

LAWYERS ALLIANCE FOR NEW YORK

INDIVIDUAL HONOREE



KEITH McMURDY, *Bloomberg L.P.*

Corporate counsel shares employment expertise through clinics and beyond

Since 2018, Keith McMurdy has provided indispensable labor and employment law and governance advice to a range of nonprofits. Mr. McMurdy has handled a high volume of matters by volunteering at six Lawyers Alliance clinics, in addition to taking on full-scope representations on follow-up issues that resulted from those clinics. He has been particularly helpful in recent years working on employment matters, including multiple employment handbooks, which are among the greatest needs of our nonprofit clients.

Employment:

Bloomberg L.P.
Legal Counsel

Graduate of:

Case Western Reserve
University School of Law

Lawyers Alliance clients:

Bronx Council on the Arts
Central Queens Academy
Communitlife
Dancewave
Daybreak Independent
Services
Hopeland
IntegrateNYC
JobsFirstNYC
Laal NYC
Manhattan Youth
Mark DeGarmo Dance
More Art
University Settlement

Q. How and why did you first become involved with Lawyers Alliance?

Bloomberg encourages all of us to engage in pro bono activities and, as a 2018 Cornerstone Institutional Honoree, the company regularly partners with Lawyers Alliance for New York. My background in labor and employment has become a natural fit to provide support for Lawyers Alliance clients who need that assistance, so it just became an easy partnership to develop.

Q. Share a tip for making time for pro bono.

I make sure to affirmatively schedule time to work on pro bono activities so I have a definitive commitment in my schedule. I have found that, for me, it's easier if I can see it on my calendar (even if I occasionally need to reschedule it).

Q. Share a fun or unexpected moment from pro bono work through Lawyers Alliance.

Meeting clients, other lawyers, and the Lawyers Alliance team and having interactions with them is the most fun for me. I enjoy learning about the experiences of other professionals and what they do in their roles, as well as what the clients do and how their organizations function. I've met with a lot of talented people who serve in roles I would not have known existed without participating in Lawyers Alliance.

Q. What's the most rewarding aspect of pro bono work?

As noted above, I love the "learning" aspect of the process but I also take real joy in being able to "give back" through these organizations. Every client I have had through Lawyers Alliance has been dedicated to making their community a better place, so being even a small part of that process is rewarding. I appreciate the fact that Bloomberg actively encourages our commitment to pro bono activities and I intend to continue to take advantage of it through Lawyers Alliance assignments.

"Keith provided clear, timely, and thorough support by reviewing and revising a number of employment documents. His expertise came to us at an important moment because our team was already working in-person across the city in our program for Title I public elementary schools, Partnerships in Literacy through Dance & Creativity. He ensured that our employment documents reflected the changes needed as a result of the pandemic. His experience allowed our nonprofit organization in its 35th anniversary year to stay abreast of the latest HR requirements."

— Mark DeGarmo

Executive & Artistic Director, Mark DeGarmo Dance