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Editor's Note

ABOUT LIBN'S 2022 POWER 25 LAW SECTION

Legal professionals play a critical role in protecting the interests of people and companies, advocating for those who need a voice while promoting the greater goal of justice.

From lawyers to mediators to judges, these professionals work to ensure fair treatment for all people by making sure the laws are applied justly and equitably to all, so that people receive like treatment, regardless of age, sex, race, religion or socio-economic background.

Additionally, legal professionals guide Long Island firms in their business, employment and professional dealings, acting as trusted advisors to help them run their firms effectively and efficiently, and to ensure they remain in compliance with all local, state and federal regulations and legal requirements. They work to ensure that the rights of businesses are protected, from the one- or two-person small business to large corporations who employ tens of thousands of Long Islanders. And, they take the time to invest in helping the next generation of legal professionals to learn, grow and serve.

All of this is hard, complicated work requiring years of dedication and constant study.

Long Islanders rely on these legal professionals to be the voice of reason during heated times, to prevent discrimination in everything from housing to employment. They must interpret the complexities of the law, help businesses avoid costly mistakes and advocate for those who seek justice from an enormous, bewildering legal system.

Long Island's top legal professionals generously donate their time to provide education and youth mentorship, support a diverse array of charitable initiatives and offer pro bono services for those in need. They are leaders in our communities, serving not only our businesses but also the needs of our youth, the elderly and those with special needs, working to make a difference and strengthen all of Long Island's diverse populations.

Long Island Business News is proud to honor its 2022 Power 25 legal professionals who exemplify the region's best and brightest legal minds and who show that they also give from their hearts.

JOE DOWD
Editor & Associate Publisher

BIGLAW REDEFINED:

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**Greenberg Traurig's Mark Lesko named one of
'25 Most Powerful People in Long Island Law'
for 2022 by *Long Island Business News***

Congratulations, Mark!

Greenberg Traurig has expanded to two locations on Long Island, so our hybrid model now combines the ability to work near home with access to a state-of-the-art Manhattan office and the resources of a world class global law firm—the only global firm covering Long Island like we do!

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WORLDWIDE LOCATIONS

United States, Europe,
Middle East, Asia,
Latin America

Leo K. Barnes Jr. has long been the go-to choice for a diverse range of international, national, regional and local businesses for some of the region’s most highly contested matters. These include an international fashion modeling agency; regional hospital conglomerate; national cyber-security company; local law firms and medical practices; nationwide automotive retailer, and a host of regional and local companies where the stakes are sky high—a fact which is underscored by the large multi-national law firms which line up as adversary counsel.

Barnes focuses on complex business litigation in Federal Court, the Commercial Division and various arbitration forums. An experienced jury and bench trial attorney, Barnes represents businesses in complex commercial claims, including breach of contract; “business divorces”; sophisticated commercial fraud; restrictive covenant claims; unfair competition matters; tortious interference; trade secret, and breach of duty of loyalty actions.

Over the course of his 25-year career, Barnes has achieved a host of recognitions and appointments by the bench and bar. For more than a decade, Barnes has been named to the “Super Lawyers” list in the area business litigation. Judges in federal and state courts have appointed Barnes to serve as court-appointed receiver, including one related to the diversion of more than \$20 million from a family-owned business located on Long Island.

Likewise, the local bar associations rely upon Barnes for his expertise. In addition to serving as a CLE lecturer, Barnes has been appointed by Suffolk County’s administrative judge to the roster of mediators for the Suffolk County Commercial Division, and also serves as arbitrator for the New York State Unified Court System’s Attorney/Client Fee Dispute Program.

Barnes is frequently quoted in the media for his expertise on the latest decisions which impact commercial litigation. Barnes has also written dozens of articles that have been featured in The Suffolk Lawyer, The New York Law Journal and Law360.com.

Active in a wide variety of charitable and volunteer endeavors, Barnes served a two-year term as vice president of Chaminade High School’s 22,000+ member Alumni Association, having previously served as the Ice Hockey Reunion chairman and a member of his Class’ 25th Reunion Committee and the Alumni Lawyers Association.



LEO K. BARNES JR., ESQ.

**MEMBER
BARNES & BARNES, P.C.**



**ANNAMARIE
BONDI-STODDARD,**

**MANAGING PARTNER
PEGALIS LAW GROUP, LLC**

Annamarie Bondi-Stoddard, Esq. is the managing partner of Pegalis Law Group, LLC in Lake Success. She represents patients in medical negligence cases focusing on women’s health issues, children’s birth injuries, cancers, surgical and neurosurgical cases and medical specialty cases where negligence is involved. Over the last 30 years, she has developed an encyclopedia-like knowledge of medical terms and is a leading advocate of being a proactive patient. She lectures on patient safety and medical malpractice for community groups and law industry professionals.

Bondi-Stoddard received a recognition that less than 1% of all attorneys in New York receive: She was named the 2021 Lawyer of the Year on Long Island for Plaintiffs Personal Injury Litigation and the 2020 Lawyer of the Year on Long Island for Plaintiffs Medical Malpractice by The Best Lawyers In America®. In addition, she is one of only 5% of all U.S. attorneys to be listed in Best Lawyers®, and has been named to the list every year since 2007.

In 2019, she received the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Leadership in Law series from Long Island Business News. Bondi-Stoddard has also been recognized as one of the New York Metro Super Lawyers® every year since 2007. She has served as an officer on the New York State Trial Lawyers executive board, as well as dean of the New York State Trial Lawyers Institute.

The Long Island Press honored her with its Long Island Power Women in Business Award in 2018 and 2019 and named her to its Hall of Fame of Top 50 Women in Business as a three-time award recipient. She has also been recognized multiple times in Long Island Business News’ Who’s Who in Women in Professional Services. Hofstra University named her to its Top Women in Law, and she was awarded the Corporate Leadership Recognition Award from United Cerebral Palsy of Nassau.

Bondi-Stoddard has written extensively on medical malpractice in publications such as the Long Island Corridor Journal of Strategic Alliances and The New York Law Journal. She is a member of New York State Trial Lawyers Association, Nassau-Suffolk Trial Lawyers Association, Nassau County Bar Association, Nassau County Women’s Bar Association, the American Association for Justice and the New York State and New York County Bar Associations.

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Jacqueline (Mecchella) Bushwack is a partner at Rivkin Radler LLP, where she defends retailers, construction companies, janitorial companies, physicians, dentists and others in lawsuits alleging general negligence, premises liability, violations of New York State's Labor Law and medical and dental malpractice. Her creative thinking and thorough investigation of all claims has led to strong results for her clients. Clients also turn to Bushwack for representation in complex general liability/auto cases when fraud is suspected from possible staged losses.

Having benefited from the guidance and support of excellent mentors, Bushwack believes in paying it forward. She is active in the firm's mentoring program, the firm's summer intern program and the firm's Women Initiative Program. She is also a regular guest lecturer at Hofstra Law School and at St. John's Law School.

Bushwack is a member attorney of the USLAW Network, Inc., where she is the vice-chair for the Retail and Hospitality Section. She is also active in the American Bar Association, where she is a member of the Work/Life Management Sub-Committee of the Section of Litigation's Woman Advocate Committee. She recently served as the sub-committee chair of Book Projects. The American Bar Association published her book, "Her Story: Lessons in Success from Lawyers Who Live It," in May 2017.

Bushwack was named to Crain's New York Business' Notable Women in Law list for 2019. She was also selected as one of Long Island's 50 Most Influential Women by Long Island Business News for 2017 and 2014. She has been recognized as a Super Lawyer in the field of civil litigation: defense from 2019-2021 and as a Super Lawyer Rising Star in the metropolitan New York area for 2017 and 2018.

Prior volunteer experience includes serving on the board of directors of the North Shore Child and Family Guidance Center and serving a term on the nominating committee for the Girl Scouts of Nassau County.

Bushwack earned her Juris Doctor from Albany Law School at Union University and a bachelor's degree from Syracuse University. While at Albany Law School, she served as lead articles editor for the Albany Law School Journal of Science and Technology and interned for the Hon. Lawrence E. Kahn of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York. From 2007 to 2010, she served as the recent graduate trustee on the board of trustees at Albany Law School.



**JACQUELINE (MECHELLA)
BUSHWACK**

**PARTNER
RIVKIN RADLER LLP**



ALLAN COHEN

**OFFICE MANAGING PARTNER
NIXON PEABODY**

Allan Cohen is the office managing partner of the Long Island office of Nixon Peabody, an international, full-service law firm. He represents a variety of companies, ranging from large public entities, to mid-sized, closely held and family-owned businesses, to technology-based startups. Cohen dedicates much of his practice to mergers and acquisitions, including buy-side work and sell-side work to strategic and private equity acquirors. He also works with emerging companies in the formation and organization of their businesses and seed, angel and VC financings. He is involved in a wide range of industries, including health care, manufacturing and distribution, food and beverage, medical device, life sciences and biotechnology and consumer products.

Cohen distinguishes himself by his adeptness at handling his clients' varied legal needs and providing the type of business-minded outside counsel that companies would expect from an in-house general counsel. His clients view him as the "quarterback," ensuring that not only their business law, but also their employment, litigation, intellectual property, regulatory and other legal needs are met.

Cohen serves on the advisory board of the Long Island Food Council and pro bono counsel to Erase Racism. He has also received much recognition from Long Island-based and statewide publications. He has been awarded the Champion for Children and Families Award by Variety Child Learning Center and received the Cornerstone Award by the Lawyers' Alliance for New York for his pro bono work for the Harlem Dowling-West Side Center for Children & Family Services. Cohen is also a past recipient of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's MS Leadership Award and has served as chair of the American Heart Association Long Island Heart Ball and an honorary chair of the Family and Children's Association Awards Committee. His past affiliations include service on the boards of directors of Phoenix House of New York and Phoenix House of Long Island, membership on the steering committee for the New York State Innovation Hot Spot Program and committee membership for the Coalition on Child Abuse and Neglect, consultancy to Junior Achievement.

Cohen received his law degree from Columbia Law School where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar. He completed his B.A. in Economics at Binghamton University, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and studied law at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

CONGRATULATIONS

Patricia Galteri

On your recognition in
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Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein, P.C. is a distinguished provider of legal services, with a reputation for integrity, insight and excellent client service. With offices in Garden City, New York City and Washington, D.C., the firm's attorneys are committed to their clients, community and public affairs.



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Elaine M. Colavito, partner at Sahn Ward PLLC, primarily works in matrimonial/family law and has a demonstrated dedication to her profession.

Colavito is a delegate to the Nassau County Women's Bar Association; she was president in 2018-2019, and since 2012, has served on its board of directors in the positions of treasurer, vice president and president-elect. She has also served on several Nassau County Women's Bar Association committees, including Finance, Nominations, Family and Matrimonial Law and Membership. In 2013, she received Nassau County Women's Bar Association's Bessie Ray Geffner, Esq. award for interest in improving the justice system, professionalism and service. Colavito is secretary of the organization's foundation, the charitable arm of the Nassau County Women's Bar Association. She previously served on the board of directors for the foundation.

Colavito co-chairs the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York's Family and Matrimonial Law Committee.

From 2014 to 2020, she was named to Super Lawyers' Rising Stars list in the area of Family Law and was among the 2015-2020 Super Lawyers' Top Women Lawyers in New York. In 2017 and 2018, she was named a Trailblazer in Divorce by The National Law Journal. In 2017 and 2018, she received the Top 50 Women in Business and Leadership in Law awards from Long Island Business News. In 2018 and 2019, she received the Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University's Outstanding Women in the Law Award. From 2008-2021, she also wrote a monthly column entitled "Bench Briefs" for The Suffolk Lawyer, a Suffolk County Bar Association publication.

Colavito is admitted to practice in the state of New York and before the U.S. Supreme Court. In addition to serving with the Nassau County Women's Bar Association, she is a member of the Suffolk County Bar Association, the Nassau County Bar Association and the Nassau County Columbian Lawyers. She graduated summa cum laude from the State University of New York at Stony Brook and magna cum laude, in the top 6% of her class, from Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center.



ELAINE M. COLAVITO

**PARTNER
SAHN WARD PLLC**



ROBERT C. CREIGHTON

**MANAGING PARTNER
FARRELL FRITZ**

Robert C. Creighton is the managing partner at Farrell Fritz, where he concentrates on general corporate practice with a particular emphasis on merger and acquisition transactions and representing banks in commercial lending matters.

Creighton counsels businesses in connection with acquisitions, dispositions, mergers, joint ventures and other business combinations, shareholders' agreements, partnership agreements and employment agreements, and matters of corporate law generally. He has also counseled institutional lenders in connection with commercial lending transactions, including secured and unsecured commercial financing, leveraged acquisitions, term loans, revolving credits and syndicated facilities.

Creighton has experience in the healthcare industry ranging from advising a regional managed care company in connection with strategic transactions to advising physicians' practices in connection with general corporate advice and advising not-for-profit hospital boards in connection with various corporate governance issues.

Named to City & State New York's Long Island Power 100 for the past three years, he maintains a Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent Peer Review rating, which is given to attorneys who are ranked at the highest level of professional excellence for their legal expertise, communication skills and ethical standards by their peers.

Creighton serves on the board of directors of the Long Island Housing Partnership, a private-sector initiative that invests private and public funds and expertise to create affordable housing exclusively in Nassau and Suffolk counties. He also serves as vice-chair of EPIC Long Island's board. EPIC Long Island provides treatment, care, education and support to those with epilepsy, and to individuals with intellectual or emotional challenges.

He is the board chair of the Family Service League, an organization that helps individuals, children and families to mobilize their strengths and improve the quality of their lives at home, in the workplace and in the community. Additionally, he is on the board of the Energeia Partnership, which brings together a diverse group of ethical leaders from Long Island's public, private and not-for-profit sectors to help address this region's most complex issues.

In the past, Creighton was the chairman of the board of directors for the Arthritis Foundation in Long Island and was on the board of the Long Island Philharmonic.

Creighton earned his J.D. from Boston University School of Law and his B.S. from Georgetown University.

Theresa A. Driscoll is a partner at Moritt Hock & Hamroff LLP where she serves as chair of the firm’s Bankruptcy Practice Group. Driscoll concentrates her practice in the representation of corporate debtors, lenders, trustees and unsecured creditors in all aspects of financial restructuring, including workouts, Chapter 11 cases and bankruptcy litigation. During the past 20 years, she has aided in the successful reorganization of businesses in Chapter 11 and has obtained favorable outcomes for creditors, including lenders, in distressed situations. She has significant experience conducting 363 sales of businesses in Chapter 11 as well as representing trustees and defendants in adversary proceedings in bankruptcy courts throughout the country.

Driscoll is also a NYS Part 36 fiduciary and is eligible to serve as a court-appointed receiver and referee. Additionally, she is a certified bankruptcy mediator and is on the U.S. Bankruptcy Court Panel of Mediators for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, as well as the Roster of Neutrals for the Nassau County Supreme Court – Commercial Division.

Prior to her admission to the bar and while attending law school, Driscoll served as a court evaluator on behalf of the New York State Mental Hygiene Legal Services in numerous guardianship proceedings commenced under Article 81 of the New York Mental Hygiene Law. As a recognized leader in her field, Driscoll has for numerous industry publications, and is a frequent speaker on topics relating to bankruptcy and creditors’ rights.

Driscoll also demonstrates her leadership through her involvement with the Long Island Chapter of the Turnaround Management Association, serving on its board of directors and as secretary, having previously served as president in 2020. Through her involvement, Driscoll has been involved in planning and participating in charitable events to benefit the members of the community. Additionally, she is a member of the American Bankruptcy Institute and is a second circuit editor for its online Circuit Court Reporter, Volo.

In 2021, Long Island Business News recognized Driscoll as one of Long Island’s Top 50 Most Influential Women in Business. In 2020, she was recognized by the Secured Finance Network as one of its Top Women in Commercial Finance. She has also been recognized by American Lawyer Media as a Top-Rated LI Lawyer in its Annual Legal Leaders Guide, by Long Island Business News as a Who’s Who in Professional Women Services, by Martindale Hubbell as an AV Preeminent Lawyer and by New York Super Lawyers. Driscoll earned her Juris Doctorate from St. John’s University School of Law, cum laude, and her undergraduate degree from Villanova University.



THERESA A. DRISCOLL
PARTNER
MORITT HOCK & HAMROFF LLP



Elena B. Langan
Dean.
Professor.
Leader.
Inspiration.

Thank you for all you do to ensure the next generation of lawyers on Long Island are educated and prepared while being aware of the ethical and moral aspects of the profession. You are making a difference.

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As a founding partner at Ruskin Moscou Faltischek P.C. and its managing partner for 25 years, Michael Faltischek was instrumental in the success and growth of the firm as a major regional provider of legal services. He counsels middle market businesses in the region on all aspects of their business activities and serves on the advisory board of several of companies.

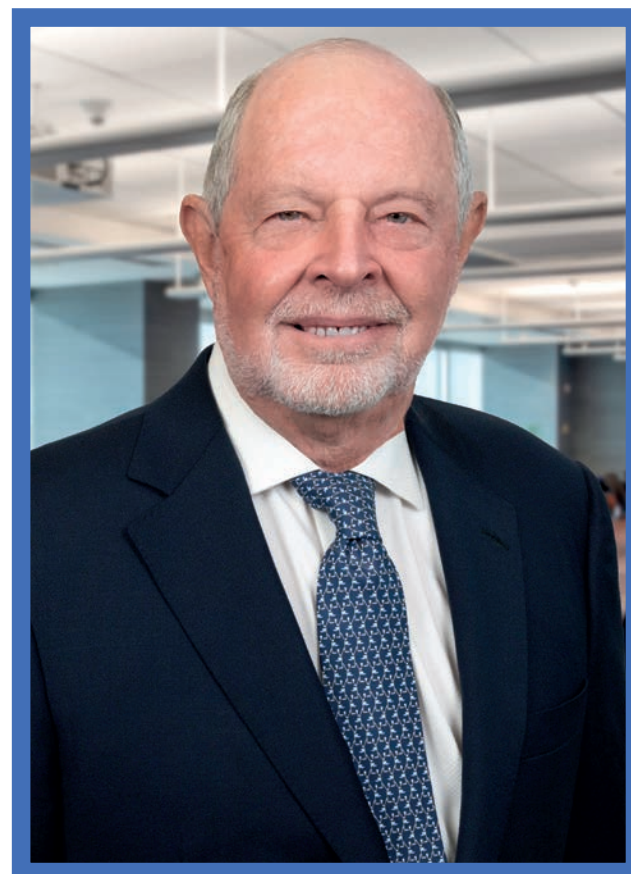
Faltischek served as a trustee of the Long Island Power Authority from 1996-2002, during which time he participated in the acquisition of the Long Island Lighting Company, which transformed the energy industry on Long Island. He was instrumental in the development of the Caithness Energy Center, the first baseload power plant built on Long Island in over 50 years. He continues to advise energy companies in development of projects on Long Island and currently serves on a special energy committee of the Long Island Association evaluating the future of LIPA.

Faltischek has actively advocated for the development of numerous multi-family and mixed use transit-oriented development projects on Long Island, including those developed by Avalon Bay Communities. His advocacy for Avalon Bay in Rockville Centre in the early 2000s led to the general acceptance of transit-oriented development in the region. He continues to counsel companies on development projects in the region.

Since 2001, Faltischek has served on the board of directors of the Long Island Association, the region's largest business and civic group, where he currently serves as treasurer and a member of its executive committee. He has most recently been a director of the Sunrise Association, which provides, at no charge, summer day camp and year-round programs for children with cancer and their siblings.

Faltischek is a founding member and past-chair of the Long Island Angel Network, formed to provide a forum for inventors, entrepreneurs and investors to participate in investment opportunities for new technologies, products or business ventures. He is an active member of the Advanced Energy Research and Technology Center at Stony Brook University, where he serves as vice-chair and general counsel.

He has been recognized in Long Island Business News' annual "Who's Who in Law," and earned a Leadership in Law Award, a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2016 LIBN CEO Awards dinner and induction into Long Island Business News' "Hall of Fame." He was recognized as a King of Long Island by the Star Network, received Innovate Long Island's "Master of Innovation" Award and was recognized by Long Island Press as one of Long Island's "100 Most Influential People."



MICHAEL FALTISCHEK
FOUNDING PARTNER
RUSKIN MOSCOU FALTISCHEK



AARON E. FUTTERMAN,
CPA, ESQ.

PARTNER
FUTTERMAN, LANZA & PASCULLI, LLP

Aaron Futterman, along with his partner Ronald Lanza, established the law firm of Futterman, Lanza & Pasculli, LLP (formerly Futterman & Lanza). A well-respected attorney, Futterman is also a highly regarded certified public accountant. His talent is invaluable in helping clients to recognize the often-overlooked tax consequences of elder law and estate planning. Profound changes are on the horizon that will require expert guidance, and Futterman stands at the ready.

An acknowledged leader among his peers, Futterman devotes time to educating other attorneys, accountants, mental health and other senior-focused professionals. He presents frequently at events where his expertise is needed and enjoys educating people on such topics as elder law, estate planning, Medicaid planning and how people can best protect their assets.

Prior to founding his law firm, Futterman worked as a certified public accountant with two of the world's largest public accounting firms, enhancing his ability to resolve the complex legal issues that arise in his estate planning, tax and elder law practice.

Demographically, today's challenges include an aging population that includes disabled children who will outlive their parents. Conversely, as people live longer lives, Long Island increasingly has centenarians who are competing for care with their retired children. Futterman, Lanza & Pasculli, LLP's holistic approach anticipates and provides solutions to this ever-changing landscape. Futterman assists families in preparing for any eventuality with creative, compassionate and comprehensive solutions including the use of wills and testaments, living trusts, powers of attorney, living wills, health care proxies and Medicaid planning.

It is important to Futterman to help his clients with recommendations and referrals to professionals he trusts, so he continues to expand his network of professionals. He is happy to be a trusted resource for both his clients and their families on related issues that he can assist with.

Futterman primarily works in the Smithtown office while visiting the Bay Shore and Garden City offices on a regular basis. He is a member of the New York State Society of CPAs, American Academy of Attorney – CPAs, the New York State Bar Association, the Suffolk County Bar Association and the Smithtown Chamber of Commerce.

Patricia Galteri serves as managing attorney of Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein, P.C. and chairs the firm's Management Committee. She received her J.D. from the Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University and received her B.B.A. from Hofstra University.

In addition to her management role, Galteri is chair of the firm's Wills, Trusts & Estates Department. Her practice includes the development of estate and family business plans to ensure the tax efficient transfer of wealth to the next generation, while also meeting the specific personal goals of her clients. Her in-depth knowledge of the preparation of federal and state estate tax returns enables her to defend positions on gift and estate tax returns under audit. Galteri has appeared in Surrogate's Court to participate in contested probate and accounting proceedings.

Galteri is frequently called upon by the media to comment on new developments in gift and estate tax law, and she has authored a chapter titled, "Preparing an Appropriate Strategy" for a Thomson Reuters publication, Beginning the Estate Planning Process.

In 2021, Galteri was selected as one of New York's Top Rated Family Lawyers featured in New York Magazine and New York Law Journal. In 2016, 2017 and 2020-2021, Galteri was named to the New York Super Lawyers list as one of the top attorneys in New York. In 2019 and 2021, she was recognized as one of the Long Island Herald's Top Lawyers of Long Island. Schneps Media named Galteri as a Power Woman of Long Island in 2021, and Hofstra also honored her with the Hofstra Outstanding Women in Law Award in 2017. In April of this year, Galteri will be honored again by Hofstra as she will be inaugurated in the Hofstra Hall of Fame.

Active in her community, Galteri is chair of the board of advisors of the Long Island Community Foundation, an organization that addresses critical needs in Long Island communities by making grants to organizations found to respond to such needs efficiently.

Prior to joining the firm, Galteri worked as a staff attorney in the tax department at one of the "Big Five" accounting firms in New York City, performing tax research for high-net-worth executives and multi-million dollar public and private companies.



PATRICIA GALTERI

MANAGING ATTORNEY
MEYER, SUOZZI, ENGLISH & KLEIN, P.C



CONGRATULATIONS

to our Co-Managing Partner
Jothy Narendran

on the **Long Island Business News
Power 25 in Law** recognition and
to all of the Power List Honorees

JASPAN | ■■■

■■■ | **SCHLESINGER** LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW



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Tom Garry is the managing partner of the Long Island office of Harris Beach PLLC, voted by the National Law Journal as one of the nation's top full-service law firms. He serves on the Harris Beach Management Committee, which sets the strategic direction for the firm and oversees the work of more than 200 attorneys in providing legal and professional services to clients across New York State, nationally and internationally.

Growth focused, he believes that "You cannot have too many good attorneys," and he works to ensure that Harris Beach continues to draw the best and the brightest; under his leadership, the Long Island office has grown from five attorneys to more than 20.

Garry's practice focuses on economic development and public finance projects involving all phases of commercial and residential development, from site plan applications to final approvals. In particular, Garry is at the forefront of matters of enormous economic significance to Long Island, including massive investments underway in the development of offshore wind and new hospital and medical care facilities.

He provides counsel on many projects with significance to the Long Island economy and represents developers and municipalities in litigation involving matters such as land use and zoning and breach of contract. Garry also serves as special counsel to many towns and local agencies, providing legal advice on issues such as the development and implementation of a master plan, the creation and impact of municipal easements and restrictive covenants, compliance with the State Environmental Quality Review Act, the creation of planned development districts, zoning overlay zones, transportation issues and smart growth projects.

Garry is also recognized for his experience in election law and represents clients in New York state courts, including the Appellate Divisions and Court of Appeals. Passionate about public service, he has been active in Democratic politics since college, representing Hillary Clinton in her campaign, and then serving as New York State counsel for President Joe Biden's presidential campaign. He also served as one of New York's 29 electors in the 2020 Electoral College for New York.

Under appointment by the chief judge for New York State, Garry serves on the Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission, which advises decision-makers on issues involving equal justice for litigants of color, as well as employees of the system, and then implements recommendations to address these issues.

Garry earned his Bachelor of Arts from St. John's University and his Juris Doctor from St. John's University .



TOM GARRY
MANAGING PARTNER
HARRIS BEACH PLLC



DAVID J. HEYMANN
MANAGING PARTNER
MELTZER, LIPPE, GOLDSTEIN &
BREITSTONE LLP

David Heymann's approach to the law combines experience, personal style, intelligence, practicality and judgment. In his practice, he is part corporate lawyer, part real estate lawyer and serves as both an outside and in-house counsel for his clients. He is also their business lawyer, trusted advisor and sounding board on major decisions and judgment calls. As managing partner for Meltzer, Lippe, Goldstein & Breitstone, LLP, Heymann plays a similar role for the 50+-year-old firm.

Heymann joined Meltzer Lippe in 2015 when Post Heymann & Koffler LLP, a boutique firm he co-founded in 1994, merged with Meltzer Lippe to take advantage of its sophisticated practice, particularly in tax, real estate partnership transactions (David's principal area of practice), and M&A work. Meltzer Lippe chairman and founding partner Lew Meltzer quickly identified Heymann as a future leader of the firm and, in 2018, passed the torch to him.

Under Heymann's leadership, the firm has expanded to more than 70 attorneys and added environmental, bankruptcy and elder law practices. Its Manhattan office has outgrown its former space and will occupy the entire 19th floor of Heron Tower at 70 East 55th Street.

In spring 2021, despite the challenges of COVID-19, the firm opened a Boca Raton, Florida office with two trusts and estates attorneys and one paralegal. The office supports the practices of these attorneys and conveniently serves the firm's New York metro area clients who winter in or have retired to Florida.

Heymann is very serious about maintaining a collegial, family-friendly and respectful culture, whatever the internal and external challenges may be. He has few rules but expects strict adherence to a few basic principles: Treat everyone as an adult and respectfully; get your work done; do it well and in a timely manner, and allow people to be who they are.

"The next generation of attorneys is critical to the firm's wellbeing, so it is very important for me to remember how I wanted to be treated as a young attorney. A good leader looks to empower people, thereby creating new leaders. If you are constantly telling people how to do something, you stifle their creativeness. I want innovative thinkers," he stated.

He believes his role at the firm is about more than just making the firm successful during his tenure. Rather, he feels it is critical to help build the next generation of lawyers and leaders to ensure the firm's continued success for many generations to come.

Harold L. Kestenbaum is an attorney who has specialized in franchise law and other matters relating to franchising since 1977.

He formerly served as franchise and general counsel to Sbarro, Inc. and as president and chairman of the board of Franchiselt Corporation, the first publicly traded company providing franchise marketing and consulting services and equity financing to franchise companies, which he co-founded.

Author of "So You Want To Franchise Your Business," Kestenbaum has served as franchise counsel to many regional, national and international franchise companies in diverse industries, from Five Guys Burgers and Fries, Bagel Boss and Nathan's Famous, to 1-800 Flowers, Bobby Flay's Burger Palace, Re-Bath and numerous others.

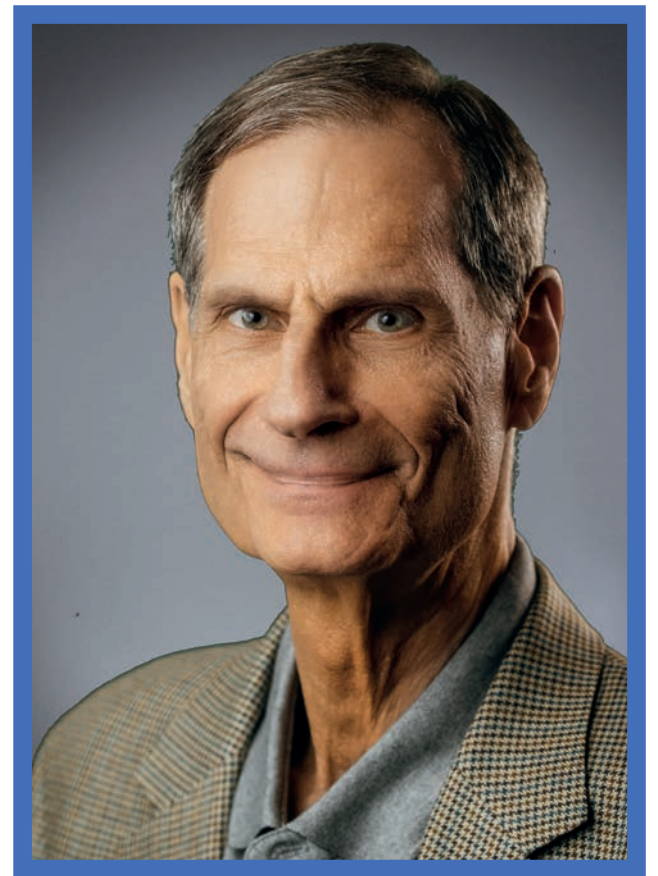
During the 44 years he has been representing franchisors, many have gone on to be wildly successful. One client who started from scratch with Kestenbaum sold out to a private equity company for \$35,000,000; another just did an IPO and raised \$45,000,000, while still another client has sold over 150 franchises in less than two years. His track record clearly speaks for itself.

Kestenbaum's firm was named as one of the top 10 franchise law firms in America as voted by Entrepreneur Magazine.

In May of 2019, he merged his successful law practice with the Philadelphia law firm, Spadea Lignana, another franchise boutique firm. He is now a partner in that firm.

Kestenbaum is a member of the American Bar Association's Antitrust Section, a member of the Antitrust Section's Forum Committee on Franchising since 1978, a member of the Subcommittee on Franchising of the American Bar Association's Corporation Banking and Business Law Section and a founding member and past chairman of the New York State Bar Association's Franchise, Distribution and Licensing Law Section. He currently serves as chairman for its Education and Seminar Subcommittee.

He has published numerous articles, and frequently lectures on franchising-related topics. He was named one of the top 100 franchise attorneys in North America by Franchise Times multiple times and was inducted into its Hall of Fame. His many honors include being cited multiple times as one of the three best franchise attorneys in the New York metro area by New York Magazine. Kestenbaum received his Bachelor of Arts from Queens College, and earned his Juris Doctor Degree from the University of Richmond School of Law.



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Elena B. Langan serves as the seventh dean and professor of law at Touro Law Center in Central Islip. During her tenure, which began in 2019, Langan has led Touro Law through a re-accreditation process and the transition to online and hybrid learning to navigate the pandemic.

She has overseen the expansion of the law school's FlexTime program, which was launched in 2018, and reworked the part-time evening program to accommodate the needs of students who are qualified to earn their law degree but require additional flexibility due to work and family obligations. She is dedicated to increasing opportunities for student experiential learning, with a new Landlord/Tenant Mediation Clinic and an Advanced Judicial Clinic in Matrimonial Law established during her tenure.

Langan has increased the law school's scholarship offerings and is focused on continuing to find resources for student scholarships, especially in the areas of diversity and inclusion. She has given leadership to Touro Law Center's COVID-19 helpline effort, which was established in April of 2020 to assist community members in finding answers to legal questions, as well as providing referrals for legal issues arising from the pandemic.

Previously, Langan served as the dean of Concordia University School of Law in Boise, Idaho, and as interim dean at Nova Southeastern University's Shepard Broad College of Law in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where she also served as the associate dean for Academic Affairs and director of the first-year lawyering skills and values program.

Prior to entering academia, Langan practiced law in Maryland and in Florida. Her scholarship focuses on law school pedagogy and law school admissions, as well as family law. A student-centered dean, Langan has been active in the American Association of Law Schools, the Inns of Court and state and national bar associations. She is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University and the University of Maryland School of Law.



ELENA B. LANGAN

**DEAN AND PROFESSOR OF LAW
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MARK LESKO
LITIGATION SHAREHOLDER
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Mark Lesko is a litigation shareholder in the Long Island office of global law firm Greenberg Traurig. He is a former federal prosecutor and experienced trial lawyer who spent years directing complex legal teams and leading large institutions in the public and private sectors. Lesko has personally tried more than three dozen cases, handled 25 appeals and 15 appellate oral arguments and conducted and supervised thousands of investigations, prosecutions and cases across criminal, civil and regulatory practices.

He recently served as acting assistant attorney general for the DOJ's National Security Division, where he was the DOJ's highest-ranking national security lawyer and held one of the highest security clearances in the U.S. government. Lesko oversaw nearly 400 employees and led the DOJ's counterterrorism threats, including a particular focus on combating cyber-based terrorism efforts, as well as the DOJ's counterespionage program. During this time, he frequently briefed congressional committees and the White House on highly sensitive matters.

Previously, Lesko served as acting United States attorney for the Eastern District of New York, where he supervised more than 175 assistant U. S. attorneys and was responsible for all criminal prosecutions and civil litigation on behalf of the district, which includes Nassau and Suffolk counties. Lesko also held several other leadership positions in the EDNY, including first assistant U.S. attorney and deputy chief of the Long Island Criminal Division.

He was the three-time elected supervisor of the Town of Brookhaven – New York's second-largest town – where he supervised approximately 2,000 employees and managed a \$270 million budget. While he was supervisor, Lesko was chair of the Suffolk County Supervisors' Association and a member of Long Island's Regional Economic Development Council. He led several groundbreaking economic development initiatives, including the effort to redevelop the area surrounding the Ronkonkoma train station, known as the "Ronkonkoma Hub."

Lesko previously served as vice president for economic development at Hofstra University, where he was an executive dean and adjunct professor of law. Additionally, he served as executive director of Accelerate Long Island, a regional economic development organization and investment fund that provided financing to startup companies that were commercializing research at Long Island's largest research institutions. Lesko also sat on the boards of the Long Island Real Estate Group and the Clean Energy Business Incubator Program at Stony Brook University.

He received his J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center and his B.A. from Yale University.

Christine Malafi chairs the corporate department at Campolo, Middleton & McCormick, LLP, a premier law firm with offices across Long Island that was recently recognized by Forbes as a Top Corporate Law Firm in America.

Malafi has led the Campolo, Middleton & McCormick, LLP legal team in closing countless M&A deals worth billions of dollars. She has vast experience advising on both buy-side and sell-side M&A transactions in a variety of industries. She is particularly adept at working strategically with clients' other professional advisors, including accountants, bankers, and M&A advisors, as well as forging those critical relationships for clients based on the deep network she has cultivated. Malafi's practice includes advising clients on business divorce matters and a wide variety of corporate and business transactions.

Previously, Malafi was senior corporate counsel to Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc. Prior to that, in 2004, she was appointed as the Suffolk County attorney, serving as the chief legal officer of the county for eight years. In that role, Malafi supervised a team of over 65 attorneys and 50 support staff and managed a budget of \$15 million. The first woman and youngest person ever to serve in the position, Malafi focused on streamlining processes, obtaining jury verdicts in favor of the county, enforcing anti-discrimination laws and protecting children from harm.

Malafi brings her deep understanding of litigation and the court system to all aspects of her corporate work and uses this experience to help protect clients from a variety of critical angles.

In addition to her legal work, Malafi serves on the executive board of directors of Family Service League and the board of governors of Touro Law School. She has been featured in The Best Lawyers in America® in the category of Employment Law for five consecutive years and was recently recognized with a Leadership in Law Lifetime Achievement Award. Malafi has also been featured in the Long Island Business News' Who's Who in Intellectual Property & Labor Law section, was honored as one of the Top Outstanding Women in Law by the Center for Children, Families and the Law at Hofstra University and was named to LIBN's Top 50 Most Influential Women in Business.

Malafi is frequently quoted on various legal topics in Newsday and Long Island Business News and is a regular contributor to The Suffolk Lawyer and the HIA-LI Reporter. A sought-after presenter, Malafi has given numerous lectures and presentations at business resource centers, education groups and bar associations.



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Amy B. Marion focuses her practice on human rights, specializing in litigation involving deprivation of constitutional rights, whether by criminal investigations and prosecutions, due process or First Amendment violations, wrongful death claims or commercial, corporate, property, estate or regulatory disputes.

Prior to joining Abrams Fensterman, Marion was a founding partner and head of the civil rights and civil practice group of a Garden City firm.

Marion has over 30 years' experience representing individuals in civil and criminal investigations and prosecutions in both federal and state courts. She has tried to verdict a multitude of felony cases including attempted homicide and narcotics cases. She has also tried to verdict numerous civil cases including false arrest, malicious prosecution and excessive force cases. In addition, Marion has extensive experience in cases involving domestic violence and abuse and she has successfully litigated discrimination cases against several large municipalities and corporations.

Marion's legal career began in the Criminal Defense Division of the New York City Legal Aid Society, where she represented indigent defendants. So great was her success in the courtroom, she was chosen to appear in a Court TV documentary entitled, "The Public Defender." Entering private practice in 1997, Marion focused on civil rights litigation.

In 2005, she became principal law clerk to the Honorable Tammy S. Robbins, Nassau County court judge. Serving in this position, she was assigned to the Nassau County Family Court and New York State Supreme Court, in addition to the County Court. As principal law clerk, she was responsible for the management of all of Judge Robbins' cases, including felony complaints and indictments, felony domestic violence cases, civil litigation cases as well as cases involving custody and visitation issues, orders of protection and neglect issues.

Marion understands trials and the court system from every perspective. The diversity of her background offers clients an advocate who can provide them with the most successful outcome possible.

She has also lectured and taught continuing legal education for state and national organizations, including the New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Lawline, NBI Inc., the Nassau County Criminal Courts Bar Association and St. Francis College. Marion received her J.D. from Hofstra University School of Law and her B.A. in Social Thought and Political Economics from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.



AMY B. MARION
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Jothy Narendran is the co-managing partner at Jaspan Schlesinger LLP, one of the region's leading full-service law firms which, for 75 years, has been providing exceptional legal services in the areas of commercial litigation, banking and financial services, education law, municipal law, real estate, land use and zoning, tax certiorari and condemnation, and estates and trusts.

She is also chair of the firm's banking and financial services practice group. She represents institutional and private lenders in a variety of commercial real estate financing transactions. These include acquisition and construction loans, equipment financing, leasehold financing, multi-lender participation/syndicated financing, real estate investment trust and interest rate swap transactions, revolving credit facilities, letters of credit, industrial development agency transactions, Section 1031 exchanges and reverse exchange loans, mezzanine and structured financing and defeasances.

With 60+ attorneys and offices in Garden City and Westchester County, Jaspan Schlesinger is equipped to handle complex matters while delivering individualized advice and counsel to its clients, and Narendran is at the forefront of the firm's commitment to excellence.

Although she is passionate about her work, Narendran also dedicates a great deal of her time to helping others, as illustrated by her involvement with several charitable, educational and business-related organizations. She is currently active with Spectrum Designs (serving as the board president), Touro Law Center Board of Governors and the American Heart Association Long Island chapter. In 2021, she was chair of the virtual Go Red for Women LI campaign event and spearheaded the CPR Kits for Kids initiative on behalf of the firm.

She has been recognized with a Long Island Business News Diversity in Business Award (2019); Long Island Business News Who's Who Women in Professional Services (2017); Long Island Business News' 50 Most Influential Women in Business Award (2013); Public Service Attorney of the Year Award, Touro College, Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center (2009) and the Presidential Award, Big Brothers Big Sister of Long Island (2007).

Narendran received her B.S. from New York Institute of Technology, her M.B.A. from Frank G. Zarb School of Business at Hofstra University and her J.D. from Touro College, Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center.



JOTHY NARENDRAN

**CO-MANAGING PARTNER
JASPAN SCHLESINGER LLP**



MELISSA NEGRIN-WIENER

**SENIOR PARTNER
CONA ELDER LAW**

Melissa Negrin-Wiener is a senior partner at Cona Elder Law where she manages the Government Benefits and Estate Planning Departments, concentrating her practice in the areas of asset protection, Medicaid eligibility planning and applications, estate planning, mediation, guardianships and veterans benefits. Negrin-Wiener also directs Cona Elder Law's Special Needs Practice Group.

Her career is highlighted by her involvement and leadership in organizations that advance advocacy for older adults and special needs communities. Negrin-Wiener serves on the board of directors for the ELIJA Foundation and is co-chair of the Health and Wellness Committee of the Hauppauge Industrial Association of Long Island. She serves on the Guardianship Committee for AHRC Suffolk and the Melville Chamber of Commerce Women's Empowerment Network. She is also co-chair of the Ginsburg Suffolk Attorney and Judges Council of Hadassah.

In addition to being rated a Super Lawyer, Negrin-Wiener has received the prestigious Leadership in Law award as well as being named to the Top 50 Women in Business by Long Island Business News. She has received Hofstra Law School's Outstanding Women in Law award and is named one of Lawline's Top Women Faculty. Negrin-Wiener has been honored by the Long Island Herald as a Top Lawyer of Long Island. She has been featured in LIBN's Who's Who in Healthcare Law and Who's Who in Women in Professional Services, and received the 40 Under 40 Rising Stars on Long Island award. Long dedicated to pro bono work, Negrin-Wiener received the Outstanding Pro Bono Attorney award from Touro Law School.

A state certified court examiner, court evaluator and counsel to guardian and incapacitated persons, Negrin-Wiener is accredited by the Department of Veterans Affairs. She is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, is an advanced elder law mediator trained by the New York Peace Institute and serves as a mediator on the Nassau County Bar Association Alternative Dispute Resolution Panel. Negrin-Wiener is also a past president of the Suffolk County Women's Bar Association.

Among her many accomplishments, Negrin-Wiener created Cona Elder Law's workplace wellness program entitled "Tools and Advice for Working Caregivers." This employee benefits program, which assists employees who are caring for aging loved ones, is provided at no cost to the employer. The program is designed to keep working elder caregivers at work, maximizing productivity and promoting job security while reducing absenteeism, downtime and turnover.



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Judge A. Gail Prudenti is dean of the Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University. She joined the Law School on Sept. 1, 2015, as executive director of the Center for Children, Families and the Law. On May 1, 2017, she was named dean of Hofstra Law, which is widely recognized as a pioneer in fully integrating clinical education into a traditional law school curriculum, while continuing to be at the forefront of legal education with programs in law and technology, health law and family law.

Prior to Hofstra Law, Prudenti distinguished herself as a well-respected jurist and hands-on administrator throughout a judicial career that lasted more than two decades. Most recently, she served as the chief administrative judge of the courts of New York State, having been appointed by Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman on Dec. 1, 2011. As chief administrative judge, she supervised the administration and operation of the statewide court system, with a budget of over \$2.7 billion, 3,600 state and locally paid judges and 15,000 non-judicial employees in over 350 court facilities.

Prior to her appointment as chief administrative judge, she served as the presiding justice of the Appellate Division for the Second Judicial Department in New York State, the first woman to hold that position, having been appointed thereto, in February 2002, by then-Gov. George E. Pataki. Before that, she was the first woman from Suffolk County to serve as an associate justice of the Appellate Division for the Second Judicial Department.

In her various leadership roles, Prudenti has developed innovative programs and instituted many initiatives to enhance the administration of justice and promote the public's trust and confidence in the courts. In April 2020, she was appointed to a newly established COVID-19 Recovery Task Force to oversee the pro bono network of lawyers who would assist New Yorkers suffering from the pandemic. The Task Force is a joint effort of the New York State Bar Association and the state court system.

Prudenti earned her law degree from the University of Aberdeen, in Scotland, which also awarded her an honorary Doctorate of Laws in 2004 and an honorary appointment as professor in the School of Law. She graduated from Marymount College of Fordham University with honors.

She currently lives on Long Island in Great River with her husband and fellow lawyer and former Suffolk County Attorney Robert J. Cimino.



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Martin F. Scheinman, Esq. is the founder of Scheinman Arbitration and Mediation Services. Since 1979, as a full-time neutral, he has decided or helped resolve over 20,000 labor/management employment business and consumer disputes. He has handled a wide array of issues including discipline and discharge, seniority, job classifications, incentive rates, promotions, overtime, subcontracting, welfare and pension funds, insurance and disability plans, fringe benefits, and jurisdictional disputes.

Scheinman has arbitrated over 250 disputes involving individual employment contracts, commercial transactions and ERISA claims. These included basic contract and employment discharge matters, claims for disputed compensation and severance, issues involving restrictive covenants and breaches of fiduciary duties, withdrawal liability, whistleblower claims, trustee deadlocks, eligibility disputes, resolution of pending pension and welfare litigation, issues involving the right of funds to litigate against service providers, co-fiduciaries, fund counsel and plan administrators, as well as disputes involving the seating of trustees.

He serves as the industry arbitrator with unions and management associates covering over 50,000 employees, and is the permanent arbitrator in over 400 contracts, including Major League Baseball and its Players' Association.

To date, Scheinman has mediated over 1,000 business and employment disputes involving cumulatively over \$10 billion dollars and has resolved many of the most highly publicized cases regarding discrimination claims, the break-up of businesses and collective bargaining disputes impacting hundreds of thousands of workers.

Scheinman mediated the largest commercial dispute in history of New York State Court System and has mediated dozens of high profile disputes involving celebrities, athletes and elected officials. His professional affiliations include the National Academy of Arbitrators, Labor and Employment Relations Association and the New York State Bar Association.

Active in the community, he is a member of the Board of Overseers, Tilles Center, CW Post College of Long Island University, a founding board member and president of Equality/LI (since 2009), a neutral member of the executive board of the Cornell Institute for Hospitality Labor and Employment Relations (Cornell's Hotel School, Law School and ILR) and a former member of the Governor's Task Force on Retired Race Horses (from 2007-2011).



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Howard M. Stein is a member of the executive committee at Certilman Balin Adler & Hyman, LLP. In his role as chair of the Real Estate Group, he counsels clients on acquisitions, downtown redevelopments, sales, leasing, real estate finance and loan workouts. For closely held businesses and public companies, he structures complicated transactions for retail, industrial, office, hotel, wineries, residential developments and assisted living communities.

Stein represented the land sale of the Melville “pumpkin farm” to Canon USA for its North American headquarters. He has also represented Master Developers in Ronkonkoma, Patchogue, Lindenhurst, The Village of Hempstead and the City of New Rochelle, among others. Recently, he represented the developer of a 400+-unit rental project in Bay Shore, a multi-family midrise transient oriented development at the Lawrence train station, a multinational company in the acquisition of a 200+ acre winery on eastern Long Island and an assisted living and luxury project in Jericho.

An adjunct professor at Touro Law Center, he also serves as chairman of its board of governors and was inducted into the inaugural class of Touro Law Center Builder’s Society. The Suffolk County executive appointed Stein to serve on the board of directors of the Suffolk Judicial Facilities Agency.

Active in the community, Stein is a board member for the Association for a Better Long Island and Vision Long Island, an Energeia Partner and an associate member of the Commercial Industrial Brokers Society of Long Island.

Long Island Business News honored him with a Real Estate Award for Top Office Lease, and he was also honored with its 50 Around 50 Award. In 2020, he received recognition for representing a real estate client in the development of a condominium project built in Blue Point. Since 2012, he has been named to the New York Metro Super Lawyers list.

Stein is a member of the President’s Council of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island and was honored with its Presidential Award. He received the Harry Chapin Award from Long Island Cares and was named Man of the Year by the American Heart Association.

He earned his law degree from Case Western Reserve University, and his undergraduate degree from the University of Rochester, where he once pitched back-to-back four-hit shutouts in a double-header over Hobart College. This feat appeared in Sports Illustrated



HOWARD M. STEIN
MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE AND CHAIR OF
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Meltzer Lippe: Local Roots and Big Dreams



“ Right from the start, I knew Long Island was ready for a different kind of law firm. The year was 1965. My Harvard Law School classmates were all heading to big city law firms. I was tempted but saw a growing business community on Long Island that would benefit from a local law firm with big city talent. Five years and a Masters in Tax Law later, I launched my solo practice. The rest, as they say, is history. I added more clients and associates and formed a partnership with kindred spirit Dick Lippe. The firm continued to grow and today Meltzer Lippe has more than 70 attorneys in 15 practice areas working out of offices in Mineola, Manhattan, and Boca Raton, Florida. I couldn’t be prouder of our accomplishments. ”

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John V. Terrana is the co-managing partner of Forchelli Deegan Terrana LLP (“FDT”), a prestigious, full-service law firm headquartered in Uniondale.

Terrana chairs FDT’s Tax Certiorari practice group. He has obtained millions of dollars in real estate tax refunds and future savings for clients, including national, regional and local owners and tenants of commercial and residential properties. Terrana educates other professionals by writing articles and giving presentations, thereby helping the community. Under his leadership, FDT was recognized by Long Island Business News as the Top Property Tax Assessment Firm (2020 Real Estate, Architecture & Engineering Awards). Terrana previously chaired the Nassau County Bar Association’s Tax Certiorari and Condemnation Law Committee and co-chaired the same committee for the Suffolk County Bar Association.

Terrana is the firm’s chief marketing officer, leading a committee of eight, including the in-house marketing professionals, administrator and partners from various practice groups.

He also co-chairs the firm’s Diversity Committee. FDT’s Diversity Fellowship Program affords law school students from typically underrepresented populations in the legal profession the opportunity to enhance their education.

An industry veteran, Terrana is actively involved in a variety of professional organizations. He is a member of the Nassau & Suffolk County Bar Associations, the Institute for Professionals in Taxation and the International Council of Shopping Centers and is an associate member of the Commercial Industrial Brokers Society of Long Island. He is also an advisory board member of the Mattone Family Institute for Real Estate Law at St. John’s University School of Law and co-chair of the Nassau County Assessment Review Commission’s 6-40 Review Committee. Additionally, he serves as a commercial division advisory board member of Lynx Mortgage Bank, LLC.

Terrana was selected to the 2009-2010 and 2015-2021 New York Metro Super Lawyers® lists (Real Estate) and received an AV Preeminent Martindale-Hubbell® Peer Review Rating. He was named to the Long Island Business News’ 2019 and 2015 Who’s Who in Real Property & Tax Certiorari Law lists and was a 2013 Leadership in Law award recipient.

He was recognized by the New York Real Estate Journal in its 2019 Year in Review and 2018 Ones to Watch, and was named Executive of the Month in August 2009.

Additionally, he was honored with Long Island Pulse Magazine’s 2012 Legal Eagle award recipient and was designated Long Island’s Most Unbeatable Lawyer in Real Estate Tax Certiorari Law that year. Terrana earned his Juris Doctor degree from St. John’s University School of Law and his Bachelor of Science degree from St. John’s University.



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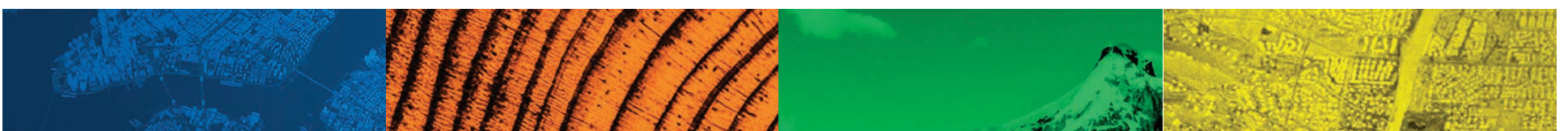
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Chris Valentino is office managing principal of the Long Island office of Jackson Lewis P.C. and a member of the firm's board of directors. He represents companies in matters relating to traditional labor, equal employment opportunity, employment litigation and related matters.

Valentino has extensive experience in all matters relating to EEO compliance and workplace laws, and is a frequent speaker at management education programs. Since joining Jackson Lewis in September 2000, he has regularly counseled clients in the development and implementation of preventive labor and employee relations programs and has represented management with respect to union organizational drives and in proceedings before the National Labor Relations Board, the federal and state courts and other federal and state administrative agencies, as well as in collective bargaining, contract administration and arbitration.

In addition to his traditional labor expertise, Valentino also focuses on counseling employers on reductions-in-force, personnel decisions, the administration of employer policies and procedures, disability management in the workplace, restrictive covenants, substance abuse testing in the workplace, the development of employee handbooks, employment applications and related matters.

Valentino has conducted hundreds of management training seminars on topics including maintaining a union-free environment, avoiding litigation and avoiding discrimination and sexual harassment, as well as effective management interviewing, documentation and evaluation skills and compliance with the ADA and FMLA. Additionally, he is a regular author of the firm's articles and blog posts.

Valentino is a member of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) Long Island branch. Honors include recognitions from The Best Lawyers in America, New York Super Lawyers and Thomson Reuters.



CHRIS VALENTINO
OFFICE MANAGING PRINCIPAL
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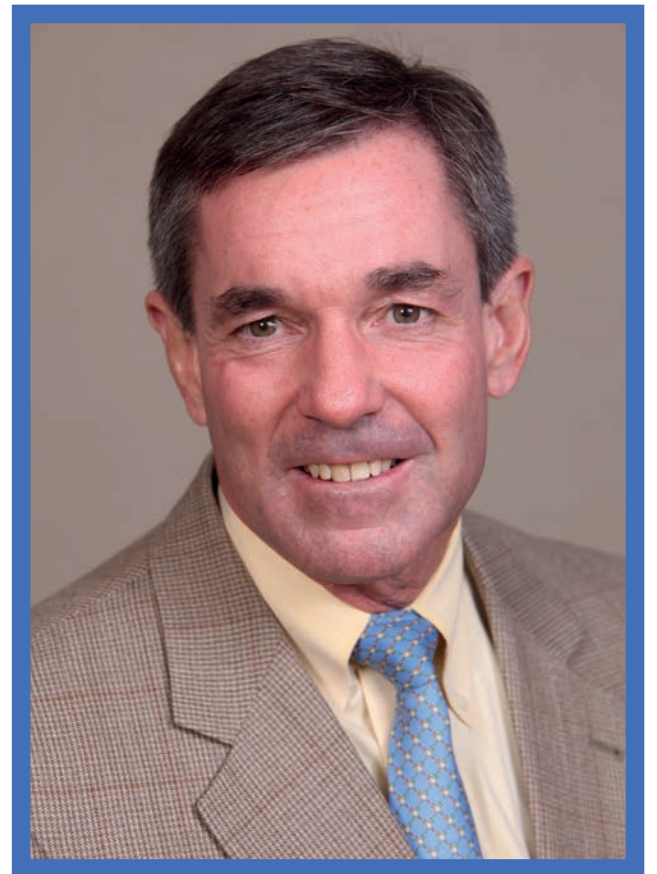
John Westerman has been managing partner of Westerman Ball Ederer Miller Zucker & Sharfstein, LLP since the firm was established in 1999, and he also serves as co-chair of the Bankruptcy, Workout and Restructuring Department. Westerman has been continuously engaged in the fields of bankruptcy, debt restructuring, workout and commercial litigation since 1982. He represents financial institutions and other lenders, committees, trustees, public and private companies and other business entities in bankruptcy cases and out of court restructurings and insolvency matters. Representative clients include banking, construction, real estate, retail and wholesale, theater chains, manufacturing, health care, financial, insurance, service, restaurant and catering, internet and high-tech sectors.

Westerman has served a number of educational and non-profit organizations and the firm encourages all attorneys to actively engage in community service. He has served on the School Board of St. Agnes Cathedral School and assisted St. Agnes in establishing its Endowment Fund; he has served as committee member and president of various committees of Chaminade High School, including The Torch Fund, Golf and Tennis and Alumni Board, and he was a committee member of Chaminade's Capital Campaigns. He is currently a trustee of Molloy College and a member of the executive committee of Molloy's Energeia Partnership, a Long Island Regional Stewardship Program. Additionally, Westerman was a longtime trustee of the Nature Conservancy's Long Island Chapter, and a member of the Vermont Law School Alumni Board. He earned his Eagle Scout rank and was recently honored by the Theodore Roosevelt chapter of the Boy Scouts of America.

His public service has been recognized by a number of organizations including the Education and Association Corporation and The Community Program Center.

Westerman earned his law degree from Vermont Law School in 1982, where he was recognized as the Commercial Law Scholar. During law school, he was a member of the National Moot Court Team and ABA-LSD Moot Court Team and wrote for the Vermont Bar. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Union College where he was a member of the Psi Upsilon fraternity and participated on the football, rugby and lacrosse teams.

Westerman is an avid, albeit frustrated, golfer and enjoys spending time with family and friends on the golf course. He also enjoys travelling and spending time with his wife, Mickee, his children, MaryBeth, Christian, Christopher, Casey, Kevin and Brian, and his grandchildren, Christopher and Olivia.



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