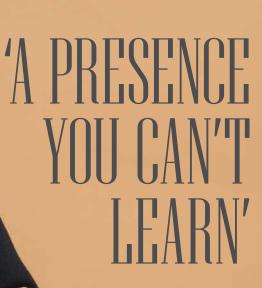


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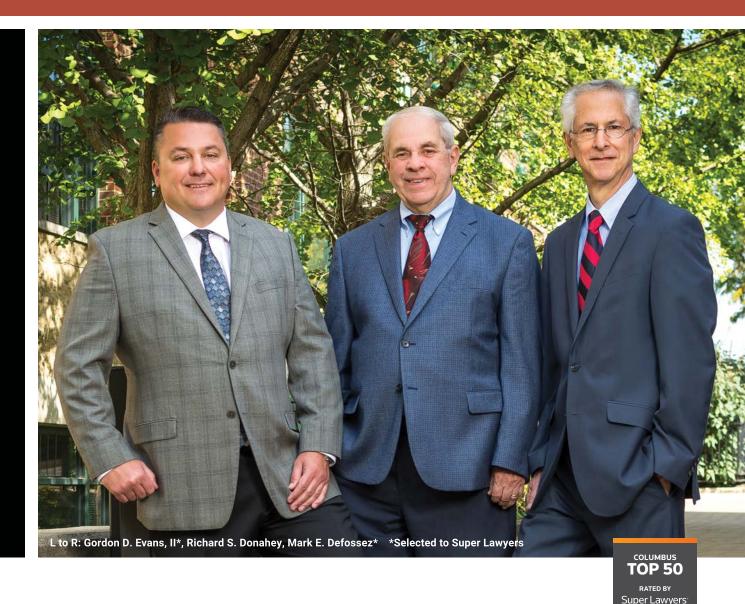
Jennifer Moore is eloquent, charismatic—and takes no prisoners

**GERRY LEESEBERG**'s winning strategy for med-mal victims

Reaching out to Northeast Ohio's Asian community with **ELAINE TSO** 

JOE SUHRE has a honey of a way to keep life in balance





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Craig Bashein, 2004-2022 Super Lawyers Honoree, 2014-2022 Top 10 Ohio, Top 5 Cleveland Richard Bashein, 2021-2022 Super Lawyers Honoree

Stephan Kremer, 2009-2022 Super Lawyers Honoree

Craig Bashein has been recognized by his peers for 19 consecutive years to the Ohio Super Lawyers list, including the Top 10 in Ohio and Top 5 in Cleveland for the past nine years. Bashein has represented hundreds of families who have lost loved ones in tragic incidents, including Ohioans killed by drunk drivers, defective products, electrocution, unsafe construction and worksites, drownings, inadequate security, dangerous premises, and catastrophic motor vehicle, motorcycle and truck accidents. Recently, Bashein was lead counsel in extensive litigation surrounding a catastrophic injury that occurred at a bar in downtown Cleveland on St. Patrick's Day in 2017. Numerous media reports detailing probate filings surrounding the settlement confirmed it was one of the largest bodily injury recoveries in state history. Recently, Bashein recovered another significant eight-figure resolution on behalf of a young man who suffered severe head trauma and a brain injury as the result of an aircraft engine propeller incident at an educational facility.

During his career, The Public Justice Foundation nominated Bashein as a finalist for National Trial Lawyer of the Year. Ohio Lawyers Weekly has also previously recognized Bashein as one of Ohio's Top 10 Lawyers. Bashein has tried more than 150 jury trials in his career. His practice areas include wrongful death litigation, catastrophic personal injury, construction and worksite accidents, products liability, automobile, truck and motorcycle accidents, commercial litigation, class action, and insurance and bad faith law. He also represents a significant number of law enforcement officers throughout northeast Ohio. Bashein is the past president of the Cleveland Academy of Trial Attorneys and serves on several nonprofit boards both locally and nationally, including as the Board of Directors Co-Chairman of the Gettysburg Foundation.

Bashein has argued on numerous occasions before the Supreme Court of Ohio and secured several seminal rulings by the high court on behalf of families, including the right of adult children to bring a consortium claim for injuries to their parents in Rolf v. Tri-State Motor (2001); the rights of over 8,000 injured workers to seek and recover reimbursement of more than \$52 million of wrongfully withheld workers' compensation benefits in Santos v. Bureau of Workers' Compensation (2004); and the right of victims injured by drunk drivers to recover their attorney fee awards against the driver's insurance carrier in Neal-Pettit v. Lahman (2010). He also has been lead counsel in numerous successful Sixth Circuit Appeals, including a seminal ruling on establishing insurance coverage for negligence claims against bars and other liquor permit holders in Mesa Underwriters Specialty Insurance Co. v. Secret's Gentleman's Club, 6th Cir. No. 17-3779 (October 16, 2018) and personal jurisdiction issues for foreign product manufacturers in Malone v. Stanley Black & Decker, 965 F.3d 499 (6th Cir. 2020).



Bashein is the president of Bashein & Bashein Co., L.P.A., a highly respected law firm recognized for its work in wrongful death and catastrophic injuries, products liability, construction and worksite accidents, catastrophic auto, truck and motorcycle accidents, and class actions. Over the course of his career, Bashein has recovered more than a half billion dollars on behalf of clients, including hundreds of families who have tragically lost loved ones in wrongful death cases. Craig's brother, Richard Bashein, manages the firm's workers' compensation practice and is also recognized to Ohio Super Lawyers. Stephan Kremer, who joined the firm in 2019, brings over 25 years of trial experience in litigation and celebrates his 14th selection to Super Lawyers.

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### PUBLISHER'S LETTER



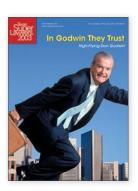
Welcome to our 2022 issue.

We're glad you're here every year, but particularly this one, as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the first stand-alone *Super Lawyers Magazine*.

Two decades ago, our premise was simple: deliver a list of outstanding, peer-nominated attorneys, and tell their stories, in a magazine that would find a place on attorneys' desks year-round.

That's what we did in Texas in 2003. It proved so successful that *Super Lawyers* quickly expanded around the country—including Ohio in 2004 and Kentucky in 2007, with Thomas Chema and Ann Oldfather gracing our first covers, respectively.

Now you'll find Super Lawyers and Rising Stars lists in every state. We publish close to 100 magazines, with a readership of more than 24 million, and have won more than 60 journalism awards.



Texas Super Lawyers Magazine 2003

We're proud to celebrate this milestone, but we're not resting on it. We look forward to continued innovation and growth—and to celebrating our 20th anniversary issue in Ohio/Kentucky next year.

Thank you for reading. Here's to the next 20.

Best, Cindy Larson



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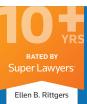
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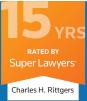


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This year 19 firm attorneys were named to Super Lawyers and Rising Stars. Firm founders Ellen and Charles H. Rittgers were each selected to the Super Lawyers Top 50 Cincinnati list for the 10th consecutive year.

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Firm founders Ellen and Charles H. Rittgers practice with their son, Charles M. Rittgers, and daughter-in-law, Samantha Rittgers, and a team of attorneys dedicated to each other and each person they represent.

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LAWYERS DID NOT PAY TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EDITORIAL FEATURES, DEPARTMENTS OR SUPER LAWYERS LISTS.

COVER PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANDREW KUNG



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### A Few Things We Came Across



#### Oldest Courthouse in Ohio

Standing tall since 1834, the Highland County Courthouse is the oldest courthouse in continuous use in Ohio. A mix of federal and Greek revival architecture, the stately structure was designed by architect Pleasant Arthur; a rear wing was added 50 years later. In 1938, a new courthouse was contemplated, but voters opted on the side of historic preservation. Its latest facelift was a façade restoration in 2011.



### Have something to share for consideration?

Email beth.taylor@tr.com



### **Centennial Compassion**

The best way to celebrate a 100th anniversary? For Hahn Loeser & Parks, whose six locations include Cleveland and Columbus, it was to launch "100 Years of Kindness." During 2020, despite the disruptions of the coronavirus, Hahn Loeser's attorneys and staff gave time and donations to 107 causes and organizations. "We had to get creative," says construction litigator **Rob Remington**, co-chair of the firm's litigation group. "Spreading kindness became contagious." Remington is involved with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and was recently named the first Endurance Honoree for the CFF's Chef's Fantasy fundraiser. He also competed in the U.S. National Whitewater Center Triathlon in Charlotte, North Carolina, raising more than \$10,000 in sponsorships for the Northern Ohio Chapter of the ALS Association. A team from the firm-including Katie L. Steiner (nonprofit law) and Daniel A. DeMarco (bankruptcy: business)—also participated in an ALS walk in support of Hahn Loeser & Parks construction litigator Andrew Natale, who has ALS and received the National ALS Hero Award in 2020 for his contributions.



#### La Dolce Vita

A few years ago, Jon Saia, a criminal defense attorney at Columbus' Law Offices of Saia & Piatt, traveled with friends from the Columbus Italian Club to Italy, where much time was spent learning about and savoring Italian wines. Back home, Saia says, "a few of us got together to discuss how we could bring the 'sweet life' of Italy to Ohio." They decided to import and distribute wine, and Enjoy Dolce Vita [EDV International LLC] was born. Next, they contacted wineries they had visited for samples. "Before we knew it," he says, "we had tasted enough wines we liked to fill a container to be shipped to Ohio." EDV recently received its fourth container of wine-about 6,000 bottles-with a fifth on the way, and now offers 42 labels. Many of the wines are from little-known grapes. "Azienda Vitivinicola Lombardo [winery] from my paternal grandparents" hometown contacted me for instructions on how to package a pallet for shipping because the wine was consumed only locally," Saia notes. "Needless to say, the Lombardo wines are my favorite."

### **An Unwilling Party**

How Craig Dilger defended the University of Louisville against furious fans

When a group of angry fans sued the NCAA over the loss of the University of Louisville men's 2013 basketball championship titleand pulled the U of L into the lawsuit— Craig Dilger, repping for the university, had to strike a delicate balance.

The team had been stripped of its title and all 123 wins from 2011 to 2014—after a woman alleged that a former U of L staffer had paid her escort service to perform striptease dances and sexual acts for prospective and former basketball players from 2010 to 2014. The NCAA eventually deemed those players ineligible. It was the first time in modern basketball history that the men's Division I championship had been vacated.

Initially, the university appealed the decision, but complied after the NCAA upheld its ruling. "It wasn't that the university wasn't upset about losing the championship," Dilger says, "but they had to be conscious of the fact that any further sort of grinding was not going to be good for them."

Soon after, though, rumblings were heard from a group of fans, the University of Louisville Protection and Advocacy Coalition, which in 2018 named the university as a party to its lawsuit.

"They filed the lawsuit and tried to get it certified as a class action," Dilger says. "And, mistakenly in my mind, [they] named the university on both sides of the *v*, which is just not really feasible. I mean, you can't be a plaintiff and a defendant."

But Dilger had to be careful when drafting motions and briefs. "We were only focusing on the legal issues," he says, "with little to no comment that would further inflame the fan base.

"Ultimately, what we decided to do was focus all of our energy on a particular legal principle that seemed to not be offensive to anyone—which was that the university could not be added to the lawsuit as an unwilling party."



Craig C. Dilger Stoll Keenon Oaden: Business Litigation; Louisville

It worked; the case was dismissed in October 2018. "We won on that procedural rule, but we got to the procedural rule largely because we had to throw out a lot of the things that we would normally fight," Dilger says. "At the end of the day, I think the fans looked at that and

said, 'We really want the championship back, but, yeah, we get it.' You can't just add the university to whatever kind of lawsuit you want and force them to be a party." -SUSAN WENNER JACKSON



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### GOUNARIS ABBOUD, INC.

The award-winning attorneys at Gounaris Abboud have a reputation for providing tenacious and thorough advocacy for each and every client.

"We carefully review each client's concerns, goals and objectives, taking their best interests into consideration as we craft a plan for each case," says founding partner Nicholas Gounaris, selected for the 12th year to the Ohio Super Lawyers list and listed among the Top 100 in Ohio in 2016, 2020 and 2021 and Top 50 in Cincinnati.

"Our attorneys have decades of experience, and we get results," says founding partner Antony Abboud, who is also a Super Lawyers honoree for the eighth year and listed among the Top 100 in Ohio and Top 50 in Cincinnati. "Our pledge is to provide top-quality and personalized representation for every client we serve.'

The firm's areas of practice include state and federal criminal defense, OVI defense and family law.



### A Comforting Face

#### Elaine Tso makes it her business to care for Northeast Ohio's Asian population BY CAROLE HAWKINS

As a child, Elaine Tso often sat in doctors' waiting rooms while her mother acted as a volunteer interpreter between pregnant Asian women and their obstetricians, who were neither female nor Asian. Tso remembers sometimes seeing the women cry.

"When you grow up," her mother told her, "you need to become a doctor so there is a comforting face that represents this community."

Tso may have taken a different career path, but she took her mother's words to heart.

A law professor suggested she volunteer at Asian Services in Action. ASIA is a nonprofit that provides health and social services in native languages to Northeast Ohio's Asian American and Pacific Islander community, particularly the newly arrived. More than a decade later, Tso is still with the organization. Her volunteering has spanned everything from boots-on-the-ground work to serving as president of the board of directors. In 2019, she became its CEO.

Right after becoming a licensed attorney in 2006, she started out by

Elaine Tso at age 2, with her civically active mom.

sorting donations of clothes, toys, tools, kitchen items and more, "because when people come to this country, typically they don't have anything." Then the staff got to know her.

"They said, 'Oh, you're an attorney? Maybe you can help us with some different kinds of things," says Tso, whose practice areas at her eponymous firm, which she opened in 2017, include estate planning and probate.

She soon found herself teaching newly arrived immigrants about tenants' rights. Some had come from countries where housing is provided by the government. They had no concept of leases or rent, or of the need to make non-cash payments or ask for written receipts.

"It was extremely eye-opening to me,"

At the same time, she could identify. Tso was raised in a bilingual home, but as a child, she was shy. Her teachers assumed she couldn't speak English and placed her in classes for students who spoke English as a second language.

"It's a challenge for institutions like schools to know how to tell the difference between students who can speak English and those who need extra support," Tso says. "There wasn't the infrastructure to identify them when I was young, and I was lost in that system." It took awhile for them to figure out that the guiet child didn't need ESL: she was fluent.

People often make assumptions, based on names or appearance, about how well immigrants can communicate, Tso says. That's why many immigrants become



**Elaine Tso** Elaine Tso, Attorney; Estate Planning & Probate; Akron

### **Asian Services** In Action by the **Numbers**

- 55-PLUS: Number of languages and dialects spoken at the organization
- 80: Percent of the staff that is bilingual or multilingual
- 23,286: Patient visits to International Community Health Center 2014-2019
- UP TO \$25,000: Micro-loans for Asianowned small businesses

self-employed and why ASIA supports their community's small businesses with micro-loans

One issue is especially personal for Tso. For years, many patients from Cleveland's Asian community would board buses for an eight-hour, overnight ride to New York City's Chinatown to see a doctor who spoke their language. ASIA applied for federal grants, solicited private donations and, in 2014, opened the International Community Health Center, Cleveland's first health clinic for Asian Americans. Soon after, they opened a second location in Akron. Patients are served in English, Korean, Vietnamese, Nepali, Burmese, Karen and multiple dialects of Chinese.

The achievement brought Tso back to her mother's work and words.

"Even though I did not become a medical doctor," Tso says, "I'm still involved and serving a community that is sometimes overlooked." 5

### Sweet Success

#### How Joe Suhre turned beekeeping into a thriving business BY M. LEIGH HOOD

Joe Suhre can't seem to get away from bees—even at the courthouse, where he has just spent part of his morning. "I probably spent 10 minutes in the courtroom and 20 minutes talking about honeybees." he says. "I can't go through the courthouse at any point without somebody stopping and talking to me about our honey, or 'How are the bees doing?""

Suhre has been a criminal defense attorney for 22 years, and before that he spent four years as an auxiliary police officer in Blue Ash. Nine years ago, after he moved to a house with 1.3 acres on the outskirts of Cincinnati, an old friend who keeps bees asked if Suhre would be interested in setting up a hive on his new property. "It intrigued me," says Suhre. "It was something I thought we could do as a family." His wife, Mary, bought into the idea right away.

Thus the Indian Hill Bee Company was born. The Suhres now have 25 honeyproducing hives. Everyone in the familyincluding sons Joey, 14, Mac, 12, and Jake, 10-participates in jarring, labeling and shipping honey.

"Mac is my junior beekeeper," Suhre says of his middleschooler, who helps out with the day-to-day beekeeping and narrates informational videos for Indian Hill Bee Company's YouTube channel. "It's kind of being a good ambassador of beekeeping, and providing information to folks in a way that's easy to understand."

The time commitment varies: 10 hours a week for spring prep after the long winter; just a couple of hours a week while the bees "do their thing;" then lots of work for the spring and autumn harvests.

Suhre considers his side job an escape from the demands of his law practice, where he defends clients against DUI and other criminal charges. He hung out his shingle as soon as he was sworn in, and his firm has expanded to eight attorneys in offices in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana.

Beekeeping is a welcome contrast. "Many aspects of it are solitary," he says. "I put in my AirPods. I typically listen to John Denver. ... It's nice to be able to just kind



Joseph B. Suhre Suhre & Associates; Criminal Defense: DUI/DWI; Cincinnati

of tune everything out and focus just on working with the bees."

And focus is necessary. "Handling the bees the right way—doing inspections the correct way, being gentle with themmakes them happier, which means fewer stings for me."

Lessons have been learned along the way. For the kids, there are business basics— "the value of what it takes to actually run a business as opposed to just have a job," Suhre says. For Suhre, one lesson stands out. It was after a storm, when he went to take care of a hive that got knocked over. "I put on my beekeeping pants. I put on my jacket. It's got a hood attached to it and I zipped it up. ... Well, I didn't get it quite all the way up there, and I didn't notice it till, as I'm working with the bees, they became quite irritated with me and a couple of them found their way into my veil.

"I'm getting stung in the neck, on the side of the face, and the worst part is: I can hear more in there, and I can hear them buzzing around my head, but of course I can't see them. ... That's a mistake you only make once." Every season brings around 25 stings, but, Suhre says, "My reaction to the sting is less and less ... even in the same season."

Business is booming at the Indian Hill Bee Company, which always sells out of honey. "We've got a pretty big fan base," Suhre says. "People who love honey love honey." 

9

### **Suhre's Favorite Things About Beekeeping**

- **SOLITUDE:** It's an opportunity to work by myself, with just the bees, outside and without distraction.
- NATURE: There's nothing more amazing than learning, watching and nurturing the bees. Nature in its raw form is humbling and awe-inspiring.
- HONEY: Let's not forget about the product of the bees' hard work! Honey is rich in antioxidants and phytonutrients.
- HELPING NATURE: Bees are prolific pollinators. For every pound of honey, bees visit 2 million flowers.
- WORKING WITH FAMILY: Mac and Jake help with the beekeeping; Joey fills honey jars, applies labels and packages the honey. Mary helps with social media and the website: IndianHillBeeCompany.com.



### The Strategist

### Gerry Leeseberg knows when to go on the attack and when to rein it in

BY HARRIS MEYER

At a 2018 trial in Franklin County, Gerry Leeseberg needed a way to make the jury connect with his client, Bradley Metts, a boy who became paralyzed at age 9.

Leeseberg was arguing that the boy's "locked-in" syndrome was due to an alleged cascade of medical errors.

A defense expert had claimed in deposition that Metts was brain-dead, which, if true, could have weakened the claim for non-economic damages. Leeseberg's challenge: to show the jury that this was a bright, personable young man.

So the Columbus attorney opened the trial with Metts introducing himself to the jury by putting words together on an electronic letterbox using his eyesthe only part of his body with which he could communicate.

"That was a stroke of genius," says the judge in the case, Charles Schneider, now section chief for criminal justice at the Ohio Attorney General's Office. "It was an excellent move. Gerry wanted the jury to see the condition of his client, but he respected his client and didn't want to embarrass him. A lesser attorney would have had the boy sit in front of the jury for the entire trial."

He won a \$44.5 million verdict for Metts and his parents, including \$20 million in non-economic damages, believed to be the largest individual personal injury verdict ever in Ohio. The judgment was against the lab firm; settlements had already been reached with the physician's office and the hospital.

Leeseberg has spent nearly 40 years fighting for clients and families in the wake of injuries and deaths due to mistakes by health care professionals.

"Every one of these cases is a frickin' movie," says Leeseberg, who doesn't always use euphemisms when describing what he sees as bad-faith behavior by physicians, hospitals and their hired medical experts. "The law in my business is pretty static, but every medical case is different. It's a fascinating learning experience."

And often heartbreaking. There was the \$2 million verdict in 2010 for the parents of twin 3-year-old boys who died after outpatient tonsillectomies and adenoidectomies. The suit alleged that they should have been admitted to the hospital for the procedures and post-op monitoring. Leeseberg says it was the most emotionally difficult case he's ever handled, made harder because his own son was about the same age as the twins. "I struggled during the whole trial to keep myself from crying," he says. "I can't imagine anything more devastating than losing a child, let alone losing two kids."

He's currently representing 17 families whose loved ones died from 2014 to 2018 after being administered fatal overdoses of fentanyl and other painkillers ordered by Dr. William Husel in the intensive care units at two Mount Carmel Health System hospitals. The health system is owned by Trinity Health, a large national Catholic hospital chain. Husel is scheduled for trial in February on 25 counts of murder.

Leeseberg's clients are suing the hospital system and Husel, alleging wrongful death. The hospital system says it had no knowledge of Husel's actions until it fired him in late 2018. Leeseberg contends in court filings that the hospital knew, or should have known, that Husel was incompetent.

He hired a polling firm, which found that most Columbus-area residents thought a medical provider should have to pay large damages even when a patient was near death—as most of Husel's patients were before being administered a fatal overdose. He has used those survey findings to settle nine of the 17 cases so far.

Leeseberg has long helped lead the battle to fend off efforts by Ohio physicians, hospitals and insurers to make it harder for injured patients to seek legal recourse. For many years he advocated for the state trial lawyers' group (now the Ohio Association for Justice) against the Ohio State Medical Association's pushes for legislation restricting patient lawsuits.

He laments that, along with the wins, he has lost many rounds in Ohio's traditionally Republican-dominated Statehouse and Supreme Court, including on the issues of non-economic damage caps and the one-year statute of limitations on medical malpractice claims. In his view, these tough limits have reduced the incentive for health care providers to improve patient safety conditions.

Still, his cases have established legal precedents expanding the rights

### "GERRY'S AT THE TOP OF THE LIST OF ATTORNEYS THAT DEFENSE LAWYERS WOULD REFER CASES TO."

-Patrick Smith, Poling Law



Gerald S. Leeseberg Leeseberg Tuttle; Personal Injury -Medical Malpractice: Plaintiff; Columbus

of Ohio plaintiffs. One broadened the definition of the next of kin who qualify for compensation to include grandparents. Another case established that damages cannot be reduced based on a plaintiff's previous health behaviors, like smoking, because they had nothing to do with the medical negligence.

On the subject of physicians who testify as defense experts, he says, "Many times the defense's medical expert will say, 'I wouldn't have done it that way, but physicians do things differently,"" Leeseberg says. "The first thing I ask is, 'Tell me why you don't do it that way.' Once you force him to explain, he's basically making my case."

Still, Leeseberg prides himself on having a good reputation in the medical community. He says he regularly receives case referrals from physicians he's sued and defense attorneys he's opposed, and has even become friends with some defendant doctors after their cases were resolved. He has also represented physicians in about a dozen cases over the years.

"Gerry's at the top of the list of attorneys that defense lawyers would refer cases to," says Patrick Smith, a veteran defense attorney at Poling Law in Columbus who was on the opposing side in the Metts settlement. "That's how the entire bar feels about him."

Smith says Leeseberg knows when to be rough in the courtroom, and when to be gentle. He recalls defending a surgeon who had failed his certification board exam several times. Representing the plaintiff, Leeseberg politely asked the surgeon about each of his efforts to pass the exam. "The surgeon ended up shooting himself in the foot by saying, 'Yes, I failed; yes, I failed; yes, I failed," Smith says. "That was a talented way for Gerry to present the case, as opposed to coming across as a bully."

Leeseberg, who's 67, hopes to wrap up the Husel cases by the end of this year and turn his full attention to preparing his two younger partners to take over his firm so he can retire, possibly this year. He wants to take art and piano lessons, read books he's never read, play more golf, learn a foreign language, and travel the world with his wife, Cindy. As a cancer survivor, he's looking forward to this next phase of his life.

"I have no intention of dying at my desk like some lawyers have a need to do," he says. 9



### **Case in Point**

Gerry Leeseberg's passion for golf proved professionally valuable in one dramatic case. In November 2009, a young member of his golf club went to the ER with abdominal pain and received a CT scan. The radiologist said it showed no blood clots, so Todd Pontius was sent home. The next day, he died of a pulmonary embolism.

After his death, the radiologist's practice partner, who belonged to the golf club, looked at the scan. He told the golf club pro that the defendant "blew it" by missing the clot, according to depositions from the golf pro and the Pontius family physician, also a club member, who said he heard the conversation. Leeseberg says the golf pro told Pontius' widow about the conversation—and suggested she speak with Leeseberg.

Leeseberg filed a malpractice suit against the hospital and radiology group and went to trial in 2015. When he attempted to call the golf pro to testify about his conversation with the second radiologist (who denied during deposition that he had said there was a blood clot), the defense objected. The judge ruled that testimony from the golf pro would be inadmissible.

After losing the trial, Leeseberg appealed the judge's ruling. In 2016, the appellate court ordered a new trial. Then the hospital and radiology group quickly agreed to pay a confidential settlement.

Leeseberg says he's had no social problems with anyone at the club—including member doctors—in the aftermath of that case. "Everyone loved Todd," he says.

### **Promoting Pro Bono**

Diane Menashe has a knack for enlisting people to lend a hand—especially to those in the criminal justice system BY JENNY BURMAN

Diane Menashe is on a mission to create access to justice for incarcerated people eligible to receive a judicial release—and she's brought six firms together to make that happen.

The Columbus attorney has been a champion for criminal defendants for nearly 25 years, first at the public defender's office, in the death penalty division; then at her own firm, where she worked for 19 years. On Dec. 28, 2019, she joined Ice Miller, where she became the firm's first director of litigation training and pro bono services.

In Ohio, judges have the option of imposing non-mandatory sentences, which give incarcerated individuals the right to request early release at some point, depending on the length of their original sentence. However, state law does not provide the right to counsel to navigate the release process. Those individuals must therefore hire their own lawyers to argue for their eligibility, or file pro se. Menashe says this puts an unfair burden on people of color.

"So, yes, you have a right to [early release]; but, no, you don't get an attorney," says Menashe. "We know that, within our criminal justice system, there are racial disparities in sentencing. As a legal community, we can work to dismantle this systemic failure in a number of significant ways. One is to provide those disproportionately impacted—persons of color —with access to justice."

Menashe began the project by filing a public records request from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction for data on incarcerated defendants of color who were legally eligible for judicial release. "We started with Franklin County, and I formed a coalition of law firms because I thought that there would be greater impact if we did this work as a community."

She recruited five other firms to team up with Ice Miller on the Judicial Release



**Diane Menashe** Ice Miller; Criminal Defense; Columbus

Coalition: Squire Patton Boggs; Baker & Hostetler; Jones Day; Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease; and Bricker & Eckler.

The JRC is an initiative of Ice Miller's Racial Justice Task Force, which the firm launched after events of 2020, including George Floyd's murder. "It was that moment for me," Menashe says—the moment to bring people together to address racial wrongs in the justice system.

Beginning in December 2020, nearly 100 JRC lawyers have participated in a significant number of judicial-release filings. In addition to literally opening doors for incarcerated individuals, the project gave associates at participating firms litigation training and in-court experience.

"The marriage between the training and the pro bono work [seems] like an obvious one to me," says Menashe, who for the past five years has also served annually as faculty in trial advocacy workshops at Harvard Law School.

"She's so charismatic and committed to the pro bono projects that she has started and recruited people for," says business litigator John Gilligan, a colleague at Ice Miller. "People are fighting to get these cases. They love this work. They are excited about it."

That's just the reaction Menashe was hoping for. "Many associates that are doing racial justice work have reached out [to] say, 'I never thought I could do this kind of work and be at a firm," she says. "I just did a hearing this morning with an associate from Baker. She was like, 'This is the coolest thing I've ever done since I became a lawyer."

### **Why Diane Menashe Does Pro Bono**

The idea of pro bono work does not appeal to all. "People think it's like volunteering," Menashe says. "It would be really incredible if, as a legal field, we started thinking about pro bono as equal in value to our billable work and look to our communities to identify the needs."

Still, she understands the reluctance from some. "A lot of criminal defense attorneys would say, 'I do enough. I can't give more.' I do appreciate that, but I also appreciate that all of us who do criminal defense work know of the gross inequities that exist within our system-not just obvious socioeconomic but the racial disparities. We can't, in my opinion, really close those gaps unless we start to make more sacrifices."

But Menashe believes there's a trend toward deeper commitment to pro bono. "It's 2021, and our clients care, and our lawyers care, and our staff care," she says. "The light is shining on these issues more brightly now. You can't turn away as easily now from injustices that are going on.

"The next generation wants to be doing this kind of work."

### **Speaking for Survivors**

#### Richard Schulte and Michael Wright represent sexual-abuse victims of former OSU physician Richard Strauss BY CARLOS HARRISON

The allegations of abuse spanned 20 years. Twenty more passed before Ohio State University publicly acknowledged them and launched an investigation that identified 177 victims.

All young male athletes. Wrestlers, fencers, swimmers and more. OSU students mostly, but high schoolers, too.

That was just the beginning. The findings triggered a cascade of suits accusing former athletic department physician Richard Strauss of groping, raping or otherwise sexually abusing students. More than 500 have come forward with claims; Wright & Schulte has represented more than 200 of them.

"Most of these sexual abuse cases, these are lifelong injuries for these victims, as opposed to some of the other accident cases where a person heals a broken bone. This stays with them for their entire life," says Michael L. Wright, a negotiator for the plaintiff's firms. "And as we talk to them, it's like ripping off the scab again every time they have to go back and focus on what occurred."

Lead negotiator Rick Schulte says, "You have people dealing with depression, problems with managing relationships, failed relationships, problems with sexuality, substance abuse, and career troubles."

It took nearly a year of negotiations to reach a settlement, followed by an independent evaluation of each claim. In May 2020, OSU announced that 162 victims in a dozen lawsuits had accepted the initial total \$40.9 million payout. Soon, 23 more accepted the settlement, adding another \$5.8 million to the total.

But hundreds of claims remained, including 58 handled by Schulte, Wright, and Florida-based civil rights attorney Benjamin Crump. "Ohio State has refused to allow them to participate in mediation or in the Strauss Individual Settlement Program," Schulte says.

Last fall, Judge Michael Watson dismissed hundreds of claims for plaintiffs who did not participate in the settlements. Wright & Schulte planned to appeal that ruling to the 6th Circuit; they also remained hopeful that OSU would decide to offer settlements in those cases.

There are also victims who never file claims. "There are survivors we talk to all the time who don't decide to file because they're worried about their identity being known," Schulte says.

One hurdle shows up in what Schulte calls a common question he gets asked: Why would a powerful football lineman or wrestler let a doctor do that without resisting?

"It's a stupid question," Schulte says. "They come, most of them, from humble beginnings. This is their entire pathway to the rest of their life and being successful whether to become a professional athlete, or whether they go out into the professional world. And they have a coach in administration ordering them to go see a doctor that has the power to clear them to play or not. ... Their whole life is riding on whether or not they go to see this doctor."

The OSU-initiated investigation found that Strauss performed unnecessary genital and rectal examinations, showered with male athletes, and asked uncomfortable questions about their sexual activities. As many as 20 OSU employees may have been aware of the complaints. In 1996, Strauss was removed from the department after some complaints but remained at OSU as a tenured professor, then was granted emeritus status upon leaving in 1998. The investigation took place 20 years later.

In 2018, stories surged in the media about Larry Nassar, the former Michigan State University athletics doctor and U.S. women's national gymnastics team physician accused of abusing more than 250 gymnasts. Some former OSU athletes saw similarities to what happened to them. They complained, sparking the investigation and the



Richard W. Schulte Wright & Schulte; Class Action/Mass Torts: Plaintiff; Vandalia



Michael L. Wright Wright & Schulte; Personal Injury -General: Plaintiff; Dayton

lawsuits. By then, Strauss was dead, having died by suicide in 2005.

Schulte says the result at OSU should be a message to all universities with serial sex abusers on their campuses: "You're going to get caught, and you're going to pay. Simple as that."

#### **HEAVY LOAD**

The OSU case is not the only one Schulte has handled involving complaints against alleged sexual predators. He has also handled cases against priests. "There's not a day in my life in the last four or five years," he says, "that I haven't worked on some aspect of a case on behalf of a survivor."

And now, Schulte is co-lead counsel and Wright is on the plaintiff steering committee in a sexual-abuse case against the University of Michigan for the acts of late former athletic doctor Richard Anderson. "More than a thousand have come forward or made claims," Schulte says. "We have an epidemic going on at our universities." 9



# 'A PRESENCE YOU CAN'T IFARN'



Jennifer Moore is eloquent, charismatic—and takes no prisoners

BY RJ SMITH
PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANDREW KUNG

AS A CHILD, JENNIFER MOORE spent hours listening to the stories of her grandfather, a natural raconteur who hailed from rural Pike County on the eastern edge of Kentucky.

She recounts a favorite: "He convinced a man to allow him to put a Dixie cup on top of his head and stand across the street. Then Grandfather bet him he could shoot the star in the Dixie cup while it sat on top of his head. And the man agreed!

"I used to think, 'What a tall tale," says Moore, with a smile and a contagious laugh. "Then, when I was in high school, I actually met the man who agreed to do it, and he swore that it happened." Luckily, her grandfather was as skilled at shooting as talking.

Moore is a natural communicator as well—a talent showcased in the narratives she crafts for juries. She garnered international attention in 2019 by winning \$80 million in damages (later reduced to \$25 million) for Edwin Hardeman in the first federal Roundup lawsuit against Monsanto, manufacturer of the weed killer. Hardeman, now 72, lives in Santa Rosa, in California's wine country. For decades, he mixed Roundup with water and used it in a pump sprayer to kill poison oak and weeds on his property. He was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma in 2015.

"All odds were against us—a true David versus Goliath story but hard work, determination, and a commitment to justice for our client prevailed," says Moore, who has run her own firm since 2007. "Everyone thought we weren't going to win, except for us."

It seemed like a long shot, particularly when the judge bifurcated the case, declaring that Moore and co-counsel Aimee Wagstaff, a founding partner at Denver-based Andrus Wagstaff, would have to prove that Roundup caused cancer before they could argue that Monsanto had buried evidence—a claim the corporation has denied.

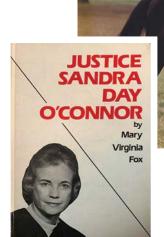
After the San Francisco jury agreed that Roundup had caused Hardeman's cancer, Moore and Wagstaff were allowed to continue to the next phase on liability and damages, in which they claimed Monsanto buried reports of the herbicide's danger and ghostwrote scientific reports claiming Roundup was safe.

"She is a badass," says Brent Wisner, a mass torts attorney with Baum, Hedlund, Aristei & Goldman in California who was co-lead plaintiff's counsel in the first successful case against Roundup, tried in state court. He calls her "one of the most thoughtful, methodical and charismatic lawyers I have seen in a courtroom.

"She has a presence you can't learn. I would say there's nothing worse in the world than being at the end of her cross-examination. And she does it with her smile and her charming Southern accent," he says. "She is friendly until you suddenly realize you've given up vour case."

Moore and Wisner are now co-lead counsels of the California Judicial Council Coordination Proceedings (JCCP), in which thousands of plaintiffs claim their cancer was caused by the heartburn medication Zantac, which was recalled by the FDA in 2020. Trial is set for this October in Oakland, California.

"It's all about connecting, and I think she connects because she's very relatable," says Ginger Susman, executive chair of settlement administration company Archer Systems and a friend of Moore's. "She's a country girl who didn't grow up rich. She is a self-made girl. She actually is unlike many mass tort lawyers because she is a



Above: Moore, age 16, enjoys an equestrian outing with her grandfather, Clinton Moore, astride his granddaughter's show horse, Ebony Masterpiece ("Big Eb"). Left: The book that inspired a young Moore to become a lawyer.

bona fide trial lawyer. I have seen how she has honed her trial skills throughout the years to this point."

Roundup remains a large part of Moore's work schedule. Last August, Bayer, the parent company of Monsanto, filed a writ of certiorari with the U.S. Supreme Court, a last-ditch effort to overturn previous court outcomes. "I don't see a need for this case to take the court's precious time," she says.

Moore was also instrumental in negotiating the \$10 billion mass settlement Bayer agreed to in 2020, involving thousands of claimants in the California Roundup JCCP.

She views the Roundup case in the context of a long-running legal battle to reign in an industry. "What we have tried to accomplish is a societal change, just as when people took on the tobacco industry," she says. "The odds are against you when you are taking on one of largest corporations in the world.

"We've been in the trenches for [five] years. Monsanto can throw everything they can at me; and trust me, they have." That includes trying to discredit both her and her clients, she says. "But I'm not going to back down. I've devoted my career to provide a voice to those harmed.

"It's been a long journey," she observes with a chuckle—a quiet one this time. "I'm just going to say that."

PADUCAH, WHERE MOORE GREW UP, is a small western Kentucky town facing the Ohio River to the north. Her grandfather ran a family auto dealership. "My dad worked six or seven days a week selling cars," Moore says. Grandparents on both sides lived nearby—one set across the street, the other just a mile down the road. "Their love and support made me believe I could always do whatever I wanted to do."

Her sister, Angie, went into education but now works at Moore's firm, where she is the director of public relations and litigation support. "She has been instrumental in the settlement for thousands of Roundup victims," Moore says.

Women were power centers within her family: One aunt lobbied for public education in Frankfurt; another was a lawyer who is

now a published fiction author. Home didn't provide a context in which feminism was advanced—"I grew up in a very traditional household," says Moore—so much as a place where family members were encouraged to pursue goals. "Everyone spoke their mind, and if you wanted to do something, you just went and did it with the support of the extended family."

She had role models outside the family, too. Paducah had a woman mayor, Martha Layne Collins was governor, and Sandra Day O'Connor had recently been named the first woman on the U.S. Supreme Court. In third grade, for a class biography book report, she chose Justice O'Connor. "I decided in fourth grade that I wanted to be a lawyer, and I never wavered," Moore says.



### **Politics, Kentucky Style**

Moore's Paducah home is close to Fancy Farm, the rural Kentucky venue for one of the most essential political traditions in the state, the annual Fancy Farm Picnic.

What makes it special isn't the 20,000 pounds of mutton and pork barbecued every year. It's the emphatic, yowling, all-American discourse that reaches back almost a century. Pols from all over the state enter the ring formally called the speaker's pavilion, and mercilessly let loose on the other side. At Fancy Farm, the audience has the freedom to heckle and shout back at the speakers. In theory, at least, it becomes a great social leveler, the town square of Kentucky politics.

Moore remembers going as a child in the '70s, but the 1992 picnic stands out, when presidential candidate Al Gore made an appearance. She has broadcast from the event in her role as commentator on KET Public Television.

"It was so exciting to go there as a first-time voter," Moore says, and she notes the event's ability to make or break a candidate. "I've seen Fancy Farms where I watched a speech and knew right then that this person is not gonna win—you can tell by how much they fire up the crowd. Timing is everything in politics; and in Kentucky, it starts to get revealed over Fancy Farms weekend."

After graduating from the University of Kentucky College of Law, Moore clerked for a chief judge of the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals, which provided "incredible insight into what's behind the curtain." Then she went to San Francisco and practiced commercial litigation on the defense side at a big corporate firm for three years.

"Not the path for me," she says. "I wanted to use my skills to help individuals." She headed back to Kentucky. "It was great to live in California in my 20s," she says with a shrug, "but I was very happy to be home."

For a few months, she took a leave from law to work on Lois Combs Weinberg's Senate campaign against Mitch McConnell and has remained active in Democratic politics ever since. Moore regularly appears as a commentator on Kentucky Educational Television, where she is an ever-smiling presence. On election night, she always makes a point of looking like she is having fun, keeping her cool in a space often flooded with rage and rumor.

In 2007, Moore volunteered on Steve Beshear's successful campaign to become Kentucky's governor. That same year, she became head of the state Democratic party, the youngest party chair in the country and one of the few women at the top of a state party. In 2009, she moved on to found Emerge Kentucky, a nonprofit that trains Democratic women, particularly those of color, to run for office. She was board chair of the organization for more than a decade, and continues to be active on the board and executive committee. Nearly 300 women have been trained, and 42 are serving in office today—from school board members to lieutenant governor.

"I truly believe politics is the last frontier for women, the best chance to equal the playing field," she says. "The more women in positions of power, the more likely little boys and little girls will see women as powerful figures."

As for running for office herself? "Maybe one day. I've been asked that many times. But it has to be the right office, one where I think I can make a difference."

WHEN SHE STARTED PRACTICING LAW, Moore was frequently the only woman in the room, and now, "in many circumstances, it will be all women—so, yeah, it is changing, dramatically, since I started practicing about 24 years ago," she says. "We still have a ways to go in increasing the number of women who own firms or are in charge of their firms." Although the stats on law school admissions are promising, she cautions, "We need to see what happens 10, 20 years out in the practice."

Day-to-day moments show her how much work remains. "I get mistaken frequently for being *not* a lawyer," she says. Just last summer, she walked into a deposition at which two people asked if she was the court reporter. "I have great respect for court reporters," she adds. "I just turn and I say, 'No, I'm the lawyer—and who are you?""

Both in society and the justice system, Moore observes, "change occurs slowly." But she is patient. As she waited last summer for word from the Supreme Court on the Roundup appeal, she reflected on the famous Martin Luther King Jr. quote: Justice too long delayed is justice denied.

"At times, justice can be very delayed," Moore says. "You have to have the mindset that perseverance and determination will win out. You can't give up. And I won't ever give up." 

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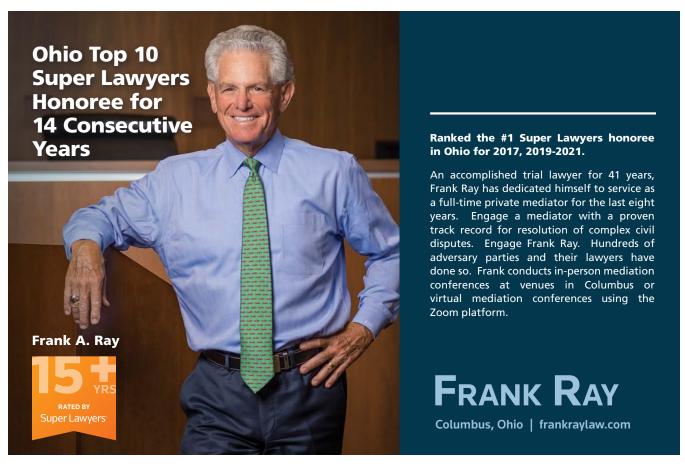
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Phyllis G. Bossin & Associates, Cincinnati OH

BURKE, JAMES E.

KMK Law, Cincinnati OH

CRANDALL, STEVE

• Ranked Number Two • Crandall & Pera Law, Cleveland OH

LENNOX, HEATHER

Jones Day, Cleveland OH

PATNO, CHRISTIAN R.

 Ranked Number Three McCarthy Lebit Crystal & Liffman Co., Cleveland OH

RAY, FRANK A.

Frank A. Ray Co., Columbus OH

TAGGART, CAROLYN A.

Porter Wright Morris & Arthur, Cincinnati OH

TRENEFF, CRAIG P.

Treneff Cozza Law, Westerville OH

UNGAR, MICHAEL N.

• Ranked Number One • Ulmer & Berne, Cleveland OH

Smith, John D., Smith Meier & Webb, Springboro OH

Sullivan, K. James, Calfee Halter & Griswold, Cleveland OH

Taggart, Carolyn A., Porter Wright Morris & Arthur, Cincinnati OH

Thomas, David H., Taft Stettinius & Hollister, Columbus OH

Trafford, Kathleen M., Porter Wright Morris & Arthur, Columbus OH

Treneff, Craig P., Treneff Cozza Law, Westerville OH

Tucker, Michael S., Ulmer & Berne, Cleveland OH

Ungar, Michael N., Ulmer & Berne, Cleveland OH

Valentine, Nancy A., Miller Canfield Paddock & Stone, Cleveland OH

Van Wagner, Jeffrey W., Bonezzi Switzer Polito & Hupp Co.,

Wagoner, Robert J., Robert J. Wagoner Co., Columbus OH

Weis, Amy, Weis Law Group, Columbus OH

Williams, Christopher S., Calfee Halter & Griswold, Cleveland OH

Young, Andrew R., The Law Firm for Truck Safety, Cleveland OH

Zashin, Andrew A., Zashin & Rich Co., Cleveland OH

### TOP 50 WOMEN

AN ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF THE WOMEN LAWYERS WHO RANKED TOP OF THE LIST IN THE 2022 OHIO SUPER LAWYERS NOMINATION, RESEARCH AND BLUE RIBBON REVIEW PROCESS.

Abaray, Janet G., Burg Simpson Eldredge Hersh & Jardine,

Ahern, Ann-Marie, McCarthy Lebit Crystal & Liffman Co., Cleveland OH

Bennett, Rebecca J., Ogletree Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart, Cleveland OH

Biacsi, Mary J., Zoller Biacsi Co., Cleveland OH

Blackmore, Margaret L., Law Office of Margaret L. Blackmore, Dublin OH

Blasik-Miller, Susan, Freund Freeze & Arnold, Dayton OH

Bossin, Phyllis G., Phyllis G. Bossin & Associates, Cincinnati OH

Brauer, Kami D., The Law Firm of Kami D. Brauer, Cleveland OH

Cappel, Carolyn M., Weston Hurd, Cleveland OH

Cozza, Andrea L., Treneff Cozza Law, Westerville OH

Culler, M. Patricia, Hahn Loeser & Parks, Cleveland OH

DiSilvio, Marilena, Elk & Elk Co., Mayfield Heights OH

Essig, Ellen, Essig & Evans, Cincinnati OH

Fuhrer, Loriann E., Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter, Columbus OH

Gabinet, Sarah J., Kohrman Jackson & Krantz, Cleveland OH

Galeano, Judith E., Mowery Youell & Galeano, Dublin OH

Gibbons, M. Colette, McDonald Hopkins, Cleveland OH

Goins, Frances Floriano, Ulmer & Berne, Cleveland OH

Hannigan, Erinn McKee, Stagnaro Hannigan Koop Co., Cincinnati OH

Haupt, Erika L., Roetzel & Andress, Columbus OH

Helfman, Jill F., Taft Stettinius & Hollister, Cleveland OH

Howard, Barbara J., Barbara J. Howard Co., Cincinnati OH

Hughes, Maura L., Calfee Halter & Griswold, Cleveland OH

Kemp, Jacqueline L., Kemp Law Group, Dublin OH

Khouzam, Marie-Joëlle C., Bricker & Eckler, Columbus OH

Lampe, Lynn, The Lampe Law Office, West Chester OH

Leffler, Amanda M., Brouse McDowell, Akron OH

Lennox, Heather, Jones Day, Cleveland OH

Leveridge, Julia L., Kemp Schaeffer & Rowe Co.,

Luka, Lori A., Lazzaro Luka Law Offices, Rocky River OH

Maimbourg, Rita A., Tucker Ellis, Cleveland OH

Martinsek, Amanda, Ulmer & Berne, Cleveland OH

McLafferty, Sydney S., Geiser Bowman & McLafferty, Columbus OH

Meister, Julia B., Taft Stettinius & Hollister, Cincinnati OH

Mirman, Denise M. Friedman & Mirman Co. Columbus OH

Myers, Kelly Mulloy, Freking Myers & Reul, Cincinnati OH

Nordstrom, Jennifer K., Garvey Shearer Nordstrom,

O'Neil, Colleen M., Calfee Halter & Griswold, Cleveland OH

Rittgers, Ellen B., Rittgers & Rittgers, Lebanon OH

Roach, Adrienne J., KMK Law, Cincinnati OH

Schraff, Patricia J., Schraff Thomas Law, Willoughby Hills OH

Sferra, Anne Marie, Bricker & Eckler, Columbus OH

Shlonsky, Patricia A., Ulmer & Berne, Cleveland OH

Silverman, Beth, Beth Silverman & Associates,

Taggart, Carolyn A., Porter Wright Morris & Arthur,

Trafford, Kathleen M., Porter Wright Morris & Arthur, Columbus OH

Valentine, Nancy A., Miller Canfield Paddock & Stone, Cleveland OH

Watt, Kristin L., Vorys Sater Seymour and Pease, Columbus OH

Weber, Katharine C., Jackson Lewis, Cincinnati OH

Weis, Amy, Weis Law Group, Columbus OH

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Because the firm has both a broad and deep knowledge of labor law, it is the top choice for public safety unions seeking advice and representation for the unique legal issues affecting their members.

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30 Garfield Place, Suite 915 Cincinnati, OH 45202 PH: (513) 721-7300 FX: (513) 721-7008

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### TOP 50 CINCINNA

AN ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF THE LAWYERS WHO RANKED TOP OF THE LIST IN THE 2022 OHIO SUPER LAWYERS NOMINATION, RESEARCH AND BLUE RIBBON REVIEW PROCESS.

Abaray, Janet G., Burg Simpson Eldredge Hersh & Jardine, Cincinnati OH

Abboud, Antony A., Gounaris Abboud, Dayton OH

Adams, Gregory L., Croswell & Adams Co., Cincinnati OH

Blasik-Miller, Susan, Freund Freeze & Arnold, Dayton OH

Bossin, Phyllis G., Phyllis G. Bossin & Associates, Cincinnati OH

Brockman, James F., Lindhorst & Dreidame Co., Cincinnati OH

Burke, James E., KMK Law, Cincinnati OH

Calderhead, David C., Calderhead Lockemeyer & Peschke, Loveland OH

Conway, Mark A., Thompson Hine, Dayton OH

Cosgrove, Paul "P.J.", Ulmer & Berne, Cincinnati OH

Essig, Ellen, Essig & Evans, Cincinnati OH

Evans, Thomas M., Rendigs Fry Kiely & Dennis, Cincinnati OH

Freking, Randolph H., Freking Myers & Reul, Cincinnati OH

Gerhardstein, Alphonse A., Gerhardstein & Branch Co., Cincinnati OH

Gounaris, Nicholas G., Gounaris Abboud, Dayton OH

Graf, Jr., William R., Graf Coyne Co., Cincinnati OH

Greer, David C., Bieser Greer & Landis, Dayton OH

Hannigan, Erinn McKee, Stagnaro Hannigan Koop Co., Cincinnati OH

Hines, Jeffrey M., Rendigs Fry Kiely & Dennis, Cincinnati OH

Holschuh, Jr., John D., Santen & Hughes, Cincinnati OH

Howard, Barbara J., Barbara J. Howard Co., Cincinnati OH

Ireland, D. Jeffrey, Faruki, Dayton OH

Kane, Scott A., Squire Patton Boggs, Cincinnati OH

Kirkland, James R., Kirkland & Sommers Co., Dayton OH

Lerner, Stephen D., Squire Patton Boggs, Cincinnati OH

Lampe, Lynn, The Lampe Law Office, West Chester OH

Lyon, Michael F., Lindhorst & Dreidame Co., Cincinnati OH

Meister, Julia B., Taft Stettinius & Hollister, Cincinnati OH

Myers, Kelly Mulloy, Freking Myers & Reul, Cincinnati OH

Nordstrom, Jennifer K., Garvey Shearer Nordstrom,

O'Shea, John L., Cohen Todd Kite & Stanford, Cincinnati OH

Peck, Jeffrey F., Ulmer & Berne, Cincinnati OH

Pera, Marc G., Crandall & Pera Law, Cincinnati OH

Peschke, Joel L., Calderhead Lockemeyer & Peschke, Loveland OH

Pierce, David P., Coolidge Wall Co., Dayton OH

Posey, William A., KMK Law, Cincinnati OH

Ramsey, Jamie M., Frost Brown Todd, Cincinnati OH

Rittgers, Charles H., Rittgers & Rittgers, Lebanon OH

Rittgers, Ellen B., Rittgers & Rittgers, Lebanon OH

Roach, Adrienne J., KMK Law, Cincinnati OH

Rogers, Gregory P., Taft Stettinius & Hollister, Cincinnati OH

Sayre, Russell S., Taft Stettinius & Hollister, Cincinnati OH

Scott, John C., Faulkner and Tepe, Cincinnati OH

Silverman, Beth, Beth Silverman & Associates, Cincinnati OH

Smith, John D., Smith Meier & Webb, Springboro OH

Sommers, Brian A., Kirkland & Sommers Co., Dayton OH

Taggart, Carolyn A., Porter Wright Morris & Arthur, Cincinnati OH

Torchia, David G., Tobias Torchia & Simon, Cincinnati OH

Vollmar, T. Andrew, Bruns Connell Vollmar & Armstrong, Davton OH

Weber, Katharine C., Jackson Lewis, Cincinnati OH

ADAMS, GREGORY L. Croswell & Adams Co., Cincinnati OH

BOSSIN, PHYLLIS G.

Phyllis G. Bossin & Associates, Cincinnati OH

**BURKE, JAMES E.** 

KMK Law, Cincinnati OH

HOLSCHUH, JR., JOHN D. Santen & Hughes, Cincinnati OH

TAGGART, CAROLYN A. Porter Wright Morris & Arthur, Cincinnati OH

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### TOP 25 WOMEN CINCINNA

AN ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF THE WOMEN LAWYERS WHO RANKED TOP OF THE LIST IN THE 2022 OHIO SUPER LAWYERS NOMINATION, RESEARCH AND BLUE RIBBON REVIEW PROCESS.

Abaray, Janet G., Burg Simpson Eldredge Hersh & Jardine, Cincinnati OH

Adams, Deborah S., Frost Brown Todd, Cincinnati OH

Blasik-Miller, Susan, Freund Freeze & Arnold, Dayton OH

Bossin, Phyllis G., Phyllis G. Bossin & Associates, Cincinnati OH

Canton, Doreen, Taft Stettinius & Hollister, Cincinnati OH

Essig, Ellen, Essig & Evans, Cincinnati OH

Gaunt, Karen K., Dinsmore & Shohl, Cincinnati OH

Gentry, Caroline H., Porter Wright Morris & Arthur, Davton OH

Hannigan, Erinn McKee, Stagnaro Hannigan Koop Co., Cincinnati OH

Harrison, Jennifer Hann, Taft Stettinius & Hollister, Dayton OH

Howard, Barbara J., Barbara J. Howard Co., Cincinnati OH

Jreisat, Wijdan, Katz Teller, Cincinnati OH

Lampe, Lynn, The Lampe Law Office, West Chester OH

Laub, Patricia D., Frost Brown Todd, Cincinnati OH

Lvnch, Jane M., Green & Green, Davton OH

Meister, Julia B., Taft Stettinius & Hollister, Cincinnati OH

Myers, Kelly Mulloy, Freking Myers & Reul, Cincinnati OH

Nordstrom, Jennifer K., Garvey Shearer Nordstrom, Cincinnati OH

Pecquet, Janet E., Burke & Pecquet, Cincinnati OH

Rittgers, Ellen B., Rittgers & Rittgers, Lebanon OH

Roach, Adrienne J., KMK Law, Cincinnati OH

Silverman, Beth, Beth Silverman & Associates, Cincinnati OH

Slovin, Sherri Goren, Sherri Goren Slovin Co., Cincinnati OH

Taggart, Carolyn A., Porter Wright Morris & Arthur, Cincinnati OH

Weber, Katharine C., Jackson Lewis, Cincinnati OH

### **TOP 50 CLEVELAND**

AN ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF THE LAWYERS WHO RANKED TOP OF THE LIST IN THE **2022 OHIO SUPER LAWYERS** NOMINATION, RESEARCH AND BLUE RIBBON REVIEW PROCESS.

# TOP 5

BASHEIN, W. CRAIG

Bashein & Bashein Co., Cleveland OH

**CRANDALL, STEVE** 

Crandall & Pera Law, Cleveland OH

LENNOX, HEATHER

Jones Day, Cleveland OH

PATNO, CHRISTIAN R.

McCarthy Lebit Crystal & Liffman Co., Cleveland OH

UNGAR, MICHAEL N.

Ulmer & Berne, Cleveland OH

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**Ahern, Ann-Marie**, McCarthy Lebit Crystal & Liffman Co., Cleveland OH

Bashein, W. Craig, Bashein & Bashein Co., Cleveland OH
Brauer, Kami D., The Law Firm of Kami D. Brauer,
Cleveland OH

**Briskin, Seth P.**, Meyers Roman Friedberg & Lewis, Cleveland OH

Chesney, Michael N., Frantz Ward, Cleveland OH

Ciano, Phillip A., Ciano & Goldwasser, Cleveland OH

**Crandall, Steve**, Crandall & Pera Law, Cleveland OH **Debitetto, Rocco**, Hahn Loeser & Parks, Cleveland OH

DiCello, Nicholas A., Spangenberg Shibley & Liber, Cleveland OH

Dunlap, Jeffrey S., Ulmer & Berne, Cleveland OH

Fried, Adam M., Reminger, Cleveland OH

Friedman, Ian N., Friedman & Nemecek, Cleveland OH

Gallucci III, Frank L., Plevin & Gallucci Co., Cleveland OH

Goldwasser, Andrew, Ciano & Goldwasser, Cleveland OH

Haggerty, Patrick F., Frantz Ward, Cleveland OH

**Hughes, Maura L.**, Calfee Halter & Griswold, Cleveland OH

Kadish, Matthew F., Frantz Ward, Cleveland OH

Karon, Daniel, Karon, Cleveland OH

Kelley, James M., Elk & Elk Co., Mayfield Heights OH

Kelly, Brian J., Frantz Ward, Cleveland OH

Klarfeld, Joshua A., Ulmer & Berne, Cleveland OH

**Lansdowne, Dennis R.**, Spangenberg Shibley & Liber, Cleveland OH

Leffler. Amanda M., Brouse McDowell, Akron OH

Lennox, Heather, Jones Day, Cleveland OH

 $\textbf{Lowe, James A.}, \, \mathsf{Lowe} \, \mathsf{Scott} \, \mathsf{Fisher} \, \mathsf{Co.}, \, \mathsf{Cleveland} \, \mathsf{OH}$ 

Maimbourg, Rita A., Tucker Ellis, Cleveland OH
McCaffrey, John F., Tucker Ellis, Cleveland OH

Meadows, William A., Reminger, Cleveland OH

Mendoza, Matthew M., Calfee Halter & Griswold, Cleveland OH

Natale, Andrew J., Hahn Loeser & Parks, Cleveland OH

O'Neill, Brian M., Tucker Ellis, Cleveland OH

**O'Rourke, R. Russell**, Meyers Roman Friedberg & Lewis, Cleveland OH

Paris, David M., Nurenberg Paris Heller & McCarthy Co., Cleveland OH

Patno, Christian R., McCarthy Lebit Crystal & Liffman Co., Cleveland OH

Pelini, Craig G., Pelini Campbell & Williams, North Canton OH

Pilawa, Dennis M., Pilawa & Brennan Co., Cleveland OH

Price, William J., Elk & Elk Co., Mayfield Heights OH

Reagan, John J., Kisling Nestico & Redick, Canton OH

Rinehardt, John K., Rinehardt Law Firm, Mansfield OH

**Schaefer, David A.**, McCarthy Lebit Crystal & Liffman Co., Cleveland OH

Silverman, Brent S., Ciano & Goldwasser, Cleveland OH

Smyers, Robyn Minter, Thompson Hine, Cleveland OH

Sullivan, K. James, Calfee Halter & Griswold, Cleveland OH

Tucker, Michael S., Ulmer & Berne, Cleveland OH

Ungar, Michael N., Ulmer & Berne, Cleveland OH

Valentine, Nancy A., Miller Canfield Paddock & Stone, Cleveland OH

Van Wagner, Jeffrey W., Bonezzi Switzer Polito & Hupp Co., Cleveland OH

Williams, Christopher S., Calfee Halter & Griswold, Cleveland OH

**Young, Andrew R.**, The Law Firm for Truck Safety, Cleveland OH

Zashin, Andrew A., Zashin & Rich Co., Cleveland OH

### TOP 25 WOMEN CLEVELAND

AN ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF THE WOMEN LAWYERS WHO RANKED TOP OF THE LIST IN THE **2022 OHIO SUPER LAWYERS** NOMINATION, RESEARCH AND BLUE RIBBON REVIEW PROCESS.

**Ahern, Ann-Marie**, McCarthy Lebit Crystal & Liffman Co., Cleveland OH

**Bennett, Rebecca J.**, Ogletree Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart. Cleveland OH

Biacsi, Mary J., Zoller|Biacsi Co., Cleveland OH

**Brauer, Kami D.**, The Law Firm of Kami D. Brauer,

Cappel, Carolyn M., Weston Hurd, Cleveland OH

Coleman, Deborah A., Coleman Law, Cleveland OH

Culler, M. Patricia, Hahn Loeser & Parks, Cleveland OH

DiSilvio, Marilena, Elk & Elk Co., Mayfield Heights OH

**Gabinet, Sarah J.**, Kohrman Jackson & Krantz, Cleveland OH

Gibbons, M. Colette, McDonald Hopkins, Cleveland OH

Goins, Frances Floriano, Ulmer & Berne, Cleveland OH

**Helfman, Jill F.**, Taft Stettinius & Hollister, Cleveland OH

Hughes, Maura L., Calfee Halter & Griswold, Cleveland OH

Leffler, Amanda M., Brouse McDowell, Akron OH

Lennox, Heather, Jones Day, Cleveland OH

Luka, Lori A., Lazzaro Luka Law Offices, Rocky River OH

MacDougall, Irene M., Walter | Haverfield, Cleveland OH

Maimbourg, Rita A., Tucker Ellis, Cleveland OH

Martinsek. Amanda. Ulmer & Berne. Cleveland OH

O'Neil, Colleen M., Calfee Halter & Griswold, Cleveland OH

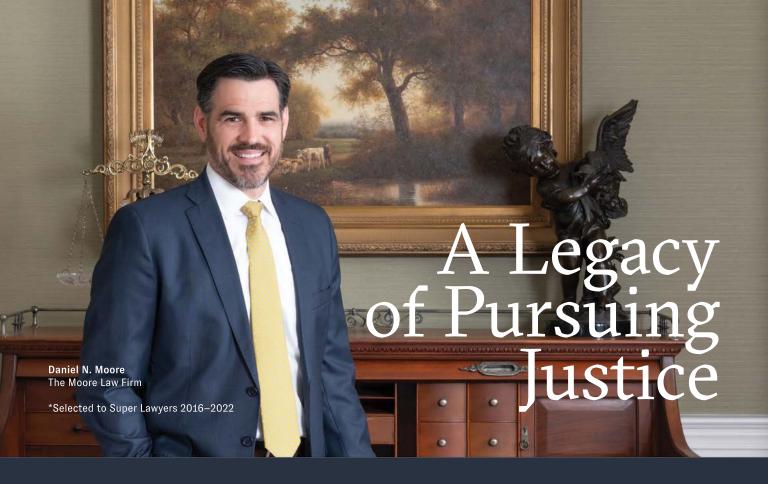
Sansalone, Monica A., Gallagher Sharp, Cleveland OH

**Schraff, Patricia J.**, Schraff Thomas Law, Willoughby Hills OH

Shlonsky, Patricia A., Ulmer & Berne, Cleveland OH

Smyers, Robyn Minter, Thompson Hine, Cleveland OH

Valentine, Nancy A., Miller Canfield Paddock & Stone, Cleveland OH





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### **TOP 50 COLUMBUS**

AN ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF THE LAWYERS WHO RANKED TOP OF THE LIST IN THE **2022 OHIO SUPER LAWYERS** NOMINATION, RESEARCH AND BLUE RIBBON REVIEW PROCESS.

# TOP 5

#### BLACKMORE, MARGARET L.

Law Office of Margaret L. Blackmore, Dublin OH

GROSSMAN, ANDREW S.

Grossman Law Offices, Columbus OH

RAY, FRANK A.

Frank A. Ray Co., Columbus OH

SAIA, JON J.

The Law Offices of Saia & Piatt, Columbus OH

TRENEFF, CRAIG P.

Treneff Cozza Law, Westerville OH

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Alton, John M., John M. Alton & Co., Blacklick OH

Arnold, James E., Arnold & Clifford, Columbus OH

Barbin, Bradley D., Barbin Law, Columbus OH

Darbin, Dradtey D., Barbin Eaw, Columbus Off

**Blackmore, Margaret L.**, Law Office of Margaret L. Blackmore, Dublin OH

**Bowman, J. Scott**, Geiser Bowman & McLafferty, Columbus OH

Cooper, Jr., Charles H., Cooper Elliott, Columbus OH

Cozza, Andrea L., Treneff Cozza Law, Westerville OH

Elliott, Rex H., Cooper Elliott, Columbus OH

Evans, II, Gordon D., The Donahey Law Firm, Columbus OH

Farolino, Shane A., Roetzel & Andress, Columbus OH

Fresco, Ronald A., Reminger, Columbus OH

Friedman, Scott N., Friedman & Mirman Co., Columbus OH

Fuhrer, Loriann E., Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter, Columbus OH

Galeano, Judith E., Mowery Youell & Galeano, Dublin OH

**Garner, Richard M.**, Collins Roche Utley & Garner, Dublin OH

Gilligan, John P., Ice Miller, Columbus OH

Gosnell II. Gerhardt, Arnold & Clifford, Columbus OH

Gottfried, Gary J., Gary J. Gottfried Co., Westerville OH

**Gregory, Donald W.**, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter,

Grossman, Andrew S., Grossman Law Offices,

Grossman, Jeffrey A., Grossman Law Offices, Columbus OH

Harris, Sean, Kitrick Lewis & Harris Co., Columbus OH

Haupt, Erika L., Roetzel & Andress, Columbus OH

**Haynes, S. Scott**, Haynes Kessler Myers & Postalakis, Worthington OH

Hill, Thomas W., Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter, Columbus OH

Horvath, Dennis E., Wolinetz | Horvath | Brown, Columbus OH **Huey, Donald Timothy (Tim)**, Huey Defense Firm, Columbus OH

Khouzam, Marie-Joëlle C., Bricker & Eckler, Columbus OH

**Kitrick, Mark**, Kitrick Lewis & Harris Co., Columbus OH **Leeseberg, Gerald S.**, Leeseberg Tuttle, Columbus OH

Lavaridae Iulia I. Kanan Cabaaffan 8 Baura Ca

**Leveridge, Julia L.**, Kemp Schaeffer & Rowe Co., Columbus OH

Marshall, John S., Marshall and Forman, Columbus OH

McLafferty, Sydney S., Geiser Bowman & McLafferty, Columbus OH

Miller, Brian G., Brian G. Miller Co., Worthington OH

Mirman, Denise M., Friedman & Mirman Co., Columbus OH

Mordarski, Daniel R., Law Offices of Daniel R. Mordarski, Columbus OH

Nolan, William A., Barnes & Thornburg, Columbus OH

Petrie, James G., Epstein Becker & Green, Columbus OH

Ray, Frank A., Frank A. Ray Co., Columbus OH

Rourke, Michael J., Rourke & Blumenthal, Columbus OH

Saia, Jon J., The Law Offices of Saia & Piatt, Columbus OH

Scheaf, III, O. Judson, Hahn Loeser & Parks, Columbus OH

**Schneider, Karl H.**, McNees Wallace & Nurick, Columbus OH

Scott, Craig P., The Law Office of Craig Scott & Co., Columbus OH

**Shroyer, David I.**, Colley Shroyer & Abraham Co., Columbus OH

**Thomas, David H.**, Taft Stettinius & Hollister, Columbus OH

**Trafford, Kathleen M.**, Porter Wright Morris & Arthur, Columbus OH

Treneff, Craig P., Treneff Cozza Law, Westerville OH

Wagoner, Robert J., Robert J. Wagoner Co., Columbus OH

Weis, Amy, Weis Law Group, Columbus OH

### **TOP 25 WOMEN COLUMBUS**

AN ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF THE WOMEN LAWYERS WHO RANKED TOP OF THE LIST IN THE  $\bf 2022$  OHIO SUPER LAWYERS NOMINATION, RESEARCH AND BLUE RIBBON REVIEW PROCESS.

**Barnes, Belinda S.**, Gallagher Gams Tallan Barnes & Littrell, Columbus OH

**Blackmore, Margaret L.,** Law Office of Margaret L. Blackmore, Dublin OH

Cozza, Andrea L., Treneff Cozza Law, Westerville OH

Einstein, Dianne DiNapoli, Einstein Law, Westerville OH

**Fuhrer, Loriann E.**, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter, Columbus OH

Galeano, Judith E., Mowery Youell & Galeano, Dublin OH

Haupt, Erika L., Roetzel & Andress, Columbus OH

Hensel, Jan E., Dinsmore & Shohl, Columbus OH

Jodka, Sara, Dickinson Wright, Columbus OH

Kemp, Jacqueline L., Kemp Law Group, Dublin OH

Khouzam, Marie-Joëlle C., Bricker & Eckler, Columbus OH

Kirila, Jill S., Squire Patton Boggs, Columbus OH

Krivda, Pamela S., Taft Stettinius & Hollister, Columbus OH

Lasley, Aneca E., Squire Patton Boggs, Columbus OH

**Leveridge, Julia L.**, Kemp Schaeffer & Rowe Co., Columbus OH

McKinlay, Amy M., McKinlay Law Offices, Columbus OH

McLafferty, Sydney S., Geiser Bowman & McLafferty, Columbus OH

Mirman, Denise M., Friedman & Mirman Co., Columbus OH

Oliver, Jami S., Oliver Law Office, Dublin OH

**Sferra, Anne Marie**, Bricker & Eckler, Columbus OH

**Sheely, Sommer L.**, Bricker & Eckler, Columbus OH

**Sponseller, Nancy L.**, Law Office of Nancy L. Sponseller, Dublin OH

**Trafford, Kathleen M.**, Porter Wright Morris & Arthur, Columbus OH

Watt, Kristin L., Vorys Sater Seymour and Pease, Columbus OH

Weis, Amy, Weis Law Group, Columbus OH

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Both Treneff and Cozza are trained mediators and arbitrators. Treneff focuses his practice on mediation and arbitration of complex family law cases. Both lawyers are fellows of the prestigious American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers and certified specialists in family relations law.

155 Commerce Park Drive, Suite 5, Westerville, OH 43082 PH: (614) 891-4230 | FX: (614) 891-4301

LEFT TO RIGHT: Andrea L. Cozza\*, Craig P. Treneff\*

\*Selected to Super Lawyers

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AN ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF THE LAWYERS WHO RANKED TOP OF THE LIST IN THE 2022 KENTUCKY SUPER LAWYERS NOMINATION, RESEARCH AND BLUE RIBBON REVIEW PROCESS.

#### DELCOTTO, LAURA DAY

• Ranked Number Three • DelCotto Law Group, Lexington KY

### DUNCAN, ROBERT F.

Jackson Kelly, Lexington KY

#### HERREN, THOMAS K.

Herren Law, Lexington KY

#### JAKUBOWICZ, JANET

Dentons Bingham Greenebaum, Louisville KY

#### KRAMER, DAVID

• Ranked Number One • DBL Law, Crestview Hills KY

### MORRIS, II, DOUGLAS H.

Morris & Player, Louisville KY

#### OLDFATHER, ANN B. Oldfather Law Firm, Louisville KY

SNELL, VIRGINIA HAMILTON

#### Wyatt Tarrant & Combs, Louisville KY SNYDER, SHERYL G.

Frost Brown Todd, Louisville KY

### THOMPSON, TYLER S.

• Ranked Number Two •

Dolt Thompson Shepherd & Conway, Louisville KY

Ballantine, Douglas C., Stoll Keenon Ogden, Louisville KY

Brown, Jr., Donald K., O'Bryan Brown & Toner, Louisville KY

Browning, Carol, Stites & Harbison, Louisville, KY

Casi, II, Paul A., Paul A. Casi II, Louisville KY

Clay, Richard H.C., Dinsmore & Shohl, Louisville KY Connolly, Robert M., Stites & Harbison, Louisville KY

Dailey, Michael B., O'Bryan Brown & Toner, Louisville KY

DelCotto, Laura Day, DelCotto Law Group, Lexington KY

Duncan, Robert F., Jackson Kelly, Lexington KY

Grossman, H. Philip, Grossman Green, Louisville KY

Guarnieri, David J., McBrayer, Lexington KY

Hamblin, Pierce W., Landrum & Shouse, Lexington KY

Hay, Richard W., Hay & Knight, Somerset KY

Hays, John W., Jackson Kelly, Lexington KY

Herren, Thomas K., Herren Law, Lexington KY

Hiestand, Sheila P., McCoy Hiestand & Smith, Louisville KY

Jakubowicz, Janet P., Dentons Bingham Greenebaum, Louisville KY

Johnson, Clark C., Kaplan Johnson Abate & Bird, Louisville KY

Johnson, Gary C., Gary C. Johnson, Pikeville KY

Kaplan, David S., Kaplan Johnson Abate & Bird,

Kelly, Donald J., Wyatt Tarrant & Combs, Louisville KY

Kerrick, Thomas N., Kerrick Bachert, Bowling Green KY

Kramer, David, DBL Law, Crestview Hills KY

Martin, Jr., John R., Landrum & Shouse, Louisville KY

McMurry, William F., William F. McMurry, Louisville KY

Meek, Dustin E., Tachau Meek, Louisville KY

Merritt, Joyce A., Embry Merritt Shaffar Womack, Lexinaton KY

Moore, Charles E., Moore & Randolph, Morganfield KY

Moore, Jennifer A., Moore Law Group, Louisville KY

Morris, II, Douglas H., Morris & Player, Louisville KY

Murrell, Dennis D., Middleton Reutlinger, Louisville KY

Nagle, Jr., David W., Stites & Harbison, Louisville KY

Napier, Timothy H., Napier Gault Schupbach & Stevens, Louisville KY

Oldfather, Ann B., Oldfather Law Firm, Louisville KY

Perlman, Peter, Peter Perlman Law Offices, Lexington KY

Perry, Donna King, Dinsmore & Shohl, Louisville KY

Phillips, Susan D., Phillips Parker Orberson & Arnett, Louisville KY

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Henry, Michele, Craig Henry, Louisville KY

Hiestand, Sheila P., McCoy Hiestand & Smith, Louisville KY

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Vose, Leslie, Landrum & Shouse, Lexington KY

Young, Cynthia W., Wyatt Tarrant & Combs, Louisville KY

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#### BY PRIMARY AREA OF PRACTICE

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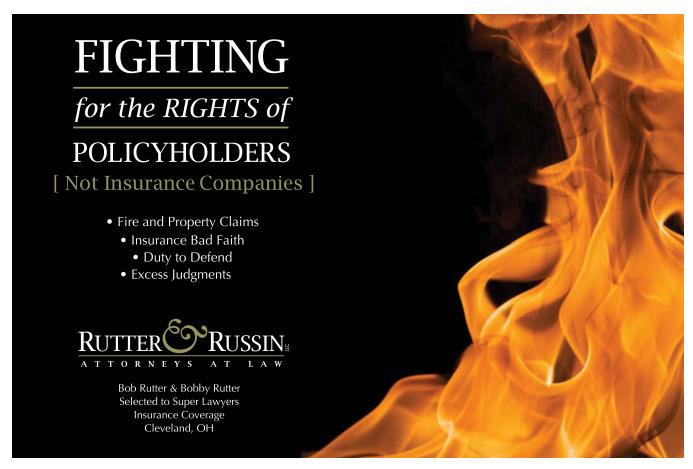
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Elizabeth McConahy Jenkins has nearly three decades of experience in family law. Ms. Jenkins is a graduate of Colgate University and the University of Virginia School of Law. In recognition of her professional excellence, she has earned a Martindale-Hubbell® AV Preeminent® rating, the highest peer rating given to an attorney for their legal ability and ethical standards. She has also been selected to Super Lawvers.

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### In Memoriam William R. Garmer

Garmer & Prather is saddened to announce the passing of Bill Garmer. Bill was ranked Kentucky's #1 Super Lawyers honoree in 2020 and was listed numerous times on the Top 10 and Top 50 Kentucky lists. A past president of the Kentucky Bar Association, he leaves a legacy second to none, including the seminal decision of Hilen v. Hayes, which adopted the comparative fault system in Kentucky and was named "No. 1 Civil Jury Verdict in Kentucky of All Time" by the Kentucky Trial Court Review.

Jay Prather, a 2020-2022 Super Lawyers honoree and previously a Rising Stars honoree since 2015, continues the firm's practice in areas including class actions, trucking collisions and products liability. Jay is an adjunct professor of law at the University of Kentucky, where he teaches medical liability, and a district vice president of the Kentucky Justice Association.

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**Richardson, Glen S.**, Bentoff & Duber, Cleveland OH

**Scharf, Shawn D.**, Green Haines Sgambati Co., Youngstown OH

**Schneiberg, Jerald A.**, Nager Romaine & Schneiberg Co., Euclid OH

**Scott, Donald K.**, Hochman & Plunkett Co., Dayton OH

Sommer III, L. Frederick, Horenstein Nicholson & Blumenthal, Dayton OH

Spears, David R., Spears & Marinarkis, Ironton OH

**Spiker, Douglas E.**, Roetzel & Andress, Cleveland OH

**Spisak, Michael J.**, Michael J. Spisak Esq., North Royalton OH

Steiger, David J., Karp Steiger, Beachwood OH

**Taylor, Catharin R.**, Clements Taylor Butkovich & Cohen, Cincinnati OH

**Thomas, William R.**, Thomas & Company, Delaware OH

**Tootle, Thomas C.**, Law Office of Thomas Tootle Co., Columbus OH

**Ulm, Mary E. (Randall)**, Morrow & Meyer, Canton OH

Van Berkom, Trevor Paul, Van Berkom Law Office, Perrysburg OH, 419-244-5000 Pg. 75

**Wagner, Dean Robert**, Dean R. Wagner Co., Akron OH

**Wahoff, William J.**, Steptoe & Johnson, Columbus OH

Waite, Jeffrey, The Law Office of Jeffrey Waite Co., Cincinnati OH **Ward, Walter A.**, Ward Hocker & Thornton, Lexington KY

Weeden, Elizabeth, Perez & Morris, Columbus OH

Weisser, Mark B., Weisser and Wolf, Cincinnati OH

Wilhelms, Andrew J., Wilhelms Law, Perrysburg OH

**Williger, Richard L.**, Weisensell Mastrantonio & Niese, Akron OH

**Wilson, Timothy J.**, Wilson & McQueen, Lexington KY

Wolf, Scott A., Weisser and Wolf, Cincinnati OH

Wollam, Shawn M., Plevin & Gallucci Co., Columbus OH

Young, Kurt M., Law Offices of Kurt M. Young, Toledo OH

**Zamora, Charles**, Charles Zamora Co., Columbus OH

**Zix, Timothy L.**, Taft Stettinius & Hollister, Cleveland OH

#### **RISING STARS**

Bauer, John, Poling Law, Columbus OH

Caspary, Christopher D., Law Offices of Mitchell A. Stern, Euclid OH

Duffy, Troy A., Plevin & Gallucci Co., Columbus OH

Gaddis, Tyler, Willis Spangler Starling, Hilliard OH

Haydon, Audrey, Haydon Law, Bardstown KY

**Hofe, Melissa A.**, Justice Law Office, Louisville KY **Ivan, Katherine**, The Ivan Law Firm, Columbus OH

Justice, Scott, Justice Law Office, Louisville KY

**Fabrica, Statil**, subtree Eart Since, Edulatine IV

**Kranstuber, Carley R.**, Law Offices of Charles W. Kranstuber, Columbus OH

Kunjoo, Michael, Wilson & McQueen, Lexington KY

**Lallo, Matthew A.**, Lallo & Feldman Co., Willoughby OH

**Lanphear, Nicholas**, Ross Brittain & Schonberg Co., Cleveland OH

Marcellino, Samuel, Nager Romaine & Schneiberg Co., Columbus OH

**Moro, Patrick J.**, Heller Maas Moro & Magill Co., Youngstown OH

Nunnari, Jr., Michael C., Frantz Ward, Cleveland OH

Osborne, Patrick, Kelley & Ferraro, Cleveland OH, 216-575-0777 Pg. 7

Page, Priscilla, O'Bryan Brown & Toner, Louisville KY

**Reber, Kaitlin E.**, Willis Spangler Starling, Hilliard OH

**Steidl, Michael**, Kentucky Injury Law Center, Bowling Green KY

Vowels, Austin P., Vowels Law, Henderson KY

White, Abigail K., Auman Mahan & Furry, Dayton OH

Wiborg, Benjamin P., Nurenberg Paris Heller & McCarthy Co., Cleveland OH

#### JANET G. ABARAY **BURG SIMPSON ELDREDGE** HERSH & JARDINE, P.C. 201 East 5th Street

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#### PERSONAL INJURY PRODUCTS: PLAINTIFF BUSINESS LITIGATION CLASS ACTION/MASS TORTS

Janet G. Abaray acts as managing shareholder for the Cincinnati office of Burg Simpson Eldredge Hersh & Jardine, P.C. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature from the University of Cincinnati, graduating Phi Beta Kappa and summa cum laude. She graduated Order of the Coif from the University of Cincinnati School of Law where she was Business Manager of the Law Review. She is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, Supreme Court of Ohio, United States Courts of Appeals for the Third, Sixth, Tenth and Eleventh Circuits and the United States District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Ohio and the Southern District of Illinois

#### Selected to Super Lawyers

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#### PERSONAL INJURY GENERAL: PLAINTIFF **BUSINESS LITIGATION**

Bryan Armstrong devotes his expertise and energy to his clients, focusing on the areas of personal injury and commercial litigation. He also handles medical malpractice and litigates cases other attorneys were unable to resolve pre-suit. He currently serves as Secretary of the Louisville Bar Association. Bryan keeps active in his community having served as Chair of Wilderness Louisville, Chair of the Executive Campaign for the David L. Armstrong Expansion of Jefferson Memorial Forrest, Actor's Theatre InterACT, a leading member of Give502, Mentoring Leadership Louisville, and Treasure of Cassie Armstrong for Metro Council.

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#### PERSONAL INJURY MEDICAL MALPRACTICE: DEFENSE CRIMINAL DEFENSE FAMILY LAW

David Broderick's practice is focused on civil litigation and complex criminal cases. His other areas of practice include general litigation, medical malpractice defense and family law. Mr. Broderick is rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell, is a former law clerk for the Kentucky Supreme Court, and has served as a special justice of the Kentucky Supreme Court. He has been the master commissioner in Warren County, Kentucky for more than 20 years, and is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Court of Appeals, and U.S. District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky. Mr. Broderick has been recognized to Kentucky Super Lawyers 2008-2022.

#### **DANIEL N. ABRAHAM COLLEY SHROYER &** ABRAHAM CO., LPA

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#### PERSONAL INJURY MEDICAL MALPRACTICE: PLAINTIFF PERSONAL INJURY PRODUCTS: PLAINTIFF CLASS ACTION/MASS TORTS

Daniel N. Abraham graduated from West Liberty College in 1978 and Capital University School of Law in 1981. His practice areas include product liability, medical malpractice, premise liability, wrongful death, intentional torts, industrial and trucking accidents. He has argued for plaintiff's rights on two separate occasions before the Ohio Supreme Court. As a Franklin County Assistant Prosecutor he tried death penalty cases as well as white-collar crimes and was awarded a Certificate of Merit from the Ohio State Highway Patrol. He was recognized by Franklin County Prosecutor, Michael Miller, for Outstanding Service as an Assistant Prosecutor from 1980 through 1990. He has been featured in Vanity Fair magazine, with book and film productions of cases he handled.

#### ROBERT J. BAHRET ROHRBACHERS CRON MANAHAN TRIMBLE & ZIMMERMAN CO., LPA 405 Madison Avenue

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#### CIVIL LITIGATION: DEFENSE INSURANCE COVERAGE AVIATION AND AEROSPACE

Robert J. Bahret joined Rohrbachers Cron Manahan Trimble & Zimmerman Co., LPA in 2019. He is a member of the Lawyer-Pilots Bar Association, Toledo Bar Association (serving on Grievance Committee), Ohio State Bar Association, State Bar of Michigan, the Ohio Association of Civil Trial Attorneys (OACTA), Defense Research Institute, The Claims & Litigation Management Alliance (CLM), Toledo Claims Association and the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA). The National Board of Trial Advocacy certifies him as a Civil Trial Specialist, Cincinnati Magazine rated him as one of the Top Attorneys in Ohio, and he has been selected to the Ohio Super Lawyers list consistently since 2007. Mr. Bahret is also a licensed private pilot.

#### **ROBERT W. BUECHNER BUECHNER HAFFER** MEYERS & KOENIG CO., LPA

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#### **ESTATE PLANNING & PROBATE** CLOSELY HELD BUSINESS

Robert W. Buechner is Chairman Emeritus of the law firm of Buechner Haffer Meyers & Koenig Co., LPA in Cincinnati, Ohio. He is a graduate of Princeton University and the University of Michigan Law School and has earned the prestigious CLU and ChFC designations from the American College. He has been selected to the Super Lawyers list since 2009 and is certified as a specialist in Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Law by the Ohio State Bar Association. Nationally recognized as an authority on tax and financial matters, Mr. Buechner has authored 20 articles and seven books. He has also spoken at the Million Dollar Roundtable and nine CLU Institutes.

#### **RONALD A. APELT** APELT LAW FIRM, LLC 20600 Chagrin Boulevard Suite 400 Shaker Heights, OH 44122 Tel: 216-658-7046 Fax: 216-658-7049 ronapelt@apeltlawfirm.com www.apeltlawfirm.com



#### PERSONAL INJURY GENERAL: PLAINTIFF MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS

The founder of his eponymous law firm, Ronald A. Apelt handles personal injury litigation in Shaker Heights, Ohio, and throughout the greater Cleveland metropolitan area. Mr. Apelt has been admitted to practice in Ohio since 1990, and he is additionally admitted to practice before the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit. In his personal injury practice, Mr. Apelt assists people who have been injured through no fault of their own and on the job and who are now seeking the benefits that they deserve under applicable insurance coverage.

#### Selected to Super Law

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Phyllis Bossin is a nationally recognized matrimonial attorney. Highly experienced and exceptionally skilled, Bossin has built a practice fortified by the close relationships she forms with her clients. Her legal skills are top notch, with particular expertise in drafting prenuptial agreements and handling complex, high-asset financial matters. With decades of experience in litigation and negotiation, Bossin and her team handle the full range of family law matters. Chosen to Super Lawyers for the 19th year, Bossin is listed among Ohio's Top 100 lawyers, Ohio's Top 50 Women lawyers and Cincinnati's Top 25 Women lawyers. She has also received the distinction of being named as one of the Top 10 lawyers in Ohio (2021-2022) and one of the Top 5 lawyers in Cincinnati (2021-2022).

#### **DURIYA DHINOJWALA** BRENNAN, MANNA & DIAMOND, LLC 75 East Market Street Akron, OH 44308

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#### IMMIGRATION BANKRUPTCY: BUSINESS

Ms. Dhinoiwala focuses her practice on the areas of immigration. bankruptcy and creditor's rights. She has represented clients in federal and state courts and has experience in mediation and arbitration proceedings. In 2002, she received her J.D. from the University of Akron, School of Law. She is admitted to practice in the State of Ohio and the U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Ohio. She is a member of the OSBA, AILA and the Medina and Akron Bar Associations.

#### CHARLES W. DOBBINS, JR.

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BUSINESS/CORPORATE MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS BUSINESS LITIGATION

Charles W. Dobbins, Jr. advises and assists individuals and entities in creating and implementing corporate and other structures that support business growth through concept, capital formation, mergers and acquisitions and joint ventures. He advises startups and mature businesses in governance and management structure, preparing for public or private offerings and creation and completion of exit strategies, including succession and estate planning in addition to business designs and concepts. A member of the law firm Tilford Dobbins & Schmidt, PLLC, he is rated AV Preeminent, the highest ranking given by Martindale-Hubbell for integrity and skill.

#### Selected to Super Lawyers

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#### **BUSINESS LITIGATION** CONSTRUCTION LITIGATION INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Kate Ferguson is a true trial lawyer with extensive experience in federal and state court litigation. While capable of handling any business dispute, Kate focuses her practice on construction law, and matters concerning breach of fiduciary duties, breach of contract, tortious interference, employment-related disputes, trademark infringement, and related intellectual property concerns. Kate's broad-based litigation experience includes: jury trials, bench trials, TRO and preliminary injunction hearings, administrative trials, arbitrations, appellate practice before the Ohio Court of Appeals and U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit; representation of clients in U.S. Department of Justice investigations; and practice before local government boards and agencies.

#### D. JOE GRIFFITH **HUGHES & COLEMAN INJURY** LAWYERS

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#### PERSONAL INJURY GENERAL: PLAINTIFF

Mr. Griffith has been practicing law since 1991 and currently is licensed in Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee. He has litigated to successful conclusion many multi-million dollar catastrophic injury cases in all three states. He has been recognized by his peers in Ohio as an Ohio Super Lawyers honoree, a recognition given to only five percent of the state's attorneys on several occasions. Mr. Griffith has been certified by the National Board of Trial Advocacy as a National Civil Trial Advocate since 2004. During his career, Mr. Griffith has conducted well over 100 trials and has had many successful jury verdicts for his clients. Several verdicts, at the time they occurred were the largest jury verdicts ever recorded in several Ohio counties.

### **CHRISSY DUNN DUTTON**

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#### CIVIL LITIGATION: DEFENSE FAMILY LAW BUSINESS LITIGATION

Chrissy Dunn Dutton is an attorney who represents clients in the Cincinnati, Ohio area. Ms. Dutton is recognized by peers and was selected to Super Lawyers for 2022. Ms. Dutton chose to pursue a career in law after completing undergraduate studies. She attended Northern Kentucky University Salmon P. Chase College of Law and graduated in 2005. She represents clients with civil litigation defense, family law, business litigation, creditor debtor rights, general litigation and real estate. Being selected to Super Lawyers is limited to a small number of attorneys in each state. As one of the few attorneys to garner the distinction of a Super Lawyers honoree, Chrissy Dunn Dutton has earned the respect of peers as one of the top-rated attorneys in the nation.

#### MICHAEL A. GALASSO ROBBINS, KELLY, PATTERSON & TUCKER LPA 312 Flm Street

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#### **CIVIL LITIGATION: DEFENSE** CREDITOR DEBTOR RIGHTS CONSUMER LAW

Mike Galasso is a partner with the law firm of Robbins Kelly Patterson & Tucker which has offices in Cincinnati and Blue Ash, Ohio. He is admitted to practice in Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, and numerous federal courts. Mike is a member of the firm's Litigation Practice Group and his practice is devoted almost exclusively to civil litigation matters. He has tried numerous cases to verdict including jury trial, bench trials, arbitrations, appeals, contested bankruptcy matters, and adversary proceedings. Mike's practice extends to a wide range of civil litigation matters such as business and contract disputes, real estate disputes, land use and zoning, employment litigation, non-compete agreements, trade secret claims, franchise litigation, consumer claims, class actions, and creditor's rights.

#### PIERCE W. HAMBLIN LANDRUM & SHOUSE LLP 106 West Vine Street

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### ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION CIVIL LITIGATION: DEFENSE PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY: DEFENSE

Mr. Hamblin is 2017 Kentucky Bar Association Distinguished Lawyer of the Year and a 40-year adjunct professor at the University of Kentucky College of Law. As a trained certified mediator, he has presided over 10,000 large cases. He served as a Captain in the U.S. Army, is an inductee of the UK College of Law Hall of Fame, a fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America and the American College of Civil Trial Mediators, and a 2010 inductee to the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals as a charter member. He has been selected to Super Lawyers Top 50 list since 2009 and Top 10 list in 2012, 2015-2017 & 2019. He was elected president of the Fayette County Bar Association for 2014-2015 and inducted into the Army ROTC Hall of Fame 2014.

#### CLIFFORD M. FARRELL MANRING & FARRELL

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#### SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY MILITARY/VETERANS LAW

Clifford M. Farrell practices in the areas of Social Security and Veterans Disability. He is committed to using 30 plus years of experience and knowledge in these areas to attain positive results for his clients. Cliff has not only helped hundreds of clients, he has helped other attorneys understand these areas of law better. He handles both administrative hearings and federal court appeals and he has taught and lectured on subjects ranging from the basics of Social Security and VA disability benefits to issues affecting Social Security and ways to maximize benefits. He is board certified as a specialist in Social Security Disability law by the NBTA, approved by the Supreme Court of Ohio, and is licensed in Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

#### Selected to Super Lawy

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#### BUSINESS LITIGATION CIVIL LITIGATION: DEFENSE GENERAL LITIGATION

Robert J. Gehring joined the law firm of Buechner Haffer Meyers & Koenig Co., LPA in 2015. Prior to that he was a partner with Crabbe, Brown and James, LLP in Cincinnati. He has practiced in Cincinnati for over 40 years. He concentrates his practice in the areas of civil litigation, appellate practice, insurance law, business litigation, professional malpractice, governmental liability, civil rights law and mediation. He is certified as a civil trial specialist by the National Board of Trial Advocacy

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#### PERSONAL INJURY GENERAL: PLAINTIFF BUSINESS LITIGATION HEALTH CARE

When a person suffers an injury, it commonly causes problems extending far beyond the pain associated with the injury itself. It affects relationships, financial security, employment opportunity and mental health. So, when someone suffers an injury, they look to their attorney to be a problem solver. Travis Holtrey genuinely enjoys having the opportunity to solve people's problems. He is challenged and honored to be entrusted with the task of helping people when they are facing trying circumstances and feeling helpless. Mr. Holtrey's family has instilled in him a strong work ethic and dedication to achievement. Because of that foundation, he refuses to be outworked and that commitment has greatly benefitted his clients through the years.

#### **ERIC W. JOHNSON** SOWALD SOWALD ANDERSON HAWLEY & JOHNSON

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#### **FAMILY LAW** APPELLATE

Eric W. Johnson is partner at Sowald Sowald Anderson Hawley & Johnson and has been an Ohio State Bar Association certified specialist in Family Relations Law since 2011. For over 20 years, he has devoted his practice to helping families as they work through some of the most emotionally trying times in their lives. Mr. Johnson is the immediate past chair of the Family Law Committee of the Ohio State Bar Association and actively serves on numerous local and statewide committees related to the practice. He is also a member of the Central Ohio Association. of Collaborative Divorce Professionals. Mr. Johnson received his B.S. degree (Astrophysics) from Michigan State University in 1990 and his Juris Doctor degree in 1995 from the University of Akron School of Law.

#### Selected to Rising Stars

#### **BRAD LEVINE VOUDRIS LAW LLC** 8401 Chagrin Road

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#### **EMPLOYMENT LITIGATION: PLAINTIFF** EMPLOYMENT & LABOR ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

Brad Levine joined Voudris Law in 2014 as an associate. Brad was selected to the Ohio Rising Stars list for 2017-2022, which is an honor reserved for those lawyers who exhibit excellence in practice. Only 2.5% of attorneys in Ohio receive this distinction. He is a 2012 graduate of the University of Toledo College of Law, where he earned a certificate in labor and employment law. He also graduated magna cum laude from Ithaca College, obtaining a Bachelor of Science in communications and a minor in writing. While in law school, Brad won the Charles W. Fornoff Moot Court competition and served as a teaching assistant for civil procedure. Brad also clerked for Judge Stuart Friedman in the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court.

#### ROBERT J. MEYERS **BUECHNER HAFFER** MEYERS & KOENIG CO., LPA 221 East 4th Street

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#### **FAMILY LAW BUSINESS LITIGATION** ESTATE PLANNING & PROBATE

Bob Meyers handles all aspects of family law including divorces, domestic relations disputes, custody and support issues, juvenile court and parenting and support matters and adoptions. He has substantial experience handling divorce cases involving spousal and child support issues, custody cases and complex business valuations. Bob also represents privately-held businesses in general corporate practice and transactions, and assists families in estate planning and succession planning. In addition, Bob handles civil trials and appeals of business, construction and real estate disputes.

#### **BRIAN T. KOOPERMAN** KOOPERMAN MENTEL FERGUSON YAROSS, LTD 100 South Fourth Street Suite 100

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#### REAL ESTATE BUSINESS/CORPORATE MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS

Since beginning his legal career, whether working in-house or in private practice, Brian has always worked in a smaller, tight-knit, collaborative work environment. After gaining experience at several small firms in Columbus as a litigation associate and focusing his practice in areas from general business to consumer litigation, Brian started his own firm in June of 2007 and shortly thereafter began to work as the general counsel for a real estate developer in Columbus, Ohio. After almost three years in-house in 2010. Brian focused all of his attention to the expansion of his own firm, Kooperman Mentel Ferguson Yaross, with his practice consisting mainly of representing landlords, tenants, buyers and sellers in commercial real estate transactions.

#### Selected to Super Lawyers

#### **GREGG R. LEWIS** HARRY LEWIS CO., L.P.A. 625 City Park Columbus, OH 43206 Tel: 614-221-3938 Fax: 614-221-3713 grl@grlfamilylaw.com

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#### **FAMILY LAW** CRIMINAL DEFENSE CRIMINAL DEFENSE: DUI/DWI

Gregg R. Lewis is a native of Columbus who has been a practicing attorney in Central Ohio for nearly 32 years. He earned his J.D. from Capital University Law School and was admitted to the Ohio Bar in 1989. Mr. Lewis also served as an assistant county prosecutor prior to taking over the family law firm. He is a member of the Columbus Bar Association, the Ohio State Bar Association, the Ohio Academy of Trial Lawyers, the Franklin County Trial Lawyers Association, and The Association of Trial Lawyers of America. Mr. Lewis has also served on the Family Law Committee and as a Board Member of the Capital Area Humane Society from 2002-2009 and still volunteers for the organization. He is also a developmental member of the Nationwide Children's Hospital Development Board.

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#### **BRIAN G. MILLER** BRIAN G. MILLER CO., L.P.A. 250 West Old Wilson Bridge Road Suite 270 Worthington, OH 43085 Tel: 614-221-4035 Fax: 614-987-7841 bgm@bgmillerlaw.com



#### PERSONAL INJURY GENERAL: PLAINTIFF GENERAL LITIGATION

Brian G. Miller focuses his practice on significant plaintiffs' personal injury cases, including those involving construction accidents, workplace and premises negligence, and serious roadway accidents. Mr. Miller is a former Assistant Franklin County Prosecutor. He is a graduate of the National Institute of Trial Advocacy and a member of the Multi-Million Dollar Advocates Forum. *The Best Lawyers in America* recognized him as the personal injury "Lawyer of the Year" for Columbus for 2019. He has consistently achieved successful results for his clients, including the largest verdict in the State of Ohio, a Top 100 U.S. verdict, in 2017. Mr. Miller is also outside counsel to the NHL's Columbus Blue Jackets and has been recognized for superior client service.

#### PHILIP J. KOREY PHILIP J. KOREY, ATTORNEY AT LAW

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#### CRIMINAL DEFENSE CRIMINAL DEFENSE: WHITE COLLAR CRIMINAL DEFENSE: DUI/DWI

Philip Korey practices criminal defense in state and federal courts, ranging from white-collar crime to DUI. He also represents physicians before state medical boards. Mr. Korey has obtained acquittals in numerous jury trials. He has also successfully appealed convictions and later obtained acquittals. One such case involved a death row inmate. Recently, he won a new trial based on prosecutorial misconduct on a 22-year-old murder case. Mr. Korey is a frequent lecturer at legal seminars. He tutors Constitutional Law in the Cleveland Public School District. His poem entitled "Kill," a reflection on capital punishment, was published in VINDICATOR, the Ohio Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers magazine. Reported cases can be viewed on his website.

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#### FAMILY LAW

LeeAnn M. Massucci is the founder and principal of Massucci Law Group LLC. As an attorney, LeeAnn weaves together her previous work experiences in business and coaching to help her clients through challenging legal situations. Practicing family law and juvenile custody law, LeeAnn assists families with stepparent adoptions, parentage actions, divorces, dissolutions, and obtaining child support. She has also assisted her clients in creating unique family formations that serve her clients' specific needs. LeeAnn's first priority is listening to her clients and providing compassionate and focused representation. According to LeeAnn, the mission at MLG is to help each client feel comfortable, heard, cared for and empowered

#### CHARLES W. MILLER CHARLES W. MILLER & ASSOCIATES

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#### **EMPLOYMENT & LABOR** PERSONAL INJURY GENERAL: PLAINTIFF CIVIL RIGHTS

Charles W. Miller is the owner of and lead attorney for Charles W. Miller & Associates. As of 2021, Charles has over 24 years of trial, ADR, administrative hearing and general litigation experience in state and federal court proceedings and before administrative tribunals representing plaintiffs in cases involving personal injuries, employment and labor-related claims, medical and hospital negligence, nursing home negligence and abuse, motor vehicle and trucking accidents, employee discrimination, sexual harassment, employer retaliation, whistleblower actions, EEO claims against governmental agencies, civil rights actions and lead counsel class action experience in failure to pay overtime compensation under state and federal wage and

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#### BUSINESS LITIGATION EMPLOYMENT & LABOR PERSONAL INJURY GENERAL: PLAINTIFF

Jarrod Mohler is a partner in the firm's litigation practice group. He has experience representing both companies and individuals in business, commercial, and contractual disputes, employment claims, personal injury claims, workers' compensation, probate and estate litigation, zoning matters and appeals. Jarrod regularly appears in trial courts, appellate courts, mediations, arbitrations, and administrative hearings in Greater Cincinnati, Dayton, Columbus and surrounding communities. Jarrod was selected for inclusion on the Ohio Rising Stars list (2011–2013) and has been selected to Super Lawyers (2020-2022).

#### Selected to Rising Stars

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#### CONSTRUCTION LITIGATION INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LITIGATION **BUSINESS LITIGATION**

Lindsay Nelson has experience in a variety of lawsuits, in state and federal court, representing clients that range from local individuals and start-ups to national corporations. Lindsay focuses her practice on commercial real estate and construction disputes, litigating issues surrounding professional liability, negligence, breach of warranty, code violations, easements, indemnification, and contribution. Lindsay also handles business disputes and matters involving breach of fiduciary duties, breach of contract, trademark infringement, minority-member rights, and employment-related disputes.

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#### CRIMINAL DEFENSE: WHITE COLLAR CIVIL LITIGATION: DEFENSE

Anthony (Tony) R. Petruzzi's practice focuses on white-collar criminal defense and complex civil litigation. Tony has tried cases in both federal and state courts. His white-collar criminal defense litigation experience includes the defense of individuals and entities charged with bank fraud, criminal RICO, bribery, public corruption, money laundering, SEC violations, tax fraud, federal and state gambling offenses, and mortgage fraud. Tony's complex civil litigation experience includes the defense of individuals and corporate entities in product liability, consumer protection, civil RICO, and commercial cases.

#### Selected to Super Lawyers

#### MICHAEL G. POLITO POLITO | RODSTROM | BURKE LLP

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#### PERSONAL INJURY GENERAL: PLAINTIFF CRIMINAL DEFENSE

Michael G. Polito is a partner in the firm which he founded with Derek Rodstrom. Michael is a native Clevelander and attended St. Ignatius High School. His undergraduate studies were completed at the University of Detroit, where he was admitted to the Honors Program and studied English and Philosophy, receiving a Bachelor of Arts in 1987. Michael received a Doctorate of Jurisprudence from Cleveland Marshall College of Law in 1990. He has served as a mentor to numerous young lawyers in The Ohio Supreme Court Lawyer-to-Lawyer Mentoring Program. Michael is a member of the Multi-Million Dollar Advocates Forum and is a life member of the Eighth District Judicial Conference

#### **BRIAN R. REDDEN BUECHNER HAFFER** MEYERS & KOENIG CO., LPA 221 East 4th Street

Suite 2300 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Tel: 513-357-4351 Fax: 513-977-4361 bredden@bhmklaw.com www.bhmklaw.com



#### **CIVIL LITIGATION: DEFENSE BUSINESS LITIGATION EMPLOYMENT & LABOR**

Focused primarily on advocating for and protecting privately owned businesses, Mr. Redden offers comprehensive representation in all aspects of commercial/business law and litigation. He seeks to protect a company's assets and interests while at the same time developing strategies to mitigate the risk of legal issues and promote business growth. He has defended clients against lawsuits and employment practices violations, brought and defended trade secret matters, and litigated a wide variety of business matters. As an adviser, he counsels business leaders on topics such as employment policies, negotiating agreements, and transactional disputes.

#### Selected to Rising Stars

#### BRETT M. RENZENBRINK BUECHNER HAFFER MEYERS & KOENIG CO., LPA 221 East 4th Street Suite 2300 Cincinnati, OH 45202

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#### BUSINESS/CORPORATE BUSINESS LITIGATION

Brett Renzenbrink is a greater Cincinnati-based advocate and shareholder of Buechner Haffer Meyers & Koenig who acts as outside Chief Legal Officer for privately-held businesses. Brett acts as outside CLO for a number of start-ups, emerging and established Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky organizations of all sizes (from single member LLC start-ups to companies with nine-figure annual revenue and hundreds of employees). In this role. Brett adds accretive value to his client-partner's growth. while forecasting blind spots and mitigating risk

www.robinsonhavens.com

#### **CLAYTON L. ROBINSON** ROBINSON & HAVENS, PSC 101 Prosperous Place Suite 100 Lexington, KY 40509 Tel: 859-559-4536 crobinson@robinsonhavens.com



#### PERSONAL INJURY MEDICAL MALPRACTICE: DEFENSE PERSONAL INJURY GENERAL: DEFENSE

Since 1988, Mr. Robinson's practice has focused on medical malpractice defense. With 91 medical malpractice jury trials, he has won 83 of those trials. A frequent speaker, both to

medical and legal associations, Mr. Robinson co-authored a text on medical-legal issues in The Risk Management Handbook for Health Care Professionals, Parthenon Publishing Group (2002). He has been selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America (2010-2022), as well as Kentucky's Best Lawyers (2011-2022). He was selected for membership as one of the "10 Best Attorneys" for Kentucky in (2017-2022) by American Institute of Personal Injury Attorneys. He has been selected to Super Lawyers (2011-2022). Robinson is rated AV Preeminent for 17 years by Martindale-Hubbell.

### MICHAEL W. SANDNER PICKREL, SCHAEFFER AND

EBELING, L.P.A. 40 North Main Street 2700 Stratacache Towe Dayton, OH 45423 Tel: 937-223-1130 Fax: 937-223-0339 msandner@pselaw.com www.pselaw.com



#### **BUSINESS LITIGATION** CONSTRUCTION LITIGATION CIVIL LITIGATION: DEFENSE

Michael W. Sandner represents individuals and businesses alike in state and federal Courts in Ohio on matters of business litigation, construction litigation, commercial and consumer disputers. His focus is on recognizing specific individual or business needs and designing proactive strategies to help craft policies to avoid liability and reduce exposure and efficiently defend clients when disputes arise or prosecute actions to protect their interests. Mr. Sandner has been selected to the Ohio Super Lawyers list consistently since 2019.

#### **GUS SHIHAB** THE LAW FIRM OF SHIHAB & ASSOCIATES, CO., LPA Capitol Square Office Tower 65 East State Street, Suite 1550

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#### IMMIGRATION

Ghassan "Gus" Shihab served as the American Immigration Lawyers Association's Ohio Chapter Chair for two years and as Vice Chair for three years, among other posts. He is the sole foreign-born lawyer to have ever held these important positions. Mr. Shihab uses his experience to represent individuals to unite families as well as technology, health care organizations, colleges and universities in the employment of highly skilled foreign professionals. He handles complex immigrant and non-immigrant visa cases to successful conclusion. He defends individuals and companies against charges of regulatory violations, fraud and misrepresentation and advocates for their rights in federal courts.

#### **DAVID I. SHROYER COLLEY SHROYER &** ABRAHAM CO., LPA

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#### PERSONAL INJURY MEDICAL MALPRACTICE: PLAINTIFF PERSONAL INJURY GENERAL: PLAINTIFF PERSONAL INJURY PRODUCTS: PLAINTIFF

David Shroyer is a native of Middletown Ohio. He attended The Ohio State University and graduated in 1977. He attended Capital University Law School and graduated cum laude in 1980. He grew up in Troy Ohio and was an assistant Franklin prosecutor from 1980 until April 1982. In 1981 he was assigned to assist senior assistant prosecutor Tom Beal to investigate and prosecute Dr. Donald Plotnick. Dr Plotnick, a podiatrist, with a past record of gun charges, was indicted on arson charges relating to lighting a drug dealer on fire in the attempt to collect a drug debt.

#### J. MARK TRIMBLE ROHRBACHERS CRON MANAHAN TRIMBLE & ZIMMERMAN CO., LPA

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#### CIVIL LITIGATION: PLAINTIFF **BUSINESS LITIGATION** CONSTRUCTION LITIGATION

Mr. Trimble has been a shareholder at Rohrbachers Cron Manahan Trimble & Zimmerman Co., LPA since 1996. Mark's practice focuses on litigation which includes insurance defense, products liability, business matters and construction disputes. He has a very active trial practice in which he has tried over 175 jury trials. At one point, he won 72 consecutive jury trials. He has won over 95% of his jury trials. Mark has fostered an aggressive approach to trial preparation by developing a mutually agreed to strategy with each client for each case. This success has been achieved while attempting to minimize the cost to the client.

#### Selected to Rising Stars

#### **ADAM SLONE** BRIAN G. MILLER CO., L.P.A.

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#### PERSONAL INJURY GENERAL: PLAINTIFF WAGE AND HOUR LAW

firm in Worthington, Ohio. Mr. Slone focuses on personal injury litigation for those who have been injured or killed because of another person's fault. Mr. Slone also represents individuals for wage and hour disputes involving unpaid minimum wages and overtime wages, tipping violations, and other pay issues against their employers. Mr. Slone provides exceptional counsel to clients throughout Ohio and West Virginia and has a reputation for his compassion and integrity when dealing with his clients, as well as his amicable nature and accessibility to those he serves. He also is well-known to exhaust all avenues to help his clients obtain their goals and the favorable outcomes they seek for their complex legal challenges.

#### TREVOR PAUL VAN BERKOM VAN BERKOM LAW OFFICE.

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### WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Trevor Paul Van Berkom, attorney and owner of Van Berkom Law Office, LLC in Perrysburg, Ohio, has been representing injured and disabled workers since 1992. Mr. Van Berkom is licensed to practice law in Ohio and North Dakota. A North Dakota native, he earned his undergraduate degree in Business Administration and his Juris Doctorate degree from the University of North Dakota. He has resided and practiced in Northwest Ohio since 1998. He is currently chairman of the Toledo Bar Association Workers' Compensation Committee and is also a member of the Ohio State Bar Association, and the Ohio Association for Justice. Mr. Van Berkom was selected to Super Lawyers for 2022. The designation means that he is a top-rated attorney as recognized by his peers.

Adam Slone is an associate with Brian G. Miller Co., L.P.A. law

#### **RICK D. SONKIN** SONKIN & KOBERNA, LLC 3401 Enterprise Parkway Suite 400 Cleveland, OH 44122 Tel: 216-514-8300 Fax: 216-514-4467



#### REAL ESTATE BUSINESS/CORPORATE GENERAL LITIGATION

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Rick began his practice after graduating from The Ohio State University College of Law in 1987 as an associate in the Cleveland offices of the national law firm, Baker & Hostetler, LLP. At Baker & Hostetler, Rick concentrated his practice in the areas of corporate law, real estate and litigation and he gained valuable experience representing clients in highly complex business transactions. At Sonkin & Koberna, Rick has continued to represent a diverse group of clients in all aspects of business and real estate law. He represents both closely held organizations and large, national corporations. Rick has significant experience in real estate acquisitions and dispositions, leasing and other matters involving commercial landlords and tenants.

#### JOHN C. WEISENSELL WEISENSELL, MASTRANTONIO & NIESE. LLP

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### BUSINESS LITIGATION

PERSONAL INJURY GENERAL: PLAINTIFF GENERAL LITIGATION

John C. ("Jack") Weisensell is licensed to practice law in Ohio, Florida, the United States District Courts for the Northern District of Ohio, Southern District of Ohio, Eastern District of Michigan, and Northern District of Illinois, the United States Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the United States Supreme Court. Jack graduated from The College of Wooster in 1981 and from The Cleveland-Marshall College of Law at Cleveland State University in 1985. Following graduation from Cleveland State, Jack accepted a position as a law clerk to the Honorable Paul C. Weick with the United States Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. Jack is a former president of both the Akron Bar Association and the Summit County Trial Lawyers Association, and a former board member of the Ohio Academy of Trial Lawyers.

#### JEFFREY D. ZIMON ZIMON LLC 29325 Chagrin Boulevard Suite 102

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#### **EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

Jeff Zimon, founder, has more than 25 years of experience advising clients on all aspects of employee benefits and compensation matters, and benefits disputes and litigation. Jeff combines deep technical skill, a consultative approach and direct litigation and dispute background to guide his clients to achieve success. Jeff was a partner and Chair of the Employee Benefits and ERISA Litigation Group at a large regional 180 lawyer law firm, headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, and Zimon LLC is now a prominent boutique firm in the region.

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For nearly 30 years, Leeseberg & Valentine has been synonymous with experienced, aggressive, and successful representation in injury and malpractice litigation. Now known as Leeseberg Tuttle, the firm's longstanding commitment to these principles remains. Leeseberg Tuttle recently obtained the largest individual personal injury verdict in Ohio, at \$44.5 million, and has secured many other large verdicts and settlements, including over \$22 million during the first half of 2020's pandemic.

In addition to uncompromising representation, the firm's attorneys are known for being responsive, compassionate, and efficient. Clients describe them as "hands on" and providing "tireless effort," while opposing attorneys have been "sincerely impressed" with Leeseberg Tuttle as a "formidable opponent." Leeseberg Tuttle looks forward to building upon its successful track record for many years to come.

LEFT TO RIGHT: Gerald S. Leeseberg\*, John A. Markus\*\*, Craig S. Tuttle\*\*
\*Selected to Super Lawyers \*\*Selected to Rising Stars

## LEESEBERG TUTTLE

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