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TRAILBLAZERS

NORTHEAST

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What was the genesis of the idea/path that has made you a trailblazer?

Early on in my career, I was exposed to lawyers that were at the most senior levels of government who weren't necessarily functioning as attorneys. They had careers that moved in and out of government, often in non-legal roles in policy, as political or strategic advisors, or in regulatory roles. All of these positions leveraged their training as lawyers. I used those examples to guide my own career to pursue positions in government, politics and philanthropy, and employ that experience in service of my clients in private practice.

What sort of change has resulted from the concept? What bearing will this have on the future?

I have sought roles in government, politics, and philanthropy because of the power of each to advance change and make impact. That is the overarching principle that I've brought to my practice and the cases I've led. For example, I represented a class of over 90,000 au pairs in one of the largest FLSA class actions on record and literally changed the industry. Au pairs now must be informed of their rights and can negotiate higher wages for their work. In a class action for homeless single adults against the City of New York, the City now has implemented a standard to prioritize those at higher risk for hotel placements, a critical measure to ensure that the homeless population is able to stay safe during the course of the pandemic.