

# Attorney Nicolas Caraquel

SIENNA Legal Counsel

Attorney Caraquel has been appointed as Legal Counsel and Advisor for the Society of Internationally Educated Nurses of North America (SIENNA). He understands the complexity and the challenges of internationally educated nurses as an immigrant himself. He initially entered the US as a tourist in October 2007. He obtained his multinational executive (L) visa through the US embassy in Hong Kong and worked as an Industrial Engineer (IE) in Mt. Sterling, Kentucky. He obtained his green card after nine months, and his US citizenship a year later.

Atty. Caraquel moved to Morris Plains, New Jersey when he was promoted in his IE job. He then pursued his legal career after he passed the 2012 New York bar examinations and was successfully admitted to the New York State bar in June 2012. After taking his oath, he started his immigration work. He moved to Queens, New York in January 2017. New to the community, he provided pro bono services to the Filipinos in New York and New Jersey while his humble life's journey (from a Banana Cue street vendor to the New York bar) went viral around social media at the same period. His excellent practice in immigration law was consistently being recognized as evidenced by the awards he received.

In 2018, he was awarded as one of the "Outstanding Filipinos in America" (TOFA) and was the recipient of the *2018 Presidential Awards for Filipino Individuals and Organizations Overseas – Pamana ng Pilipino*. The honor was given to Atty. Caraquel by Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte in recognition of his outstanding professional talents in the field of immigration law and his generosity in offering pro-bono legal services to the Filipino communities in New Jersey and New York.

Attorney Caraquel is licensed to practice law in both jurisdictions of the Philippines and the State of New York.

