

<https://www.greenwichtime.com/local/article/A-beacon-of-hope-Civil-rights-lawyer-named-15774249.php>



[https://www.ctpost.com/local/article/A-beacon-of-hope-Civil-rights-lawyer-named-15774249.php?utm\\_campaign=CMS+Sharing+Tools+%28Premium%29&utm\\_source=UTMSOURCE&utm\\_medium=UTMMEDIUM#\\_ =](https://www.ctpost.com/local/article/A-beacon-of-hope-Civil-rights-lawyer-named-15774249.php?utm_campaign=CMS+Sharing+Tools+%28Premium%29&utm_source=UTMSOURCE&utm_medium=UTMMEDIUM#_=)

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## **New Haven Register**

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<https://www.stamfordadvocate.com/local/article/A-beacon-of-hope-Civil-rights-lawyer-named-15774249.php>



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## **THE REGISTER CITIZEN**

# ‘A beacon of hope’: Civil rights lawyer named partner in Koskoff firm

By Daniel Tepfer  
December 3, 2020



Photo: Preston C. Tisdale / Contributed photo

Preston C. Tisdale, of Trumbull, has been made a partner in the prominent city law firm Koskoff & Bieder.

BRIDGEPORT — A longtime advocate of civil justice has been made a partner in the prominent city law firm Koskoff & Bieder.

Preston C. Tisdale, of Trumbull, who has represented minorities in the community for more than 40 years, becomes the firm’s first Black partner.

Tisdale previously said he was influenced by his mother, Loyse Gilliam Tisdale, Bridgeport’s first Black legal secretary and co-creator of Action for Bridgeport Community Development.

“The Koskoff firm that has been a beacon of hope to many people who have suffered serious injuries or harm from medical malpractice, constitutional rights violations and much more,” Tisdale said. “It is an honor to be named a partner.”

The firm’s managing partner, James Horwitz, said Tisdale has many of the same qualities as their founder, Theodore Koskoff, who represented members of the Black Panther organization in a celebrated trial in New Haven in the 1970s.

“Preston cares deeply about serving those whose voices are typically ignored,” Horwitz said. “He has been an invaluable resource to the firm — with his legal acumen, his reassuring patience, his sense of justice, his wisdom and his strong sense of civic responsibility.”

Tisdale began his legal career at Koskoff but left the firm for a number of years to work in multiple positions as a public defender. He rejoined the Koskoff firm in 2010.

He is an officer with the Public Justice Foundation, a national organization that spearheads litigation and education efforts to aid and protect the public, helping to increase access to justice and threats to the justice system. He also serves on the Board of Governors of the Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association and the American Association for Justice.

Before rejoining the Koskoff firm, Tisdale was the director of Special Public Defenders for the state Office of the Chief Public Defender. He also served as the head of the Bridgeport public defender’s office.

He is a past recipient of the NAACP’s Distinguished Service Award.

He serves as a member of the Connecticut Supreme Court Jury Task Force and the Connecticut Bar Association Task Force on Policing.