



## **Empire Justice Center is Named Cy Pres Award Recipient in Consumer Class Action Settlement**

Empire Justice Center received a *cy pres* award of \$129,000 stemming from *Daisley v West Creek Financial, Inc.*, a class action lawsuit filed in the Eastern District of New York alleging deceptive and unfair “Rent-To-Own” practices including overcharging consumers for electronics products through misrepresentation, false statements, and nondisclosure in violation of New York Personal Property Law, and General Business Law. This is the second time in the past two years that [New York City consumer law attorney](#) Daniel A. Schlanger, of the Schlanger Law Group LLP, has proposed Empire Justice Center as the recipient of the *cy pres* award. The first recommendation was in the class action settlement of *Miranda v. CACH LLC, et al.*, a class action brought under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and resolved in 2018.

The [Schlanger Law Group LLP](#) is a leading law firm in New York State, with deep expertise in helping consumers address identity theft, unfair credit reporting, and debt collection practices. [Consumer class actions](#), such as the *Daisley* and *Miranda* litigation are a core practice area for the firm.

The *cy pres* award, which was approved by the Court as part of the class certification and settlement approval process, helps Empire Justice Center advocate on behalf of consumers who face systemic barriers. It magnifies Empire Justice’s existing advocacy, training, and policy

work in issues related to consumer protection, such as advocating on behalf of New York consumers' ability to directly hold wrongdoers accountable. In addition, the award also allows Empire Justice Center to update and modernize its client management system to better serve clients. Senior Attorney Kirsten Keefe was instrumental in securing the award.

“Nominating Empire Justice Center for the award is a concrete way to amplify its excellent work on behalf of consumers, and help people achieve greater economic justice,” said Daniel A. Schlanger.

“I am grateful that Empire Justice Center was approved by the Court as the recipient of these funds. This award is a boost to the painstaking process of advocating for social and economic justice for all New Yorkers,” said Senior Attorney Kirsten Keefe of the Empire Justice Center.

Empire Justice is a leading statewide nonprofit law firm and policy advocacy organization working to make the law work for All New Yorkers, especially those who need its protection the most. Empire Justice employs over 60 attorneys, paralegals and administrative professional staff who provide a blend of training, legal assistance and policy advocacy from its five offices in Rochester, Albany, Yonkers, White Plains and Central Islip.

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