



Jim Castro-Blanco

Jim Castro-Blanco currently serves as the Chief Deputy County Attorney for Westchester County. His practice focuses primarily upon municipal law and transactional issues, complex civil litigation and oversight of the Litigation, Appeals, Legislation and Opinions departments of the County Attorney's office, as well as oversight and coordination of outside counsel for the County.

An experienced attorney and administrator, Mr. Castro-Blanco began his legal career as a litigation associate at Winthrop Stimson Putnam & Roberts. He was appointed an Assistant United States Attorney in the Eastern District of New York, where he prosecuted individuals and criminal organizations engaged in narcotics trafficking, money-laundering, bank and wire fraud and numerous other federal crimes.

Mr. Castro-Blanco then became an Assistant Dean and an Adjunct Professor of Law at St. John's University School of Law. He then became the Manager of Professional Development & Training at Shearman & Sterling LLP, a law firm with over 1,100 attorneys world-wide. Prior to returning to public service, Mr. Castro-Blanco was Counsel at Wilson Elser LLP, Westchester's largest law firm.

Mr. Castro-Blanco is a member of the Board of Directors of Fifth Street Finance Corp. (NASDAQ:FSC), a leading business development company that provides custom-tailored financing solutions to small and mid-sized companies. He serves on the audit, nomination, compensation and joint investment committees. Mr. Castro-Blanco is a member of the Board of Trustees for St. John's Riverside Hospital where he chairs the liability committee. He is Past President of the largest Hispanic bar association in the Northeast and was Chair of the Annual Scholarship Fund. He was also a member of the Westchester County Board of Elections Hispanic Advisory Board. Mr. Castro-Blanco has served as Counsel to several not-for-profit community based organizations including the Yonkers Puerto Rican/Hispanic Parade and Foundation and the Yonkers Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

For seven years, Mr. Castro-Blanco was a member of the New York City Mayor Bloomberg's Advisory Committee on the Judiciary. He was a member of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York Committee on Recruitment and Retention of Lawyers and served on the New York State Bar Association Committee on Legal Education and Admission to the Bar. He also was Vice-President of the Network of Bar Leaders.

Mr. Castro-Blanco has authored articles published in the New York Law Journal concerning pro bono work and continuing legal education. Mr. Castro-Blanco received his Bachelor's Degree from State University of New York at Albany, and his Juris Doctor from Brooklyn Law School in 1991 where he was Articles Editor of the Law Review. Mr. Castro-Blanco resides with his wife Edie and their two children Kelly, age 16 and Michael, age 14.

