

# New York Law Journal

2020

PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

## RISING STARS

### Alejandro Cruz

PARTNER, PATTERSON BELKNAP WEBB & TYLER

**PRACTICE PROFILE:** Alejandro Cruz is a litigation partner at Patterson Belknap, representing clients in complex commercial litigation in trial and appellate courts, and in arbitrations and mediations.



His practice includes matters involving structured finance transactions, financial derivatives, professional malpractice, antitrust actions, and claims of commodities manipulation. He also conducts internal investigations and represents clients in investigations by government agencies, including the CFTC, DOJ, SEC and NY Attorney General. Mr. Cruz is a member of the firm's privacy & data security practice and co-editor of its Data Security Law blog.

**LEADERSHIP, PRO BONO AND CIVIC WORK:** Mr. Cruz's pro bono work includes representing individuals in housing court and administrative housing proceedings in partnership with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley. He also helped secure a landmark settlement for a Muslim organization subject to religious

discrimination and represented a putative class of children with disabilities. In 2016, he received the Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project's Champion of Justice Award. He is also on the Board of Directors of White Plains Hospital.

#### **PRIOR EXPERIENCE:**

Law Clerk, Judge Eric N. Vitaliano, U.S. District Court, EDNY, 2011–2012

Associate, Cravath, Swaine & More, 2009–2011

#### **EDUCATION:**

J.D., University of Virginia School of Law, 2009

A.B., Dartmouth College, 2004

#### **WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO YOUNG LAWYERS?**

Remind yourself every day that a license to practice law is a license to do work that matters to your fellow humans in their lives and livelihood. Find the work and the people that create passion for you, and let that passion drive your practice.