

Access Ready Makes Major Policy Moves at the National Level

Date Line Washington, DC

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Access Ready, Inc., an independent, non-profit, cross-disability advocacy organization promoting a policy of inclusion and accessibility across information and communication technology (ICT), announced today that it has retained two Washington, DC-area legal firms to further its public policy efforts.

Access Ready seeks the establishment of Access Ready environments. An Access Ready Environment is one where access for people with disabilities at the physical and technological levels is a matter of forethought, design, inclusion, and planning instead of a condition of afterthought, delay, and discrimination resulting in risk to all concerned. The Board of Directors of Access Ready has deemed inaccessible ICT to be a clear, growing, and present danger to the civic, economic, and social welfare of people with disabilities.

Access Ready has retained two powerful civil rights giants, Brown Goldstein & Levy, LLP (“BGL”) and Powers, Pyles, Sutter, & Verville, PC (“Powers”) to help advance Access Ready’s policy and legal agenda.

This team will focus on three thematic goals:

- * Accessibility of websites, mobile apps, online systems, and other forms of information and communication technology used by employers, state and local governments, and public accommodations.
- * Accessibility of the entire voting and electoral process, including registration, authorization (check-in), and the act of voting in person, by mail, or absentee.
- * Compliance by federal agencies with existing requirements relating to accessibility and usability of information and communication technology.

Access Ready Organization

Press inquiries, please contact Douglas George Towne, Chair and Chief Executive Officer. (O) 727-531-1000 (C) 727-452-8132 (E) chair-ceo@accessready.org.

Brown Goldstein & Levy, LLP ("BGL") is working with Access Ready to raise accessibility issues with states in the early stages of state procurement actions for voting technology. If states do not appropriately require accessibility in their technology purchases, Access Ready will work with BGL to file lawsuits or take other actions to enforce the Americans with Disabilities Act and other federal civil rights laws. BGL is a law firm in Baltimore with 30 years' experience in disability civil rights cases. BGL's Access Ready team is led by Eve Hill. <https://browngold.com/practice-areas/civil-rights/disability-rights/>.

Brown Goldstein & Levy, LLP

Press inquiries, please contact:
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Powers, Pyles, Sutter, & Verville, PC ("Powers") is a Washington, DC-based law firm with specialty practices in disability, health care, education, and tribal law, as well as a boutique government relations and advocacy practice that includes legislative and regulatory representation. Powers team members are closely involved in the disability advocacy community, serving as long-time members and leaders of coalitions including the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD), the Independence Through Enhancement of Medicare and Medicaid (ITEM) Coalition, the Disability and Rehabilitation Research Coalition (DRRC) and more.

Bobby Silverstein, a principal at the firm, is a nationally recognized attorney with more than 45 years of public policy and advocacy experience. He served for more than a decade in the US Senate as a behind-the-scenes architect of more than twenty disability-related bills enacted into law, including the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and the Rehabilitation Act Amendments. Joe

Nahra is the Director of Government Relations at the firm, managing disability and health coalitions, and serves as a co-chair of the CCD Technology and Telecommunications Task Force.

Powers, Pyles, Sutter, & Verville, PC

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