

About Access Justice Brooklyn

Founded in 1990, the mission of Access Justice Brooklyn is to provide high-quality, pro bono legal services and community education to our neighbors in need. Using the collective talents of our dedicated staff and volunteers, we help ensure a more accessible legal system and equitable Brooklyn.

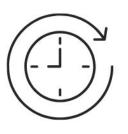
Access Justice Brooklyn partners with compassionate pro bono attorneys to provide free, high-quality civil legal services which address a range of basic needs that are essential to the well-being of our Brooklyn neighbors. Our direct services, education, and outreach are not only essential to improving access to the legal system for individuals but are also crucial to dismantling systemic barriers to justice that affect the larger Brooklyn community.



ACCESS JUSTICE BROOKLYN MODEL IN ACTION: A YEAR IN REVIEW



204
VOLUNTEERS TRAINED AND SUPERVISED



5,524
HOURS DONATED BY COMPASSIONATE VOLUNTEERS



12,201
NEW YORKERS BENEFITED



\$3N SAVED IN SETTLEMENTS AND FEES





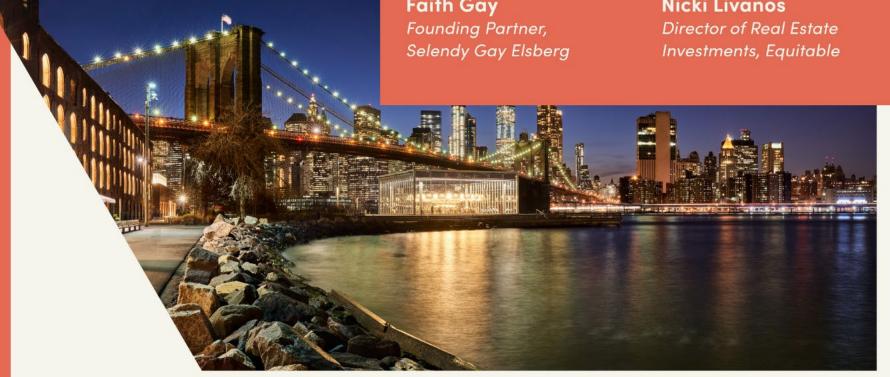
SELENDY GAY ELSBERG is proud to support Access Justice Brooklyn and their work providing pro bono legal services and education to the Brooklyn community.

WE CONGRATULATE THIS YEAR'S HONOREES

Faith Gay Founding Partner,

Nicki Livanos

Gbenga Oyebode Founder and Of Counsel, Aluko & Oyebode



Fried Frank is proud to support Access Justice Brooklyn and joins in honoring Faith Gay, Nicki Livanos and Gbenga Oyebode for their outstanding service to the community.

Fried Frank



MADISON INTERNATIONAL REALTY CONGRATULATES

THE TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE AWARD RECIPIENT, NICKI LIVANOS











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Aluko & Oyebode is a full-service, top-tier law firm in Nigeria and a member firm of the Africa Legal Network (ALN), the pan-African alliance of preeminent law firms. We provide a comprehensive range of specialist legal services to a highly diversified clientele, including Nigerian, international, and multinational clients.

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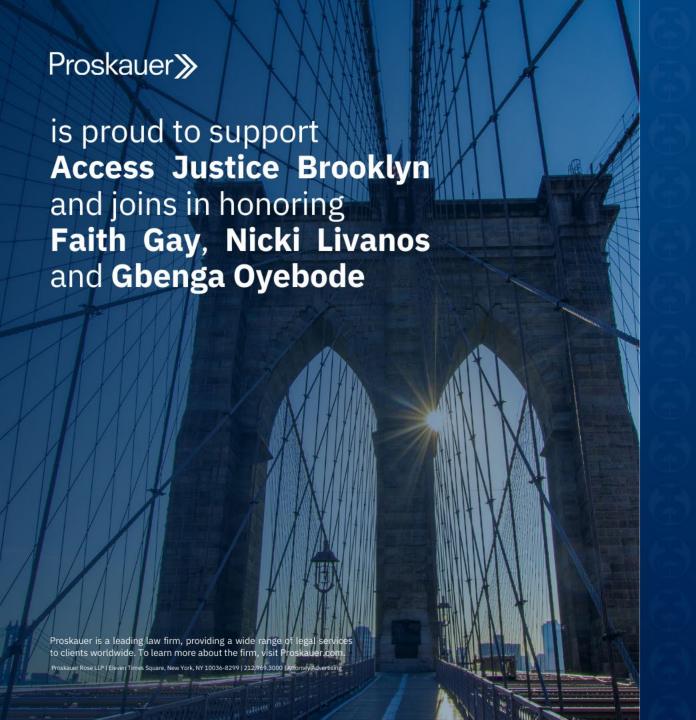
We proudly support Access Justice Brooklyn.

Congratulations to tonight's honorees: Faith Gay, Nicki Livanos, and Gbenga Oyebode.

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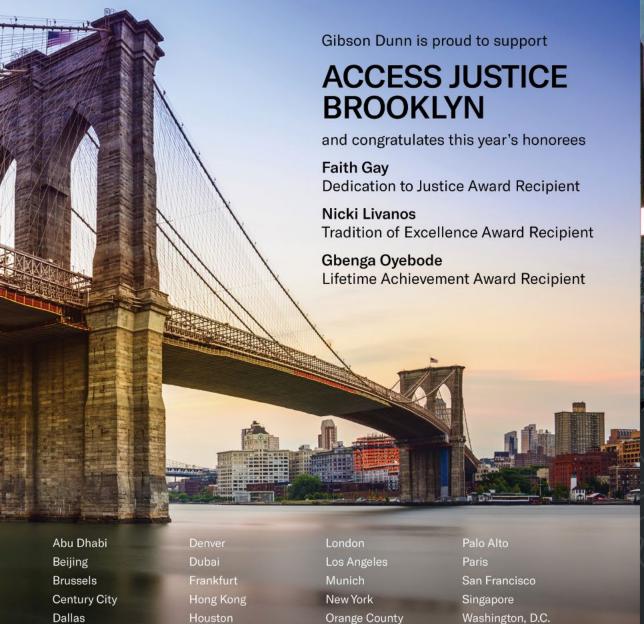




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IS PROUD TO SUPPORT
ACCESS JUSTICE BROOKLYN
AND SALUTES TONIGHT'S HONOREES

FAITH GAY NICKI LIVANOS







NEW YORK MARRIOTT MARQUIS

Proudly supports Access Justice Brooklyn.

Congratulations to tonight's honoree: Nicki Livanos



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Supporting justice for all

We are proud to support **Access Justice Brooklyn** benefitting high-quality, pro bono legal services and community education to our neighbors in need.

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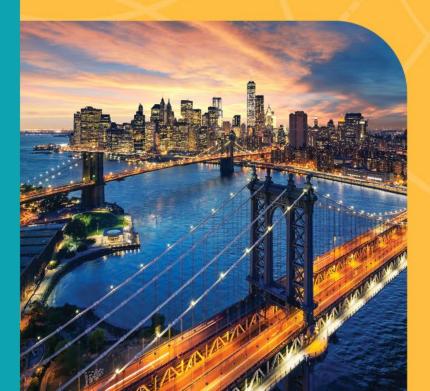
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We are proud to support Access Justice Brooklyn's 2023 Gala.

Congratulations to this year's honorees: Faith Gay, Nicki Livanos, and Gbenga Oyebode.



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SOLA IMPACT AND THE SOLA FOUNDATION
ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT THE
TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE AWARD RECIPIENT

NICKI LIVANOS

Our organizations share a deep commitment to one word: Access. With equal access to resources, opportunity and education we know anyone can thrive.

Thank you, Nicki, for dedicating yourself to this work.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S ACCESS JUSTICE BROOKLYN Your dedication to ensuring equal access to the legal system is inspiring. THOMPSON COBURN LLP CONTINUING THE HAHN & HESSEN LEGACY Trish Lilley, Chief Marketing & Business Development Officer, Board Member of Access Justice Brooklyn

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The Durst Organization is pleased to join Access Justice Brooklyn in honoring

Faith Gay Nicki Livanos and Gbenga Oyebode





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GFP PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE ACCESS JUSTICE BROOKLYN GALA

in honoring

FAITH GAY, NICKI LIVANOS, AND GBENGA OYEBODE

CONGRATULATIONS TO TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE AWARDEE NICKI LIVANOS AND ALL OF TONIGHT'S HONOREES!

WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT

ACCESS JUSTICE BROOKLYN'S ANNUAL GALA





We are proud to support Access Justice Brooklyn

and its dedication to providing high-quality, pro bono legal services and community education to Brooklyn neighbors in need.

Congratulations to the 2023 honorees and award recipients.

Contact

- © 212-489-9618

Office Address

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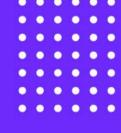
Economic and Financial Consulting and Expert Testimony





PCCP, LLC congratulates Nicki Livanos

for your Tradition of Excellence Award



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We're proud to support

Access Justice Brooklyn in their
unwavering commitment
to creating a more equitable
and accessible legal system.

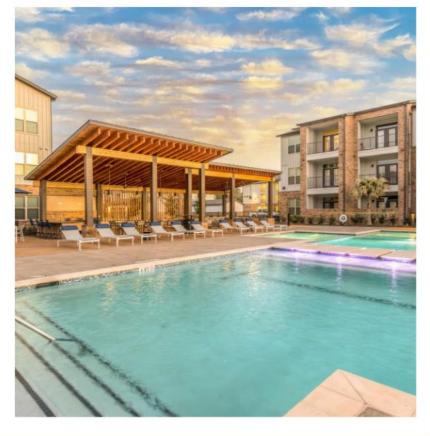
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The Praedium Group is proud to support Access Justice Brooklyn and congratulates Nicki Livanos for receiving the Tradition of Excellence Award







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Dundon Advisers is proud to support the 2023 Access Justice Brooklyn Gala.
Thank you for all your hard work!

Congratulations to tonight's honorees!

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Passle's software platform solves the challenge of thought leadership for ambitious and capable law firms worldwide.



The Board of Directors offers a heartfelt thanks to the extraordinary staff of Access Justice Brooklyn.

Your unwavering commitment to providing the best possible legal assistance and support to our neighbors in need and mentorship and guidance to our volunteers inspires us all.



Access Justice Brooklyn, THANK YOU for the necessary work you do every day in our city!

(Sidney Cherubin, thank you for introducing us!)

With appreciation,
Stephanie Cherry and Rob Hansen

Supporting visionaries.

We proudly sponsor the Access Justice Brooklyn Gala, and congratulate the 2023 honorees: Faith Gay, Nicki Livanos, Gbenga Oyebode, and AXA XL.

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Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders LLP





Thank you for the beautiful flower arrangements



We appreciate your thoughtfulness in how best to integrate the spirit of Lois Karch Conway, who we miss dearly, throughout the Gala.

Access Justice Brooklyn | 2023 Gala

Wednesday, October 11, 2023 | Brooklyn Museum

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

Melissa Russo

Government Affairs Reporter
NBC 4 New York

Heidi Lee Henderson

President & CEO Access

Justice Brooklyn

ACCESS JUSTICE BROOKLYN VIDEO

A CALL TO ACTION

Adam K. Shepherd
Macquarie Group
Board Member

Access Justice Brooklyn | 2023 Gala

Wednesday, October 11, 2023 | Brooklyn Museum

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Champion of Justice Award Recipient

AXA XL

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Pro Bono Director

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Tradition of Excellence Award Recipient

Nicki Livanos

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Access Justice Brooklyn | 2023 Gala

Wednesday, October 11, 2023 | Brooklyn Museum

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Dedication to Justice Award Recipient

Faith Gay

Selendy Gay Elsberg PLLC

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Rukab Brash PLLC

Chair, Board of Directors

Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient

Gbenga Oyebode

Aluko & Oyebode

Presented by

Samuel O. Maduegbuna

Maduegbuna Cooper LLP

Board Member

CLOSING REMARKS

Dedication to Justice Award Recipient



Faith Gay is a founding partner at Selendy Gay Elsberg.

In a nationally recognized career spanning more than three decades, Faith has been lead counsel in over 35 jury trials and has successfully navigated

bet-the-company crises and investigations for scores of Fortune 500 companies. Before founding Selendy Gay Elsberg, Faith was co-chair of national trial practice at one of the country's top litigation firms and a highly respected federal prosecutor.

Faith is a former chief of the Civil Rights Unit (Criminal Division) and deputy chief of the Special Prosecutions Unit in the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York. With deep experience in plaintiff and defense matters, she divides her time between complex civil litigation, corporate governance, and white-collar and regulatory investigations.

In her commercial practice, she focuses on complex contractual and financial instrument disputes, securities, antitrust and bankruptcy litigation, intellectual property disputes, and consumer class actions. She also has extensive experience in Board and Special Committee assignments, representation of C-Suite executives and high net worth individuals in corporate and family law matters, and, first and foremost, in resolving litigation that is seriously compromised and requires emergency re-shaping.

Her long roster of high-profile clients that she has served as national or lead trial counsel includes the American Federation of Teachers, Bausch, Bridgewater, Coca-Cola, Colgate, Domtar, Edge & Node, E-Trade, Home Depot, MacAndrews & Forbes, McKinsey & Company, Novartis, Nuance, Pfizer, Regeneron, Revlon, Sandoz, and Schwab. In her white-collar practice, Faith has represented individuals and corporations in investigations by the SEC, FINRA, DOJ, FDA, IRS, EPA, DOD, and numerous state attorneys general.

Faith has also devoted significant time and energy to public interest litigation. She recently obtained a complete reversal of Marissa Alexander's conviction and mandatory 20-year sentence for allegedly firing a warning shot at her serially abusive spouse. She co-founded the American Immigration Representation Project to provide lawyers to immigrant detainees in response to new federal immigration and deportation policies. Faith also represented New York Governor David Patterson in a victory the New York Times called "stunning" in upholding the appointment of Richard Ravitch as Lieutenant Governor. She has litigated numerous other civil rights, criminal, immigration, and voting rights matters on a pro bono basis.

Faith earned her J.D. from the Northwestern University School of Law, where she serves on the Law Board Executive Committee and the Law Dean Search Committee. She is a Trustee of the Public Theater, a member of the American Law Institute, and serves as a board member of the American Constitution Society, Campaign Legal Center, the Clark Foundation, and Union Theological Seminary.

Tradition of Excellence Award Recipient



Nicki Livanos is Director of Real Estate Investments for Equitable Financial Life Insurance Company, working within the Chief Investment Office, where she has held investment positions for over 30 years.

She has been head of the real estate and mortgage portfolios for over 10 years which consists of over \$20 billion in AUM, overseeing the commercial mortgage loans, both traditional and high yield, owned real estate, limited partnerships, CMBS, REIT stocks and agricultural loans. Nicki is responsible for developing and implementing investment strategies, as well as, evaluating investment opportunities for the General Account. She also coordinates and implements capital markets strategies related to the real estate and mortgage portfolios. She has executed acquisition and disposition strategies for equity real estate, as well as mortgage holdings and was responsible for reengineering the commercial mortgage lending program, which originates approximately \$2-4 billion annually.

Nicki is the current Chairwoman of the Times Square Alliance. Founded in 1992, the Times Square Alliance, a 501(c)(3), works to improve and promote Times Square — cultivating the creativity, energy and edge that have made the area an icon of entertainment, culture, and urban life for over a century.

In addition to her role with the Alliance, Nicki is a member of the advisory board of BKM Capital Partners and has been a member of the Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY); the Urban Land Institute – the oldest and largest network of cross-disciplinary real estate and land use experts in the world; the National Association of REIT (NAREIT) – the worldwide representative voice for REITs and publicly traded real estate companies with an interest in U.S. real estate and capital markets; and the CRE Financial Council.

Nicki holds an M.B.A. in Finance and International Business from Fordham University, New York City, and a B.A. in Economics from Manhattanville College, Purchase, NY.

Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient



Gbenga Oyebode is a co-founder and former chairman of the Nigerian law firm Aluko & Oyebode, where he is currently of counsel, advising corporations on matters relating to energy and natural resources, telecommunications, project finance, and aviation.

Gbenga is passionate about education and the arts. He serves on the Global Advisory Council of the African Leadership Academy and is a fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, a director of Teach for All. He is also chairman of the board of PZ Cussons Nigeria Plc, the African Philanthropy Forum, and sits on the boards of EnterpriseNGR Professional Advocacy Group, Assets Management Group Limited, the Ford Foundation, Carnegie Hall, Jazz at Lincoln Center, the Rele Arts Foundation, Rele Gallery, Teach for Nigeria, and he is a member of the Cleveland Museum of Arts International Collectors Council.

Gbenga holds one of Nigeria's highest honors, as a member of the Order of the Federal Republic. He is a recipient of the Belgian royal honor of Knight of the Order of Leopold.

Gbenga holds bachelor of laws degrees from the University of Ife and the Nigerian Law School, a master of laws degree from the University of Pennsylvania, and he is a member of the Nigerian Bar Association and the International Bar Association. Gbenga is also a graduate of the advanced management program at Harvard Business School.

Champion of Justice Award Recipient



AXA XL's volunteering and charitable giving programs are designed to help colleagues support causes that matter most to them and to contribute to the needs of their communities. Since the inception in 2006, AXA XL colleagues have performed approximately 375,000 hours

of community service for hundreds of non-profits worldwide. And since the company's legal pro bono program was established in 2017, AXA XL employees have volunteered over 1,200 hours with a range of nonprofit organizations.

AXA XL's partnership with Access Justice Brooklyn during their Annual Global Day of Giving represents the best of our pro bono model. We have engaged over three dozen lawyers and staff in pro bono over the course of four years in a variety of practice areas from advance life directives to family stabilization.

Most recently, on June 7, 2023, Access Justice Brooklyn hosted an inperson clinic for eight AXA XL volunteers and two interns who generously donated their time in support of our Family Stabilization services. Under the mentorship of staff, volunteers assisted five of our clients to prepare and file their initial divorce papers with the Kings County Clerk. Most people, especially those with low incomes, cannot afford to retain a private matrimonial attorney, and few free legal services programs exist to handle divorces in New York. Access Justice Brooklyn's Pro Se Uncontested Divorce Clinic minimizes the stress involved in the divorce process and helps Brooklynites complete the process sooner than they could otherwise.

Thank you to AXA XL for their continued commitment to justice and helping Brooklynites regain stability so they may begin rebuilding their lives.

We also extend our appreciation and heartfelt thanks to AXA XL's Regional Grant Program – a program that has generously supported Access Justice Brooklyn's work for three years, and recently committed a new two-year grant directed to our family stabilization services.

Gala Emcee



Melissa Russo is NBC 4 New York's awardwinning government affairs reporter. As an expert in local policy and politics with unmatched sources, Melissa is often first to break major stories on her beat. Melissa is known for her insightful and compelling

coverage of issues not ordinarily tackled on TV news.

Because of her reputation for fairness and substantive reporting, Melissa has gained unprecedented access to places where no other TV reporters have been permitted, including the homeless shelter system, juvenile justice system, Rikers Island and NYC Health Department Laboratories. Melissa is also a member of the NBC 4 New York I-Team, whose recent investigations have prompted major changes in government policy.

Melissa is the winner of two Edward R. Murrow awards and has received local and national recognition. Melissa has also won Emmys for outstanding political reporting, education reporting and coverage of children's issues. In January 2012, City and State chose Melissa from hundreds of nominees as one of New York's 25 most civic-minded women.

Melissa anchored the Saturday evening newscasts at NBC New York 4 for several years and filled in for Gabe Pressman as host of the News 4 public affairs show Newsforum.

Melissa has a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University and a bachelor's degree in political science from Tufts. She is an active member and past president of The Inner Circle, the annual charity roast of politicians. She lives in Manhattan with her family.

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Pro Bono Partners

Pro Bono Partnerships with private law firms and companies enable Access Justice Brooklyn to provide high-quality, comprehensive services to far more individuals and families than we could alone.

We are grateful to the following corporate pro bono partners for their generosity of time, expertise, and commitment to our mission:

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NGF Senior LEAP

We are proud to serve Brooklyn seniors as part of our National Grid Foundation Senior Legal Education and Assistance Program (NGF Senior LEAP), made possible through the sustained generosity of the National Grid Foundation.

While Brooklyn is home to a growing, increasingly diverse senior population, rising costs of living and fixed incomes have made it challenging for many seniors to meet basic expenses such as housing, food, and medical needs — making other costs, such as legal support, impossible to afford. Through NGF Senior LEAP, Access Justice Brooklyn provides free legal education and individual legal assistance to older adults throughout Brooklyn, ensuring seniors know their rights, have economic security, and can safely age in place.

We are deeply grateful for the National Grid Foundation's long-standing support for Senior LEAP, which allows us to reach hundreds of Brooklyn seniors each year.



ACCESS JUSTICE BROOKLYN OUR IMPACT: BROOKLYN SENIORS



1,100
LEGAL MATTERS HANDLED

75% Consumer Debt

17% Foreclosure & Homeowner Assistance

3% Family Law

3% Bankruptcy

2% Wills & Advance Directives



\$680K SAVED IN SETTLEMENTS AND FEES



350
PROVIDED WITH LEGAL
EDUCATION AND RESOURCES



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Mission

The Young Professionals Board (YPB) of Access Justice Brooklyn was established to support the organization's Board of Directors and its goal of making the legal system more accessible and equitable for low-income Brooklyn residents. The YPB unites rising talent professionals across the legal and non-legal sectors who are motivated to utilize their time, experience, and diverse skill sets in service of Access Justice Brooklyn's mission. The YPB serves as an advisor to and agent of the full Board, driving an array of activities including community outreach and program expansion, event planning and fundraising, and providing strategic guidance to the organization.



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Providing civil legal services to Brooklynites in need is critical, but Access Justice Brooklyn can't do it alone. Everyone, whether an attorney or not, has a role to play in expanding access to justice.

Text JUSTICEBK to 243725 or scan the QR code to deepen your support for the Brooklyn community and stand up for justice!





Thank you!

To learn more about Access Justice Brooklyn, visit: ACCESSJUSTICEBROOKLYN.ORG

