



As a 20-year veteran of the office, Rachana Pathak brings a wealth of experience to this position. She has recovered over a million dollars in stolen wages for workers and established a Stolen Wage Fund, the first of its kind, for employees who could not recoup their stolen wages through the normal processes (i.e., when employers declare bankruptcy or refuse to pay). Most recently, she prosecuted the owners of Grimaldi's Pizzeria, an iconic NYC restaurant, for wage theft, recouping stolen wages for 18 pizza makers, dishwashers, and bussers. In addition to criminally prosecuting wage theft cases, she has prosecuted individuals and companies that create safety hazards, resulting in innocent workers' deaths. For example, she brought enterprise corruption and reckless endangerment charges against an OSHA training school that had issued more than 20,000 false safety certificates, which led to the death of a carpenter on the Upper West Side. Before that, in 2019, she secured top-count manslaughter convictions against the building owner, general contractor, and plumbers after the death of two individuals in the East Village gas explosion, a case that transformed the way the City conducts gas inspections. Before that, in 2018, she secured a manslaughter conviction against SSC Highrise for the death of an employee after a scaffold fall and recouped \$517,000 in stolen wages for its workers. In 2015, she indicted 50 individuals, including 16 city employees, in a sprawling real estate bribery scheme. She has led the Construction Fraud Task Force since 2020 and has been the Chief of the Worker Protection Unit since 2023. She collaborates with advocacy groups and city, state, and federal agencies to make these cases.