

INDIVIDUAL HONOREE



KYLE ZHU, *Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP*

Diligent attorney provides a stable presence to a chamber of commerce foundation through evolving legal needs

Kyle Zhu is a managing associate at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP with a practice focusing on Mergers & Acquisitions and Private Equity. He received a B.S. from Georgetown University in 2014 and his J.D. from The George Washington University School of Law in 2017.

Mr. Zhu has worked extensively with the **Staten Island Chamber of Commerce Foundation**, starting in February 2020, providing a steady hand for the duration of the pandemic. During this time, Mr. Zhu has worked on seven distinct matters for the Chamber Foundation, which works to promote, grow, and support the businesses on Staten Island, nimbly responding to its needs as they arose. The Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1895 and the Foundation in 1999.

Mr. Zhu has helped the Chamber Foundation with document retention drafting and fundamental governance issues. He has also provided advice on contracts for app development and data management services, allowing the Chamber Foundation to better support local businesses. Mr. Zhu is currently negotiating a partnership agreement for the Chamber Foundation so that it can distribute grants to local businesses affected by the pandemic.

The Chamber Foundation particularly appreciated Mr. Zhu's help on an issue related to review of its charitable mission. Says Linda Baran, President and CEO of the Chamber Foundation, "Kyle was extremely thorough. He worked specifically with a Board committee that had a complicated IRS question about the nature of our activities. He had to do a lot of research and provided a lot of material for us to review. He was able to guide the question and gave the Board a lot of solid recommendations. An attorney on our Board felt the research was extremely useful."

Janet Dugo, Project Manager at the Chamber Foundation, worked with Mr. Zhu on a technology contract that was critical to the organization's operations. Says Ms. Dugo, "Kyle is very easy to work with. He is quick to turn things around and understands what we are trying to accomplish. He even nudges us nicely to get the job done! We also appreciate his humility. On one point where he felt he wasn't the expert on a technology question, he brought in another specialist at his firm and they conferred to finalize the contract."

Says Mr. Zhu, "The highlight of my experience was attending the board meeting of the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce Foundation. It was such a joy meeting all the wonderful people dedicating their time to improving the Staten Island business community and to see the impact of the work I had been doing. It will go down as one of the most rewarding moments of my legal career."