# Vito Gagliardi Awarded Person of the Year for 2013 by the Borough of Seaside Park

January 28, 2014

Vito Gagliardi, of Porzio, Bromberg and Newman (Porzio), along with the five board of trustee officials from Funtown Peers: Friends of Seaside Park (Funtown Peers), were awarded Person of the Year for 2013 by the Borough of Seaside Park. Mayor Robert W. Matthies made the award presentation at the borough council meeting on January 23, 2014. Awarded for exemplary service to the town, the recognition was given to Funtown Peers for their efforts to aid primary residents and businesses in need of assistance to rebuild and resettle in the wake of Superstorm Sandy.

Mr. Gagliardi, having a long family history in Seaside Park, pursued forming the organization as a pro bono project after traveling to the town following the storm. Funtown Peers raised and distributed over $150,000 to residents and businesses in the town within the first few months after Superstorm Sandy. Funds were awarded from $750-$2,500 mainly in the form of bill payments and gift cards to year-round residents and local businesses of Seaside Park who had been displaced.

Porzio encourages its attorneys to participate in pro bono legal work and other civic activities. In addition to the efforts of Mr. Gagliardi, Bob Ferri and Rachel Harris of Porzio provided on-going pro bono assistance to Funtown Peers.

At Porzio, we believe it is our obligation to contribute to the community in which we live and work. We are proud to support the rebuilding of Seaside Park; a client of the firm since 2005. Porzio applauds the efforts of Vito Gagliardi and others for joining together to assist both residents and businesses recovering from the devastating superstorm.