

Lawyers



Color

# **NATION'S BEST 2020**

# Congratulations

to our partner Irfan Lateef



## Lawyers of Color's Inaugural Nation's Best 2020 List Honoree

Irfan Lateef brings a wide range of experiences to helping clients achieve their goals. He works tirelessly to provide the right result in litigation, negotiation, risk management, tactical brand development, technology-focused initiatives and strategic IP mobilization. Being personally committed to the clients he serves is Irfan's personality – and he keeps fighting to the end to ensure they are satisfied.

**Irfan Lateef**

Partner

[irfan.lateef@knobbe.com](mailto:irfan.lateef@knobbe.com)

T: 949-760-0404

2040 Main Street  
14th Floor  
Irvine, CA 92614

# Congratulations on being named to Lawyers of Color Nation's Best 2020 List



## **Nader Raja**

*Member*

naderraja@mvalaw.com

704.331.3621

*Nader Raja manages high-stakes litigation, enforcement, and regulatory issues. He handles class actions, complex business and securities litigation and civil and criminal investigations by governmental authorities across the globe.*

Moore & Van Allen is proud to support the Lawyers of Color organization and its devotion to promoting diversity in the legal profession and advancing inclusion and equality in the communities we serve.

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# Recognizing Excellence



We are proud to congratulate Zhu Julie Lee on being named to Lawyers of Color's Best Nation's 2020 list.

Foley is dedicated to fostering an environment that embraces differences, promotes equality, and engenders mutual respect, thereby creating a culture of inclusion where everyone has the opportunity to excel.

For more information about Foley, please contact:  
Alexis P. Robertson | Chicago | [arobertson@foley.com](mailto:arobertson@foley.com)

[FOLEY.COM](https://www.foley.com)



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## Our Team

Christopher Nelson - Editor at Large

Gabriela Martinez - Administrator

Kaitlyn Williamson - Coordinator

Yolanda Young - President & Executive Director

**L**awyers of Color is a 501(c)(3) devoted to promoting diversity in the legal profession and advancing democracy and equality in marginalized communities.

We conduct and commission research and studies regarding the intersection of the legal profession and social justice. We also create and curate articles, blogs, studies, and videos. Our global online community advocates for the well-being of our people, especially marginalized communities. We mobilize to eradicate injustice. We give change agents a vehicle to respond quickly and forcefully to oppressive and damaging policies and systems. We motivate business, political, and community leaders to effect change and advance equality.

## Bringing out the best in all of us.

Phillips Lytle proudly salutes Rosa Alina Pizzi on being named to the Lawyers of Color Nation's Best 2020 List. Throughout her career, Rosa has proven that she is a leader who is invested in advancing diversity and equality in the legal profession and the legal community. We are honored to celebrate Rosa and all of the recipients of this prestigious award.



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# GIBSON DUNN

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## Mylan L. Denerstein

**Lawyers of Color's Nation's Best 2020**

Mylan is a true champion of diversity and inclusion – not only at Gibson Dunn, but also in the legal profession and the broader community. With a legal career spanning nearly three decades, her tireless dedication to elevating diverse talent and cultivating inclusive spaces is unparalleled – from her time as the highest ranking African American in Governor Cuomo's administration where she was the chief architect of the Women's Equality Act, to her leadership in spearheading the fight for marriage equality in New York State, to her current efforts in recruiting, retaining and promoting diverse talent at Gibson Dunn.

**Congratulations to Mylan and the other honorees!**

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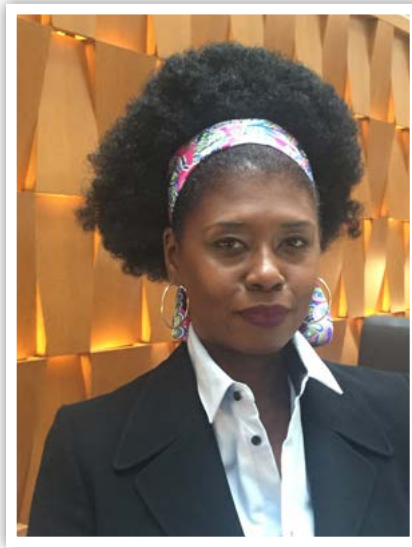
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**L**awyers of Color is proud to present Nation's Best 2020, which recognizes law firm partners and high ranking in-house counsel for their exceptional accomplishments in the legal profession. This award is primarily to acknowledge their sustained career achievements. Our selection committee, composed of our fellows, advisers, and editorial staff, also recognized their commitment to diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. These attorneys are esteemed by Lawyers of Color and their peers for having consistently achieved distinction in an exemplary way.

Yolanda Young  
President & Executive Director

ONE OF

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BEST



**DUSTIN O'QUINN**

Putting the professional accomplishments of Dustin O'Quinn into words is no small feat. In his integral role as a Lane Powell Shareholder, he leads the Immigration Team, mentors associates and provides counsel for a roster of prestigious clients in all aspects of immigration law.

Taken together with his presence as a hiring partner on Lane Powell's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee, his 2019 Fellowship on the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, and his community volunteer work, it's not hard to see what we mean. Dustin is someone who makes those around him want to do better and we are immensely grateful to have him on our team.

**Join us in congratulating Dustin on his inclusion in the 2020 Lawyers of Color's Nation's Best!**



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We are proud to support  
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Congratulations to our colleague  
Lawrence G. Wee, named to  
Lawyers of Color's  
Nation's Best 2020 List

# LAWYERS OF COLOR INITIATIVES

## **Create a black law student judicial clerkship collaborative**

Throughout the country there are judicial clerkship programs targeted at diverse law students; however, few clerkships go to black law graduates. We are going to create a collaborative that helps determine and scale the most effective methods and programs.

## **Provide qualified summer associate candidates to firms that have difficulty recruiting black law students.**

We contacted nearly 100 law firms that had less than 1 percent black lawyers. Most did not respond, but of the three who responded, two explained they were IP firms and found it difficult to find black law students with STEM degrees. We are going to create a free black law student resume bank and pre-screening interview service law firms.



Congratulations to our friend and colleague  
**LIBIN ZHANG 张黎彬**  
and all of the honorees named to Lawyers  
of Color's Nation's Best list

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Fried Frank advises the world's leading corporations, investment funds, real estate businesses, and financial institutions on their most critical legal needs and business opportunities. The Firm's approximately 500 lawyers are based in North America and Europe.

At Fried Frank, we believe a robust diversity and inclusion initiative isn't just good for our diverse population, but good for everyone. We welcome — and actively look for — diverse perspectives. Our open-minded and progressive environment fosters an inclusive and professional atmosphere that builds on the strengths and potential of everyone.

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Lawyers  

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Color

# NATION'S BEST 2020

# leaders stand out



Polsinelli congratulates **Judy Yi** on her distinguished legal career and her selection on the ***Lawyers of Color's* Inaugural Nation's Best 2020 List**, which recognizes law firm partners and senior-level corporate counsel.

Our attorneys are dedicated to fostering inclusiveness, equality and diversity in the legal profession. Diversity of ideas and diversity in perspective lead to better results.



**real challenges. real answers.<sup>SM</sup>**

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The choice of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements. Polsinelli PC, Polsinelli LLP in California.

## Anthony Epps

Dorsey & Whitney LLP  
Partner  
Securities Transactions

J.D., University of Denver, Sturm College of Law  
B.S.B.A., University of Denver

Anthony's practice focuses on corporate governance, securities transactions, and mergers and acquisitions. Anthony's corporate governance experience includes advising public companies with U.S. Exchange Act reporting and compliance, U.S. Securities Act matters and compliance with the rules and regulations of state securities commissions and self-regulatory organizations. His complex securities transaction experience includes public and private offerings, at-the-market transactions, underwritten public offerings, bought deal offerings and PIPE offerings.

Anthony also advises clients on mergers and acquisitions, including representing both buyers and sellers in a variety of transactions, including joint ventures and reverse mergers. Anthony has extensive experience in counseling clients engaged in cross-border capital markets transactions using the Multijurisdictional Disclosure System (MJDS), Rule 144A, Regulation S. Anthony also provides clients with general broker-dealer regulatory advice relating to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA").



## Alan Mills

Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law  
B.A., Carthage College

A trusted adviser, dexterous counsellor, skilled advocate, accomplished litigator and effective relationship manager, Alan Mills serves as general counsel to domestic and foreign businesses, financial institutions and other organizational clients and individuals. He currently serves as chair of the firm's Special Servicer Team.

Clients of all kinds turn to Alan to manage the full scope of their legal affairs. A dedicated team player and committed relationship manager, Alan serves as outside general counsel to businesses and other organizations of all sizes and market segments. He is appreciated for his magnanimous personality and attentiveness to each client's often distinct and unique needs.

Notably, Alan currently serves as official financial institutions counsel to the government of Mexico. A former chair of the firm's Finance, Insolvency and Restructuring practice, Alan has also served on the firm's management, recruiting and client relations committees, where he helped develop the firm's diversity goals.



## Alexandra Haar

Heplerbroom, LLC  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Washington University School of Law  
B.A., Washington University-St. Louis

Alexandra S. Haar focuses her practice on trials involving complex business litigation matters, including product liability (particularly pharmaceuticals), religious/school institution cases, professional liability, premises liability, and motor vehicle accidents/personal injury. She also handles criminal matters through the Missouri Coalition for Right to Counsel. In addition, she represents clients in the new and evolving cannabis industry in the Midwest.

Prior to joining HeplerBroom, Ms. Haar served as a judicial law clerk for the Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, and as an Assistant Circuit Attorney for the City of St. Louis. As a prosecutor, she tried several bench and jury trial cases to conclusion in state court. She also has experience handling all phases of the litigation process, including motion practice, discovery, and trial preparation.



## Ama Adams

Ropes & Gray LLP  
Partner  
International transactions

J.D., University of Virginia School of Law  
B.A., Wesleyan University

Ama Adams' practice focuses on international transactions and the U.S. government's regulation of trade and investment. This includes most notably export controls, economic sanctions, anti-corruption and anti-money laundering, foreign direct investment and customs laws and regulations. She advises clients on these complex issues in a range of industries, including the financial services, aviation, biotechnology, life sciences, oil and gas, manufacturing, technology, and chemical sectors.

In addition to advising clients on the application of international trade regulations to their global business operations, Ms. Adams also assists clients in developing compliance programs, handling pre-and post-acquisition due diligence, conducting internal investigations relating to potential violations of trade laws and representing clients before the U.S. government agencies in connection with, license requests, enforcement matters, and government inquiries. Ms. Adams has successfully represented a number of foreign and domestic clients through the CFIUS clearance process and regularly advises clients on managing CFIUS risks across investment scenarios.



## AT THE HEART OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

Barnes & Thornburg congratulates our attorneys for being named to the **2020 Lawyers of Color Nation's Best list.**



**Michael A. Battle**  
Partner  
Washington, D.C.,  
New York



**Marlén Cortez Morris**  
Partner  
Chicago



**Lindsey D. G. Dates**  
Partner  
Chicago



**Sarah J. Hawk**  
Partner  
Atlanta



**Mark S. Kittaka**  
Partner  
Fort Wayne



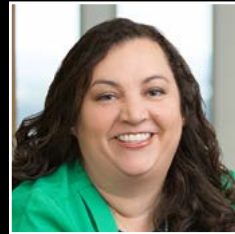
**Alan K. Mills**  
Partner  
Indianapolis



**Dawn R. Rosemond**  
Partner  
Fort Wayne



**Tejas Shah**  
Partner  
Chicago



**Katrina M. Thompson**  
Partner  
Columbus



**David A.W. Wong**  
Partner  
Indianapolis



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## Ameek Ponda

Sullivan & Worcester LLP  
Partner  
Tax

LL.M., Boston University School of Law  
J.D., Harvard Law School  
B.A., Harvard College

Ameek is director of Sullivan's Tax Department and a former member of the firm's Management Committee. He concentrates his practice in structuring corporate mergers and acquisitions, designing REIT transactions and financial instruments and working on cross-border financings and acquisitions. Ameek has represented public and private REITs in an array of real property sectors, including: business storage facilities; cold storage facilities; communications towers; data centers; dark and lit fiber; digital billboards; distributed antenna systems; foreign real estate; hotels and travel centers; industrial properties; mortgage REITs; multifamily residential; office buildings; retail properties; senior living facilities; solar, wind and power infrastructure; timberlands; transmission and distribution lines; and vineyards, greenhouses and other agricultural properties.

Ameek is nationally recognized for his work in REIT conversions and REIT cross-border matters.



## Andy Cao

McGlinchey Stafford PLLC  
Member  
Intellectual Property

J.D., University of Houston Law Center  
B.A., University of St. Thomas, Houston

Andy Cao represents clients in commercial litigation and in intellectual property litigation in state and federal courts in Texas and throughout the United States. He has advised clients on matters in bankruptcy court and appellate matters.

In his commercial litigation practice, Andy counsels clients in a variety of industries including insurance brokerage firms, small businesses, maritime lenders, and vehicle manufacturers.

Andy has represented clients in intellectual property disputes including patent infringement, trademark infringement, copyright infringement, non-compete agreements, no-hire agreements, non-solicitation agreements, and trade secrets matters.

He has been named "Top Lawyer" by Houstonia in 2013–2015. Moreover, Martindale-Hubbell recognised him as a Preeminent Peer Review Rated Lawyer.



## Anthony Gray

Humana Inc.  
Senior Counsel  
Business/Corporate Law

J.D., University of Kentucky College of Law  
B.A., University of Kentucky

## Apollo Carey

Lewis Rice LLC  
Member  
Corporate

LL.M., Washington University in St. Louis School of Law  
J.D., Saint Louis University School of Law  
B.A., University of Missouri

Originally trained as a litigator, Apollo Carey has been practicing corporate, transactional, and regulatory law for over a decade providing his clients with sound legal solutions to complex problems. Apollo has the unique perspective of being a corporate attorney with a litigation background, so he excels at problem-solving and advising clients on risk-management strategies in all areas to help avoid worst-case scenarios and unnecessary cost. He routinely provides a cost/benefit analysis to his clients of any proposed legal (and non-legal) action, and his representation strategy is designed to aid his clients in meeting their objectives while maintaining the bottom line.

Apollo was recognized by The National Black Lawyers Top 100 as one of the top "40 Under 40" in America and was named an "Up & Coming" attorney by Missouri Lawyers Weekly in 2014. He also serves on the Firm's Diversity & Inclusion Committee.



# Kaufman Borgeest & Ryan LLP

CONGRATULATES

## Ericka Fang



NAMED AMONG

## Lawyers of Color's Nation's Best

KBR is proud to support Lawyers of Color and their promotion of diversity in the legal profession. We congratulate Ericka Fang and all of this year's honorees on this well deserved honor!

**kbr**

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## Artoush Varshosaz

K&L Gates LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., University of Oklahoma College of Law  
B.B.A., University of Oklahoma



Artoush Varshosaz is a partner in the Dallas office of K&L Gates. He advises large and middle market companies and non-profit organizations to minimize legal risk arising from threatened or pending litigation. Artoush is an experienced litigator with a concentration on complex commercial disputes, internal investigations on behalf of boards and board committees, provider-side health care disputes, and financial services litigation. He has significant experience with state and federal law actions related to fiduciary duties, fraud, commercial contracts, negligence, and violation of various consumer protection and prompt pay statutes.

Artoush represents a multitude of clients, including Fortune 50 companies, non-profit organizations, boards of directors, special investigatory committees, startups, financial institutions, health care providers and pharmacies, retailers, residential and commercial property owners and operators, software developers, commercial tenants, commercial developers, and high wealth individuals in complex disputes in federal, state, and bankruptcy court all over the country.

## Ash Patel

Thompson Hine LLP  
Partner  
Intellectual Property

J.D., Georgia State University College of Law  
B.S., University of Georgia



Ash is a registered patent attorney and a partner in the firm's Intellectual Property practice group. He focuses his practice on patent, trademark, unfair competition, false advertising and copyright litigation. He also regularly counsels clients on the procurement of domestic and foreign patents, domestic and foreign trademark registrations, and domestic copyright registrations.

In addition, Ash's practice includes the preparation and issuance of opinions of counsel, the management of global patent and trademark portfolios, the assessment and evaluation of intellectual property portfolios for acquisition or sale, and the negotiation and preparation of intellectual property agreements, including acquisition, licensing and strategic alliance agreements.

## Ashley Wicks

Butler Snow LLP  
Partner  
Tax

LL.M., University of Alabama  
J.D., Tulane University School of Law  
M.P.A., Jackson State University  
B.A., Jackson State University



As a member of Butler Snow LLP's Business Services and Public Finance Groups, Ashley's practice focuses on public finance, general corporate transactions, and tax issues such as: public finance tax, state and local taxation, controversy matters, opportunity zones and tax credits.

Ashley is a member of the American, National, Magnolia, and Capital Bar Associations, as well as the National Association of Bond Lawyers. She has served in various leadership positions, including past President of the Magnolia Bar Association and current Treasurer for the Community Foundation for Mississippi, and chaired various committees. Ashley was named in the Top 10 of Mississippi Business Journal's 2016 "Top 50 Under 40" and a "Rising Star" in tax by Mid-South Super Lawyers®. In addition, she is also a 2018 Fellow of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity.

## Bobby Earles

Kirkland & Ellis LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., University of Chicago Law School  
B.B.A., Howard University



Bobby is a partner in the Litigation Group of the Chicago office of Kirkland & Ellis LLP. He focuses his practice on private equity and mergers & acquisitions-related disputes. Bobby is a full-service litigator and trial lawyer, and has managed all aspects of the civil litigation process, including mediation, motion practice, managing complex discovery projects.

Bobby is also an experienced white collar attorney, and is a member of Kirkland's Government & Internal Investigations Practice Group. He focuses his practice on international risk assessment, internal investigations, and anti-corruption compliance.

In addition to his commercial work, Bobby maintains a strong commitment to pro bono law practice. He has won multiple contested proceedings in state and federal court on behalf of pro bono clients.

Bobby was recognized as one of "Chicago's 40 Game Changers" by Ariel Investments and WVON Radio (2020). Moreover, he is the recipient of Kirkland & Ellis Diversity Scholarship.

# CONGRATULATIONS SUMMIT S. DHILLON



WSHB congratulates Partner Summit Dhillon on being named to the Lawyers of Color's 'Nation's Best for 2020' list.

Located in WSHB's Fresno, California office, Summit has been a member of WSHB's legal team for over seven years. Summit successfully represents firm clients in state and federal civil matters, including professional liability, commercial and general business litigation, employment and labor, medical malpractice, breach of contract, and other general insurance matters. In addition to Summit's position with the firm, he has also worked pro bono for the Fresno Sikh Association and Sikh American Legal Defense Fund.

WSHB is a full-service law firm with 30 locations and over 300 attorneys nationwide. As a firm we take pride in being recognized in the American Lawyer's 2020 Diversity Scorecard as one of the top three law firms in the nation for diversity.

## WSHB

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## Cardelle Spangler

Winston & Strawn LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Washington University School of Law  
B.A., Washington University

Cardelle Spangler has represented clients in complex class action, collective action, multi-plaintiff, and single plaintiff employment litigation. She has substantial trial experience before state and federal courts, as well as arbitrators. Cardelle has also conducted harassment and other investigations, drafted employment and independent contractor agreements, and conducted labor and employment training.

Cardelle has been selected as a 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 Illinois "Super Lawyer." She was recognized as a "Labor & Employment Star" in the 2020 edition of Benchmark Litigation. She was also selected as a 2016 "Leading Woman Lawyer" by Law Bulletin. Cardelle was selected as a 2015 Illinois Super Lawyer and an Illinois "Rising Star." In addition, Cardelle was selected as a 2015 "Leading Lawyer" by Law Bulletin.



## Chalon N. Clark

Husch Blackwell LLP  
Partner  
Commercial Litigation

J.D., University of Texas School of Law  
B.B.A., University of Houston

Chalon Clark, a member of the firm's Financial Services & Capital Markets group, serves on Husch Blackwell's Diversity Council. She assists clients in disputes involving contracts, review of contracts and leases to identify potential litigation risks, employer/employee relations, collection-related matters, foreclosures, fraud, banking, partnership, real property, mortgage lending, construction and brokerage/securities issues. Clark is active in the Dallas Association of Young Lawyers and the Dallas Bar Association, and is a Mentor for the Dallas Women Lawyers Association.

Chalon has been recognized by Dallas Business Journal as a Minority Business Leader in 2019 and by Texas Monthly in 2020, Top Women Attorneys in Texas.



## Chantel Febus

Proskauer Rose LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., George Washington University Law School  
B.A., St. John Fisher College

Chantel Febus is a partner in the Litigation department and a member of Proskauer's Antitrust, Sports and White Collar Defense & Investigations practices. She represents clients in domestic and international internal investigations, federal enforcement actions, and complex commercial litigation. Her clients span a wide array of industries, including healthcare, precious minerals, online travel services, universities, media and entertainment and private investment funds. Chantel also provides pre-transactional due diligence related to the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and Anti-Money Laundering laws for a spectrum of corporate clients. Drawing on her substantial experience as a federal prosecutor and appellate clerk, Chantel brings a broad perspective to the table as she helps her clients navigate complex legal issues.

Chantel is a member of the Firm's Hiring and Pro Bono Committees and spearheads the Firm's Proskauer Prep program, a unique program for 1L women aimed at delivering practical insight into their first year at law school and Big Law practice.



## Charles Grant

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC  
Shareholder  
Litigation

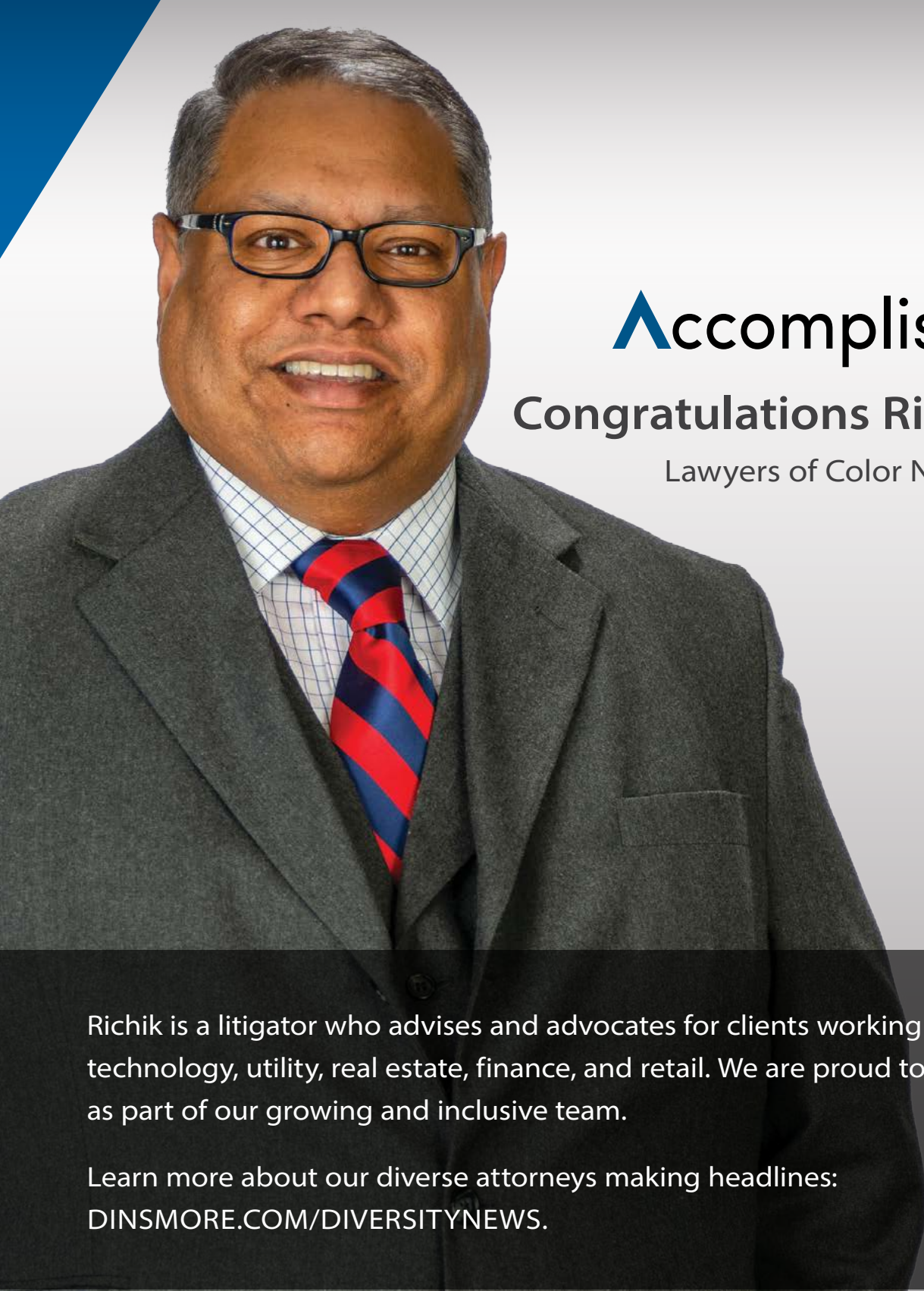
J.D., Washington and Lee University School of Law  
B.S., The Citadel

Charles K. Grant is a veteran litigator who has tried more than 50 jury trials to verdict in both federal and state courts, and represented numerous clients in mediation and arbitration proceedings across more than a dozen states.

Mr. Grant represents clients in complex employment litigation, including collective actions under the Fair Labor Standards Act, as well as business litigation matters. He is a shareholder in the Firm's Nashville office and a former member of the Firm's Board of Directors. Mr. Grant's clients also include licensed professionals, such as lawyers, physicians and dentists, whom he has represented before licensing boards.

Mr. Grant was profiled in the February 2014 online publication Diversity, Inc., and in the Spring 2011 issue of the Firm's Diversity Matters newsletter.





Accomplish **môre**<sup>SM</sup>

**Congratulations Richik Sarkar**

Lawyers of Color Nation's Best 2020

Richik is a litigator who advises and advocates for clients working in media, technology, utility, real estate, finance, and retail. We are proud to have him as part of our growing and inclusive team.

Learn more about our diverse attorneys making headlines:  
[DINSMORE.COM/DIVERSITYNEWS](https://DINSMORE.COM/DIVERSITYNEWS).

Dins**môre**

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## Corin Korenaga

Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP  
Partner  
Real estate

J.D., University of Michigan Law School  
B.A., Stanford University



Corin is a transactional real estate attorney whose practice focuses on acquisitions, dispositions, leasing, and merger and acquisition deals. He prides himself on strategically and efficiently negotiating, documenting and closing transactions, all while paying close attention to his clients' business objectives. Before joining Cox, Castle & Nicholson in 2011, Corin practiced at law firms in Honolulu and Chicago. He currently resides in Santa Monica with his wife and 2 boys.

Corin guides homebuilders and other commercial real estate developers through the various aspects of acquisition, disposition, and development of real estate projects as well as other merger, recapitalization, and asset deals. He advises on all deal stages from structuring, negotiation and documentation, diligence efforts, closing, and development.

## Crystal Nix-Hines

Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Harvard Law School  
B.A., Princeton University



Crystal Nix-Hines is a Partner in the Los Angeles Office where she focuses on class action litigation, sovereign disputes, contractual and unfair business practice disputes, shareholder derivative actions, internal investigations and other complex matters. Her clients include domestic and multinational corporations, global investment firms and major non-profit organizations. Ambassador Nix-Hines returned to the firm in 2017 after her tenure in Paris as U.S. Ambassador to UNESCO. She Co-Chairs the firm's Crisis Law & Strategy Group, which helps clients with crisis management and resolution, as well as longer-term strategic issues including diversity and inclusion, compliance and corporate governance issues. She also Chairs the firm's Education Practice Group and is currently defending numerous universities in COVID-19-related class action litigation. She initially joined the firm in 2008 as Of Counsel.

## Darrell Miller

Fox Rothschild LLP  
Partner  
Entertainment

J.D., Georgetown University Law Center  
B.F.A., University of Cincinnati Conservatory of Music



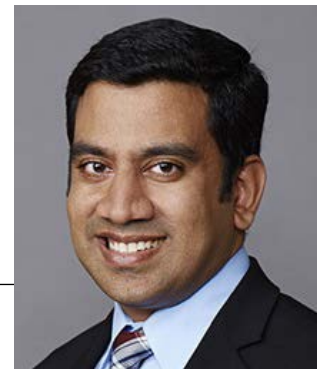
Darrell is the Founding Chair of the Entertainment & Sports Law Department. A prominent entertainment lawyer with more than 20 years' experience in entertainment law, Darrell focuses his practice on transactional law with an emphasis on the motion picture, television, music, theater and multimedia industries. As a testament to his effective brand-building strategies, Darrell is consistently listed among Hollywood's top dealmakers by national industry publications such as Variety and The Hollywood Reporter.

Darrell served on the Cincinnati Children's Theatre Board of Directors and on the Air Force Entertainment Liaison Board. A jazz and classical music enthusiast, Darrell is a frequent panelist and guest moderator of discussions relating to both the talent and institutional aspects of entertainment law. Darrell's book, The 16th Minute of Fame: An Insider's Guide for Maintaining Success Beyond 15 Minutes of Fame, was published in 2014, and subsequently led to Darrell's nomination for the prestigious NAACP Image Award in the category of Outstanding Literary Work—Debut Author.

## David R. Singh

Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Cornell Law School  
B.A., University of Minnesota



David R. Singh's practice covers all aspects of complex commercial litigation in state and federal courts throughout the country. He has litigated a wide variety of disputes, including consumer class actions, trade secret misappropriation and employee mobility disputes, breach of contract, fraud, and product liability cases, and earn out, working capital, indemnification and other post-closing M&A disputes.

Mr. Singh is currently recognized as a "Next Generation Lawyer" for Product Liability, Mass Tort & Class Action – Defense: Consumer Products and as a "Recommended Lawyer" for General Commercial Disputes and Advertising & Marketing: Litigation by Legal 500. In 2017 and 2018, he was named to Benchmark Litigation's "40 & Under Hot List." Mr. Singh also was named to Law360's 2017 list of "Rising Stars" for his work on class actions, Minority Corporate Counsel Association's list of 2017 "Rising Stars," and the Daily Journal's 2016 "40 Under 40" list.





Congratulations  
to our colleague  
**Namita Tripathi Shah**  
Lawyers of Color's  
Nation's Best 2020  
Honoree

**Each voice  
adds strength  
and texture  
to the picture.**

At Day Pitney, we seek out diversity as an inexhaustible source of fresh ideas, innovative strategies and new approaches.

Day Pitney appreciates the way the distinctive backgrounds and unique experiences of our attorneys and staff add depth and perspective to all we do, including being change agents for social justice and equity.





## David Wheeler

Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg LLP  
Partner  
Intellectual Property

J.D., Loyola University Chicago School of Law  
M.B.A., Loyola College in Maryland  
B.S., University of Maryland



David is a partner in the Intellectual Property and Data Privacy and Information Governance practice groups. He counsels and defends clients in data, cybersecurity and privacy matters. His practice features a Defense in Depth (DiD) approach to protecting clients and their data, including information governance programs, cybersecurity risk assessment and preparedness, incident response planning, legal and regulatory compliance and security, and privacy and information management needs. He is CIPP certified by the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP).

He provides counsel based on a wide variety of cybersecurity and privacy considerations, including the development of cyber and privacy policies and procedures, cybersecurity and privacy audits, cyber risk mitigation and remediation, cybersecurity and PCI compliance, GDPR compliance, CCPA compliance, employee privacy issues.

Clients value David's three decades of information technology experience, including software development, use and policy development. He quickly assesses the risks and implications of each situation and guides clients toward the best solution for their business goals.

## David Wong

Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
Partner  
Intellectual Property

J.D., Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law  
B.A., Indiana State University



David A. W. Wong is a partner with Barnes & Thornburg where he is a member of the Intellectual Property Department and Chairman of the Internet and Technology Law Group. David's practice focuses on Internet law, technology, media, intellectual property counseling, risk management, prosecution, policing and enforcement. He regularly advises clients on commercial and intellectual property matters, such as trademark, copyright, defamation, trade dress, advertising, right of publicity, trade secret and unfair competition issues.

His practice includes prosecution of trademark registrations and enforcement of trademark rights in the U.S. and in foreign jurisdictions, drafting and negotiating of intellectual property-related licenses and other contracts. Mr. Wong also has significant experience handling litigious matters involving trademark infringement, copyright infringement, fraud, right of publicity, privacy and defamation issues, trade secrets, domain names and other Internet-related disputes.

David has been recognized by The Best Lawyers in America for his work in the area of trademark law.

## Dawn R. Rosemond

Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., University of Illinois College of Law  
B.A., Indiana University-Bloomington



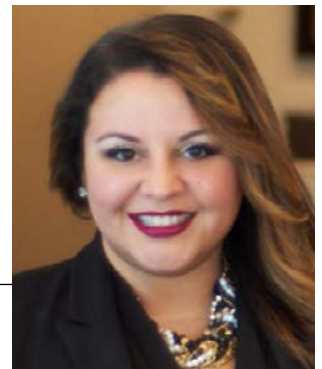
Dawn Rosemond serves as Barnes & Thornburg's Firm Diversity Partner. In this role, Dawn is charged with activating the firm's long-standing commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. Through the creation and implementation of deliberate programming and strategic initiatives, Dawn leads the charge for cultivating and maintaining an environment that boldly promotes the training, sponsorship, empowerment and promotion of all firm talent, regardless of background.

A published author of the best-selling business short, *Boss Presence*, Dawn is a national speaker on leadership and personal development and a deliberate mentor. At her core, Dawn is moved by pointing people to their greatness and believes that doing so is the best way to elevate individual and collective consciousness and ultimately change a culture.

## Debbie Satyal

Office Depot  
Assistant General Counsel,  
Regulatory Compliance & Litigation  
Litigation

J.D., Boston College Law School  
M.A., Florida Atlantic University  
B.A., University of Florida



Debbie is experienced in handling litigation matters arising out of title defects, foreclosures, defensive litigation, federal regulatory compliance and landlord-tenant law. She has also handled litigation related to bankruptcy as well as immigration law.

In the legal community, Debbie has been active in the South Asian Bar Association of Florida for many years, including serving as its President, Vice President, as a member of the Board of Directors and as Treasurer. She serves as Finance Chair of the New Leaders Council, Palm Beach and is a member of the Florida Nepal Association.

Debbie earned her J.D. from Boston College Law School. While a law student, she was a member of the National Mock Trial Team and served as Co-Chair for the Law Student Association Committee. She was also a recipient of the Boston Law School Alumni Association Scholarship, the William O'Keefe Commencement Award and the Commitment to Change University Award.

# **Davis Wright Tremaine congratulates our friend and colleague, Nancy Clapp, for being honored among the Lawyers of Color Nation's Best list.**

Davis Wright Tremaine is proud to support Lawyers of Color and its commitment to promoting diversity in the legal profession and advancing democracy and equality in marginalized communities. Congratulations to Nancy and all of this year's honorees!



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## Desta Asfaw

Holland & Hart LLP  
Partner  
Wealth

J.D., University of Colorado School of Law  
B.A., University of Colorado, Leeds School of Business

Desta Asfaw develops sophisticated estate, wealth transfer, and wealth preservation planning solutions for high net worth individuals, families, and closely-held businesses.

Desta specializes in complex asset structures involving a variety of wealth transfer, charitable, and business succession planning strategies. She enjoys providing her clients with strategic tax planning advice while also addressing personal goals and promoting family harmony through multiple generations.

Desta typically represents business owners, executives, other high net worth individuals, trusts, closely-held businesses, foundations, and corporate fiduciaries.

## Dustin O'Quinn

Lane Powell PC  
Shareholder; Immigration Team Chair;  
Hiring Partner (Seattle)  
Immigration Law

J.D., The University of Texas School of Law  
B.A., The University of Texas at Austin



Dustin O'Quinn counsels clients of all sizes, from startups to Fortune 100 companies, in all areas of immigration law with a focus on the technology, energy, design and financial industries.

He develops immigration programs for startup companies in the technology industry and counsels clients on corporate structure, funding and investor relations. He also advises large corporations on the immigration implications of mergers and acquisitions, I-9 compliance and government audits.

Dustin has significant experience representing employers in H-1B, H-2B, H-2A and L-1 visa matters, as well as uncommon classifications, including investors, extraordinary-ability visas, and maritime immigration matters.

Chambers USA's Guide to America's Leading Lawyers for Business and its sources have stated that Dustin "stands out for his honest and humble demeanor, as well as his inclusive approach, and for his willingness to answer all questions.

## Eduardo Kim

Thompson Hine LLP  
Partner  
Commercial & Public Finance

J.D., Cornell University Law School  
B.A., Cornell University



Eduardo is a partner in the firm's Commercial & Public Finance practice group. He focuses his practice on commercial lending, primarily representing banks and other financial institutions. Eduardo has significant experience with syndicated, multi-bank senior credit facilities, asset based and structured finance facilities, acquisition financing, leasing transactions and foreign currency transactions.

Prior to joining the Commercial & Public Finance practice group, Eduardo worked in the Bankruptcy practice group, focusing on Chapter 11 reorganizations, workouts and representing Creditors' Committees.

Mr. Kim was listed in The Best Lawyers in America since 2012 in the fields of Banking and Finance Law, and Commercial Finance Law.

## Ejim Peter Achi

Greenberg Traurig, LLP  
Shareholder  
Private equity

J.D., University of Pennsylvania Law School  
M.B.A., Yale School of Management  
B.A., University of Pennsylvania



Ejim Achi represents private equity sponsors in connection with buy-outs, mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, joint ventures, restructurings and other investments spanning a wide range of industries and sectors, with particular emphasis on technology, healthcare, industrials, consumer packaged goods, hospitality and infrastructure.

Originally from Imo State, Nigeria, Mr. Achi is interested in economic development and investment in Africa. He is the recipient of the Accelerator Award, MIT Sloan School of Business Africa Innovate Business Plan Competition, 2011.

## Elizabeth Broadway

Alston & Bird LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., University of Georgia School of Law  
B.A., Florida A&M University



Liz Broadway Brown is a business and commercial litigator who concentrates her practice on the defense of high-stakes class action and privacy litigation matters, primarily in the health care, technology, and financial services industries. Liz has significant experience litigating complex disputes in trial and appellate courts across the county.

Liz was named to the Daily Report's "On the Rise" class of 2020, an elite group of Georgia's most promising lawyers under the age of 40, to the Georgia Super Lawyers "Rising Stars" list in 2018 and was named one of The National Black Lawyers' "Top 40 Under 40" in Georgia in 2015 and 2016. She is listed in The Best Lawyers in America in the area of Mass Tort Litigation / Class Actions – Defendants for 2021. Liz is the immediate past president of the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys, an award-winning voluntary bar organization with nearly 600 members across the state of Georgia.

# Celebrating the strength and vision of a culture of diversity

Congratulations to our partner **Ameek Ashok Ponda** and all the honorees named to the *Lawyers of Color* 2020 Nation's Best List



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## Ericka Fang

Kaufman Borgeest & Ryan LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Hofstra University School of Law  
Oregon Health and Sciences University, M.P.H.  
Howard University, B.S.N.

**E**ricka is a partner concentrating in the fields of medical malpractice defense, nursing home litigation, and general liability. She has experience representing major metropolitan medical hospitals, physicians, dentists, nurses, home health attendants, and other health care professionals. Ericka has also been appointed to the Diversity + Inclusion Counsel of the prestigious American Health Lawyers Association (AHLA).

Ericka has been named one of the top rated Medical Malpractice attorneys by Super Lawyers magazine and she has been selected to the New York Metropolitan Rising Stars list since 2015. Each year, no more than 2.5% of the lawyers in the state are selected by the research team at Super Lawyers to receive this honor.

In 2019, she was selected as a member of the National Bar Association's 40 Under 40 - Nation's Best Advocates. This award recognizes the nation's top lawyers under 40 who demonstrate a wide range of high achievements, including in innovation, perception, leadership, legal and community involvement.



## Eugene Ho

Verrill Dana, LLP  
Partner  
Corporate

J.D., American University Washington College of Law  
B.A., Amherst College

**E**ugene counsels companies in all stages of their development from start-up through acquisition. He values his role as a trusted advisor and seeks to provide practical legal advice to all of his clients, taking into consideration their business and other objectives. Eugene frequently serves as outside general counsel to businesses in a wide variety of industries, including telecommunications, manufacturing, software, transportation, health care, and technology.

Prior to joining Verrill, Eugene practiced for many years in the Corporate Department at a midsize firm in Boston, where he represented some of New England's most dynamic privately held, middle-market companies.

Outside the office, Eugene is an active member of the community. He is a past president of the Asian American Lawyers Association of Massachusetts. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Asian Community Development Corporation, which is the leading regional developer and preserver of affordable housing in areas of Greater Boston with high concentrations of Asian Americans.



## Gejaa Gobena

Hogan Lovells US LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Columbia Law School  
B.A., University of Virginia

**G**ejaa Gobena uses his almost two decades of experience as both a former senior prosecutor and private attorney to help companies and individuals thoughtfully navigate high-stakes investigations and government enforcement actions, particularly in the area of healthcare fraud.

Gejaa has handled investigations in every part of the health care industry, and his unique experience and approach to handling complex matters is especially valuable to clients as they evaluate allegations, assess risks, and respond to government investigations.

Gejaa has received numerous awards as a result of his government service, including the Attorney General's Award for Fraud Prevention in 2016 and in 2011, the Award for Excellence from the Health and Human Services Department of the Office of the Inspector General in 2015, and the Assistant Attorney General's Award for Distinguished Service in 2013. In 2011, he was also selected by the National Law Journal as one of the top 40 minority attorneys under 40.



## Glennys Ortega Rubin

Shutts & Bowen LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., University of Florida  
B.A., Stetson University

**G**lennys Ortega Rubin is a partner in the Orlando office of Shutts & Bowen LLP. Glennys is a seasoned litigator, representing companies of all sizes in a myriad of industries and in various forums, including mediation, arbitration, agency proceedings and trial (state, federal and appellate). In addition to litigation, Glennys is a trusted advisor to her clients and provides them with advice and counsel, as well as training on employment and business related topics.

Prior to returning to Central Florida, where she grew up, Glennys practiced law in South Florida and was an active member of Florida's Children First and the Junior League of Greater Fort Lauderdale. Glennys is also a former board member of the Broward County Hispanic Bar Association and a former member of the Judicial Select and Tenure Committee for the Broward County Bar Association.



# **Congratulations**

**Ray Tabandeh**

on being named to  
Lawyers of Color's  
Nation's Best 2020 list.



**Partner**  
Intellectual Property

## Hector A. Agdeppa

Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP  
Partner  
Intellectual Property

J.D., American University  
B.S., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



**H**ector Agdeppa is a partner in the Intellectual Property Practice Group in the firm's San Diego (Del Mar) office.

Hector specializes in patent application drafting and prosecution in the electrical, mechanical and computer software arts, as well as in the medical device field, and he is well-versed in the management and monetization of patent portfolios. He is also experienced in inter partes review proceedings, tech transfer and licensing, IP due diligence and opinion/freedom to operate assessments, and he provides patent litigation support for a variety of clients, large and small, covering a broad range of industries.

Previously, Hector was a patent examiner for over five years with the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO), where he specialized in examining patent applications relating to telecommunications and data networking, computer-telephony integration and terminal equipment and structures.

## Jacob Heath

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP  
Partner  
Intellectual Property

J.D., University of Southern California Gould School of Law  
B.A., University of California, Los Angeles



**W**hether it be a Fortune 500 company or a startup, technology companies are not immune from competitors, former employees, and relentless cybercriminals. To protect his clients' intellectual property, their data, their customers, Jake Heath offers the most diligent and aggressive protection possible.

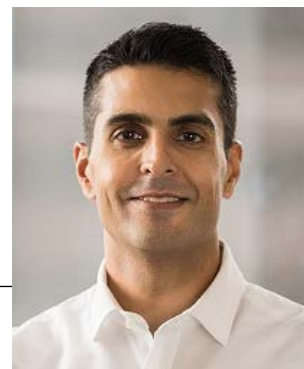
Undaunted by a case's legal or technical complexity, precedent, or magnitude, Jake will not stop until his clients' patents, copyrights, and trade secrets are protected; the cybersecurity breach is stopped; and the cybercriminals are brought to justice.

To develop those creative legal solutions, Jake draws upon his unique blend of experience. He has carried out Internet enforcement actions involving cybercrime, fraud, and deceptive activity; brand violations; intellectual property infringement; trade secrets; and cybersecurity breaches. Jake has also handled a variety of complex commercial and tech transaction litigation in federal and federal court, as well as several white collar criminal investigations. Jake also draws from his practical litigation experience and trial advocacy.

## Irfan Lateef

Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear LLP  
Partner  
Intellectual Property

J.D., Georgetown University Law Center  
M.S., Northwestern University  
B.S.E., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



**I**rfan Lateef brings a wide range of experiences to helping clients achieve their goals. He works tirelessly to provide the right result in litigation, negotiation, risk management, tactical brand development, technology-focused initiatives and strategic IP mobilization. Being personally committed to the clients he serves is Irfan's personality – and he keeps fighting to the end to ensure they are satisfied.

Passionate about his clients, their innovation and distinctive goals, Irfan is careful, considerate and helpful by nature, and strives to provide value far beyond legal counsel by focusing on the development of productive relationships across his practice. Ranked among the premier IP litigators in Super Lawyers magazine and in the "World's Leading Patent Professionals" for the Patent 1000 guide by Intellectual Asset Management (IAM) magazine, Irfan has also been listed in the "Legal 500." Moreover, he is included among the Daily Journal's "100 leading IP attorneys in California" for his extraordinary representation of Toshiba Corp.

## Jacquelynne M. Jennings

Schiff Hardin LLP  
Partner  
Finance

J.D., University of California - Los Angeles - School of Law  
B.A., University of California - Berkeley



**J**acquelynne M. Jennings concentrates her practice in finance and corporate transactions with a particular emphasis on public finance. As bond counsel, disclosure counsel and underwriter's counsel, she helps her clients meet their objectives with creative, comprehensive and compliant solutions.

Jacquelynne represents several investment banking institutions in connection with public finance matters. She has also acted as general counsel to various for-profit and non-profit corporations.

Prior to joining Schiff Hardin in 2013, Jacquelynne served as one of two partners at a boutique firm in San Francisco, where she focused her practice in public finance, corporate, nonprofit and business law. Earlier, she was an attorney at a national law firm, where she managed the firm's general municipal finance practice.

On a pro bono basis, Jacquelynne provides general corporate advice to several nonprofit entities that provide services to associated student organizations, homeless services providers, low- and moderate-income residents and autistic individuals.



# Advancing Inclusion & Equity

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We are proud to join in congratulating honorees named to the **Lawyers of Color Nation's Best 2020** list, including our own **Narges Kakalia** and **Jinnie Reed**.

In our client relationships and management of the firm, we share Lawyers of Color's commitment to promoting diversity and fostering social equality.

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**Narges Kakalia**  
Director of Diversity,  
Equity and Inclusion



**Jinnie Reed**  
Member,  
Intellectual Property

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## Jenny Chou

Wiggin and Dana LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Yale Law School  
B.A., Harvard College

Jenny focuses her practice on government and internal investigations, white collar defense, and complex civil litigation. Her work has spanned diverse industries and settings, from Fortune 500 companies to family-owned start-ups.

Jenny has twice been named to Benchmark Litigation's "Under 40 Hot List." Jenny was named a "New Leader in the Law" by the Connecticut Law Tribune and was recognized as a Rising Star in the area of white collar defense by New England Super Lawyers.

Jenny chairs Wiggin and Dana's summer and entry-level recruiting committee.

She has served on the Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel for the District of Connecticut and is a James W. Cooper Fellow of the Connecticut Bar Foundation. Jenny currently co-chairs the Women's White Collar Defense Association, Connecticut chapter. She also serves on the boards of the Connecticut Food Bank, Friends of New Haven Legal Assistance, and the Connecticut Asian Pacific American Bar Association.



## Jinnie Reed

Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and  
Popeo, P.C.  
Member  
Intellectual Property

J.D., Northeastern University School of Law  
B.S., Southern Methodist University

Jinnie focuses her practice on intellectual property litigation and portfolio risk assessment and mitigation. She has represented technology, pharmaceutical, and finance companies in matters before state courts, federal district courts, the International Trade Commission, US courts of appeals, and the US Supreme Court, and has participated in several mediations.

Jinnie's excellence in developing strategy and organizing complex matters and distilling them for non-technical audiences puts her in a position of high-demand when cases proceed toward trial. She is one of those rare professionals who can "parachute in" to a litigation in order to prepare the case for trial.

In addition to being a traditional patent litigator, Jinnie also provides strategic guidance to clients regarding their global competitive position. She assesses competitive challenges facing clients and devises strategies to mitigate risks and take advantage of opportunities their innovations create.



## Judy Yi

Polsinelli PC  
Shareholder  
Employment law

J.D., University of Minnesota  
B.A., Dartmouth College

Judy Yi's labor and employment law practice reflects deep expertise as an employment specialist handling the labor and employment aspects of complex corporate transactional matters, including mergers and acquisitions and pre- and post-bankruptcy restructuring. She focuses on managing and minimizing workplace risks associated with multi-state and federal statutory compliance with employment and human resources issues. Judy regularly conducts harassment/discrimination investigations and comprehensive employment/human resources audits, reviewing employment processes, policies and documents for legal compliance.

Judy provides day-to-day counseling on virtually all employment-related laws and regulations involving issues such as employment discrimination and harassment, retaliation, disability accommodations, administration of leave requests, wage and hour issues, breach of contract, whistleblower claims, covenants not to compete, personnel policies, management training, protection of confidential and trade secret information, and defamation.

Judy was honored as a 2011 "Up and Coming Lawyer" by Missouri Lawyers Weekly.



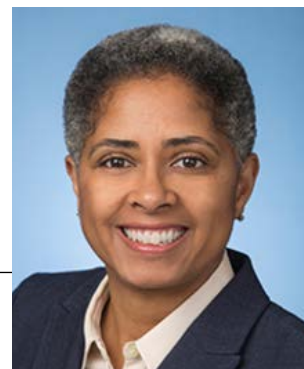
## Kali Bracey

Jenner & Block LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Yale Law School  
B.A., Spelman College

Ms. Bracey began her career at the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia. In 2002, she joined Jenner & Block as an associate; she later became partner. At the firm, she worked on a wide range of cases including white collar investigations on behalf of government contractors, SEC investigations, FOIA cases, business litigation, qui tam cases and insurance coverage litigation.

Ms. Bracey rejoined Jenner & Block in 2017. She is representing a deferred interest credit card company in an enforcement action before the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. She is also working on an investigation into the sale of residential mortgage backed securities. She also serves on the team monitoring Citigroup's provision of consumer relief following their settlement with the Department of Justice in the aftermath of the housing crisis. Ms. Bracey also advised a client on the potential consumer protection issues that may have arisen during the rollout of their cryptocurrency product.



# Setting the standard.



Keith Barnett  
Partner  
Atlanta

We are proud to celebrate the accomplishments of **Keith Barnett** and congratulate him on being named to Lawyers of Color's Inaugural Nation's Best 2020.

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Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders LLP



## Kalidou Gadio

Manatt Phelps & Phillips LLP  
Partner  
Corporate and Finance

LL.M., Harvard Law School  
LL.B., University of Mohamed V



**K**alidou Gadio, who leads Manatt's Africa and MENA initiative, leverages his more than 28 years at the African Development Bank, including eight years as its general counsel, to counsel African governments in legislative reforms, institutional capacity building, and advises sovereign corporations, private enterprises and public-private partnerships.

Kalidou is well versed in strategic and economic development projects involving energy, natural resources and infrastructure. He advises developers, construction companies, financiers and sovereign states on financing structures, risk allocation, financing arrangements, and relevant security packages and considerations, while also conducting KYC due diligence.

Kalidou also advises African central banks dealing with de-risking by US commercial banks and provided comprehensive approach to strengthen compliance with international standards such as those promoted by the Financial Action Task Force.

Early in his career, Kalidou practiced law at an international firm in Paris, then at another in New York. A native of Mauritania, he is fluent in English, French, Fulani and moderate in Arabic.

## Kat Li

McKool Smith, P.C.  
Principal  
Litigation

J.D., The University of Texas School of Law  
M.Eng., Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
S.B., Massachusetts Institute of Technology



**K**at Li is a Principal in the Austin office of McKool Smith. Her trial practice focuses on patent and complex commercial litigation and has included actions in the United States District Court, the International Trade Commission, the Patent and Trial Appeal Board, and the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. She has successfully managed and tried all phases of litigation from pre-filing investigation to post-trial briefing, as well as participated in inter partes review proceedings and appeals.

Kat has been recognized as "Best Under 40" by the State Bar of Texas Asian Pacific Interest Section and named "One to Watch for Intellectual Property and Patent" by the Best Lawyers in America.

Kat serves on the Firm's Diversity Initiative. She speaks Mandarin Chinese and has counseled clients on their global patent enforcement strategy, particularly in China and Taiwan. In addition, she represents Asian clients with their U.S. commercial and intellectual property litigation needs.

## Katrina Thompson

Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
Partner  
Real Estate

J.D., Ohio Northern University—Claude  
W. Pettit College of Law  
B.A., Ohio Northern University



**K**atrina Thompson represents investors, syndicators and community development entities in transactions involving low-income housing, historic, energy and new markets tax credits. She also represents clients in commercial leasing, general real estate and loan transactions.

Katrina advises on transactions that frequently involve a variety of funding sources, including traditional construction and permanent loans, tax-exempt and taxable bonds, HUD- and USDA Rural Development-insured loan products, Section 8 and USDA Rental Assistance subsidies, grants and a variety of state and local loan programs.

Passionate about community development and the creation of affordable housing, Katrina personally believes in the work that she does. Katrina is appreciated for the ways she brings efficiency and a practical, reasonable approach to problem-solving when negotiating and closing deals.

As a proud Brazilian-American, she is co-chair of BTLatinx, Barnes & Thornburg's Hispanic and Latino talent resource group and is a member of the firm's Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Katrina is dedicated to supporting programs and initiatives that create opportunity for everyone.

## Keith Bae

Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP  
Partner  
Intellectual Property

J.D., New England School of Law  
B.S., Northeastern University



**K**eith concentrates on the preparation, prosecution and licensing of patent applications in the computer software, telecommunications, electrical and mechanical arts. As a result of his work product and intellectual curiosity, Keith has developed a knowledge base that enables him to effectively advise clients in, among other things, complex technologies, including artificial intelligence, immersive environments (virtual and augmented reality), natural language processing and distributed ledger technologies (blockchain).

Keith regularly prepares and prosecutes patent applications and provides noninfringement and invalidity opinions. He also advises clients on trademarks, copyrights in software, software development agreements, proprietary and open source software licenses, and other transactional matters.

Keith is the principal author of @DLTcounsel, a technology and legal news resource relating to all things blockchain (i.e., distributed ledger technology).





# K&L GATES

## DIVERSITY PROPELS US FORWARD

Our firm is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion. We believe that when we combine the talents of diverse individuals, we are better able to understand and overcome the challenges facing our clients, our communities, and our colleagues.

The unprecedented events we face today have only strengthened that belief, and bolstered our efforts both inside and out. From facilitating conversations about race and discrimination to launching a pro bono effort to ensure equal justice for all, we continue to make strides by celebrating and drawing on our varied experiences, backgrounds, and perspectives.

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Learn more at [klgates.com](https://klgates.com).



## Keith J. Barnett

Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders LLP  
Partner  
Finance

J.D., Duke University School of Law  
B.A., University of California, Los Angeles

**K**eith Barnett is a litigation, compliance, regulatory, investigations (internal and regulatory), and enforcement attorney with 20 years of experience representing clients in the financial services industry. Keith represents clients against government regulators (CFPB, FTC, SEC, CFTC), industry regulators (FINRA) and private litigants in federal courts, state courts and before arbitration and administrative law panels in the financial services industry.

Keith advises payment processors, money transmitters, payments apps and similar companies on compliance with federal and state money services business laws. Keith also represents these companies in lawsuits and government enforcement actions.

Keith regularly writes and lectures about hot topics in the financial services industry, focusing on issues that include the latest developments in payments and with the FTC and CFPB.



## Kenneth L. Thompson

Venable LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., University of Maryland School of Law  
B.A., University of Maryland

**K**en Thompson is an experienced trial attorney who focuses his practice on civil, commercial, and product liability litigation. Ken is particularly well known in Maryland, where individuals and corporations rely on him to handle their cases with integrity and identify issues that can be resolved outside of court, while navigating a courtroom when necessary.

For 20 years Ken served as counsel to two major automotive companies in product liability litigation related to claims of exposure to asbestos from the companies friction products. In the early years that effort included successfully ensuring that the cases remained out of the large spotlight that was shining on asbestos litigation in the Baltimore area at that time.

An active member of the Baltimore community, Ken served as chair and co-chair of several transition committees for the last two Baltimore mayors and was appointed by the chief judge of the U.S. District Court of Maryland to serve as the Lead Monitor for the Baltimore City Police Department Consent Decree.



## Kenya S. Woodruff

Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP  
Partner  
Health Care

J.D., Duke University School of Law  
B.A., Emory University

**K**enya S. Woodruff works with hospitals, physicians and other health care providers looking to improve the performance of their clinical operations and ensure regulatory compliance. She also helps those organizations merge and expand, whether through joint ventures, mergers or acquisitions.

Due to her prior experience as deputy general counsel at the Parkland Health & Hospital System and as a privacy officer for a publicly traded radiology company, Kenya approaches operational issues from the client's perspective, taking into account both technical issues and practical concerns. She structures arrangements that will be both clinically and financially beneficial to her client, while giving keen attention to regulatory compliance.

She serves on State Bar of Texas, Health Law Section as a Council Member and also a Vice Chair of the Business and Transactions Interest Group at The American Bar Association.



## LaKisha M. Kinsey-Sallis

Fisher & Phillips LLP  
Partner  
Employment law

J.D., Loyola University Chicago School of Law  
B.S., Florida A & M University

**L**aKisha M. Kinsey-Sallis is a partner in the Tampa office. LaKisha has extensive experience representing private and public sector employers of all sizes and across several industries including hospitality, retail, healthcare, education, public housing, and technology. Her experience includes, but is not limited to, litigating collective and class actions as well as single-plaintiff claims, developing and reviewing handbooks, and offering preventive strategies through training and risk assessments before and after lawsuits.

LaKisha is very active in her local community and uses her involvement to bridge connections between her professional passions and love for volunteer work. She is a member of the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce Leadership Tampa Class of 2018 and Women of Influence Committee, a Board Member of The Spring of Tampa Bay, a Community Action Coordinator with the Junior League of Tampa. She also gives of her time to various local voluntary bar associations in the Tampa community.





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**Chalon N. Clark**

**HUSCH BLACKWELL**

# **Bold in vision. Confident in action.**

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Husch Blackwell proudly congratulates Chalon Clark on being named to the Lawyers of Color Nation's Best 2020. We celebrate broad perspectives and believe the talent and knowledge of our people move clients forward.

## Latrice M. Baptiste

Chapman and Cutler LLP  
Partner  
Health Care Finance

J.D., DePaul University College of Law  
B.S., DePaul University



**L**atrice Baptiste is a partner in Chapman's National Public and Health & Education Finance Department.

Latrice's recent work includes a \$988 million revenue bond issue for the benefit of a multi-state system of hospitals and clinics as disclosure counsel and borrower's counsel, a \$95 million revenue bond issue for the benefit of a multi-site senior living organization as bond counsel, and two revenue bond issues for the benefit of a health system as underwriter's counsel in the amounts of \$124 million and \$110 million.

Latrice is a member of Women in Public Finance, the Municipal Forum of New York, the Association of Black Women Attorneys, the Northeast Women in Public Finance, and serves on the Board of Directors of the Chicago Summer Business Institute.

Prior to joining Chapman in 2014, Latrice practiced in the health care group at Jones Day.

## Lawrence G. Wee

Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton &  
Garrison LLP  
Partner  
Corporate

J.D., Harvard Law School  
B.A., Yale College



**A** partner in the Corporate Department and a member of the Capital Markets, Finance and Restructuring Groups, Lawrence Wee focuses on a variety of capital markets and finance transactions, securities regulation and restructuring matters. Larry has been recognized by The Legal 500 as a leading capital markets lawyer as well as by Lawdragon as one of their "500 Leading U.S. Bankruptcy and Restructuring Lawyers."

Larry's practice includes public and private equity offerings, high-yield and investment-grade debt offerings, convertible debt offerings and offerings of asset-backed securities. He also represents public companies in connection with their ongoing securities law and corporate governance matters and advises in connection with public mergers and acquisitions transactions. Larry also has extensive experience in debt consent solicitations, debt restructurings, restructuring financings and exchange offers.

## Libin Zhang

Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver &  
Jacobson LLP  
Partner  
Tax

LL.M., New York University School of Law  
J.D., Harvard Law School  
M.S., B.S., California Institute of Technology



**M**r. Zhang has extensive experience advising on a diverse range of real estate, corporate, and international taxation matters. At Fried Frank, he represents real estate investment trusts (REITs), real estate funds, other funds and asset managers, sovereign wealth funds, other U.S. and non-U.S. institutional investors, and other companies in structuring property acquisitions, dispositions, cross-border joint ventures, complex leases, reorganizations, spin-offs, and other tax-efficient transactions.

Mr. Zhang is the author of Bloomberg BNA Portfolio T.M. 549-3rd, Passive Loss Rules (2020). He has periodically written about the 2017 tax reform legislation, such as "Qualified Opportunity Zones: Hot Tubs and Other Hot Topics," Tax Notes (August 6, 2018), which was cited in U.S. Senate Committee on the Budget, Tax Expenditures: Compendium of Background Materials on Individual Provisions, 115th Cong. 2d Sess., S. Print 115-28, at 601 (Dec. 2018).

Prior to joining Fried Frank, Mr. Zhang served as a partner with a tax boutique law firm.

## Lindsey D. G. Dates

Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., University of Illinois College of Law  
B.A., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



**V**alued for his dedication, tenacity and wise counsel, Lindsey D. G. Dates provides targeted guidance to U.S. and global clients across the spectrum of commercial litigation matters, including breach of contract, class action, business tort, labor and employment, product liability, intellectual property, antitrust, real estate, and bankruptcy.

The National Law Journal has named Lindsey to its exclusive list of Chicago Rising Stars. Lindsey has also been named to the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin/Chicago Lawyer's prestigious 40 Under 40 list.

Active in the community, Lindsey is currently the Chair of The Chicago Committee, an organization that seeks racial and ethnic diversity in the legal profession. Lindsey has also served on the board of directors for the University of Illinois College of Law Alumni Association, as a co-chair of the Cabrini Green Legal Aid Young Professionals Board, and as an associate board member of the Chicago Committee On Minorities In Large Law Firms.



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Congratulations to our partners, **Yesenia D. Batista**, **Marla R. Butler**, **Eduardo Kim** and **Ash D. Patel**, on being selected by Lawyers of Color for its inaugural Nation's Best list.

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## Linton Mann III

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Duke University School of Law  
B.A., University of Georgia

**L**inton Mann III is a Partner in the Firm's Litigation Practice. Linton represents clients in a broad range of high-stakes litigation and investigation matters including securities, shareholder derivative disputes, class actions, antitrust and complex commercial disputes. Linton was recently named a "Next Generation Partner" by The Legal 500, where sources say he "stands out from his peers for his securities work." He was named a Rising Star by the New York Law Journal and Law360, and is also a repeat honoree on Benchmark Litigation's "40 & Under Hot List," which honors the achievements of the nation's most accomplished law firm partners under the age of 40.

Linton is the Chair of the Board of Trustees for Uncommon Charter Schools New York City which oversees twenty-four public charter schools in Brooklyn, New York. He is also on the Board of Directors of Manhattan Legal Services, a program of Legal Services NYC, the largest provider of pro bono civil legal services in the country.



## Lorna R. Simms

The ODP Corporation  
VP, Associate General Counsel,  
Corporate Secretary  
Business/Corporate Law

J.D., New York University School of Law  
B.A., Boston University

**L**orna R. Simms is the Vice President, Associate General Counsel (Legal & Corporate Governance) and Corporate Secretary at The ODP Corporation (formerly Office Depot, Inc.).

She is an energetic Senior Legal Professional with a demonstrated track record of achievement in public company representation, corporate governance, board proceedings and corporate secretary duties, risk management, securities laws and regulatory compliance, M&A, public and private equity and debt offerings, corporate reorganizations, debt restructurings, commercial transactions and contracts, and complex transaction negotiation and management.



## Marilyn Holifield

Holland & Knight LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Harvard Law School  
B.A., Swarthmore College

**M**arilyn Holifield is a partner in Holland & Knight's Miami office. She practices in the general litigation area, with a specific emphasis on representing corporate clients. Her practice includes employment, business litigation, corporate governance, trade secrets, covenants-not-to-compete, class action and intellectual property litigation.

Ms. Holifield practices employment law with a focus on covenants not to compete litigation and was named by Black Enterprise Magazine as one of America's top employment lawyers. Ms. Holifield was also named one of South Florida's 25 most successful and prominent black business women by Network Miami magazine.

Ms. Holifield served two terms as chairperson of the ABA Conference of Minority Partners in Majority/Corporate Law Firms and as a member of the ABA Commission on Opportunities for Minorities in the Profession. The Governor of Florida appointed Ms. Holifield as a co-chair of the 1994 Summit of the Americas, which included historic meetings of the Heads of State of 34 countries in this hemisphere.



## Mark Kittaka

Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
Partner  
Employment Law

J.D., Washington University in St. Louis School of Law  
B.A., Indiana University Bloomington

**L**abor and employment lawyer Mark Kittaka has significant experience representing clients in OSHA matters involving serious injuries and/or deaths in both state plans and federal OSHA requirements across the country. Mark delivers the industry know-how needed to serve a diverse national clientele in OSHA and other labor and employment matters.

Regardless of the industry or complexity of the challenge, Mark provides scalable support and defense that parallels each client's particular needs. Agile and sensitive to budgetary concerns, Mark works efficiently with experienced and inexperienced health and safety professionals or in-house counsel alike in a catastrophe or fatality situation, which may require onsite support throughout the OSHA inspection.

Mark has been a member of multiple organizations like American Bar Association Labor and Employment Section, Indiana State Bar Association, Allen County Bar Association, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA).



# HB Congratulates Alexandra Haar

on being named to

*Lawyers of Color's* **Nation's Best List**

*Alexandra S. Haar*

*Partner*

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## Marla Butler

Thompson Hine LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Florida State University  
B.A., Cleveland State University



**M**arla represents clients in the medical, semiconductor, power, networking and other high-tech industries in high-stakes commercial litigations, arbitrations and trials. She helps clients proactively take on commercial threats, monetize their patent assets and/or defend against lawsuits that threaten their businesses. She conducts critical early case evaluations to help clients quickly assess risk, which helps them predict important outcomes and see a fuller range of strategic options.

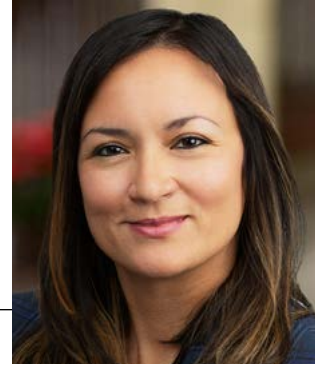
Marla is a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America, an invitation-only trial lawyer honorary society composed of less than one-half of one percent of American lawyers who are selected based on effectiveness and accomplishment in litigation, both at the trial and appellate levels, and superior ethical reputation.

Marla was offered “One Child, One Lawyer Volunteer of the Year Award” by Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation (2007). She is also named a Litigation Star by Benchmark Litigation, 2020, 2021.

## Marlén Cortez Morris

Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., University of Illinois College of Law  
B.A., University of Tampa



**M**arlén Cortez Morris represents and advises clients on a wide range of franchise and distribution, labor and employment, and commercial litigation matters in courts and alternative dispute resolution venues and before government agencies across the country.

Marlén is committed to clients and her dedication to achieving client goals is manifest in her tireless work ethic. Marlén can and will serve as a formidable advocate when needed. However, she also takes pride in helping clients avoid or mitigate litigation and is valued for her balanced approach on striking the right outcome to meet her clients’ objectives in a timely and efficient manner.

Before joining Barnes & Thornburg, Marlén was a partner at Cheng Cohen LLC in Chicago, where she represented franchisors, licensors and distributors on a broad spectrum of commercial disputes involving trademarks, trade secrets, covenants not to compete and joint employment liability claims. She also regularly advised clients on labor and employment law compliance and best practices for navigating joint employment issues.

## Marthe Stanek

Compucom Systems, Inc.  
Associate General Counsel,  
Employment Law

J.D., University of California,  
Hastings College of the Law

## Maurice Bellan

Baker & McKenzie LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., University of Maryland  
B.A., Howard University



**M**aurice A. Bellan is the Managing Partner of the Washington, DC office and a member of the Global Dispute Resolution and North America Litigation and Government Enforcement Steering Committees. Maurice was recently named by Savoy magazine as one of the most influential African-American lawyers in the United States.

Maurice regularly counsels clients in industries heavily regulated by US federal programs or engaged in any activity that is sponsored by the federal government. He leads the Firm’s False Claims Act and government contracts practice and his work routinely involves FCA compliance, investigations and litigation, bid proposal review and advice, suspension and debarment investigations and negotiations and defense against stark and anti-kickback allegations.

Maurice is a trial lawyer and has tried cases and argued appeals in several states, federal district and appellate courts across the United States including the US Tax Court and the US Court of Federal Claims. His litigation matters have involved trade secrets, securities transactions, breach of contracts and constitutional questions involving a variety of federal statutory regulations.

# Representation matters.



We congratulate the outstanding attorneys and advocates for diversity that make up the Lawyers of Color's 2020 Nation's Best list.

We are especially proud of our own **Latrice Baptiste**, a partner in our National Public Finance group and tireless advocate for women and people of color in the legal profession.

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## Melissa Anyetei

Mayer Brown LLP  
Partner  
Intellectual Property

J.D., Columbia University School of Law  
B.S., Northwestern University

**M**elissa Anyetei is an Intellectual Property partner in Mayer Brown's Chicago office. A registered patent attorney with a background in engineering, Melissa focuses her practice on patent litigation, procurement and counseling and intellectual property transactions. She has experience in a wide range of technologies including medical devices, pharmaceutical and chemical products, internet-based technology, consumer products, mobile devices and telecommunications.

Melissa has been recognized as a Rising Star in intellectual property by Illinois Super Lawyers (2012-2020) and was named an "Influential Woman" by the Illinois Diversity Council in 2016. She also received the "Leadership Excellence in Law" award from the Illinois Diversity Council in 2015. In addition, Melissa was named as a finalist by the Euromoney Legal Media Group for its 2014 Euromoney Americas Women in Business Law Awards as a Rising Star in intellectual property, and was named to Lawyers of Color's "Hot List" for 2014, which honors minority attorneys who are excelling in the legal profession.



## Micah Miller

Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Washington University School of Law  
B.S., Stanford University

**M**icah W. Miller is a partner in Nutter's Litigation Department and a member of the firm's IP Litigation practice group. Micah frequently counsels clients in a variety of industries on their complex IP issues and disputes. He has significant trial experience in patent cases throughout the country. Outside of litigation, Micah works with clients to develop IP strategies to support their business objectives.

Micah is committed to pro bono work. Working with the Victim Rights Law Center or the Middlesex District Attorney's Office Domestic Violence Pro Bono initiative, he has assisted several pro bono clients in obtaining abuse prevention orders. He has also represented pro bono clients in federal district and immigration courts.

He is also engaged in civic activities. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Appleseed Center for Law and Justice and is a past member of the Boston Bar Association's Public Interest Leadership Program.



## Michael Battle

Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., University at Buffalo  
B.A., Ithaca College

**C**riminal defense lawyer and civil litigator Michael Battle is focused on white collar criminal matters. Having previously served as a prosecutor and judge himself, Michael understands their perspectives and designs compelling arguments that have the best chance of defending his clients and mitigating their exposure to prosecution.

After leaving public service for private practice, Michael has counseled numerous clients on cases involving the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), healthcare fraud, the False Claims Act (FCA) and disadvantaged business regulatory violations, among others. A proven advocate with keen instinct for effectual negotiation, Michael has defended businesses and individuals faced with high-stakes investigations and claims by drawing upon his broad and multi-dimensional understanding of how government agencies prioritize policy and enforcement objectives.

Always prepared, diligent, calm, cool and collected, Michael is a proven communicator with a honed ability to observe and synthesize what is going on around him, as well as how to identify and create advantage as a result of that skill.



## Michael Douglass

Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law  
B.S., Jacksonville State University

**M**ichael Douglass is an experienced trial attorney with a diverse civil litigation practice in California and Arizona state and federal courts. Michael focuses on the defense of corporate and municipal clients in complex, high-exposure general liability claims, as well as in professional, employment and municipal liability matters.

Michael defends several national long-haul and local trucking companies in catastrophic personal injury cases where he has responded to after-hours emergency calls regarding serious trucking accidents and directly managed the follow-up pre-litigation investigation, evidence preservation and risk assessment processes. Michael also is a proponent and frequent user of mediation and informal settlement negotiations with opposing counsel as a means to reduce clients' litigation costs.

Prior to joining the firm in 2005, Michael was in-house managing attorney for the San Francisco and San Jose staff counsel offices of Fireman's Fund Insurance Company. He participates in various diversity initiatives at the firm and in the business community, most recently serving on the planning committee for Defense Research Institute's annual diversity conference.





## McGlinchey congratulates Andy Cao and all the honorees named to the Lawyers of Color 2020 “Nation’s Best” List.

McGlinchey Stafford is committed to fostering diversity, inclusion, and equal opportunity in our firm and across the legal profession. We know that any group is made stronger with a cross-representation of the public it represents. We’re proud of our roots in some of America’s most diverse cities, and honor the range of perspectives that form the fabric of our firm.

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Irvine Jackson Jacksonville Nashville New Orleans New York City Washington, DC

## Michael Jo

Thompson & Knight LLP  
Partner  
Real estate

J.D., New York University School of Law  
B.A., State University of New York at Stony Brook

Michael Jo is a transactional attorney and investment professional with an established track record of successfully originating and managing equity and debt investments. He has more than 19 years of experience structuring, negotiating, and closing complex commercial real estate transactions, while developing and strengthening client relationships.

Michael represents investment companies, banks, and REITs and is a trusted advisor to C-level executives on legal and business risks. His real estate investment experience includes mortgage and mezzanine financing, as well as preferred equity and equity investing. He also has significant experience counseling lenders, special servicers, and investors with respect to workouts and investment management.

Michael has a deep understanding of the legal and business issues that arise at both the commercial real estate loan and securitization transaction levels, including the legal aspects of post-securitization matters that include interactions with servicers and trustees.



## Michelle Cheng

Reed Smith LLP  
Partner  
Health care

J.D., University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law  
B.A., University of California, San Diego

Michelle is a health care litigation partner in the Life Sciences Health Industry group. Her practice involves defending managed health care companies in high-stakes litigations and arbitrations. Michelle focuses her managed care practice on provider disputes and is regularly involved in defending managed care plans against claims relating to managed care contracting, reimbursements, unfair competition and breach of contract.

She has also substantial experience defending medical device and pharmaceutical clients facing complex product liability and mass tort litigation. Michelle has also handled actions relating to disputes involving collaboration, co-promotion and licensing agreements among pharmaceutical and bio-tech companies.



## Mitzi Chang

Goodwin Procter LLP  
Partner  
Technology

J.D., Georgetown University Law Center  
B.A., University of California, Berkeley

Mitzi Chang is a partner in Goodwin's Technology and Life Sciences group and serves as co-chair of its FinTech practice and Digital Currency & Blockchain Technology practice. She focuses her practice on corporate and securities law, representing public and private companies, venture capital and private equity firms and investment banks in capital markets transactions, mergers and acquisitions, venture capital financings and other general corporate and securities matters. Ms. Chang advises companies through every stage of the corporate life cycle – from initial formation and financing through successful initial public offering or acquisition.

Ms. Chang currently serves on the firm's Committee on Racial and Ethnic Diversity and on the hiring committee for Goodwin's San Francisco office. Ms. Chang was recognized by the Daily Journal as one of its 2019 "Top Women Lawyers" in the state of California. She was named as a 2018 National Law Journal Cryptocurrency, Blockchain and Fintech Trailblazer.



## Mylan L. Denerstein

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Columbia University School of Law  
B.A., University of Virginia

Mylan Denerstein is a litigation partner in the New York office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. Ms. Denerstein is Co-Chair of Gibson Dunn's Public Policy Practice Group and a member of the Crisis Management, White Collar Defense and Investigations, Financial Institutions, Labor and Employment, Securities Litigation, and Appellate Practice Groups.

Ms. Denerstein was named by Benchmark Litigation to its 2021 "Top 250 Women in Litigation" list, and was also recognized by the publication as a 2021 "Litigation Star" nationally in Appellate, Securities and White-Collar Crime, as well as in New York. Ms. Denerstein was named to the 2020 "Albany Power 100", 2020 "Law Power 100" and 2019 "Law Power 50" lists by City & State New York and the 2019 list of "Notable Women in Law" by Crain's New York Business. She was also named as one of New York Law Journal's "Top Women in Law" for 2016.





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## Nader S. Raja

Moore & Van Allen, PLLC  
Member  
Litigation

J.D., Wake Forest University School of Law  
B.S., University of Virginia

Nader Raja regularly works with clients facing complex and high-stakes litigation, enforcement, and regulatory issues. Nader's experience ranges from handling class actions and complex business and securities litigation to representing companies in parallel civil and criminal investigations by governmental authorities and regulators across the globe. His clients greatly value his judgment and work ethic in developing effective legal strategies and providing practical business advice.

In addition, Nader is actively involved in the community and maintains an active pro bono practice in which he strives to perform at least 50 hours of pro bono services annually. As chair of the firm's Housing Rights Pro Bono Project and co-champion of the Charlotte Triage Eviction Project, Nader leads a team of volunteers focused on advocating for tenants living in sub-standard living conditions who are facing the threat of homelessness due to wrongful and retaliatory evictions.



## Namita Tripathi Shah

Day Pitney LLP  
Partner  
Finance

J.D., Boston University School of Law  
B.S., University of Connecticut

Namita Shah, chair of Day Pitney's Private Equity and Finance business unit, practices in the area of public and private finance. She is a member of the firm's Institutional Finance and Commercial Lending and Municipal Finance practice groups.

Namita serves as the primary attorney in Day Pitney's roles as Lead Bond Counsel and Lead Disclosure Counsel for the State of Connecticut. She is actively involved in all aspects of public finance, including bond authorizations, disclosure, tax issues and issuance. She has acted as bond counsel, disclosure counsel, underwriter's counsel and trustee's counsel on general obligation and conduit financings throughout the region.

She has extensive experience with general state and municipal law as well as laws relating to state agencies and authorities. Her institutional finance and commercial lending work includes asset-backed structured financing and private placements of secured and unsecured senior and mezzanine debt. She also speaks Hindi.



## Nancy B. Clapp

Davis Wright Tremaine LLP  
Partner  
Commercial Real Estate

J.D., University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law  
A.B., University of California, Berkeley

Nancy Clapp advises commercial banks and other lending institutions in providing construction and permanent financing for tax credit-supported affordable housing projects. With more than 15 years of experience in a wide range of commercial real estate transactions, Nancy brings a broad base of experience to help her clients navigate the unique world of tax credit-supported financing.

Nancy works closely with her clients to understand and work through the unique circumstances of each deal and to ensure that her clients' interests are protected, while also creating a collaborative working relationship with other parties to the transaction. She leads transactions and advises her clients on the impact of the multiple layers of financing that are a part of most affordable housing transactions, both in the construction and permanent phases of the project, with the goal of always negotiating the best position for her clients.

Nancy has been honored as one of the "Most Influential Minority Attorneys," Los Angeles Business Journal, 2019.



## Narges M. Kakalia

Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.  
Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

J.D., Fordham University School of Law  
B.A., Oberlin College

Narges was a Member in Mintz's Litigation Practice for nearly two decades, and now serves as the firm's first Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. In this new role, Narges leads the firm in developing and implementing its DEI strategy and goals, and is in charge of implementing thoughtful and innovative steps towards fostering a culture that values and celebrates difference, and ensures that every employee has an equal opportunity to succeed. By fostering a culture in which all individuals can bring their whole, unique selves to work, Narges will help Mintz bring multiple perspectives to each matter, thereby providing the highest level of client service and community engagement.

Narges also previously served as Vice Chair of the firm's Pro Bono Program and as a leader of the firm's Women's Initiative. She is a member of MIATTY, the firm's affinity group for minority attorneys and senior professionals.





Katten is proud to congratulate our partner

**Kenya Scott Woodruff**

and all of the nominees on

*Lawyers of Color's* Inaugural Nation's Best 2020 list.

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## Neal Shah

Frost Brown Todd LLC  
Member  
Labor & Employment

J.D., Boston College Law School  
B.S., Emory University

Neal has represented employers in single plaintiff and class and collective action litigation claims under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, the American's with Disabilities Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Occupational Safety and Health Act and various other federal and state employment laws. He also regularly advises employers on compliance with laws governing hiring, discipline, compensation, termination and other employment practices.

Neal's experience includes defense verdicts in jury trials and arbitrations, defense victories in appellate courts, summary judgment and motion to dismiss dismissals in federal and state courts and dismissals in proceedings before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Department of Labor, Ohio Unemployment Compensation Review Commission and various other state and federal agencies.

Neal also leads Frost Brown Todd's Wage and Hour group and serves as the Board President for IKRON, a mental health agency.

## Nicolette John-Chandler

Office Depot  
Assistant General Counsel, Regulatory Compliance & Litigation  
Litigation

J.D., Howard University School of Law  
M.A., University of Miami  
B.A., University of Miami

Nicolette John-Chandler, Esq. serves as an Assistant General Counsel at Office Depot, Inc. Here, she manages civil litigation cases throughout the continental U.S. and territories and provides legal counsel regarding compliance with environmental health and safety regulations. Before this she served as a Senior Associate for Vernis & Bowling of Broward, P.A.

## Patrick Gadson

Vinson & Elkins LLP  
Partner  
Private equity

J.D., Columbia Law School  
B.S., Cornell University



Patrick's principal areas of practice are private equity, mergers and acquisitions and shareholder activism. Patrick is the co-head of V&E's Shareholder Activism practice, which advises public companies in competitive proxy solicitations, strategic investor relations, and corporate governance. He also counsels senior management, boards of directors, investment managers and both private equity and strategic investors in a wide variety of complex business transactions, corporate governance matters, strategic investor relations and other special situations. His experience includes advising clients in connection with shareholder activism related investments, hostile takeovers, public and private M&A transactions, strategic minority investments and corporate capital investments. Prior to joining Vinson & Elkins, Patrick practiced law at a leading shareholder activism law firm and a preeminent corporate law firm in New York City.

## Purvi Patel Albers

Haynes and Boone, LLP  
Partner  
Trademark

J.D., Emory University School of Law  
B.A., Emory University



Purvi Patel Albers is a member of the firm's board of directors and serves as trusted adviser and counsel to Fortune 500 companies and high-growth ventures on the management of their valuable brand investments. Purvi has been recognized for bringing "an amazing personality and a fantastic reputation" to her work on portfolio management and trademark enforcement for domestic and multinational companies. (Chambers USA, Chambers and Partners, 2017). She also has been highlighted by World Trademark Review for her "sophisticated brand management skills" and "inscise analysis, commercial awareness, and fast turnaround times"

Purvi currently serves on the Executive Committee and Board of Directors for both The Arts Community Alliance (TACA) and Dallas Theater Center (DTC). She also serves on the Board of Family Gateway. She previously served on the board of directors of the International Trademark Association (INTA) from 2013-2015, and co-chaired INTA's 2013 annual meeting.

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Attorney  
Litigation



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**Kat Li**

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As a Principal in the Austin office of McKool Smith, Kat's trial practice focuses on patent and complex commercial litigation and has included actions in the United States District Court, the International Trade Commission, the Patent and Trial Appeal Board, and the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. She serves on the firm's Diversity Committee, which is charged with ensuring the continuous improvement of the firm's diversity and inclusion efforts.

Kat has substantial experience arguing, presenting witnesses, and representing clients in the courtroom before judges and juries. She speaks Mandarin Chinese and has counseled clients on their global patent enforcement strategy, particularly in China and Taiwan. In addition, she represents Asian clients with their U.S. commercial and intellectual property litigation needs.

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## Raymond R. Tabandeh

Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP  
Partner  
Intellectual Property

J.D., Loyola Law School  
M.B.A., University of Southern California  
M.S., University of California, Los Angeles  
B.S., University of California, Los Angeles



Raymond R. Tabandeh is a Partner in Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie's Intellectual Property practice group. Raymond specializes in helping clients with cybersecurity and Internet IP law, including privacy and website policies, drafting of various license agreements, due diligence of intellectual property portfolios, freedom-to-operate opinion letters, and trademark prosecution and opposition.

Raymond also provides patent counseling, prosecution, and licensing for clients in the following fields: Machine Learning, AI, computer software and hardware, IoTs and data and network security using various encryption/decryption methods and digital signatures, electronics and telecommunications, blockchain technology, computer-based gaming, business methods counseling and protection of related intellectual property rights, and evaluation of emerging high technologies.

Raymond seamlessly blends his technical and legal knowledge and excellent case management style to help his clients protect their IP portfolios. Raymond's easy-going personality, straight talk and infectious sense of humor have created long term clients into trusted friends.

## Richik Sarkar

Dinsmore & Shohl LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Case Western Reserve University  
M.S.W., University of Michigan  
B.A., University of Michigan



Richik advises and advocates for clients working in media, technology, utility, real estate, finance, retail, and other industries. He spearheads commercial, consumer, and cybersecurity, complex and class action litigation (often related to unfair and deceptive trade practices, consumer regulations, and government sanctions) and special projects for his small, middle market, and Fortune 500 companies.

He also counsels clients with respect to risk and crisis management and is regularly sought to speak on issues related to corporate and governance strategy, policy management, regulatory investigations, and fiduciary liability. When working with a client, Richik considers the short- and long-term goals and develops a strategy specific to those objectives. That means addressing any immediate issues his clients are facing, while also contemplating ways to avoid any similar challenges in the future.

He is consistently recognized as one of The Best Lawyers in America® and Ohio Super Lawyers and is on Lawyers of Color's first Nation's Best list.

## Richard Hu

Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP  
Partner  
Gaming law

J.D., Northwestern Pritzker School of Law  
B.A., Emory University



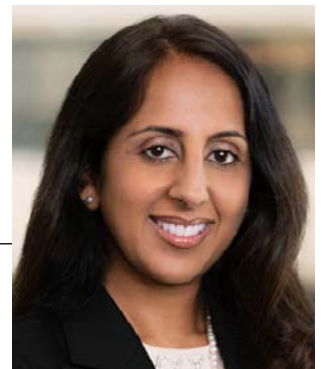
Richard is a regulatory attorney and litigator who helps companies resolve complex gaming law, data privacy and healthcare issues affecting their businesses. Richard's comprehensive knowledge of gaming law issues and successful track record assisting terminal operators and gaming companies are among the reasons why he was honored as Top Gaming Litigation Lawyer for Chicago at Corporate LiveWire's Excellence in Gaming Awards in 2016.

Richard is also just as active in his legal community outside the courtroom as he is within it. Richard actively writes about a number of gaming and labor law issues, and has been published in Workforce Magazine and Workforce.com, the Chicago Bar Association Record, and the Illinois State Bar Association Business & Securities Law Forum Newsletter. Richard is also a member of the Chicago chapter of Taiwanese-American Professionals, where he formerly led the organization's leadership and development committee.

## Ritu Kaur Cooper

Hall, Render, Killian, Heath & Lyman, P.C.  
Shareholder  
Health care

LL.M., Saint Louis University School of Law  
J.D., Syracuse University College of Law  
B.A., The George Washington University



Ritu Kaur Cooper is a shareholder in Hall Render's health section and serves as a co-leader of the firm's compliance service line. Ritu's practice consists of representing health care providers such as hospitals, health systems and large physician practice groups, as well as laboratories, pharmaceutical and medical device companies.

Ritu regularly works with legal and compliance departments to assist clients with the development of effective compliance programs consistent with OIG guidance. Ritu's experience allows her the ability to understand the nuanced differences between the guidance for health care providers and medical device companies.

She drafts compliance policies and procedures, develops and provides compliance education and training from the Board level to employees to contracted HCPs, drafts and negotiates agreements consistent with the fraud and abuse laws and assists clients with internal investigations and implementing appropriate corrective actions. She counsels health care providers and medical device companies on compliance with the Anti-Kickback Statute, AdvaMed Code of Conduct and state and federal "Sunshine" laws.

## Robert E. Benson, Jr.

King & Spalding LLP  
Partner  
Corporate

J.D., Harvard Law School  
M.B.A., Harvard University  
B.S., Washington and Lee University



Robert Benson represents clients in significant corporate transactions, including domestic and cross-border M&A transactions, spin-offs, divestitures, joint ventures, special purpose acquisition company transactions, complex commercial agreements and strategic investments. As a Partner in Mergers & Acquisitions and Private Equity practices, Robert advises public and private companies, private equity funds, boards of directors and special committees in a variety of M&A, corporate governance and general corporate and securities matters.

Robert has extensive deal experience across many industry sectors, including significant depth in consumer products, media, tech, fin-tech and life science industries. Robert has served as counsel to leading companies, including The Coca-Cola Company, Oxford Industries, Molson Coors, Pentair Inc., MasterCraft Boat Company, Roark Capital Group, White Mountains Insurance Group, and Bass Pro, Inc., in a broad variety of merger and acquisition transactions and in a variety of general corporate and securities matters.

Robert was recognized as a New York Super Lawyers Rising Star in 2016 and 2015 and a Georgia Super Lawyers Rising Star in 2018.

## Rosa Alina Pizzi

Phillips Lytle LLP  
Partner  
Banking

J.D., Yale Law School  
B.A., Princeton University



Mrs. Pizzi concentrates her practice in the area of banking and financial services. Her experience includes representation of global financial institutions, non-traditional lenders and borrowers with respect to secured and unsecured credit facilities, community development transactions, real estate and construction lending, syndicated lending facilities, and distressed financing transactions, as well as other extensions of credit.

## Rudene Mercer Haynes

Hunton & Williams LLP  
Partner  
Finance

J.D., The University of Texas School of Law  
B.A., University of Virginia



Rudene's fascination with numbers and problem solving has led her to a fulfilling career in structured finance and securitization.

For most of her practice, she has focused on residential mortgage financing, and has acted on behalf of issuers, lenders, servicers and underwriters/placement agents of a myriad of financial assets, including mortgage-related assets, trade receivables and other payment intangibles.

She is a leader in the firm's servicer advance financing practice, and has historically represented Ginnie Mae in its Multiclass and Mortgage-Backed Securities programs.

On a personal note, Rudene is exceptionally committed to increasing diversity in the legal profession. She is very active in bar, civic and community initiatives that advance equity in our society. Ms. Haynes was selected as a Rising Star for Business & Corporate Law, Virginia Super Lawyers magazine, 2007.

## Saba Ashraf

Pepper Hamilton LLP  
Partner  
Tax

LL.M., New York University School of Law  
J.D., Hofstra University School of Law  
B.S., New York University



Saba advises clients including major financial services institutions and investment concerns, global manufacturing firms, Fortune 500 companies, and others on corporate and partnership taxation matters, as well as the tax aspects of complex business transactions. Clients turn to Saba to handle the tax-related issues involved in domestic and international mergers; acquisitions and spin-offs; recapitalizations; leveraged buyouts; going-private transactions; joint ventures; fund formations; private equity investments; debt restructurings and loan workouts; and securitizations. She also advises clients on the tax aspects of REITs and investments in real estate.

Saba offers particular experience in structuring various business relationships that are subject to federal partnership tax rules, including complex partnership allocations, basis, losses, and other issues. She also has experience dealing with the IRS and state tax agencies during state and federal audits.

Saba is ranked by Chambers USA as a top tax lawyer in Pennsylvania.

## Sandra Dawn Grannum

Faegre Baker Daniels LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Harvard Law School  
B.A., New York University

Sandra Dawn Grannum, a former in-house Wall Street counsel, ensures that representation of financial and securities industry clients includes careful evaluation of litigation exposure, reputational risk and budgetary concerns. Sandy concentrates on the securities industry, including broker-dealer arbitration, litigation, mediation and regulatory defense. A Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, Sandy has tried more than 60 arbitrations before the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). She has also tried arbitrations before the American Arbitration Association (AAA) and JAMs and has handled appeals before the National Adjudicatory Council (NAC). A recognized leader, Sandy serves on the firm's governing board and has been honored for her efforts to promote diversity in the profession and to advance the professional development of other female lawyers.



## Sarah Hawk

Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
Partner  
Employment Law

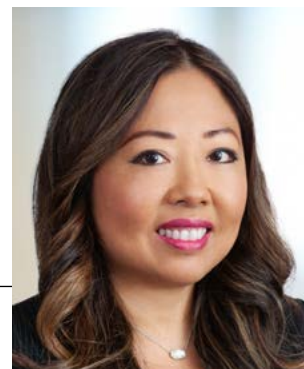
J.D., Georgia State University College of Law  
B.A., Agnes Scott College

Sarah Hawk's strategic mind and extensive understanding of current and emerging immigration legislation and trends have earned her national and international recognition. Sarah provides crucial immigration counsel to domestic and multinational companies in various industries such as healthcare, financial services, hospitality, higher education, and technology, among others.

Sarah brings nearly 20 years of experience helping companies develop and implement immigration policies to secure visas and permanent residence status for executives, managers and critical employees.

With a knack for building and enhancing client relationships, Sarah once served as business immigration legal counsel delegate on a trip to China, providing counsel to Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed and the Metro Atlanta Chamber.

Sarah is a frequent speaker nationally and regionally on business immigration issues.



## SeoJung Park

DLA Piper  
Partner  
Tax

J.D., Cornell Law School  
B.A., University of Virginia

SeoJung concentrates on US transactional tax matters, and has focused her practice on mergers and acquisitions, financing and fund formation.

SeoJung has represented both US and non-US private equity funds in all phases of their operations, including formation, acquisition, financing, restructuring, and exiting portfolio investments.

She has also advised public companies, banks and financial institutions on the US tax aspects of various financing, capital markets and cross-border transactions.

SeoJung has been recognized by The Legal 500 United States.



## Stephen Abreu

Sidley Austin LLP  
Partner  
Intellectual property

J.D., University of California, Davis School of Law  
M.S., University of California, Santa Cruz  
B.S., University of California, Santa Cruz

STEPHEN ABREU focuses on structuring and negotiating complex intellectual property and commercial transactions for life sciences companies, including strategic collaborations, cross-border transactions, and co-development, license and manufacturing agreements.

Stephen has extensive expertise in university transactions gained while working for the University of California, San Francisco as the Industry Contracts Manager for the Diabetes Center and the Immune Tolerance Network. In that capacity, Stephen was responsible for managing all industry relations between these departments and companies operating in the biotechnology, pharmaceutical and digital health space.

Stephen was selected to appear in Latino Leaders magazine in 2020 on the "Top Latino Lawyers to Keep on Watch" list. In 2016, the Silicon Valley Business Journal named him in its annual "40 under 40" list and in 2015, he was selected as a member of the National Black Lawyers - Top 100 Lawyers. He has also served as an adjunct professor at the University of California, Davis Martin Luther King Jr. School of Law.





## Stephen M. Graham

Fenwick & West LLP  
Partner  
Corporate

J.D., Yale Law School  
B.A., Iowa State University

Stephen concentrates in the areas of private and public mergers and acquisitions, public offerings, private placements and corporate governance matters, including advising boards of directors and audit, compensation and nominating/corporate governance committees, preparation and filing of periodic SEC reports and other securities law compliance.

Stephen has been recognized by Chambers USA as one of the top corporate and M&A lawyers in Washington. He is also a "Super Lawyer" award recipient (2000 – 2020) and is listed in Who's Who in America by Marquis Biographical Reference. Stephen has consistently been recognized by The Best Lawyers in America since 2012 and was named "Lawyer of the Year" for biotechnology and life sciences in 2020. He is also a member of the political science honorary, Pi Sigma Alpha.

In 2015, he was named "one of the 19 most influential people in D.C. who can affect your small business" by The Washington Post for his role with the SEC.



## Suleiman O. Ogo-Ogua

Bailey & Wyant PLLC  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., University of Kentucky College of Law  
B.A., Berea College

Suleiman O. Ogo-Ogua is originally from Nigeria, West Africa and moved to the United States in 1997 to attend college. He graduated from Berea College in 2001 with a Bachelor of Arts in Biology. He then graduated from the University of Kentucky College of Law in 2004.



## Summit S. Dhillon

Wood Smith Henning & Berman LLP  
Partner  
Civil law

J.D., University of San Diego School of Law  
B.A., Duke University

Summit Dhillon has successfully represented clients in state and federal civil matters, including professional liability, commercial and general business litigation, employment and labor, medical malpractice, breach of contract, and other general insurance matters. Summit has significant experience defending insurance agents and brokers in professional liability actions in a rapidly burgeoning area of the law in California, as well as experience in matters of professional liability as they pertain to real estate agents, appraisers and architects. Summit also has experience dealing in general real estate transactions, landlord/tenant matters and leasing. Summit has particular expertise in matters concerning professional liability and personal injury defense, including catastrophic losses.

In addition to his position with WSHB, Summit has done pro bono work for the Fresno Sikh Association and Sikh American Legal Defense Fund. Summit is fluent in Punjabi and proficient in Hindi and Spanish. In his spare time he is an avid golfer.



## Sunita Bali

Perkins Coie LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., University of Southern California Gould School of Law  
B.A., Occidental College

Sunita Bali is a partner with the firm's Litigation practice and has substantial experience litigating cases in California state and federal courts. She regularly defends companies against claims brought under California's Unfair Competition Law and False Advertising Law. She also has experience defending claims for breach of contract, fraud, tortious interference, invasion of privacy, trade secret misappropriation and copyright infringement.

In addition to her litigation practice, Sunita regularly advises internet and telecommunication service providers on compliance with federal and state laws regarding the privacy of user information, including the Stored Communications Act. She helps these clients respond to subpoenas, court orders, search warrants and other requests for user information, including related motion practice.

With a strong commitment to pro bono work, Sunita has represented a Fijian refugee in a merits hearing in Immigration Court, in which he sought relief under the Convention Against Torture (CAT). She also represented a non-profit organization in filing an amicus brief in the California Supreme Court addressing privacy issues.





## Tejas Shah

Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
Partner  
Employment Law

J.D., The George Washington National Law School  
B.A., Duke University



**T**ejas Shah has the ability to take the complex and confusing nature of immigration law and simplify it for his clients. His goal is to not only help them comply with the multifaceted requirements of U.S. immigration law, but also to ensure that as clients source global talent, they thrive in environments that can be hostile to migration.

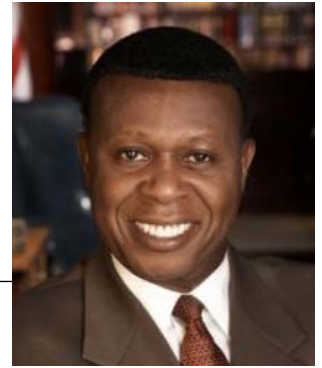
In addition, Tejas maintains a healthy individual immigration practice. He works with investors, scientists, researchers, and artists on immigration strategies and represents individuals in family-based immigration and naturalization matters, including clients in deportation proceedings, in the U visa application process, and litigation in the federal courts.

Tejas also maintains a pro bono practice assisting individuals and families through the National Immigrant Justice Center and Chicago Volunteer Legal Services.

## Thurbert Baker

Dentons US LLP  
Partner  
Public policy

J.D., Emory University School of Law  
B.A., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



**T**hurbert Baker co-leads Dentons' US State Attorney General practice and serves on the US Board. His practice focuses on corporate compliance and investigations, complex state legal and legislative matters, public policy and regulatory affairs, multi-state litigation, public sector procurements and regulatory matters.

Mr. Baker served as the attorney general for the State of Georgia for 13 years under three different governors. He has been consistently selected as one of the "100 Most Influential Georgians" by Georgia Trend Magazine. In 2009 he was the recipient of the first annual Barack Obama Political Leadership award from the National Bar Association for his pioneering achievements as a public servant and an elected official. Men Looking Ahead Magazine recently selected him as its "Man of the Year".

In addition to his impact on the state level in Georgia, Attorney General Baker also has a broad national network, having served as the President of the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) from 2006-2007.

## Tracie Johnson Maurer

Jackson Lewis P.C.  
Principal  
Litigation

J.D., University of Georgia School of Law  
B.A., University of Michigan



**T**racie Johnson Maurer is a principal in the Atlanta, Georgia, office of Jackson Lewis P.C. She has represented employers before numerous governmental agencies and in litigation before the state and federal courts of Georgia, as well as other federal courts across the southeast and midwest.

Tracie counsels clients on state and federal compliance issues, best practices for dispute avoidance, and she frequently conducts training seminars for managers, supervisors, and employees on a wide variety of employment law issues.

Tracie is a former teacher, having taught in both the Atlanta, Georgia, and Charlotte-Mecklenburg, North Carolina, public school systems. She is the former legal columnist for The Atlanta Tribune magazine.

She has been honored by The Best Lawyers in America, "Employment Law - Management" and one of Georgia Super Lawyers "Rising Stars" in 2006.

## Trina Fairley Barlow

Crowell & Moring LLP  
Partner  
Employment law

J.D., The George Washington University Law School  
B.A., University of Virginia



**T**rina Fairley Barlow is a partner in the firm's Labor and Employment and Government Contracts groups. She devotes a substantial portion of her practice to helping government contractors navigate and comply with the myriad laws, regulations, and Executive Orders which impact employers who are also government contractors.

In addition to Trina's work with government contractors, Trina routinely advises and represents a broad range of other organizations, including Fortune 100 companies, healthcare providers, pharmaceutical manufacturers, professional services firms, start-ups, joint ventures, and non-profit organizations on a range of labor and employment matters.

She advises employers on the implementation and enforcement of personnel policies, and regularly reviews and drafts various employment agreements to protect her clients' business and legal interests. As an experienced employment law attorney, Trina stays abreast of the latest employment law developments and is frequently invited to speak and write on emerging labor and employment law topics and trends.

## Vincent Alexander

Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., University of Miami School of Law  
B.A., University of Pennsylvania



Vincent Alexander is a partner in the Fort Lauderdale office of Lewis Brisbois and a member of the Bankruptcy & Insolvency and Complex Business & Commercial Litigation Practices.

Vincent has extensive experience in bankruptcy reorganizations and liquidations, out-of-court restructurings, asset sales, and bankruptcy- and insolvency-related litigation. He regularly represents debtors, equity holders, Chapter 7 and liquidating trustees, and unsecured creditors' committees, as well as other creditors, in bankruptcy proceedings and related litigation.

In addition to his bankruptcy and insolvency matters, Vincent has substantial experience successfully representing clients across a wide range of industries in complex litigation matters, including fraud, trade secret and restrictive covenants, breach of contract, unfair and deceptive trade practices, fiduciary issues, and sports and entertainment.

While in law school, Vincent was an intern to the Honorable Robert A. Mark, Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Florida. Before becoming a lawyer, Vincent was a linebacker in the NFL with the New York Jets and Arizona Cardinals.

## Yasmin Best

Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP  
Partner  
Litigation

J.D., Harvard Law School  
B.A., Yale University



Yasmin Best litigates high-stakes white collar and commercial matters and advises clients during government and internal investigations.

After nearly a decade as Assistant U.S. Attorney, Yasmin brings a prosecutor's perspective to defend individuals and institutions in financial and securities litigation and criminal and regulatory inquiries. Yasmin advocates passionately and skillfully for clients in the courtroom. She has tried 10 jury trials and briefed and argued seven cases in the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

In addition to her significant prosecutorial work as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, Yasmin was appointed Human Rights Coordinator for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois, investigating human rights violations within and outside the U.S. Additionally, she was selected to represent the office at the re-entry court run by the Chief Judge of the Northern District of Illinois, aiding recently released ex-offenders with community re-entry.

## Yesenia Batista

Thompson Hine LLP  
Partner  
Commercial & Public Finance

J.D., Brooklyn Law School  
B.A., University of Virginia



Yesenia's practice focuses on the areas of corporate trust-related agreements and structured finance transactions. She represents major financial institutions serving in trustee and various other capacities, such as collateral agent, escrow agent, exchange agent, paying agent, depositary agent and administrative agent.

Yesenia has extensive experience representing clients involved in certain post-closing matters, including collateral acquisitions and releases, and addition of guarantees. She also advises on default situations, document interpretation issues and other aspects of transactions. She routinely works on secured debt transactions and reviews and negotiates account control agreements, pledge agreements, intercreditor agreements and other types of security documents. Yesenia also represents trustees in connection with reinsurance trust transactions.

## Zhu Julie Lee

Foley & Lardner LLP  
Partner  
Mergers and acquisitions

J.D., Northwestern University School of Law  
B.A., Beijing University



Julie Lee is a partner and business lawyer in the Milwaukee office of Foley & Lardner LLP. Ms. Lee has extensive experience representing clients with their cross-border transactions, with an emphasis on China. She counsels clients on mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and strategic alliances, and commercial transactions such as supply agreements, licensing arrangements, distributorship agreements, cross-border technology transfer and practical ways to protect intellectual property transferred to a foreign country.

Ms. Lee frequently speaks on the topics of cross-border transactions and mergers, acquisitions, and joint ventures. She has been quoted or featured in a number of legal and business publications about doing business in China, including the Wall Street Journal and the M&A Journal. Additionally, Ms. Lee was profiled in the Wisconsin Law Journal in an article titled, "Lee helps Wisconsin bridge gap to China," (November 17, 2010). Since 2000, she has co-authored the Tax Section of the Annual Survey of Wisconsin Law, published by the Wisconsin Bar Association.

# Congratulations to Neal Shah on being named to the Lawyers of Color's Inaugural Nation's Best 2020 List.



This recognition identifies law firm partners and senior-level corporate counsel. Your leadership and dedication are an inspiration to all of us at Frost Brown Todd.



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