

# LAWYERS ALLIANCE FOR NEW YORK

## INDIVIDUAL HONOREE



**KRISTEN A. TRUVER**, *Alston & Bird LLP*

### ***Expert corporate counsel helps nonprofit with key strategic alliance***

It is no small undertaking when a large nonprofit client decides to form a strategic alliance with another nonprofit. It can involve hundreds of employees, real property assets, and vendor contracts and can be overwhelming and expensive. Corporate finance attorney Kristen A. Truver has worked on two separate matters arising from strategic alliance between **Brooklyn Community Services** and **Turning Point Brooklyn**, which included drafting and negotiating the terms of the alliance and overseeing a complete restructuring of both nonprofits' organizational fabric. The matters also included due diligence review of all existing contracts held by both parties to determine each contract's treatment in the newly-organized institution. Thanks to Ms. Truver's assistance, the organizations have been able to expand their reach and impact in the New York City area.

#### **Employment:**

Alston & Bird LLP  
*Partner, Finance Group*

#### **Graduate of:**

Hofstra University School  
of Law

#### **Lawyers Alliance clients:**

AXS Lab  
Brooklyn Community  
Services  
Turning Point Brooklyn

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

Alston & Bird encourages all attorneys to participate in pro bono activities. Our pro bono committee is very active, seeking and publicizing pro bono opportunities across the firm. When the Turning Point Brooklyn project came through the committee, it seemed like an organization that I could assist with my corporate law background. I felt comfortable and supported by both Lawyers Alliance and Alston & Bird to develop new legal skills, learning the foundations to execute a merger with Brooklyn Community Services.

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

Ideally one can find a pro bono cause about which they are passionate. Alternatively, pro bono is an excellent opportunity to learn a new skill or sharpen existing skills. I encourage the junior attorneys in my group to search for corporate pro bono opportunities that align with their practice.

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

It was both fun and unexpected to make new connections within my firm that I would otherwise not have had the opportunity to make or work closely with. There is a sense of camaraderie in working together to find a solution for the client. The experience has exposed me to other areas of the law and the varying expertise of my partners and colleagues.

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

The client interaction. I've found all pro bono clients to be incredibly appreciative of the assistance we provide. It is also incredibly fulfilling to see your work, sitting behind a desk in a corporate office, can help these organizations enrich the lives of others in the community.

*"Kristen's assistance and expertise were invaluable in helping us navigate a complicated process. We couldn't have done this without her."*

— Jodi Querbach  
*Chief Operating Officer, Brooklyn Community Services*