

INDIVIDUAL HONOREE



KENNY S. TERRERO, *Sidley Austin LLP*

Corporate attorney develops and shares governance and nonprofit law expertise that is essential to pro bono clients and their operations

Although many nonprofit leaders have creative ideas for making New York a healthier and more equitable city, they often need practical legal help to turn their ideas into action. The right pro bono attorney, especially one who understands corporate governance and can explain legal documents, can make all the difference. Since 2011, Kenny Terrero has repeatedly been that attorney. He has handled nine Lawyers Alliance pro bono cases, some individually and some with other Sidley attorneys, to whom he is a valuable collaborator and mentor.

Kenny has guided several nonprofit clients through the incorporation and tax exemption process, enabling them to obtain federal-tax exempt treatment through either fiscal sponsorship or their own 501(c)(3) exempt status. Kenny also has assisted established organizations with their corporate legal needs, for example, by updating the bylaws of local organizations that provide early childhood education and mental health services, and reviewing an event contract for a national organization that helps female trafficking victims and survivors. Clients describe Kenny as thorough and patient.

Employment:

Sidley Austin LLP
*Counsel, Capital Markets,
Investment Funds,
Securities Enforcement
and Regulatory*

Graduate of:

B.S. CUNY – John Jay
College of Criminal
Justice
J.D. Brooklyn Law School

Lawyers Alliance clients:

Die Jim Crow Records
Girls Educational &
Mentoring Services
(GEMS)
La Peninsula Community
Organization
Mosaic Mental Health
New York Peace Institute
Support Center
Teach to Excel

Q. What motivates you to participate in, or support, pro bono?

Having an impact in underrepresented communities.

Q. Share a tip for making time for pro bono during the COVID pandemic.

I turn what would have been my “commuting” time into “community” time and utilize that time to give back through my pro bono work.

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

There are so many different causes that people support. I am always impressed by the passion of the people leading the different organizations.

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

Knowing that I am using my training to help others champion for causes that they feel passionate about.

“Kenny has played an integral part in helping Mosaic through his pro bono work on our governance matters. Kenny is an invaluable resource to the agency, always available, offering knowledgeable insight and counsel.”

— Michelle Creeden
*Director of Communications/Board Liaison
Mosaic Mental Health*