



**NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

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**New York Lawyers for the Public Interest Honors Brian Moynihan and John F. Savarese at the 2016 Law & Society Award Luncheon**

*Brian Moynihan, CEO of Bank of America, and John F. Savarese, Litigation Partner at Watchell, Rosen & Katz honored for their exemplary leadership and commitment to the greater good*

New York, NY, February 11, 2016 – New York Lawyers for the Public Interest (NYLPI), a leading civil rights advocacy group for New Yorkers in need, today honored Brian Moynihan, CEO of Bank of America, and John F. Savarese, Litigation Partner at Watchell, Rosen & Katz, at the 2016 Law & Society Award Luncheon hosted at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

NYLPI's annual Law & Society Award Luncheon is one of the premier events of New York City's legal and corporate communities. Celebrating its 23<sup>rd</sup> year, the Luncheon was attended by partners from the city's major law firms, federal judges, and influential members of the City's corporations. All proceeds raised will support NYLPI's efforts to advance civil rights and social justice for all New Yorkers. Past honorees include The Honorable Ruth Bader Ginsburg and The Honorable Mario M. Cuomo, as well as most recently Carey R. Dunne of Davis Polk & Wardell LLP and Don H. Liu of Xerox Corporation. The event also kicked off NYLPI's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

"Our work to ensure that all New Yorkers share equally in life essentials like good schools, safe jobs, quality healthcare, and healthy neighborhoods benefits immeasurably from the support of influential leaders committed to the greater good," said NYLPI Executive Director McGregor Smyth. "Brian and John have not only led incredibly successful careers, but have become leaders in the pursuit of economic and social justice, and I am honored to recognize their dedication to serving the public at this year's Law & Society Award Luncheon."

Brian Moynihan has been with Bank of America for over 20 years, where he guides a team of more than 200,000 employees. Under his stewardship as CEO, the company has simplified its operations, built capital and liquidity to its highest levels, and developed a straightforward business model providing core financial services to customers and clients. Bank of America is consistently recognized as a top employer by such names as *Working Mother* magazine, The Human Rights Campaign, and *G.I. Jobs* magazine, receiving the 2013 Department of Defense Freedom Award for its commitment to employees serving in the National Guard and Reserve. In addition to his responsibilities at Bank of America, Mr. Moynihan participates in the World Economic Business Council, the Business Roundtable, the Bi-Partisan Policy Center CEO Council on Health and Innovation, the Financial Services Forum, and The Clearing House, the last two of which he chairs. He also leads Bank of America's Global Diversity and Inclusion Council and is a member of the Museum Council for the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture.

“By collaborating with experts across policy, business, legal and other areas, NYLPI brings a spirit of collaboration to improving our communities,” said Brian Moynihan, CEO of Bank of America. “This idea of community and collaboration to solve problems is the same way Bank of America thinks about the work we do to serve clients and invest in our communities.”

John F. Savarese has been a Litigation Partner at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz for the past 25 years. He is regularly recognized as one of the world’s top litigators, a leader in white-collar law, and an ardent supporter of social justice in New York City. Prior to his tenure at Wachtell Lipton, Mr. Savarese had a decorated career at the United States Attorneys’ Office for the Southern District of New York, where he honed his jury trial talent, served as Chief Appellate Attorney and was the recipient of the Attorney General’s John Marshall Award for Outstanding Legal Achievement. Mr. Savarese also previously served as a law clerk to Justice William J. Brennan of the United States Supreme Court, and to the Honorable Louis H. Pollak of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. In addition to his client work at Wachtell Lipton, Mr. Savarese teaches white-collar criminal law and procedure at Harvard Law School, serves on the Executive Committee of the New York City Bar Association, where he was recently appointed Chair of the City Bar’s Task Force on Mass Incarceration, acts as Adviser to the American Law Institute, and frequently lectures and participates in panels for such organizations as the American Bar Association and the Practising Law Institute. Mr. Savarese also serves as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Vera Institute of Justice in New York, and is a member of the board of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. He is the recipient of accolades from the *International Who’s Who of Business Lawyers*, *Chambers USA Guide* and was named one of *Lawdragon’s* 500 Leading Lawyers in America. Mr. Savarese received his J.D. from Harvard Law School, and his A.B. from Harvard University.

“Supporting efforts to protect vulnerable New Yorkers has been an important and rewarding part of my career,” said John F. Savarese, Litigation Partner at Wachtell, Rosen & Katz. “I am honored to be recognized by NYLPI at the 2016 Law & Society Award Luncheon and join the ranks of fellow advocates of social justice that have been honored in the past.”

#### **About New York Lawyers for the Public Interest**

New York Lawyers for the Public Interest (NYLPI) advances equality and civil rights, with a focus on health justice, disability rights and environmental justice, through the power of community lawyering and partnerships with the private bar. Through community lawyering, NYLPI puts its legal, policy and community organizing expertise at the service of New York City communities and individuals. NYLPI’s partnership with the private bar strengthens its advocacy and connects community groups and nonprofits with critical legal assistance.

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