

Carolyn E. Coffey
2016 Rising Star Winner

Carolyn E. Coffey is Director of Litigation for Economic Justice at MFY Legal Services, Inc. in New York City, where she supervises attorneys in MFY's consumer, bankruptcy, employment and foreclosure defense practices. She also develops litigation, identifies trends, and facilitates community and coalition activities.

Carolyn was nominated, along with co-recipient Claudia Wilner, for her work on [*Sykes, et al. v. Mel Harris, et al.*](#), a class action lawsuit which alleged that a group of affiliated debt-buying companies, their law firm, and a process serving company violated the FDCPA, RICO and state laws by improperly obtaining default judgments against consumers in New York. Because of the hard work and innovative strategies used by Carolyn and the other attorneys involved, the settlement in the case will benefit more than 350,000 consumers and bring about systemic changes in debt collection practices.

Carolyn is a graduate of City University of New York School of Law, where she was Editor in Chief of *New York City Law Review*. She holds a B.A. from Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.