

# **TERRY CARTER, CEO, Travertine Spa**

[www.travertinespa.com](http://www.travertinespa.com)

## **1. Why did you go to law school?**

To learn how a company works from the viewpoint of its legal needs.

## **2. When did you first think about leaving the practice of law or decide to quit law school?**

Law school was a stepping stone for me to starting my own business. I don't understand why people feel they have to be locked into one career, irrespective of expense. Law gives you so many skill sets that apply in various fields. I am not a one trick pony. I never desired a partnership track. I don't hate law. I just felt like I achieved a lot early and needed more challenge.

## **3. What thought, experience or event first inspired your current career choice?**

I saw the tranquil environment in spas and wanted that in my life.

## **4. What was the very first action you took when you decided to switch careers?**

Started referring to my profession as CEO of Travertine Spa instead of IP counsel.

## **5. What resources (people, books, money) assisted you most during your transition?**

Self funded. Bible. Parents-entrepreneurs.

## **6. How did you handle fear and/or uncertainty during your transition?**

Lots of advice from entrepreneur friends. Tried to learn as much as I could and gave myself permission to make mistakes.

## **7. What skills from law school or your legal career have proven most useful in your new career?**

Diligence. Confidence. Professionalism. In law, you don't miss deadlines. In business, many are not as diligent and make up silly excuses. I feel like I'm running in a marathon and competing against people with one leg. They can only do one task at a time where I am strategizing and completing tasks.

## **8. What advice would you give to someone trying to make the leap from law into your field?**

Just do it. Any other explanation is superfluous.

## **9. Any final words of wisdom? How has living your passion impacted your life?**

I LOVE what I do. The fear is real , the risk is real, but I'm typing from Mexico , on a mini vacation because I can handle work online, had a fantastic day roaming around town, and I'm not worried about every well placed comma on a brief. More importantly is the impact on others. Others are motivated to reach higher for their own goals by seeing me do it. CHECK OUT: <http://diaryofapersonalshopper.blogspot.com>. There I write a weekly article on wellness and rejuvenation.