

ABOUT THE CHRISTOPHER SLATTERY YOUNG PROFESSIONAL AWARD:

The award, now in its eighteenth year, honors the son of James P. Slattery and his wife Linda Slattery. Christopher Slattery was killed in the terrorist attack at the World Trade Center in September 2001. The award is intended to honor Chris, who was lost just as his career was beginning, and his father, whose ongoing commitment to pro bono assistance sets a professional standard. Each year, Access Justice Brooklyn presents the Young Professional Award to a young lawyer who has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to community service as a pro bono attorney. By honoring Christopher Slattery, the Young Professional Award seeks to acknowledge the significant contribution of an individual volunteer, and to encourage all new professionals to take an active role in their community.

AWARD RECIPIENT:



This year, Access Justice Brooklyn is awarding the Christopher Slattery Young Professional Award to **Matthew J. Treiber**. Matthew graduated Fordham University School of Law in May 2021 and was admitted as a New York attorney in March 2022. Matthew worked with Access Justice Brooklyn to file and eventually obtain an uncontested divorce for a client and states that this pro bono work has been one of the highlights of his (so-far brief) legal career. Matthew stood out as one of the most compassionate and diligent newly admitted pro bono attorneys that Access Justice Brooklyn has recently worked with. He followed up with the client regularly, has impeccable attention to detail, was able to anticipate potential problems with the case and developed solutions for any problems that arose.

Matthew states that getting to know a client on a personal level is rare for someone so junior, so the opportunity to work with his client has been so impactful, and after all this time getting to see her divorce go through is extremely fulfilling. Though the New York Court system had many hoops through which to jump, it was all worth it and he looks forward to assisting more clients with their pro bono divorces moving forward.

Matthew is currently a litigation associate at Blank Rome and concentrates his practice on general litigation matters. Matthew also works closely with Blank Rome's policyholder-only insurance recovery practice group. In this, he represents corporations, hospitals, and educational institutions in disputes against insurance companies involving a wide range of insurance policies, including commercial general liability, directors and officers liability, professional liability, and employment practices liability. He further has worked with the firm's Corporate, Commercial, and White Collar Defense and Investigation Groups.



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Matthew served as a summer associate at Blank Rome in 2019 and 2020. Additionally, Matthew was previously an intern for the Transgender Legal Defense and Education Fund, and the office of the district attorney in Nassau County; he also served as a congressional intern at the office of Congresswoman Kathleen Rice. During law school, Matthew served as the business and articles editor for the *Fordham International Law Journal*, the president of OUTLaws, and was a member of the Dispute Resolution Society.