

O.P. Almaraz

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Photography by Vincent Vallejo



Specializations

The ideal of working for a cause was the genesis of The Passionate Life organization, a not-for-profit foundation established by Almaraz to honor the memory of his younger brother, Victor.

“He had an incomparable ability to give back by sharing wisdom and encouragement to those in need,” Almaraz recalls. “We raise money to enhance and expand services and programs for organizations in greater Los Angeles and beyond. The Passionate Life embodies Victor’s selfless spirit as we work with our network of friends, neighbors, vendors and partners to make our community better and stronger.”

A strong work ethic and belief in doing good guide O.P. Almaraz in his life and role as Founder & CEO of Allied Restoration, Southern California’s leading disaster mitigation and home water damage restoration service. Allied’s success in providing restoration services to residential and commercial properties damaged by smoke, fire, water and mold has earned them a roster of A-List clients, like Melissa Gilbert and Nancy O’Dell, and numerous referrals. “Understanding that our clients have suffered a loss means that we approach our work with empathy and understanding,” Almaraz says. “We recently worked with 25 clients who survived the Bel Air and Montecito disasters. Because of the highly sensitive nature of our work I have a therapist meet with my staff once a month. This allows us to stay focused and effective.”

Disaster relief is a round the clock job that requires powerful teamwork, so creating a strong sense of community for his staff is paramount to Almaraz. He and his staff meet daily to discuss projects, service values and bolster communication. “The key to building and inspiring a world class team is empowering them to bring their skills, knowledge and ideas to the table,” Almaraz shares. “People want to work for a cause more than a paycheck, so it is my role to invest in them to create a team of leaders.”