



Trusted Adviser to the Alternative Investments Industry



AKRAM
Assurance, Advisory & Tax

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Alternative Investment Funds Are the Cornerstone of Our Business

Akram boasts deep industry experience spanning all Alternative Investment fund strategies and structures. From formation to capital accumulation to realization, our audit, tax and advisory professionals have the experience and insight you need. We work with you in a coordinated, collaborative fashion to ensure you are armed with a variety of perspectives to form the best courses of action for your fund.

Akram is often chosen as an alternative to Big 4 firms because of our exceptionally responsive and personalized service. As a boutique firm specializing in Alternative Investments, our highest priority is providing outstanding client service and establishing long-term relationships based on integrity, objectivity and open communication.

We have earned a reputation of trust in the marketplace through offering customized service and senior-led involvement. Our approach allows us to deliver the targeted services our clients require to run their fund operations efficiently and to make strategic decisions with confidence.

We understand the unique challenges faced by fund managers. From the beginning of our partnership, you can count on team continuity as well as the strength of long-term relationship building. We will be your trusted adviser.

We serve the following types of funds in the Alternative Investment space:

- Hedge, Venture Capital (VC), and Private Equity (PE) Funds
- Real Estate and Commodity Pools
- Management Companies and General Partner (GP) Entities
- Registered Investment Companies

We Offer a Full Spectrum of Fund Services

Whether you are seeking the right course of action to generate higher investment returns, manage costs and risks, or enhance transparency and reporting, Akram & Associates has the insight, skills and resources to offer a full range of coordinated and targeted audit, tax and advisory services. We will help you realize your specific organizational, operational, financial, regulatory and technological goals.



Audit Services

In the Alternative Investments industry, accuracy is paramount. As compliance and financial reporting requirements rise, investors and regulators expect more transparency. Our Auditors bring a strategic, market-focused perspective and work alongside Fund Managers on their compliance, internal controls and reporting activities.

Our judgments are backed by intimate knowledge of your business and ever-changing regulatory environment. We bring Fund Managers a broad understanding of their financial performance and key areas of risk.

Our audit services for the Alternative Investments industry include:

- Fund statutory audits
- Technical accounting advice

Tax Services

Many Fund Managers leave money on the table by focusing on the accounting (book) side of trades while failing to account for the tax side. To avoid unnecessary losses, managers need to understand the tax ramifications of wash sales, length and character of holding periods, FIFO/LIFO, and other characteristics of different lots of securities.

Akram & Associates helps Managers monitor and utilize the tax cost basis of their portfolios in a timely manner, so they can enhance the tax efficiency of their trading activities. Our state-of-the-art tax software solutions enable us to deliver tax reporting information faster than any of our competitors. We will help you manage the technical, financial and operational complexity of your due diligence documentation, reporting and compliance processes.

We provide a wide range of tax services to investment partnerships/funds, including:

- Preparation of federal and state tax returns and partner Schedule K-1s
- Assistance in the selection of tax allocation methodologies to be utilized by funds
- Preparation of estimates, PFIC annual information statements, if necessary
- Response to limited partner inquiries on tax issues, federal and state tax notices
- Review of new entities partnership agreements, offering memorandums and FATCA guidance



Key Personnel



Muhammad A. Akram, *Founder and CPA*

Muhammad Akram is a Certified Public Accountant in the state of California (License #114908), New York (License #122344), and North Carolina (Certificate #37968) and leads the Firm's overall practice.

Muhammad earned a Bachelor of Accounting from SKANS School of Accountancy. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and North Carolina Society of Certified Public Accountants.

He has worked with Ernst & Young International, Anchin Block and Anchin LLP, and Rothstein Kass & Co. where he worked on the audit, tax and consulting engagements for onshore and offshore alternative investment funds.

Muhammad has worked with hedge fund and mutual fund administrators and has supervised all aspects of fund accounting and financial reporting assignments. He has also been responsible for advising investment companies on structuring and compliance processes, and for providing consultation on regulatory and tax matters.

Ghias Khan, *CPA and Commercial Practice Leader*

Ghias is a Certified Public Accountant in the state of New York (License # 077913) and leads the Firm's commercial practice.

Ghias earned a Bachelor of Science with a major in Accounting from the State University of New York. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA).

He has worked with regional and local CPA Firms on audit, review, compilation, tax and consulting engagements for non-public companies in various sectors of manufacturing, apparel, real estate, law firms, retail and wholesale, in addition to employee benefit plans.

Ghias is also integrally involved with developing enhancements and processes to service client requirements and procedures for operational efficiencies. He is responsible for quality control functions in our Firm and reviews every audit job subject to peer review.



Headquartered in North Carolina with a National Presence

Akram & Associates PLLC is a full-service PCOB registered CPA Firm. We are licensed in five states including North Carolina (Reg #33032), New York (ID #110272), Oregon (2709), California (OFR 289), and Georgia (ACF006555).

Recognition

We are proud to serve as a trusted partner to our clients and are humbled by the industry recognition we have received. Akram & Associates was shortlisted for the HFM US Services Awards 2019 in the following categories:

- Best Advisory Firm - Tax
- Best Auditor

Akram & Associates PLLC

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