” [New York State Board Of Elections](#), Accessed 1/19/24

LAWPAC AND ATL PAC RECIPIENT ANALYSIS

Since 2017, ATL PAC received \$225,857 in campaign contributions and spent \$228,211 over that same timeframe. Seven separate campaign committees received more than \$4,000 from ATL PAC since 2017, all of which went toward Democratic candidates and causes. Two committees – the Democratic Senate Campaign Committee and the Democratic Assembly Campaign Committee – each received more than \$45,000 in contributions from ATL PAC.

Top Recipients From Academy PAC Since 2017	
Campaigns And Committees	Total Received
Democratic Senate Campaign Committee	\$68,500
Democratic Assembly Campaign Committee	\$47,500
Hoylman for Senate	\$11,500
Friends of Toby Stavisky	\$6,250
Friends of Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz	\$5,500
Friends of Helene Weinstein	\$4,500
Friends Of Andrea Stewart-Cousins	\$4,000

(Source: New York State Board Of Elections)

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS FROM TOP NEW YORK STATE LEGAL SERVICES ADVERTISERS

Political contributions from 11 of the 14 top local legal services advertisers total more than \$430,000 given to candidates and committees in New York state. Martin Harding & Mazzotti account for nearly half of these donations, contributing approximately \$204,000 since 2017. One firm, Jacoby & Meyers, contributed more than \$80,000 while four additional firms gave more than \$10,000. A majority of the money given by the top local legal services advertisers went to LawPAC, while three more committees received more than \$10,000 and six additional committees received between \$5,000 and \$10,000 since 2017.

**Top Recipients of Campaign Contributions from
New York Top Local Legal Services Advertisers
Since 2017**

Campaigns And Committees	Total
LawPAC of New York - ID# 15024	\$245,994
Friends for Kathy Hochul - ID# 16851	\$30,000
Tedisco For Senate - ID# 18651	\$14,960
Nassau County Democratic Committee - ID# 1166	\$13,500
Friends Of Craig Apple - ID# 542	\$9,785
Friends Of James Skoufis - ID# 14459	\$6,500
Hilary Gingold for Surrogate - ID# 216522	\$5,000
Friends of Andrew Cuomo - ID# 9438	\$5,000
Brown For Buffalo - ID# 18090	\$5,000
Anna Kaplan For Ny State Senate - ID# 6317	\$5,000

(Source: New York State Board Of Elections).

**Campaign Contributions from New York Top
Local Legal Services Advertisers Since 2017**

Firm	Total Given
Martin Harding & Mazzotti, LLP	\$204,696
Jacoby & Meyers	\$83,550
Gorayeb & Associates, P.C.	\$41,399
Weitz & Luxenberg, P.C.	\$29,800
William Mattar, P.C.	\$17,862
Stanley Law Offices	\$12,770
Cellino Law	\$12,399
Ginarte Gallardo Gonzalez & Winograd	\$12,350
Stanley Law Offices LLP	\$6,550
Oresky & Associates PLLC	\$4,000
The Barnes Firm	\$3,500
Catalano Law PLLC	\$2,950
James Alexander & Associates, LLC	\$1,100
Law Offices Of Michael S. Lamonsoff	\$550
Grand Total	\$433,477

(Source: New York State Board Of Elections).

INTERESTING DATA POINTS & ANALYSIS

Kings County and Subin Associates

The Kings County Democratic County Committee received the fifth-most money from top trial lawyer donors since 2017, receiving \$43,500, all of which came from Subin Associates. Subin Associates has deep ties into Kings County[1] and Brooklyn[2], and at least one lawyer for the firm previously worked for the Kings County District Attorney.[3] A partner in the firm has also been honored by the Kings County Democratic County Committee.[4]

Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez

Current Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez received a total of more than \$50,000 from several of the top trial law firm campaign donors over the course of his last campaigns. More than \$35,000 of Gonzalez's campaign contributions came from Block O'Toole & Murphy. On their website, Block O'Toole & Murphy say they specialize in lawsuits from construction accidents and that Gonzalez has been a "trailblazer" on investigating these sorts of accidents.[5]

Methodology

Due to an inability to search by employer or job title, this data was populated by generating a list of top trial bar contributors to LawPAC, the political action committee affiliate of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association, the New York's primary trial lawyer trade group. With these limitations, the data used in this report was from direct law firm contributions to each candidate and committee. Individual campaign contributions by lawyers for the various firms were not used unless it is a firm that has a single person serving as the principal. This report further analyzes the political giving of select law firms that are among 2023's top local legal services advertisers in terms of both dollars spent on ads and the number of ads these firms placed.

[1] "Kings County Democratic Party Committee Honors Gregory Cerchione, Two Others At Annual Gala," Brooklyn Eagle, 6/1/18

[2] "BBA Foundation Annual Dinner," Brooklyn Bar Association, Accessed 2/16/24

[3] LinkedIn.com, Accessed 1/19/24

[4] "Kings County Democratic Party Committee honors Gregory Cerchione, two others at annual gala," Brooklyn Eagle, 6/1/18

[5] "NYC Construction Accident Lawyers On Your Side," Block O'Toole & Murphy, Accessed 1/19/24