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- Christina E. Lutz

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Success at any age is impressive. But to achieve it at an early age is even more of a feat. This, though is exactly what the 40 young attorneys featured in this publication have done.

For the last 19 years, the 40 Under Forty Committee at Law Bulletin Publishing Company sifts through piles of nominations to select 40 of the most talented young attorneys practicing in Illinois. This publication is the result of this work.

This year, the competition to be featured in these pages was more intense than ever. We received more than 1500 nominations for attorneys throughout Illinois. Choosing who to include was more challenging than previous editions.

What does it take to earn recognition as one of the best young lawyers in the state? Intelligence, passion, success in the office, a desire to help community and, most importantly, a willingness to work hard at one of the country's most important professions.

Putting together this issue is no easy task. We solicited nominations from across the state. We then worked with our nominated attorneys in fine tuning their profiles. The results, we hope for both an entertaining and educational read.

Adam Hrejsa



Director, 40 Under Forty



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A black and white portrait of Marissa L. Downs, a woman with long dark hair, smiling. She is wearing a light-colored blazer over a dark top, a necklace with three interlocking circles, and small earrings. The background is a blurred office setting with a whiteboard.

MUCH SHELIST CONGRATULATES LITIGATOR

Marissa L. Downs

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"FORTY UNDER 40" LIST OF UP-AND-COMING
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MUCH SHELIST

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Congratulations on being selected as one of Law Bulletin's
40 under Forty Attorneys in Illinois to Watch

— Jessica Winkler Boike —



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Bridget Davis



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Melissa Saffer



Jamie Zider

Well done, counselor

Berger Schatz congratulates **Molly Haunty** on being named to the 2018 “40 Under Forty” list by the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin. She and the eleven talented Berger Schatz attorneys who are also under 40 point to a wonderfully bright future for the firm. bergerschatz.com

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Molly Haunty

Chicago Daily Law Bulletin "40 Under Forty" Honoree, 2018

BergerSchatz
Matrimonial & Family Law Attorneys









JONATHAN B. AMARILIO 36

Firm **Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP**
Law School **J.D., University of Iowa College of Law**
Area of Practice **Appeals**



Jonathan Amarilio has already made his mark on the legal profession. From his appellate practice at Taft, where he has become one of the go-to appellate lawyers in Illinois for both sides of the bar, to his dedication to bettering the profession through the Chicago Bar Association, Amarilio stands out from the rest.

John Fitzgerald of Chicago's Tabet DiVito & Rothstein LLC opposed Amarilio in a state appellate case, *Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's, London v. Abbott Laboratories*, 2014 IL App (1st) 132020, about an insurance award to a drugmaker after its product was recalled overseas.

"Many attorneys worked on each side of that appeal, but Jonathan's voice came through the appellants' brief with unmistakable clarity," Fitzgerald said. "That brief took an enormously complex trial record, extracted from that voluminous record multiple arguments that had both legal and moral force, and conveyed those arguments clearly and persuasively. Once I read

that brief, I knew right away that Jonathan had played a major role in drafting it. Few attorneys are capable of writing such a persuasive and effective appellate brief."

One of Amarilio's clients, a general counsel for major railroad company, praised his enthusiasm for a challenge. "Jon is always willing to take on cases, even when the deck is stacked against him," the client said. "Recently, he assisted me with a petition for leave to appeal to the Illinois Supreme Court. We carefully considered whether to proceed, because we felt that we did

not have a strong chance of success. Jon took the case without hesitation and crafted a well-reasoned, clearly articulated, and creative argument for why the court should take the appeal."

Another *Forty Under 40* nominator who's hired Amarilio to represent her hospital on appeals in front of the Illinois Supreme Court praised his preparation: "I worked with Jonathan on a very high-profile post-trial motion and appellate brief for the hospital following an adverse verdict. In addition, he prepared an amicus curiae brief filed in the Illinois Supreme Court on behalf of seven major health care systems in Illinois in the case of *Yarbrough v. Northwestern Memorial Hospital, et. al.* In both instances, his work was excellent. He requires minimal instruction and turns out an excellent and persuasive product in a timely manner. He is mature, respectful, and will definitely be sought after in the years ahead for his appellate skill."

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“Jonathan is quickly establishing himself as one of the best appellate attorneys in Chicago.”

When Amarilio is not drafting appellate briefs, he is busy giving back to his profession and the community.

He was the 2017-18 chair of The Chicago Bar Association's Young Lawyers Section, was a member of the CBA Board of Managers, is a board member for Lawyers Lend-A-Hand to Youth and the Chicago Bar Foundation, was vice chair of the Chicago Bar Foundation's Investing in Justice Campaign in both 2016 and 2017, and serves on the Illinois Supreme Court Committee on Character and Fitness. Jon hosts the CBA podcast "@theBar," contributes to the Illinois Appellate Lawyers Association's blog, "The Brief" and publishes articles on appellate practice.

Firm **Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP**
 Law School **Chicago-Kent College of Law**
 Area of Practice **General & Commercial Litigation, Insurance Policyholder**

Dedicated: That’s the word Jenny Austin’s peers use most often when describing the taxation attorney at Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP. Austin has earned the respect of both her peers and her clients. She knows the ins and outs of taxation and is dedicated to her clients, working long hours to help them resolve their most difficult taxation issues.

Austin concentrates her practice on federal tax controversy and litigation, working across all industries, with a focus on matters involving significant intellectual property interests, including those involving medical-device, pharmaceutical, and technology companies. A large part of her practice involves advising and representing clients in administrative matters, including pre-audit planning and representation of taxpayers in Internal Revenue Service examinations.

Robert Moore, the office managing partner for Baker McKenzie LLP in Miami, worked with Austin for 12 years. He said she gained critical experience early in her career handling a case for a pro golfer.

“As a senior associate Jenny led the team as we prepared for the Sergio Garcia tax court case,” Moore wrote. “During trial, Jenny was first chair with several witnesses. Post-trial she led the team through all post trial briefs. Ultimately, we achieved an excellent result for the client. To play such a lead

role in a major tax court case at such a young age (or level of experience) is exceptional.”

Austin has also been very involved with The Family Defense Center, a nonprofit that offers pro bono services to families in the child welfare system. Rachel O’Konis Ruttenberg, the Family Defense Center’s executive director, said Austin gets it.

“She innately understands the plights of our clients and is able to serve them in an extremely committed and compassionate way, time and time again,” she wrote. “It seems that whatever she puts her mind to, she accomplishes. Her legal insight on our cases, even though our area of law is so different than the area of law she practices every day, is typically spot on, and she often finds creative ways to solve issues.”

Ruttenberg described one case Austin handled through the organization: “A grieving mother had suddenly lost her child from what is now believed to have been a previously undetected heart condition. The mother was found guilty of “death by child neglect,” she contacted our organization, and Jenny and her team picked up the case. Jenny handled it with creativity and diligence. In the end, the case was done masterfully, and Jenny and her team were able to get our client exonerated from what could have been a 50-year finding against her.”



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“It seems that whatever she puts her mind to, she accomplishes.”





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JD '06

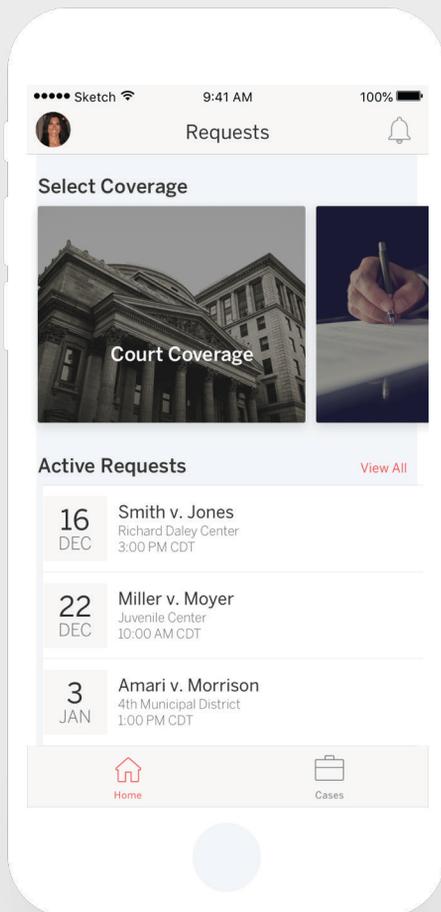
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Your work exemplifies the passion and power of the DePaul College of Law alumni.
We wish you continued success!

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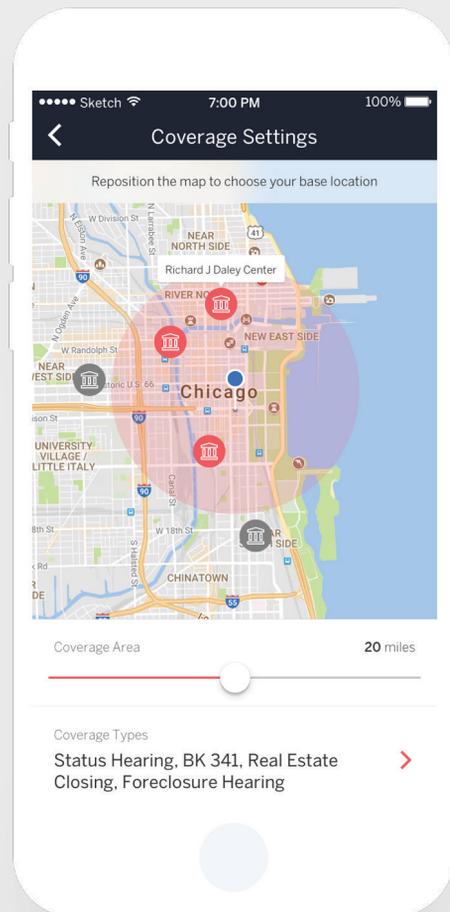


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Firm **Bedi & Singer**

Law School **American University Washington College of Law**

Area of Practice **Criminal defense**

Jonathan Bedi might be young, but he has won hundreds of bench and jury trials in criminal court, including first-degree murder trials that would be the envy of lawyers far more seasoned.

Colleagues and judges are quick to say Bedi, a criminal defense lawyer with Chicago's Bedi & Singer, is the real deal.

Before opening his own firm, Bedi worked in the Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender. For nine years, he worked his way from defending traffic offenses to first-degree murder charges.

One Cook County judge who nominated Bedi for *Forty Under*

40 was a new judge in Traffic Court at the same time Bedi was a green assistant public defender assigned to the same courtroom. "From the outset, Jonathan impressed me with not only his substantive command of the law, but with consistent good exercise of judgment," the nominating judge wrote.

One *Forty Under 40* nominator who worked with Bedi in the public defender's office credited Bedi's poise for tough defense work: "Jonathan is fearless, which turns out to be a great strength when representing clients accused of heinous crimes; in such circumstances, defense attorneys who

care about being well-liked by judges and prosecutors do not always serve their clients well. I have seen Jonathan stand up to judges who are so furious they are screaming in his face. Jonathan always remains steadfast in such situations, calmly but resolutely sticking to the argument or position necessary to best defend his client."

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“To watch him argue before a jury is to see someone passionate about their client and representing them to the fullest. I have learned a lot from watching him and have watched my practice improve as a result of his example.”

The same nominator continued, "This is the hallmark of Jonathan's practice of law — fearless advocacy that gets results and has earned him great respect from his peers, judges, and opposing counsel alike. In this way he is a terrific asset to the bar; he inspires everyone with whom he works to try harder and work to be

better at what they do."

Another *Forty Under 40* nominator who has watched Bedi in action over several years wrote that "If I were charged with a crime, Jonathan is who I would call. No one else comes even close."

Bedi is active in the bar and community in a number of ways. He serves as a mentor to law students and is a member of a Chicago Inn of Court. He also served on the board of directors for the Roseland Chapter of CeaseFire. In addition, he is a frequent speaker at various bar and school events, including the University of Chicago School of Law and Notre Dame Law School.

GERALD J. BEKKERMAN 36

Firm **Taxman, Pollock, Murray & Bekkerman, LLC**
Law School **Chicago-Kent College of Law**
Area of Practice **Personal Injury**

Results matter in plaintiff's personal injury law. Gerald Bekkerman, a name partner with Chicago's Taxman, Pollock, Murray & Bekkerman, gets them.

During his relatively short legal career, Bekkerman has earned a long string of impressive verdicts and settlements for his clients. He often wins these decisions while representing clients whose chances of victory initially looked slim.

Members of the bench have taken notice of Bekkerman as well. One Circuit Court Cook County Judge who Bekkerman has appeared before said, "He moves about the courtroom with a commanding presence and relatable quality with respect to the jurors, and comports himself with the utmost professionalism"

In one case, Bekkerman secured a \$2.27 million jury verdict against the City of Chicago in a zero-offer premises liability case. His client tripped and fell due to a defect in a premise maintained by the City of Chicago

Such results are not unusual for Bekkerman, who has earned a reputation as one of the savviest personal injury attorneys working in the Chicago area "In another example of Bekker-

man's successes, he obtained a \$4.8 million global settlement, including a \$2.5 million jury verdict, on a zero-offer automobile case in which his Plaintiff was actually

improperly ticketed by the investigating officer. He also recently secured a \$5.25 million-dollar policy limits settlement for a motorcyclist in a disputed liability crash in Federal Court in Indiana."

Opposing counsel are also quick to point out Bekkerman's strengths. "Gerry's unique charisma and confidence gives him (and his clients) an intangible litigation advantage in terms of rela-

tionship building with judges, mediators, and being the voice of reason amongst all counsel in more complex/multi-party claims. Jerry's preparation and style yields him the necessary tools take and/or defend any deposition. Jerry knows what questions are coming and masterfully avoids MSJ threats," said one nominator who currently has two cases against Bekkerman.

Bekkerman's peers also say he has a winning presence in the courtroom. Bekkerman doesn't bluster. And he doesn't try to win his cases by intimidation. Instead, Bekkerman relies on his hard work, superior arguments and in-depth knowledge of the law when in front of a jury, his peers say.

"He is always extremely well prepared and ready. he knows the law. He knows his cases. He presents very effectively. His results speak for themselves. What really distinguishes Gerry from so many other injury litigators is his upbeat and cheerful demeanor," said former Cook County judge Michael Panter, a senior mediator at ADR Systems of America LLC.

Faustin Pipal of Resolute Systems who has witnessed Bekkerman's negotiation skills first hand said, "Gerry is skilled beyond his years and in every instance has stepped up and handled his cases

with maturity and "When he's not earning verdicts and settlements for his clients, Bekkerman is an active member of the legal profession. He is an elected member of the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association Board of Managers and has spoken at several Illinois Trial Lawyers Association seminars. He has also been involved with many charitable organizations, including the Illinois State Bar Foundation, WBAI, and the Active Transportation Alliance."

“ He moves about the courtroom with a commanding presence and relatable quality with respect to the jurors, and comports himself with the utmost professionalism.”





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congratulates

Tim Castelli

on being named one of Chicago's
top "40 under 40" attorneys.

Tim is a strong and pragmatic negotiator who provides creative solutions to complex business challenges. We salute him for being a trusted advisor to clients and a valued colleague.

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GORDON & REES SCULLY MANSUKHANI

CONGRATULATES

Tom Cronin

on being selected among the
*2018 Forty Illinois Attorneys
Under 40 to Watch*



Tom Cronin is a litigation partner in the Chicago office of Gordon & Rees where he specializes in defending corporate clients and professionals in the areas of construction, real estate, personal injury, and professional liability. Tom has successfully defended his clients at trial and in arbitration throughout the Midwest. Tom has been published in numerous legal periodicals focusing on construction and real estate law, and he regularly presents to contractors, design professionals, property managers, and real estate companies on issues including standard of care, liability trends, and risk mitigation.

Gordon & Rees is a national litigation and business transactions firm with more than 800 lawyers in 50 offices across the United States. Our lawyers provide full service representation to public and private companies ranging from the Fortune 500 to start-ups. Founded in 1974, Gordon & Rees is recognized among the fastest growing and largest law firms in the country. Additionally, in 2018 Law360 ranked the firm among the top 40 largest U.S. firms and *The American Lawyer* ranked the firm among the top 35 on its Diversity Scorecard.

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Firm **Beermann LLP**

Law School **Chicago-Kent College of Law**

Area of Practice **Family Law**



Jessica Boike has a core belief: It is crucial to listen to clients.

It might seem obvious, but it's too rare a practice in the profession. Many attorneys impose upon their clients the goals they think these clients should pursue instead of listening, letting the clients set their own goals and needs.

This empathy for her clients combined with a deep understanding of family law has made Boike one of the busiest — and best respected — family law attorneys in Chicago.

One of her nominators worked as a guardian ad litem and child's representative on case with Boike, finding herself impressed by the way Boike handled the tough situation.

"As a result of her skills, Jessica enabled her client, the father, to nearly double his parenting time with his young daughter and was given final decision-making authority over his daughter's educational needs," the nominator wrote. "It was an exceptional result, given the gut-wrenching allegations involved in this very complicated case."

This is far from the only time Boike steered a difficult case to a successful resolution. Boike's peers say this attorney is never outworked in the courtroom, and that few family law attorneys can boast of the kind of respect Boike earns from clients and fellow attorneys.

"Jessica has a unique ability to vigorously litigate and represent her client's best interests, while also working well with her opposing counsels," a separate nominator wrote. "I literally know of no attorney that could speak unfavorably about her. She is very reasonable to negotiate with and does not 'play games.'"

One mediator recently worked with Boike on a mediation wrote, "Jessica is very tenacious and is willing to go the extra 'mile' for her clients. She possesses the ability to help the client better understand all the options and provide a cost benefit analysis as to value of pursuing each option. She has a calming demeanor which is very

important for high conflict divorcing clients. This allows the client to make better decisions for their respective family outside of her busy practice"

"Jessica is always well-prepared and knows the strengths and weaknesses of her clients' cases. Jessica communicates extremely well with her clients and is extremely responsive to their needs," said Howard Teplinsky of Chicago-based Levin Ginsburg.

Boike is very involved in the community. She currently is on the Board of Directors of a Foster Care Agency. She is a member of the Illinois State, American and Chicago bar associations.

“ Jessica is very tenacious and is willing to go the extra “mile” for her clients.”

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Firm **Clifford Law Offices**Law School **Loyola University Chicago School of Law**Area of Practice **Personal Injury**

It has not taken much time for Tracy Brammeier of the Clifford Law Offices to be noticed for the work she has done on some big cases. She's already obtained several multimillion-dollar results in her career, including a \$35 million settlement after seven days of trial for a young woman struck and dragged by a truck.

More recently, Brammeier was the primary handling attorney on a case involving the sinking of a boat in Lake Michigan which resulted in the deaths of three adults in their late twenties. The action was concurrently pending in both state and federal courts under admiralty jurisdiction and presented several complex civil procedural issues, which Tracy was instrumental in helping the plaintiffs navigate successfully. Co-counsel found her indispensable during the investigation of the event and questioning of numerous witnesses in depositions. The case settled in June 2018 for \$27.9 million.

Robert J. Cooney Jr. of Cooney & Conway wrote that "Tracy is an exceptional, bright lawyer who has a remarkable big-picture view of complex litigation." He continued, "Tracy is highly regarded by her peers as a standout litigator who can always be counted on for great judgement and the ability to thoughtfully persuade

others of her position."

Kenneth A. Hoffman of Mitchell Hoffman and Wolf represented the sole surviving boater in the case. "Tracy possesses a great ability to recognize crucial legal issues and develop the supporting factual bases to support her client's position," he wrote. "This skill was evident while the plaintiffs in the boat case described above were battling with the insurance company of the boat owner during the limitation of liability action filed in federal court. Tracy's insight led to the defeat of the limitation action and a full recovery against that defendant in the action."

**UNDER FORTY**

“ Tracy possesses a great ability to recognize crucial legal issues and develop the supporting factual bases to support her client's position.”

Joseph P. DiPino of Beverly Pause has worked with Brammeier on trucking litigation and bicycle accident cases. "Ms. Brammeier possess legal abilities far beyond her years," he wrote. "She has exceptional insight into complex legal issues and has professional demeanor usually seen in attorneys well into their fifties. She is smart and unflappable."

Outside of her practice, Brammeier is an active member of The Chicago Bar Association, serving on the board of the CBA's Young Lawyers Section and on the Judicial Evaluation Committee. She is a member of the board of managers of the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association.



Firm **Ropes & Gray LLP**

Law School **Boston College Law School**

Area of Practice **Private Equity and Mergers & Acquisitions**



Timothy Castelli has earned the respect of his colleagues and the loyalty of his private equity and strategic clients due to his unique combination of elite technical skill and pragmatic, business-oriented instincts.

Castelli is consistently recognized for having greater deal insights and stronger negotiation instincts than other attorneys. His clients know that Castelli can help them manage challenges with a creative and pragmatic approach that helps them achieve the best possible outcome, in an efficient, collaborative manner, even when faced with difficult circumstances.

A partner at Cressey & Company commented, "Over the course of our long working relationship, his demonstrated expertise with private equity transactions and his knowledge of the healthcare and life sciences sectors has inspired confidence when having him on our side. He's certainly helped us turn some challenging deals into fantastic opportunities, which is one of the best things you can say about a transactional lawyer."

Another of Tim's nominators noted that "The best ones, like Tim, keep the strategic priorities of their clients top of mind. When working on complex transactions, it is not just about winning, keeping score, or applying a scorched-earth approach to closing transactions. Instead, it is critical to be practical, balanced, and sensitive to

nuances to help your client reach the best outcome."

Castelli has recently helped Cressey & Company with a number of acquisitions and divestitures in the healthcare sector. Other recent deals include the acquisition of a distributor of medical products by a leading global medical products and technologies company, and the acquisition by a wireless retailer of another retailer's 139 locations.

"At all times, Tim was very nimble in his approach, as befits a strategic and experienced negotiator," wrote one nominator who worked with Castelli on multiple deals. "He clearly and quickly understood our risk appetite then tailored his advice to accommodate that against the challenges of the transactions. It was impressive to see him in action."

Another nominator noted, "He's had to be extremely nimble on some of the deals we've worked on together, and I've always been impressed by his ability to simultaneously be pragmatic and creative in order to get the results we needed."

His nominators say that Castelli injects a level of humanity into transactions when things get heated. He also seeks solutions, when possible, that work for all parties involved.

"He is also extremely adept at managing difficult personalities and bringing together parties with competing interests", one nominator wrote regarding obstacles that can sometimes derail negotiations. "These abilities make Tim stand above the crowd."

“Tim is a strong negotiator who really takes the time to understand and effectively manage all of the many details, including various people and personalities, involved in a transaction.”

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UNDER FORTY

Firm **Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg, LLP**
 Law School **J.D., IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law**
 Area of Practice **Commercial litigation; Insurance policyholder litigation**

Neal Gerber Eisenberg partner Eric Choi has crafted a dynamic business litigation practice.

A common theme resonated through the remarks of Choi's nominators to *Forty Under 40*: He considers the overall client experience, knowing it's the key measure of a successful engagement — not simply the results.

One *Forty Under 40* nominator, a client of Choi's, wrote: "While Eric Choi is a litigator, what we like best about Eric is that he ensures that we do not have to litigate at all. We have great peace of mind when working with Eric Choi."

Another client who nominated him praised Choi's ability to simplify their issues so they can be well-managed in court.

"There are attorneys we have used over the last 50 years in business who often fail to grasp the law on our commercial contracts," the nominating client wrote. "Eric has a unique ability to simplify the issues before the court so that they are understood and relayed properly to the judge and jury."

One *Forty Under 40* nominator who worked with Choi at Neal Gerber Eisenberg said Choi stands out for his ability to personally connect with clients. "Eric is not driven by the size of his client's pocketbook or the billable hours associated with the controversy," this person wrote. "Instead, he seeks to understand the impact his client is suffer-

ing as a result. ... Eric functions as a true adviser to his clients; by empathizing in their conflict, he is able to assess the anxiety and stress of the situation and provide peace of mind, balanced with quality legal services. It is this human element that makes Eric a rare find."

While he has achieved great success for his clients recently, Choi's efforts on a pro bono case helped to give client Kerry Masterson back her freedom. Ms. Masterson was convicted of murder in

2011 and sentenced to 58 years in prison. Northwestern's Center on Wrongful Convictions was able to secure Ms. Masterson a new trial due to the

wrongful exclusion of expert testimony on eyewitness identifications. Eric worked on the new trial on behalf of Ms. Masterson.

Once the case went to the jury, Ms. Masterson was exonerated within only 3 hours of deliberations. After 8 years in prison, Ms. Masterson was released, which could not be a better example of Eric's exceptional results in action.

Choi, 36, is a member of the Korean American Bar Association of Chicago, where he serves as treasurer on the executive board. He has also served as chair of The Chicago Bar Association's Insurance Law Subcommittee. As an active member of his firm's Diversity & Inclusion and Hiring Committees, Eric continues to advocate for embracing an open and equal working environment.

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“Eric was my go-to lawyer for tough and thorny matters that we handled for a sophisticated and demanding clientele.”



“

I have worked with countless attorneys, and I can attest without hesitation that Eric is one of the most exceptional attorneys that I have come across ... exceptional at providing out-of-the box strategies to counsel his clients through complex and difficult disputes, and . . . an accomplished advocate and advisor. ... Eric's work ethic and commitment goes beyond merely 'getting the job done.' He strives every day to provide exceptional representation and to be of true service to his clients and community. ”

JENNY S. KIM, SENIOR COUNSEL FOR COMPLEX DISPUTES AND LITIGATION, ACCENTURE LLP

**Congratulations to our
litigation partner**

Eric Y. Choi

**on being selected as part of
this class of rising leaders in
the Illinois legal community.**

40 under
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Neal Gerber Eisenberg is committed to fostering a firmwide culture where our attorneys shine. We are proud that Eric Choi's dedication to the legal profession and his community has been recognized, and pleased that the Law Bulletin Publishing Company has chosen one of our own to be among the "40 Illinois Attorneys Under 40 to Watch" for the ninth consecutive year.



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Chicago-Kent College of Law salutes its

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Jessica Winkler Boike '07

Partner, Beerman LLP



Eric Y. Choi '07

Partner, Neal, Gerber
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Christina E. Lutz '08

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ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Firm **Parente & Norem P.C.**

Law School **The John Marshall Law School**

Area of Practice **Worker's compensation, personal injury**



Matthew Coleman has all the attributes of a skilled attorney: He's knowledgeable. He works hard for his clients. He's a savvy negotiator and is committed to research. But what sets him apart from other workers' compensation experts in the city? It's his passion.

Coleman's peers say that this attorney cares deeply about his clients, employees who are injured while at work. And it's that passion that drives Coleman to log the long hours necessary to earn the best results for his clients.

"He always goes above and beyond what would be considered 'professional' representation of a client to ensure there is no stone left unturned," said attorney John O'Halloran. "He is not intimidated by well-known and respected legal opponents, but at the same time he maintains a respectful and professional demeanor toward them. This, in turn, has earned him the respect of his legal opponents."

During his career, Coleman has successfully represented many petitioners for workers' compensation claims. But Coleman has also branched out. Most recently, he has concentrated on representing plaintiffs in personal injury matters.

Successful results have been common. One nominator pointed to a successful jury verdict that Coleman earned against the Metra commuter rail system in the case *Hoffman v. Metra*, in which Coleman represented a plaintiff who suffered a broken hip after being knocked over by a ticket agent.

The client who Coleman represented originally retained the Oak Park-based law firm of Coplan + Crane. But Bob Crane with that firm decided that

Coleman would be a better fit, and reached out to the young attorney. This was a smart move. Crane said that Coleman turned a difficult case into a \$500,000 verdict.

"I have no regrets passing on this case, because Matt got the best verdict Mr. Hoffman could have ever gotten," Crane said. "I am very proud of Matt."

This is far from the only successful verdict Coleman has earned. He achieved a \$5.4 million verdict against the Union Pacific Railroad while representing a mechanic who was injured after slipping on a diesel leak while repairing a locomotive. He also earned a verdict of \$350,000 for a truck driver who injured his lower back, despite the employer's claims that the plaintiff had a pre-existing condition that caused the injury.

Coleman also negotiated a \$1.1 million settlement for a police officer who suffered a disc herniation, a \$970,000 settlement for a union roofer who fractured his right wrist and a \$500,000 settlement on behalf of a restaurant patron who slipped and fell, suffering an open complex fracture.

Coleman came to the legal field later in life. Before working as an attorney, he was a teacher in the Chicago Public Schools. There, he taught children with moderate to severe physical and developmental disabilities.

"Matthew is a truly great person and lawyer," said Vincent Petrosino, with the Chicago law firm of Serpico, Petrosino, DiPiero & O'Shea. "He is exceptionally competent and accomplished, yet he remains extremely humble. He personifies the traits that we all as lawyers strive for. He uses his talents as an educator to mentor and educate his clients."

40

UNDER FORTY

“Walked into the legal profession ALWAYS fighting for the underdog.”

Firm **Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP**

Law School **Loyola University Chicago School of Law**

Area of Practice **Defense litigation**

Anne Couyoumjian's peers refer to her as a student of the law, one who researches her cases thoroughly and spends the long hours preparing a defense for her clients.

But Couyoumjian's work ethic isn't the only reason she's earned a reputation as one of the top defense litigators in the Chicago area. She is also skilled in the courtroom, and has earned a long list of victories for her clients.

"Annie has built a reputation among her peers on both sides of the aisle as a student of the law and of trial practice who holds her own in the courtroom, in depositions and in negotiation," said Daniel Kirschner with Chicago's Corboy & Demetrio. "If I could select Annie as my opponent in all of my cases, I would, as she is a professional who is a pleasure to work with."

A Judge with the Circuit Court of Cook County's Law Division has seen Couyoumjian's work firsthand, as Couyoumjian has appeared before the judge numerous times. He has witnessed the skill of her oral arguments on various motions and pre-trial settlement conferences.

He points to one case in particular as an example of Couyoumjian's legal skill. During this case, issues arose related to possible

misconduct on the part of the plaintiff, a law student who had previously attempted to represent herself.

This drama, though, did not unsettle Couyoumjian, who focused on reaching a positive result for her client. That positive result is exactly what Couyoumjian achieved.

"Annie handled the matter with professionalism and thoughtfulness, resulting in a favorable outcome for her client while still remaining respectful of the sensitive issues raised by the unique factual situation," the Judge said.

The Judge said he isn't surprised by the success Couyoumjian has enjoyed. He says this young attorney is hard-working, intelligent and has earned her excellent reputation among her peers. Couyoumjian, he said, always represents her clients well and is always well-prepared for her cases. "It is clear that Annie holds the respect of both her client and opposing counsel. She is not intimidated by complex issues, and has strong written and oral advocacy skills."

Thomas Prindable of Cogan & Power, P.C. also noted that Couyoumjian stands out because of her personality, civility, and her professionalism. "Already at such a young age in her litigation career, she is much admired," Prindable said.

Couyoumjian's success hasn't gone unnoticed. Leading Lawyers Magazine from 2015 through 2017 named her as an "Emerging Leader." She also shares her knowledge, acting as a mentor to younger attorneys at Hinshaw.

Outside of her career, Couyoumjian is an active volunteer with Urban Initiatives, a sports-based youth development program for Chicago Public School children in the city's most underserved areas. She serves as president emeritus of the Urban Initiatives Associate Board, a group of 150 young professionals from around Chicago, and is an active member of the Urban Initiatives Partners Board.

“If I could select Annie as my opponent in all of my cases, I would as she is a professional pleasure to work with.”



Firm **Gordon & Rees Scully Mansukhani LLP**

Law School **Loyola University of Chicago School of Law**

Area of Practice **Defense personal injury, construction, real estate**



Thomas Cronin gets results. It's why this young attorney, a partner with Gordon & Rees Scully Mansukhani, has earned a reputation as a stellar lawyer on both sides of the trial bar.

Joseph Balesteri with Power Rogers & Smith LLP, worked on a difficult medical malpractice case opposing Cronin. What Balesteri found was that Cronin arrived each day fully prepared to provide his client with the best possible representation.

"Tom prepares for everything well in advance, he grasps all of the important details and is ready to defend his clients," Balesteri said.

"Tom is never late and never obstructing. He doesn't defend by obstruction or annoyance.

His calmness and social ease make him a formidable adversary. Juries, experts, other attorneys and the parties like Tom."

Of course, this courtroom demeanor wouldn't mean much if Cronin wasn't successful in the courtroom. But it's here that this young attorney shines.

Chicago-based personal injury attorney Colin Dunn has also seen firsthand just how skilled Cronin is in the courtroom. He opposed Cronin in a construction wrongful death case. That case, thanks in large part to Cronin's

work, went to summary judgment. Dunn said that this "frankly was a major surprise."

Bradford Roth with Cassidy Shade is not surprised at Cronin's success. Roth worked with Cronin when both attorneys worked for Cassidy.

"Tom is a can-do person and lawyer," Roth said. "His reputation is that he is a tireless advocate. In our business, people generally come to you with a problem they need you to solve. He gets that. And combined with a superior ability to effectively communicate, people come back to him and his reputation continues to grow. Tom is also a gentleman and understands his responsibilities to make the system work effectively and fairly without sacrificing his role as an advocate and problem-solver."

Another nominator concurred with Roth's observations, saying, "We should all want to watch and strive to exemplify the attorney Tom Cronin has become."

Outside of his practice, Cronin has authored articles for the Chicago Bar Record in the area of Residential Real Estate Law and the Illinois Mechanics Lien. He has given multiple presentations to lawyers and professionals regarding applications of residential real estate law and is a continuing co-panelist for an Insurance company on relevant topics of design professional law.

His calmness and social ease make him a formidable adversary."

UNDER FORTY

Firm **Bryant Legal Group PC**
 Law School **John Marshall Law School**
 Area of Practice **Disability Claims and Litigation**



What sets Jennifer Danish apart from her peers? There is her legal knowledge, of course. Danish is a true expert in disability claims and litigation. There's also her willingness to work long hours and the skills she displays in the courtroom. But Danish's peers say what truly makes her such a rising star in her field is the commitment to her clients.

"What distinguishes Jennifer is her passionate and genuine desire to help our clients through the difficult maze of federal and private disability claims," said Chicago attorney James E. Tyrrell of Ross Tyrrell Ltd. "These are not glamorous nor particularly lucrative cases. These matters often involve interpretations and applications of mundane and tedious statutes and policies on behalf of clients who are usually in lower socioeconomic levels. These individuals are desperately in need of a lifeline, which Jennifer and her firm will provide."

Thomas K. Prindable, a Chicago attorney with Cogan & Power P.C., worked with Danish on a False Claims Act case involving Medicare fraud in the operation of physical-therapy clinics in nursing homes. Prindable said

“What distinguishes Jennifer is her passionate and genuine desire to help our clients through the difficult maze of federal and private disability claims.”

the case was aggressively contested by some of the top defense firms in the city, but Danish prevailed. Prindable said Danish created spreadsheets that carefully documented the fraudulent physical therapy sessions given to patients, including those in wheelchairs. Danish also prepared appropriate responsive pleadings to motions

for summary judgment and other disruptive motions.

"Because much of Jennifer's legal work is resolving Social Security disability benefits, she does not have many 'headlines,'" Prindable said. "But she achieves excellent results for her clients who need the support of the disability benefits."

Arnold G. Rubin, with Chicago's Rubin Law Group, said Danish achieves top results because she works so hard at her craft. No one outworks her, and she understands the way Social Security law works and the best path to take for her clients, Rubin said.

"The exceptional lawyering skills that I note with Jennifer include her understanding of the relationship between Social Security disability claims and the workers' compensation claims," Rubin said. "She has an outstanding understanding as to how Medicare set-aside accounts are relevant in workers' compensation claims. Jennifer's analysis is second to none."

Danish finds time to volunteer for both her profession and her community. She is the

Social Security Law Committee chair of The Chicago Bar Association, chair-elect of the American Bar Association Health and Dis-

ability Law Committee and chair-elect of the Social Security Section of the American Association of Justice. She is a volunteer for the Illinois Lawyers' Assistance Program.

Danish has also written and presented a variety of topics related to Social Security law, the Employee Retirement Income Retirement Act and Medicare issues.



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Matthew Coleman ('08)
Parente & Norem P.C.



Jennifer Danish ('09)
Bryant Legal Group PC



Samantha LaFata ('07)
Smith Blake Hill LLC



Colleen Mikaitis ('13)
Levin & Perconti



Gianna Scatchell (JD '09/LLM '12)
Run the Call



Ruth Yacona ('06)
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The Law Firm of Parente & Norem, P.C. takes great pleasure in congratulating,

MATTHEW J. COLEMAN

for his selection as a Top 40 Under 40 Member

WAY TO GO MATT!

Parente & Norem, P.C. is a Plaintiff's litigation and trial practice that concentrates in workmen's compensation, wrongful death, medical negligence and all forms of personal injury including FELA. We have offices in Chicago and Joliet, IL.



Matt and the rest of our attorneys can be reached at
312.641.5926 or www.pninjurylaw.com.



Firm **Brown, Hay and Stephens, LLP**

Law School **Business transactions & litigation; Energy Law**

Area of Practice **Commercial litigation**

Chuck Davis has earned a reputation as a zealous defender of his clients, a student of the law and a savvy litigator. He's also earned the loyalty of a growing roster of clients, those who appreciate the tireless work he puts in for them.

It's this combination of skill and work ethic that has helped Davis build a thriving legal career.

During his career, Davis has represented businesses and associations primarily on corporate, commercial and energy matters. This includes representing entrepreneurs, public utilities, pharmaceutical companies, risk pools, government entities and distribution companies.

Davis has also assisted clients on stock and asset sales, acquisitions, mergers, commercial loans, workouts and low-income housing tax credit transactions.

Jonathan Nessler, with the law offices of Frederick W. Nessler & Associates, has seen Davis' work up close. Davis defended a lawsuit that Nessler filed against one of his clients. Nessler

said that Davis provided an aggressive, skillful defense of his client.

"He showed himself to be a highly capable attorney," Nessler said. "Above all, he was honest and dependable. I have known Mr. Davis for more than seven years, and know him to be an excellent attorney."

Nessler isn't alone in this assessment. Davis today ranks as a highly respected attorney in the state and in his local market.

This reputation has only been enhanced by the many victories he's

achieved for his clients and the major cases he's taken on. Davis has litigated cases throughout the state, including one in front of the Illinois Supreme Court on behalf of the Illinois Farm Bureau related to a multi-state electric transmission project.

According to Farm Bureau Senior Counsel Laura Harmon, it was Davis who came up with the argument relied upon by the Illinois Supreme Court when it ruled in favor of the Farm Bureau in this multi-party litigation. Harmon said, "I've worked with many attorneys during the course of my career, and Chuck represents the best of our profession in and out of the courtroom."

And while Davis shines when arguing on behalf of his clients, he has also excelled at helping run a successful business, having served for five years on his firm's management committee. Nessler said that Davis has "an exceptional understanding of how to run a



UNDER FORTY

“ He is a competent attorney and has an extraordinary understanding of the business side of running a law firm.”

law firm so that the firm is best able to service its clients."

Harmon added, "I've worked

with many attorneys during the course of my career, and Chuck represents the best of our profession in and out of the courtroom."

When not helping run his firm, or advocating for his clients, Davis finds time to serve his community. He is a past member of the ISBA Board of Governors, is a member of Young Philanthropists, and sits on the board of the District 186 School Foundation. He is also a legal advisor to Innovate Springfield, a social innovation and business incubator in the city.

Firm **Banner & Witcoff, Ltd.**

Law School **Northwestern University School of Law**

Area of Practice **Intellectual Property Law**

Looking for a sign of a lawyer's talents and reputation? Look at the client list. On Azuka Dike's roster of intellectual-property clients at Banner Witcoff, you'll find a media giant, start-ups and an athletic-wear manufacturer.

Dike didn't just happen upon these top clients. He's earned their business through hard work, tireless dedication and his ability to earn to excellent results. In one significant case, Dike assisted Yeti, a manufacturer of high-end coolers and drinkware, in a lawsuit against competitor RTIC to prohibit the marketing and sale of similar products. Cooler heads prevailed: They settled for an undisclosed amount.

One *Forty Under 40* nominator who has known Dike for many years said "his hard work and perfection of his craft have elevated him to this level."

Dike represented insurance giant Allstate in a settlement against Nationwide to prohibit the creation and use of insurance products similar to Allstate's "Vanishing Deductible."

In January, *Managing IP* included Dike on its list of top-petitioning attorneys nationally before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board in 2017.

One *Forty Under 40* nominator wrote, "The fact Azuka filed so many petitions is evidence the clients trust in him for high-stakes bet-the-company litigation."

While attending law school, Dike devoted time to tutoring Chicago Public Schools students through the SCORE Tutoring and Mentoring program and the Cabrini Green Youth Program, helping kids learn to read and the basics of math. He's now involved

with the Cabrini Green Legal Aid Foundation to review and screen cases for dissemination. For

the past two years, he has chaired Banner & Witcoff's Diversity Committee. In addition, Dike serves as the vice chair of the ADR Committee in the IP section of the American Bar Association. He is also a board member of Northwestern Law Fund Board and serves as mentor in the IP Law Society Mentorship program.



UNDER FORTY

“Azuka's body of work is unparalleled for someone his age.”



Firm **Much Shelist, P.C.**
 Law School **Northwestern University**
 Area of Practice **Litigation Dispute Resolution**



Marissa Downs doesn't shy away from challenges. It's one reason why she's earned a reputation as one of the most passionate and talented litigation attorneys in Illinois.

A good example is the work she turned in during a complex case in the highly regulated nascent industry in Illinois. Video gaming. Downs led the way the complex discovery to the Illinois Supreme court.

The Illinois Supreme Court ruled in favor of Down's client.

"Marissa displayed trusted judgment throughout the litigation," said Derek Harmer General Counsel of Accel Entertainment Gaming, "The company received a favorable decision, no doubt due to Marissa's zealous advocacy and thoughtful analysis."

These results, and the praise she generates from her clients and peers, is one reason why Downs is highly sought after.

Downs also successfully represents Tecumseh various in litigation matters. Tecumseh manufactures various compressors and air conditioning components. Tecumseh faces litigation across the globe and Downs has helped them along the way. Christopher DeWetter the Legal Depart Manager has raves about Downs, "Tecumseh litigation is varied and so are the geographic areas of our product coverage. Marissa

is able to grasp the litigation concept and the product issue no matter of we are dealing within North America or thousands of miles away in Europe." DeWetter added, "I would seriously be hampered if was forced to use other Counsel in the day to day, I could not do it without her."

Steven P. Blonder of Much Shelist said, "Simply put for all of my significant matters, "Marissa is a go to person. She is able to work effectively as part of a team and is integral to our success"

In addition to her busy practice Downs is a very active member of her community. She is a member of

the Lakeview Pantry Young Leader's Board and board of Directors. Ashley Friend, Director of Development of the Lakeview Pantry, said, "Marissa has impressed me

with her ability to continually rise to any challenge that Pantry may present to her." Friend, continued, "Her thoughtfulness

and reflection are greatly appreciated by all members of the Board and Staff.

If that is not enough, Downs also is also committed to pro bono services she has worked defended community organization against a baseless claim and has successfully petitioned the U.S. customs and Immigration Service to grant legal status to an indigent client. She is also active member of the Coalition of Women's Initiatives in Law.



UNDER FORTY

“ Marissa has set high standards for all other outside counsel to follow in the areas of effectiveness, organization and professionalism. ”

Firm **Winston & Strawn LLP**
 Law School **Cornell Law School**
 Area of Practice **Litigation, Compliance**

Steve Grimes hasn't yet hit 40, but that hasn't kept him from stringing together an impressive series of favorable results for his clients.

From his start at the U.S. Attorney's Office to his time as chief compliance officer at Tenneco and now as a partner at in the litigation practice Group at Winston & Strawn, Grimes has stood out among his peers.

"Steve combines a powerful intellect with keen analytical skills and a warm and outgoing personality to be the consummate litigator," wrote one nominator who has known Grimes since he was a first-year associate. "As a first-

year associate, he proved himself so adept at legal and technology issues that, as the partner in charge of a complex and significant

case defending Microsoft Corporation, I put him in charge of expert discovery and assigned him the task of deposing the plaintiff's lead technical expert "

During his time with the U.S. Attorney's Office, Grimes prosecuted corrupt Chicago politicians, a Chicago-area man who was cyberstalking an ESPN sportscaster, the Hobos street gang and William Mastro, an influential sports memorabilia figure, in connection with Mr. Mastro's efforts to rig online auctions and his alteration of the "most expensive baseball card in the world." Grimes was lead prosecutor in the first-ever life sentence for a sex trafficker.

Clients benefit from the experience Grimes has gained through the years.

"Clients value Steve's focus on the business objective at hand, while also knowing that Steve has the trial skills necessary to go the distance if that's the best option," one nominator wrote.

Currently, Grimes is the lead partner representing a major aluminum company in multi-million-dollar contractual indemnity and environmental litigation.

"We trust our highest-dollar, highest-risk complex litigation to him and his team. His thoughtful strategy has improved and leveraged our defenses while he has managed his team effectively to keep costs down," a past client wrote. "As a

former federal prosecutor, experienced trial lawyer, and in-house senior litigation counsel, Steve's exposure provides an unusual breath of perspective and an ability to see the best outcome from a client's viewpoint."

Another nominator added, "Steve's clients' problems are his problems and his energy and tenacity are unmatched."

Outside of his practice, Grimes co-taught "Computer Crime and the Legal System," focusing on the legal issues surrounding cyber, technology, data-security and trade-secret law, at the University of Illinois Law School. He has served as an adjunct professor at Loyola University Chicago Law School. Grimes is on the Board for the Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Family Services and the Board for HFS Scholars Chicago.

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UNDER FORTY

“ Steve combines a powerful intellect with keen analytical skills and a warm and outgoing personality to be the consummate litigator ”



Derrick L. Haddox

Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP

40 Under 40 Class of 2018

Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP congratulates our partner, Derrick Haddox, on being named one of the 40 Illinois Attorneys Under Forty to Watch. As a litigator, Derrick concentrates his practice in contract disputes, construction litigation and product liability matters. His dedication to clients and work ethic makes him worthy of this honor. We are proud of Derrick's outstanding work for our firm and clients.



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ILLINOIS ATTORNEYS TO WATCH



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(BA '10, BS '10, JD '14)
Clifford Law Offices PC



ANNE C. COUYOUMJIAN (JD '07)
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THOMAS G. CRONIN (JD '04)
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BEATA A. LEJA (JD '07)
Minsky, McCormick & Hallagan PC



ELIZABETH M. NEIDIG (JD '05)
Hall Prangle & Schoonveld LLC



JORDON S. STEINWAY (JD '04)
BatesCarey LLC



SCHOOL of LAW

Firm **Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP**Law School **DePaul University College of Law**Area of Practice **Product Liability litigation, construction litigation, personal Injury defense and toxic tort defense**

Derrick Haddox is always in demand. That's because this young attorney, a partner with Chicago's Swanson, Martin and Bell, has earned a reputation as one of the top young product liability and construction litigation defense lawyers in the city.

This reputation has been earned. Haddox gets results for his clients. It's why his client list today is so long, and why the companies on it remain so loyal to him.

Nicole Brunson, associated general counsel for litigation with Ingersoll Rand, worked with Haddox in two product liability matters. In both

instances, Haddox was successful in tendering Brunson's client's defense to another party, a move that saved his client both damages and costs.

"Derrick has managed every matter assigned to him to success," Brunson said. "He has invested his time and thoughtfulness into crafting detailed strategies and executing smart plans to achieve great results, not just once, but every time."

Gary Stone, of Chicago's Karchmar & Stone, once opposed Haddox on a complicated litigation matter. During the litigation, Stone gained plenty of respect for Haddox.

"Derrick exhibited excellent legal skills and a civil demeanor that was

very valuable for his client," Stone said.

It's little surprise to his peers that Haddox has built such a respected practice.

Timothy Nickels, managing partner of Swanson, Martin and Bell, also had praise for Haddox.

"From the very beginning Derrick has been a difference maker," Nickels said.

"He was always the first lawyer to volunteer for an assignment, the first to take on a new project and the first to handle a challenge he had not tackled before."

Haddox impresses his peers with his desire to serve his client's best interest, the firm's best interest and his community. He is currently

the chair of Swanson, Martin and Bell's construction practice and a member of the firm's diversity committee. In addition, he is an active member of DRI, where he serves as the vice liaison to that legal organization's diversity Committee

In addition, to building his thriving practice, Haddox has always found time to give back to his community. He is a devoted husband and father and is a busy member with the Evangelistic Crusaders Church of God in Christ. Here, Haddox is an Elder, Youth Minister Pastor Adjutant.

The church's pastor, Larry Egwu, said that congregants look forward to those services in which Haddox speaks.



“ He has invested his time and thoughtfulness into crafting detailed strategies and executing smart plans to achieve great results, not just once, but every time. ”

Firm **Berger Schatz**

Law School **Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law**

Area of Practice **Family and Divorce Law**

You want Molly Haunty on your side if you are involved in any family law issue. She's a skilled negotiator and a strong presence in the courtroom. But her most essential skill might be her uncanny ability to ease the stress that her clients are often suffering as they work through divorces, prenuptial agreements, property division and child custody issues.

It is this skill – an ability to make her clients feel at ease – that has helped this attorney at Chicago's Berger Schatz build a thriving family law practice at such a young age.

"Molly is extremely skilled at getting the best results for her clients without the need to resort to personal attacks and hyperbole, which plague the family law arena," said Jay

Dahlin of Schiller, DuCanto & Fleck LLP. "She is excellent at identifying the issues that are most important to

her clients and presenting arguments in a well-reasoned and rational manner. I have seen her act as a 'consensus builder' in mediation and pretrial negotiation settings to efficiently resolve issues in her clients' interests."

Aubrey Parker with Beermann Pritikin Mirabelli-Swerdlove has seen this ability firsthand.

"Whenever I have a new case and I learn that Molly is on the other side,

I breathe a sigh of relief," Parker said. "I know that Molly, while a zealous advocate, will also always be ethical, reasonable and courteous. When she calls, I always answer. While she's well-suited for settling complex matters, she is also a formidable court presence. She is very well-rounded in all methods of bringing a case to an end."

Others praise Haunty for her ability to guide clients toward the best possible solution and her even-keel demeanor.

Scott Kramer of Griffin McCarthy & Rice LLP who opposed Haunty in a contentious divorce case said that this young attorney was a calming presence throughout the matter.

"Molly was an avid advocate for her client, but she was respectful of the mediation process and mindful of needing to manage her client through the difficult process," Kramer said.

"It's a pleasure working opposite an attorney like Molly."

Outside of her practice, Haunty is an associate member of Grace Episcopal Church Vestry; a member of the Hinsdale Historical Society; and an active volunteer with Wellness House of Hinsdale, an organization supporting people affected with cancer. Haunty is chairing the 2018 Wellness House Ball with this organization.

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“She is also a formidable court presence; very well-rounded in all methods of bringing a case to an end.”





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Firm **Schiller DuCanto & Fleck LLP**
 Law School **DePaul College of Law**
 Area of Practice **Family**



Practicing family law can prove challenging. Emotions run high. The parties involved are often at odds when it comes to everything from alimony payments to child-custody issues to child support to the value of their assets. Those lawyers who want to thrive in this field must be patient, calm, and understanding.

Fortunately, Joshua Jackson, a partner at Schiller DuCanto & Fleck, has all three of these traits. He also possesses a skilled legal mind and a strong presence in the courtroom. It is little to wonder, then, that Jackson's peers consider him one of the best family law attorneys in the Chicago region.

Consider the comments from one of Jackson's nominators: "Josh has a tremendous ability to connect with his clients and guide them through very difficult and challenging times. In a field of the law where families are being torn apart, it takes exceptional people skills and empathy, in addition to being able to assess the law. Josh possesses the unique combination of interpersonal skills and intellectual capacity to excel in the field of domestic relations."

Jackson has earned this praise for his work in the courtroom. One nominator pointed to a case in which Jackson successfully litigated against a highly litigious and well-respected opposing counsel. The opposition sought to decrease the unallocated support, of Jackson's client. That would have financially impaired the client. Jackson, though,

was able to protect his client, and the motion was not approved.

An attorney with a prominent Law firm in Chicago said, "Jackson has an unbelievable drive to help people during some of the most difficult times of their lives. I have seen this firsthand as he has represented close family friends of mine during a very contentious and difficult family matter."

According to this nominator, Jackson spent inordinate amounts of time explaining the process to his client, and their family members and support system. He also worked closely with them to help them meet their objectives.

"Josh is an excellent attorney who is able to handle complex litigation while maintaining professionalism and integrity," the nominator said. "I have seen Josh expertly handle depositions, court hearings and settlement negotiations. Josh is able to confidently litigate complex cases to conclusion while also maintaining a positive relationship with the court and opposing counsel, never letting the case become personal."

Another well-known attorney in Lake County added, "He is truly a professional, and exudes confidence in the courtroom."

Despite having built a busy career, Jackson still finds time to be a leader in his community. He is an active member of the Lake County Bar Association, Jefferson Inns of Court and Lake County Justinian Society. He also sits on the Board of Directors for the Lake Forest Symphony and is President of the Lake Forest Caucus.

“Josh combines his knowledge of the law and passion for helping others to his clients advantage all the time.”



Firm **Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP**
 Law School **Notre Dame Law School**
 Area of Practice **Class-action defense**

Justin Kay has built a thriving class-action defense business at Chicago's Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP.

One of his *Forty Under 40* nominators knows firsthand just how skilled Kay is. He first worked with him in 2013, when his firm collaborated with Drinker Biddle to defend about a dozen consumer class actions across the country related to a dietary supplement. Kay

was the senior associate on the matter, and we worked together on those mat-

ters for several years. This past year, the nominator had a long-time client of mine was sued in Illinois state court in a purported class action, and I recommended that the client retain Justin to handle the matter.

"Justin outlined a winning strategy for us based on three things: his understanding of the recent changes in the local rules in the Northern District of Illinois that would adversely impact the costs of defense were we to remove, his understanding of state court procedure that would permit us to employ a strategy not available to us in federal court, and his knowledge of the merits arguments and support for those arguments found in seldom-cited federal agency rulings." The nominator wrote. "He identified the information he needed from the client and pulled

together the law and facts to make a compelling argument that plaintiff's case was dead on arrival.

"Justin correctly predicted that an aggressive motion would provide strong ammunition for early resolution of the case, and after some preliminary discussions with the plaintiff's counsel, also correctly predicted that if we stuck to our guns, they

would ultimately walk away for nothing rather than invest additional resources in pursuing the case."

Another of Kay's clients described him as a "take-charge attorney."

"He is well versed in the law, extremely professional at all times, and you cannot argue with the results that he has achieved, whether it be through a settlement or motion practice," that client wrote.

Kay is the chair of Drinker Biddle's National Hiring Committee and has been focused on implementing new associate recruiting techniques including behavioral panel interviewing, implementing an interview writing exercise, interviewing at more law schools, and establishing a first-year law student internship program. Kay has also been a committee chair for the board of directors of the Evening Associates at the Art Institute of Chicago, and he is a member of the Chicago Inn of Court.

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UNDER FORTY

“He combines command of the legal principles with a good demeanor which is a winning combination.”



ARI KRIGEL 36

Firm **Freeborn & Peters LLP**
Law School **Boston University School of Law**
Area of Practice **Real Estate**



Ari Krigel's clients rely heavily on his vast knowledge of real estate law to make their development projects and transactions a reality.

Krigel is a partner at the Chicago office of Freeborn & Peters LLP, where he maintains an impressive real estate practice and represents clients around the country.

As an example, Krigel recently represented a restaurant operator and developer in a large multi-property sale/lease-back and simultaneously closed \$20 million in loans secured by the assets of entities operating 63 fast food and casual restaurants, including Taco Bell, Kentucky Fried Chicken, T.G.I. Friday's, Blaze Pizza, Old Chicago and Long John Silver's.

And that is just the start of Krigel's successes. He also represented the borrower in an \$8.9 million, 11-property portfolio refinancing that resulted in the dismissal of two portfolio foreclosure cases and provided financing for future construction. Krigel also simultaneously negotiated mortgage and mezzanine loans totaling \$55 million secured by a separate property owned by the same client.

In addition, Krigel represented the owner of a multifamily development of more than 400 units in the negotiations of a \$31 million refinancing and construction loan used for renovations and the buyout of a minority partner TIC interest.

Krigel's nominators are quick to point out they can count on this real estate specialist as a trusted confidant, skilled advisor and sharp deal maker.

"We depended on Ari for not only his legal acumen, but also his understanding of business markets, his ability to identify efficient solutions and his guidance through a series of transactions with the goal of maximizing profit for our family estate," said one client. "Being a skilled lawyer can be learned. Being a thoughtful, sincere, compassionate one cannot. Ari is all of these things, and my family is so very lucky to have him working with us."

Another one of Krigel's clients, a general counsel for a developer, has worked with him on several real estate financing deals that involved multiple properties, tens-of-millions-of-dollars of loans, teams of attorneys from both coasts, municipalities, investors and numerous lenders.

"I have worked with hundreds of attorneys over the years and few have exhibited the legal skills that Ari has in representing us, especially at his age," said this client. "Just as important to me, he has constantly exhibited qualities that cannot be taught: business sense, dedication, patience and hard work."

Outside of his practice, Krigel sits on the associate board of City Year Chicago. He is also actively involved in Jewish United Fund, Friends of local Mayer and Friends of the IDF.



40 UNDER FORTY

“The lender described Ari as a force of nature.”

Firm **Smith Blake Hill LLC**
 Law School **John Marshall Law School**
 Area of Practice **Medical malpractice defense**

Samantha LaFata is a partner and one of the founding members of the Chicago law firm of Smith Blake Hill LLC. That's already an impressive accomplishment. But those who have worked against and alongside LaFata say that it's not a surprising one for this young attorney: She has already earned a reputation as one of the most talented medical malpractice defense attorneys in Chicago.

Lawyers and Judges have taken notice. A Judge in Cook County who nominated LaFata is far from shocked by LaFata's rapid ascension to her role at Smith Blake Hill.

"I was impressed with her diligence, confidence, and superior trial skills," this judge said. "I've come to know more about Samantha, and it is clear she showed the promise of being an outstanding trial lawyer long before her appearance in my courtroom. She exhibits a steadiness, authority and capability beyond her years in practice."

LaFata has been lead counsel on or has participated in the defense of 16 medical malpractice trials during her career, several of which have had multi-million-dollar exposure.

Opposing counsel have taken notice of LaFata. A prominent plaintiff's lawyer has opposed LaFata on numerous cases during the past 10 years. She has nothing but praise for LaFata's work.

"She is extremely knowledgeable in the law and does a stellar job in representing her clients," the lawyer said.

"Most significantly, she always demonstrates the highest level of professionalism in all of her encounters with witnesses and opposing counsel."

Another nominator pointed to LaFata's commitment to her clients. LaFata is a passionate defender of her clients' rights, this nominator said.

"In my work with Sam I have found her honest, forthright, responsive, committed and collaborative, everything that one looks for in an attorney," the nominator said. "She has a strong work ethic and does whatever it takes to get the job done. In short, it is truly a pleasure to work with her."

Not only is LaFata a leader in the courtroom, she takes time to educate her peers. At her current and past firms, she has hosted house seminars on medical and legal issues. In addition, she has embraced being a mentor to younger lawyers everywhere she has practiced.

And even with her busy practice, LaFata finds time to give back to the community. She is a frequent speaker at hospitals in the Chicagoland area and other professional organizations on medical legal issues. She has coached Loyola University Law School's Phil Corboy Trial Team. In addition, she volunteered with PAWS and fosters dogs through the organization.

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UNDER FORTY

"I was impressed with her diligence, confidence, and superior trial skills."



ELIZABETH NEIDIG

Conscientious Defense Litigator
Effective Trial Advocate
Forty Under 40 Honoree



Our Partner



“Elizabeth’s can-do attitude is an excellent example of how HPS attorneys approach our clients. Elizabeth is able to assess her clients’ needs and, regardless of the difficulty, has the keen ability to utilize the discovery process to efficiently resolve their cases.”

- Jennifer Ries-Buntain, Managing Partner

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SCHILLER DUCANTO & FLECK LLP
Congratulates
Joshua M. Jackson



We are proud of our partner's recognition as one of Law Bulletin's 40 Under 40. Congratulations to Joshua who joins Schiller DuCanto & Fleck's ten previously selected lawyers who received this honor.

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Firm **Dussias Wittenberg Koenigsberger**
 Law School **The University of Wisconsin Law School**
LL.M. from Chicago-Kent School of Law
 Area of Practice **Family law**



Succeeding in family law requires more than just hard work, talent and dedication. Lawyers who want to thrive in this field must also be able to empathize with their clients. They need to understand the incredible stress that often comes with family law cases.

Theresa Lechner, a family law attorney with Chicago's, Dussias Wittenberg Koenigsberger LLP, has this ability. It helps, too, that she possesses the smarts, work ethic and legal knowledge that has given her a reputation as one of the top young family law practitioners in the region.

"Theresa has distinguished herself within her firm, her former firm and among her peers in all aspects of her work," said

Richard A. Wilson with Richard A. Wilson PC Law Offices. "Known for hard work, persistence and an open welcome

of challenges big or small, Theresa eschews the limelight, avoids both exaggeration and self-promotion, is first among many to offer assistance and asks for nothing in return."

Lechner's work ethic has become a source of inspiration to other attorneys who have seen firsthand the dedication this family law specialist has for her clients.

"Theresa works harder than any other lawyer I know," said Stephanie

Mack of Kenney Shelton Liptak Nowak LLP. "I believe what distinguishes Theresa from her peers is that she represents her clients as she would herself."

David Atlas of O'Connell Tivin, Griffin & Burns added, "Theresa's legal skills are beyond reproach and her attention to detail makes her stand out from even the most experienced attorney."

These results, and the praise she generates from her clients and peers, is one reason why Lechner is highly sought after.

Meighan Harmon with Schiller DuCanto & Fleck says that Lechner has three qualities that help her stand out among her peers.

She is capable of staying focused on legal issues and will not allow herself to get sidetracked by emotional drama. She never loses sight of the analysis needed in complex

multi-issue family law cases. And she is dedicated to providing her clients with the best possible service.

"Theresa can keep multiple plates spinning in her cases," Har-

mon said. "Despite always dealing with numerous issues, the depth and precision of her analysis remains top notch. Theresa is clearly dedicated to serving her clients, no matter how difficult a client may be. Her patience and perseverance is rare in our practice."

Outside the courtroom, Lechner is an active member of several organizations, including the Illinois State Bar Association and Wisconsin State Bar Association.



“Theresa eschews the limelight, avoids both exaggeration and self-promotion, is first among many to offer assistance and asks for nothing in return.”

Firm **Minsky, McCormick & Hallagan, P.C.**

Law School **Loyola University Chicago School of Law**

Area of Practice **Immigration**

Deeply knowledgeable. Ethical. Creative. And passionate. Those are the words that the peers of Beata Leja use to describe this immigration lawyer.

With such attributes, it's little surprise that Leja has become known as one of the most talented immigration specialists in the Chicago area.

Tejas Shah, a partner with Chicago's Franczek Radelet, said that Leja's combination of legal skill and commitment has resulted in several important victories for her clients.

"Beata stands out in her creativity and persistence in finding solutions to her client's complex problems," Shah said. "She is unafraid to use novel legal theories to help her clients."

Shah points to Leja's work while representing same-sex couples in green card and fiancée visa applications, applications that present unique challenges in countries where such relationships are not commonly accepted.

Leja also takes pride in finding solutions for clients who have already been denied immigration benefits and have been turned away by other lawyers, Shah said.

In one case, Leja represented a client who had been charged with committing misrepresentation and was barred from returning to the United States. The client's family came to Leja after several lawyers told them nothing could be done.

Leja reviewed the statement containing the alleged misrepresentation and successfully reversed the finding on the grounds that it was not, in fact, a material misrepresentation. This resulted in the reunification of the client with his family after a separation of 15 years.

Chioma Akabogu, an attorney and senior partner at N&C Impact Care Solutions, first met Leja when her and her husband faced their own immigration challenges. Akabogu, who was an attorney in Nigeria at the time, was not familiar with immigration laws in the United States. Leja, she said, listened to the couple's problems and reviewed their extensive history.

"We put our faith in her and her firm and have never looked back," Akabogu said. "Since then, we have referred

multiple other cases for our friends and relatives to Beata because she is not only very knowledgeable in all areas of U.S. immigration law, but she is incredibly caring and compassionate to her clients."

Outside of the law, Leja is an Adjunct Professor teaching Business Aspects of Immigration Law at John Marshall Law School, and is an active member of the Chicago Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association. She serves that organization as a member of the Midwest Regional Conference Planning Committee, the LGBT Committee and the Customs & Border Protection Liaison Committee. She frequently conducts seminars about immigration law for students, employers, employees and attorneys.

Leja spoke at events throughout the Chicago area to educate the LGBTQ population regarding their new rights as they relate to immigration.

"Beata exemplifies the best of the legal community," said Marta Zaborska with Chicago law firm O'Connor & Nakos. "As an immigrant herself, and someone who speaks both Polish and Spanish fluently, she is uniquely able to understand the anxiety experienced by immigrants and connect with them on a personal level."

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UNDER FORTY

“Beata takes great pride in taking on complex cases and finding solutions to her clients’ problems.”





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Andrew P. Shelby

Novack and Macey LLP congratulates our partner, Andrew Shelby, on being named one of the 40 Illinois Attorneys Under Forty to Watch.

This honor is a testament to his hard work and exceptional client service.



Andrew P. Shelby is a commercial litigator and trial lawyer. He represents Fortune 500 companies, closely held businesses, entrepreneurs, real estate developers, and other lawyers and law firms.

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Firm **Levenfeld Pearlstein, LLC**

Law School **Chicago-Kent College of Law**

Area of Practice **Appeals, commercial, condominium, real estate, probate, employment litigation**

Christina Lutz, a partner at Levenfeld Pearlstein, isn't afraid to take on tough tasks.

Consider a case she recently led. Lutz drafted and won an interlocutory appeal,

reversing the trial court's ruling on the question of whether a contract that was terminable upon "mutual agreement of the parties" was actually perpetual, rendering that clause unenforceable under Illinois law.

Lutz didn't stop there. After the case was remanded, she went on to win the case on summary judgment, saving the client \$4 million in potential exposure.

Her peers have noticed these success stories.

"She has a knack for cutting to the heart of the case and knowing what is most persuasive," said one nominator. "Christina also never minces words, and her frank assessments are usually spot-on."

Opposing Counsel are quick to compliment Lutz, too.

"Christina is a zealous advocate for her clients," said one nominator who opposed Lutz in a case. "Christina provides creative and intelligent solutions, and advocates for the best result for the client, not just a win in court. Despite zealous advocacy, Christina is a cordial opponent and maintains good

decorum and respect for opposing counsel and the judicial process."

Lutz's success is no surprise to Georgia Logothetis of the Hellenic American Leadership Council, and a former colleague of Lutz.

"For as long as I've known Christina, she's demonstrated the type of grit that has set her apart from her peers," Logothetis said.

What is the secret to Lutz's success? Much can be credited to her ability to connect with and understand her clients and their goals. Unlike many litigators who regard a win as simply beating the other side, no matter what the time or cost, Lutz helps clients identify and prioritize their goals to understand what a true "win" is for them.

This allows Lutz to better craft the right strategy, with greater client involvement throughout the representation and satisfaction at its conclusion.

Lutz is also technically gifted. She has a true mastery of the rules of civil litigation and local practices and procedures. This is a mastery that has served her extraordinarily well when matched up against opposing counsel who lack her knowledge.

Outside of her busy practice, Lutz is heavily involved with several diversity initiatives both internally at Levenfeld Pearlstein and its Women's Committee and with the Black Women's Lawyer Association. In addition, she volunteers with the Pajama Program and her alma mater, Swarthmore College.

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UNDER FORTY

“Christina takes helps clients to identify and prioritize their goals.”

MARGARET MANETTI 37

Firm **Codilis & Associates**
Law School **University of Illinois College of Law**
Area of Practice **Consumer Finance Litigation**

Margaret Manetti has mastered that tough balancing act of managing a thriving legal career and giving back to her profession and community.

Manetti, with Codilis & Associates P.C., has earned respect from her peers as one of the top consumer finance lawyers in the state. At the same time, she's donated countless hours to better the profession and the community.

At Codilis, she has quickly moved up the ranks of the firm's Illinois practice, and is responsible for the majority of the firm's appellate and federal practice. Manetti has overseen the trial-level work for a majority of the firm's at-

torneys and workload, including the day-to-day instruction and coaching, and in-house seminars on fundamental and critical practice skills. Beyond

this, she handled a wide variety of work and obtained favorable outcomes for clients in depositions, evidentiary hearings, summary judgments and mandatory arbitrations.

Her successes include the seminal case *US Bank v. Avdic*, which refines pleading standards in foreclosure law and modern evidentiary standards for business in Illinois.

"Margaret's lawyering skills are exceptional, and I know, given her love for the law, she will continue to stretch herself and achieve more," said Adam Codilis of Codilis & Associates.

In addition to her thriving practice, Manetti is involved in helping the profession. And Manetti doesn't just join legal and community organizations.

She actively participates in them, in many cases taking on demanding leadership roles.

Manetti is a Director of the Women's Bar Association of Illinois, co-chairs several its committees, and actively participates in judicial investigations and the mentoring of new attorneys.

She is an active member of the Illinois State Bar Association, serving as a member of the Women and Law section, where

she further advocates for progress, advancement and protection of women's rights and encouraging women to get involved in the legal community. And she is also a member of

the ISBA's Commercial Banking, Collections, and Bankruptcy Section Council. In addition, Manetti is a member of The Chicago Bar Association, serving as a member of the commercial litigation and Alliance for Women committees, and a member of the Appellate Lawyers Association of Illinois. Manetti is also a member the Professional Women's Club of Chicago and The Women's Forum.

If that is not enough, Manetti serves the greater community through her commitment and contribution to Illinois Legal Aid Online, Women Everywhere, and Cara Chicago. She also serves as an officer on the school board for St. Raphael's Catholic School in Naperville.

One nominator sums it up best: "Margaret exemplifies the woman who has it all — she works hard and is scrupulous about what really matters."

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UNDER FORTY

“Margaret's professional career is not traditional which has afforded her an invaluable skill set that makes her an formidable and influential attorney.”



A professional portrait of Jordon S. Steinway, a man with short dark hair, smiling warmly. He is wearing a dark blue suit jacket, a white dress shirt, and a blue patterned tie. The background is a blurred cityscape with tall buildings and a window frame.

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Firm **Law Firm of Lyndsay A. Markley, Ltd**
 Law School **Chicago-Kent College of Law**
 Area of Practice **Personal injury**



Lyndsay Markley is a trial lawyer and the principal of Lyndsay Markley Law. To date, Markley has obtained substantial compensation for her clients in all areas of personal injury and wrongful death litigation and tried numerous cases to jury verdict. Before starting Lyndsay Markley Law in 2014, Markley served as a named shareholder at a Chicago law firm and, notably, was the law firm's youngest and first female partner in its 60-year history. Currently, a great deal of Markley's practice is dedicated to representing victims of sexual and physical abuse in civil lawsuits. In the past four years alone, Markley has secured tens of millions of dollars on behalf of her clients.

The seed to Markley's dedication to empowering victims through the civil justice system was sown early in life. Before her birth, her maternal grandfather was rendered a quadriplegic by a dangerously designed piece of equipment. No lawsuit was brought and the family struggled for years to make ends meet after the effective loss of the family's sole financial supporter. Medical care that may have changed his circumstances was not a financial option. Seeing these injustices, Markley committed herself to becoming an attorney to empower the injured.

Her passion for victims' rights is evident in her nominators' descriptions of

Markley as "fearless" and a "trail blazer". Another theme in Markley's Forty Under Forty nominations was her professionalism, "Not once throughout the course of our case together did I see her behave in anything other than a professional manner. She is very likeable while being able to get results and not give in and push forward. This is a unique quality that not all attorneys possess, especially younger attorneys."

Markley is licensed to practice in Illinois and was designated as a Trial Attorney to the Trial Bar of the Federal Court of the Northern District of Illinois by the time she was 27 years old. She has tried cases to jury verdict in nine Illinois counties and in

the Federal Court for the N.D. of Illinois. She has handled cases in a number of states pro hac vici.

Giving back to her community is important to Markley, so she is as active outside the courtroom as inside. She is a member of the Women's Bar Association

of Illinois where she has served on a number of committees and acted as a mentor to several new attorneys. Since 2008, she has served as a Director on the Board of Directors for the Women's Bar Foundation of Illinois, the charitable arm of the WBAI. She is also a member of The Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, The National Trial Lawyers Association, The Illinois State Bar Association, and The Chicago Bar Association. Markley also provided tutoring to Chicago-area elementary school students for several years through the "Lawyers in the Classroom Program".

“Markley's commitment to her clients and advocacy on their behalf is unmatched. Just as importantly, she is a worthy, diligent, and professional trial lawyer who battles fearlessly to the very end”



Firm **Palmersheim & Mathew**

Law School **Northwestern University School of Law**

Area of Practice **Commercial litigation**

It didn't take Anand Mathew long to earn the trust of both his fellow attorneys and his clients. Why? Mathew demonstrated early in his career that he was willing to work hard and passionately for his clients. He also showed that he was a student of the law and a skilled advocate in the courtroom.

An associate judge with the Circuit Court of Cook County, describes Mathew as smart, hard-working and creative.

"He is a self-starter and the consummate team player," the Judge said. "He performs his work without drama or fanfare, and he willingly shares credit with others. He engenders loyalty, from bottom to top, from others. And most importantly, he consistently achieves excellent results for his clients."

Mathew has that all-too-rare ability to see the complete picture early in a case. He then knows how to break a case down into its separate parts, allowing him to provide the best representation for his clients.

Ian Fisher, with Chicago law firm Hahn, Loeser & Parks LLP, said that Mathew projects a sense of calm in the

courtroom. And with that calm comes an impressive effectiveness, Fisher said.

"Anand has impressed me with his manner and his abilities," Fisher said. "Even during the most trying litigation matters, Anand maintained a calm and confident demeanor. He was also surprisingly efficient in his work, both in terms of the speed with which he completed assignments as well as how quickly he could grasp and dissect a complicated issue."

Fisher said that these abilities have allowed Mathew to earn trial experience that is rare for such a young attorney.

Mathew has also notched an impressive amount of appellate experience.

Fisher first met Mathew when they worked together at their former firm, Schopf & Weiss LLP. "I would never hesitate to put Anand in front of my clients," Fisher said. "I have complete confidence that his involvement could only help to secure our firm's representation with a client."

During his still young career, Mathew has represented clients in appeals ranging from the U.S. Supreme Court to federal and state appellate courts across the country. Mathew's writing and advocacy skills are so strong, he has yet to lose an appeal.

Mathew has also been involved in four jury trials, illustrating the confidence clients and attorneys have in his skills.

Peter Baugher, with Chicago's Baugher Dispute Resolution, says that Mathew has shown a confidence and talent level beyond that of most younger attorneys. "Anand showed an abil-

ity to work efficiently under pressure," Baugher said. "Even as a young lawyer, Anand was not afraid to think independently and back up his position."

In July 2018, Mathew left the litigation group of Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP and formed Palmersheim & Mathew LLP, a litigation firm handling complex business disputes for clients. His new firm, which represents business clients in a range of practice areas nationwide, is already gaining a reputation for being a high-powered litigation boutique that delivers outstanding results with a focus on creativity, flexibility, and service.

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UNDER FORTY

“ Anand has the ability early on in a case to both (a) see the complete picture and (b) break down a case into its component parts. In my experience, these skills are rare and they make him an exceptionally effective lawyer.”



Firm **Molo Lamken LLP**

Law School **University of Illinois College of Law**

Area of Practice **Commercial litigation, white-collar crime**



What makes an attorney stand out? Results, certainly. The most talented attorneys earn their clients the best verdicts and settlements. Then there's the hard work that goes on before cases reach trial or go to settlement. That work is often the key to a successful verdict.

Gerald Meyer understands this. It's why he spends so much time prepping for his cases. This white-collar specialist with Chicago's MoloLamken doesn't shy away from the hard work that goes into researching case law and preparing witnesses. It's why Meyer boasts such an enviable record and such a long list of dedicated clients.

Theodore Poulos, with the Chicago law firm of Cotsinilos, Tighe, Streicker, Poulos & Campbell, has had an up-close look at Meyer's talents. He was co-counsel with Meyer and his partner, Steve Molo, in a complex criminal healthcare fraud jury trial in federal court in Chicago.

Poulos has nothing but praise for Meyer.

"He did an outstanding job," Poulos said. "He was on top of every legal and factual issue in the case and was a tireless worker, always the first one in the office and the last one to leave at night."

The case was tried during six weeks in 2016. The trial involved dozens of witnesses and hundreds of documents, giving Meyer plenty of which to keep track. Meyer also cross-examined eight of the government's witnesses.

And through it all? Meyer shone.

"Gerald managed it all with aplomb," Poulos said. "His questions were sharp and he had a friendly confidence that clearly connected with

the jury. This was a serious matter, and Gerald performed at a level you would expect of a much more senior lawyer. I was greatly impressed."

This is just one example of Meyer's courtroom skills. Meyer focuses his practice on white-collar criminal matters and investigations, complex business litigation and appellate litigation. He has tried cases in the Northern District of Illinois, has briefed and argued appeals before the Seventh and Federal Circuits and has done the same before the Northern District of Illinois and Southern District of New York. He has also briefed cases before the Supreme Court of the United States.

During his career, Meyer has worked on several big-name cases. This includes representing a medical professional who was under indictment for conspiracy and receipt of kickbacks in a jury trial. He also represented a large media company in litigation focusing on issues of executive compensation, breaches of fiduciary duties and fraud.

Meyer represented a small business owner in connection with investigations by the U.S. Attorney's Office and United States Department of Homeland Security and provided representation to a large telecommunications company in a patent appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for

the Federal Circuit.

Despite his busy caseload, Meyer coordinates MoloLamken's pro bono efforts. Last year, under Meyer's leadership, the firm devoted almost 2,000 hours to pro bono work and was awarded the Seventh Circuit Bar Association's John Paul Stevens Pro Bono and Public Service Award and recognized at the Bar Association's annual dinner.

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UNDER FORTY

“Gerald was a bulldog. He mastered the facts and the law. He took and defended every deposition himself and treated our case as if his career depended on it.”

Firm **Levin & Perconti**

Law School **John Marshall Law School**

Area of Practice **Plaintiffs' personal injury and wrongful death**

Colleen Mixan Mikaitis shines when it matters most. Just ask the veteran attorneys who have opposed her in personal injury and wrongful death cases.

Consider the work Mixan Mikaitis turned in regarding an attempted suicide by a new patient at a mental health hospital. Both the hospital and the outside cleaning company, whose supplies the plaintiff ingested, faced a cause of action. While the suicide was unsuccessful, the plaintiff suffered extremely disabling injuries requiring lifelong care, including a permanent gastrostomy tube.

Larry Schechtman, managing partner at Smith Amundsen, opposed Mixan Mikaitis when she took over all work on behalf of the plaintiff in this case. To say he was

impressed with the young attorney's work would be an understatement.

"Colleen exhibited professionalism and confidence far beyond her years of experience in what proved to be a very tough and complicated case," Schechtman said.

Mixan Mikaitis, thanks in large part to her discovery strategies, earned a seven-figure verdict on behalf of her client.

"Without Colleen's hard work and ingenuity, this case could have resulted in the defendant's obtaining summary judgment," Schechtman said. "This result was achieved due to the hard work and excellent lawyering exhibited by Colleen."

Mixan Mikaitis has earned the praise of several of her peers. Greg Snyder of Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP, is a good example, one who praises Mixan Mi-

kaitis for how hard she fights for her clients.

"She is one of the most detailed-oriented and perceptive lawyers I have encountered in my entire career," Snyder said.

While Mixan Mikaitis is only 32, she has already earned several notable results for her clients including a \$3.5 million medical malpractice settlement. She also secured a \$325,000 settlement on behalf of a

97-year resident of a nursing home who suffered a broken leg without any documentation of a fall.

One Judge, who presided over Mixan Mikaitis during the trial in which this young attorney first took over the duties of first chair, was struck by her preparation and ability.

"Her talents and efforts resulted in a verdict in her client's favor," the nominator said. "Colleen continued to keep her composure and wits about her throughout every stage of the proceedings. This was especially apparent while she argued the more highly contested and challenging issues."

Another Circuit Court Judge Mixan Mikaitis appeared before added, "Ms. Mikaitis appeared in front of me on a complex pre-trial conference regarding a hospital fall and medical negligence. She exhibited her knowledge of the law and her preparedness and a fierce advocacy for and recognition of her duties to her client in obtaining the best result possible."

Outside of her practice, Mixan Mikaitis is involved with the Women's Bar Association and the mother McAuley Law Society.

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“Because she has an uncanny ability to advise the court of her legal and trial position in the most complex of matters.”





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Beata Leja
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Firm **Hall Prangle**

Law School **Loyola University Chicago School of Law**

Area of Practice **Medical Malpractice Defense**



How successful has Elizabeth Neidig been in the field of medical malpractice defense? Despite her relatively young career, Neidig has already earned an impressive streak of successful verdicts and settlements in numerous medical malpractice cases.

This speaks to what Neidig's peers say is her uncanny ability to identify those times in which it makes sense to go to litigation and when accepting a settlement is the better option for her clients.

And if she decides to proceed to trial? Neidig never provides her clients with less than expert representation.

"Litigation can be and, unfortunately, often is contentious," said Chicago attorney Sheldon Brenner, who has co-defended physicians alongside Neidig. "Not so with Elizabeth. She has always demonstrated the highest level of civility and professionalism while aggressively defending the interests of her clients. Not once did I ever observe Elizabeth to be discourteous or disrespectful to other counsel, witnesses or the court. I can attest to the fact that Elizabeth has achieved outstanding outcomes for her clients."

Amy Anderson of Brenner Monroe, Scott & Anderson too, also has nothing but praise for Neidig's work. She

would know. She has known Neidig for almost six years.

"I have watched Elizabeth learn and grow as medical negligence litigator," Anderson said. "She grasps the medical issues within the case and understands the nuances between various parties."

What sets Neidig apart from other attorneys? Her peers say that Neidig is always thoroughly prepared for her cases. Defending complicated medical cases is no easy task. Attorneys who succeed in this field research their cases extensively, study medical issues and work long hours on behalf of their clients.

Neidig does all this and more, according to her fellow attorneys.

Thomas Gorman with Chicago's Schiff Gorman has worked with Neidig in connection with his plaintiff's claim against a surgeon. He says that he respects this young attorney as a formidable opponent, but has also grown to appreciate her meticulous preparation, precise and in-depth legal acumen and her ability to remain

civil even while aggressively defending her clients.

"An effective trial lawyer must exhibit a superior skill, attention, persuasion, honesty and credibility. While Elizabeth has come by many of these attributes naturally, it is clear that she was worked hard to become such a fine advocate at such a young age," Gorman said.

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“Demonstrated the highest level of civility and professionalism while aggressively defending the interests of her clients.”

Firm **Kirkland & Ellis**

Law School **University of Chicago**

Area of Practice **Business disputes, breach of contract, trade secret, antitrust claims**

Mark Premo-Hopkins has a long list of legal victories to his credit, with wins for both plaintiffs and defendants across a wide range of business disputes. And at just 36 years old, it's certain that this trial lawyer will only add to the list as his career moves on.

What drives his success? Premo-Hopkins' clients and peers point to his trial skills and preparation, his unique experience as a plaintiff's lawyer, and his ability to quickly and fully understand his client's legal and business objectives.

"I have been incredibly impressed by Mark's ability to quickly understand our business, provide guidance and help us navigate through a stressful antitrust lawsuit," said Deitzah Raby, associate general counsel with Hill-Rom, a leading provider of medical technologies and maker of hospital beds, "Mark is incredibly intelligent, but he does not have an ego. I have been impressed by how quickly he has been able to build a rapport with my internal business colleagues."

Having spent four years as a plaintiff's lawyer before returning to Kirkland & Ellis as a litigation partner gives Premo-Hopkins special insight.

Deborah Rasin, Senior Vice President and Chief Legal Officer with Hill-Rom says, "he has a deep understanding of the way the 'other side' . Hill-Rom added, "Mark is incredibly intelligent, but he does not have an ego – which, in my book, makes him unique."

In terms of trial successes, Premo-Hopkins recently represented Baxter International, a Fortune 500

healthcare company, in a breach-of-contract suit over dialysis supplies. He succeeded in reducing Baxter's exposure by 97 percent at summary judgment and won the dismissal of treble damages claims. When the other side pressed on, Sarah Padgitt, Senior Counsel with Baxter, worked closely with Premo-Hopkins at the trial where he took the lead in cross-examining key witnesses and experts. He also prepared and presented a key expert witness for Baxter. "During Mark's blistering cross exams, he got the other side's experts to concede major points in our favor," Padgitt said. "At the trial, there were twice as many attorneys on the other side against us. But Mark and the Kirkland team out-lawyered, out-argued and out-shined the other attorneys, hands down."

Padgitt also worked with Premo-Hopkins in Baxter's trial of a major product liability case. "Mark knew the case inside and out," Padgitt said, noting that thanks in large part to Premo-Hopkins' work, Baxter earned a favorable jury verdict, which paved the way for the company to successfully resolve the rest of the litigation.

Working for AbbVie, a global pharmaceutical manufacturer, Premo-Hopkins won a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction against a former employee who secretly joined a competing pharmaceutical company. After a week-long evidentiary hearing, the court granted AbbVie's requested preliminary injunction in full, one that barred the defendant's employment at the competitor.



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“Mark is incredibly intelligent, but he does not have an ego – which, in my book, makes him unique.”

Firm **Run the Call**

Law School **The John Marshall Law School**

Area of Practice **Technology, data security and privacy, Internet defamation**



Gianna Scatchell is not only a leader in the fields of Internet defamation, data security and privacy law, she's also a thriving entrepreneur, the founder of Run the Call, an online platform that helps attorneys find court coverage from qualified legal professionals.

This is quite an accomplishment, and all before turning 35. But those who know Scatchell aren't surprised: This young attorney is known for her drive, passion and commitment to technology law.

It's little surprise to her peers that Scatchell has not only built a thriving technology practice but also a busy online business.

"Great entrepreneurs do not let circumstances define them," said Adam Codilis with Burr Ridge, Illinois-based Codilis & Associates. "They view what most would consider challenges instead to be opportunities to incite positive change. Often times, that means shaking things up a bit."

And that's what Scatchell has done. She pursued her two passions, law and technology, and made them the base of her law practice. Today, she concentrates on intellectual property, Internet law and privacy matters.

Codilis said that Scatchell accurately predicted a major rise in the number of Internet defamation and cyber-bullying cases. That came true. But what Scatchell didn't predict was how much of her business would come not from clients directly but indirectly from attorneys

who didn't know much about these areas of law.

When these attorneys needed expert help, they turned to Scatchell.

"This was an untapped market where big firms deep with traditional talent and experience came to utilize Gianna's services as a valued partner," Codilis said.

Scatchell realized that another of her passions was working with other attorneys, showing them that embracing technology was critical for their success. This eventually led to Run the Call, the online platform that Scatchell founded to help attorneys schedule qualified legal professionals for court coverage work.

Of course, Scatchell wouldn't be considered a top expert in Internet cases if she didn't have a record of success. She has this. An example? She successfully sued nine anonymous defendants in an Internet defamation case, without the use of any associates or additional help.

The case centered on a young girl who became the victim of vicious cyber-bullying on Twitter and other social media channels.

Scatchell was passionate about the case, and eventually uncovered the identities of the parties responsible for the bullying.

Scatchell also took on a big technology company and its team of lawyers. Despite the odds, she secured a sizable settlement offer in six weeks.

"I remember thinking to myself, 'This thing is going to drag on for at least a year,'" Codilis said. "Somehow, Gia was able to identify a data breach that put the technology company on its heels such that they filed an insurance claim that ultimately led to settlement."

40 UNDER FORTY

“ Her passion is working with other attorneys, showing them that embracing technology as a part of their firm growth strategy is a necessary component for success.”

ANDREW SHELBY 37

Firm **Novack and Macey**

Law School **Indiana University School of Law - Bloomington**

Area of Practice **Commercial litigation**

Andrew P. Shelby, at a young age, has become one of the most sought-after commercial litigation trial attorneys in Illinois.

How has the Novack and Macey partner accomplished this? His peers point to Shelby's commitment to his clients, willingness to work long hours on their behalf, deep knowledge of the law and skill in the courtroom.

Count Robert Baizer, the founder of Highland Park law firm Baizer Kolar P.C., as one of Shelby's fans. He observed the commercial litigator's work up close while working with him on a complex business dispute. Shelby has not disappointed, Baizer said.

"Andrew quickly got up to speed on the complex factual background of the case, drafted a complaint involving a novel legal theory, defeated the motion to dismiss the complaint and defeated the other side's efforts to stop discovery," Baizer said.

Baizer said that Shelby put together multiple briefs that eloquently advanced the client's arguments and contained well-reasoned legal analysis. In fact, the judge in that case expressly complimented Shelby's briefs, noting that they distilled complex issues into easy-to-follow arguments.

"He is well-prepared for every situation," Baizer said. "Andrew knows litigation is expensive, and is quick to recognize when the benefits do not outweigh the costs."

Shelby also worked defending an Am Law 100 law firm in a case that culminated in a favorable jury verdict. Shelby worked on the case since inception and played a critical role in draft-

ing a motion for summary judgment that trimmed the plaintiff's potential recovery by 75%. Shelby then conducted the direct examinations of the firm's fact witnesses at trial and successfully argued against the plaintiff's post-trial motion. The client's general counsel called the results "impressive." He also noted that Shelby "did a great job with preparing complex motions, and was a very effective jury trial advocate." Further, "Andrew is very responsive to my requests and provides excellent client service."

While Shelby's performance was impressive, it came as little surprise to the general counsel.

"I trust Andrew's judgment and recommendations." He said. "He's a quick thinker and his skill set is definitely beyond his years."

Shelby has a long list of successes on his resume including representing Fortune 500 companies, closely held businesses, en-

trepreneurs, real estate developers, and other lawyers and law firms.

This includes his successful representation of the directors of a national construction company in a shareholder dispute over a proposed \$100 million transaction and his representation of a restaurant in its defeat of the City of Chicago's claim to declare its contract with the Chicago Park District void.

Shelby also worked to obtain a complete victory for the owner of a poultry processing plant accused in a putative class action of failing to pay overtime and represented the former CEO of an artisan coffee company regarding the non-payment of compensation due upon the company's sale.



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“ He is humble, hard working, attentive, and appreciates the needs of his clients.”



CONGRATULATIONS
RUTH YACONA

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Congratulations

Lyndsay Markley

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Since forming Lyndsay Markley Law, Lyndsay has served as the lead trial attorney in dozens of claims on behalf of people who were sexually or physically abused as minors as well as persons victimized in adulthood against a number of entities, including, corporations, religious organizations, sports programs, youth-serving programs, and public and private schools. Lyndsay has secured tens of millions of dollars in settlements in these types of cases on behalf of her clients. In addition to obtaining notable verdicts and settlements on behalf of the plaintiffs she represents, Lyndsay has received numerous awards and honors, including being named by The Chicago Daily Law Bulletin as one of the top “40 Under Forty Illinois Attorneys to Watch” in 2018.



Lyndsay Markley Law

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Firm **Riley Safer Holmes & Cancila LLP**

Law School **Howard University School of Law**

Area of Practice **Employment law**



Her peers describe Drahcir Marie Smith as a leader in the Chicago legal field. This young attorney's career proves that this description is accurate.

Smith has already risen to become a partner at Chicago's Riley Safer Holmes & Cancila. She is also a frequent contributor to legal and non-legal publications, where she shares her knowledge of employment law.

And when it comes to advocating for her clients? Smith is a leader here, too. Her peers say that Smith's dedication to her clients is impressive. She works the long hours and performs the necessary research to ensure that she is always prepared to provide her clients with the best possible representation.

"She is an excellent advocate and a trusted client counselor with the technical knowledge and skill to walk her many clients through thorny issues," said Wynter Jackson, director of management and labor affairs with the Chicago Police Department.

But Smith's sterling reputation in the Chicago legal community isn't limited to her paid work at Riley Safer. She also takes time away from her practice to log 100 to 200 hours a year in pro bono work. She also

spends considerable time educating her clients and colleagues on employment law issues.

Amiel Harper with the Illinois Department of Central Management Services has also observed Smith's work. He, too, says that she is a fierce advocate for her clients and a keen scholar of employment law.

"Drahcir is a standout litigator who has tried cases in a number of areas of law. And she achieves the best results for her clients every time," Harper said.

Smith began her career in the labor and employment space, but has since branched out to try cases in commercial, criminal and domestic matters. She has succeeded in these areas, too.

Smith's expansive career gives her an edge when representing her clients, Harper said.

"The breadth of her litigation experience gives her the ability to find creative solutions for her clients and reach settlements that are uniquely crafted for the situation," Harper

said. "Drahcir is an asset to her clients because she is able to quickly synthesize and solve the biggest problems inside and outside of litigation."

When not fighting for her clients, Smith devotes time to mentoring younger professionals and giving back to the Chicago legal community. She ran the summer internship program at her law firm last year, ensuring that interns had the opportunities to learn from experienced litigators.



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“ Drahcir is a standout litigator who has tried cases in a number of areas of law, and she achieves the best results for her clients every time ”

Firm **Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP**

Law School **University of Chicago**

Area of Practice **Complex corporate litigation, including patent litigation and product liability defense**

There's a reason why Asha Spencer ranks as one of the most in-demand corporate litigation specialists in the Chicago area: She gets results.

During her relatively young legal career, Spencer has delivered a series of successful verdicts and settlements in high-profile cases. And this record, along with her dedication and compassion, has earned Spencer a long list of loyal clients.

Count Georg Kirsch, senior patent litigation counsel with Bayer Intellectual Property GmbH, as one.

Kirsch worked with Spencer during a recent case in which the attorney served as trial counsel for Bayer. In this case, Bayer won a bench trial, successfully defeating the defendant's attempt

to invalidate the company's patent. The Bayer team then successfully defended the verdict on appeal.

Spencer joined this case at its beginning, drafting the original complaint. She also served as case manager on the team, overseeing the daily business of Bayer's legal defense. Spencer also took responsibility for three of Bayer's four expert witnesses, including the company's chief liability expert and its damages expert.

"Asha is just superb," Kirsch said. "She has a very strong combination of book smarts, common sense, good judgment, personality and poise. Nothing falls between the cracks. She keeps priorities properly ordered. She never panics. And she never identifies a problem without proposing a solution."

Scott Ewing of Trinity Industries, Inc. who also has worked Spencer said, "Asha is a brilliant legal strategist. Her zealous preparedness has delivered incredible value to the company on

multiple matters."

Paul Skiermont, a partner with the law firm of Skiermont Derby, also worked closely with Spencer. He, too, praises her legal skills and knowledge. Spencer served as trial counsel with Skiermont Derby in the case *LoggerHead v. Sears*. Spencer helped Skiermont Derby obtain a jury verdict of willful infringement. Spencer played a key role at trial, focusing primarily on the damages side of the

case but also handling several pre-trial motions and evidentiary arguments.

Most importantly, Spencer at trial presented her client's damages expert on direct examination. Skiermont said that Spencer walked this expert through a complex reasonable royalty analysis.

"Asha's direct examination was excellent," Skiermont said. "It was clear, thorough and engaging, retaining the jury's attention and focus despite the numerous complicated factors at issue."

The jury eventually returned a verdict of willful infringement for Skiermont Derby's client and awarded damages near the top end of the range that Spencer's damages expert presented at trial.

Those who know Spencer aren't surprised by all this praise. Alison Siegler, clinical professor of law at the University of Chicago Law School, when Spencer worked as a student in the Federal Criminal Justice Clinic, the clinic that Siegler serves as director. Here, Spencer represented indigent clients, all of whom were charged with serious federal crimes. "She stood out as a trailblazer and a top achiever throughout law school."



UNDER FORTY

“She is a phenomenal lawyer, and one of the most well-rounded lawyers I have seen.”



Firm **BatesCarey LLP**

Law School **J.D., Loyola University Chicago School of Law**

Area of Practice **Insurance Coverage and Dispute Resolution**

Jordan Steinway has enjoyed a dramatic rise in the insurance industry, having quickly established himself as go-to counsel for some of the largest insurance companies in the world as they navigate contentious, high-exposure coverage disputes with their policyholders. Over the past three years alone, Steinway has served as lead counsel in lawsuits pending in more than twenty states, where he has litigated coverage issues spanning construction defect, bad faith, wrongful conviction, duty to defend, and sexual abuse, among other novel issues, some of which were matters of first impression.

Attorneys know they are working against a smart and tenacious adversary when they see Steinway's name attached to a case, and the results are self-evident. For example, in one particularly complex federal court case involving fifteen parties, Steinway successfully orchestrated a multifaceted strategy that led to millions of dollars in savings for his client. Among the legal and factual issues in the case were several choice-of-law questions, a combination of commercial general liability and pollution policies, multiple and irreconcilable other-insurance endorsements, bad faith allegations, and claims for equitable contribution and subrogation.

One *Forty Under 40* nominator who worked alongside Steinway as co-counsel in a California declaratory judgment action praised his writing skills: "His legal writing is some of the best I've seen during my eighteen years of litigation

practice: it was clear, precise, persuasive, supported, and tight as a drum. I am very glad I never had to oppose one of his motions!"

Another *Forty Under 40* nominator, who worked with Steinway in a coverage lawsuit arising from a murder that occurred at a Washington, D.C. nightclub, noted that Steinway's decision to add the decedent's estate as a defendant and to file an early motion for summary judgment "struck fear in the heart of the underlying plaintiff that there could be no recovery," which forced a settlement at Steinway's final offer.

The nominator added, "Jordan is an incredibly talented attorney, one who is adaptable, thinks within and outside the box, leaves no stone unturned, is zealous, wise beyond his years, and in his display of civility to fellow counsel, helps remove some of the tarnish that has fallen on this profession."

Additional acclaim from another *Forty Under 40* nominator recognized Steinway's value in counseling clients before disputes ever get to the litigation stage: "A substantial part of his practice is the provision of pre-litigation coverage advice, claims analysis, and other counsel that is intended to minimize his clients' potential exposure for defense costs and/or indemnity." With respect to Steinway's general lawyering abilities, one nominator commented: "While some attorneys are good at strategy but cannot write; and some can write but cannot advocate on their feet; and some are impersonal and have a hard time communicating with others, Jordan personifies the best of all these traits."

“As a result of his persistence and wise strategy, a resolution was achieved that for much of the case appeared to be largely impossible”



UNDER FORTY



Firm **Mayer Brown LLP**Law School **Notre Dame Law School**Area of Practice **Antitrust and health care litigation**

It hasn't taken Daniel Storino long to build a reputation as one of the city's top antitrust and healthcare litigators. Why? Storino consistently earns top results for his clients.

Here's an example: Storino successfully represented one of the world's largest chemical companies in a multi-district antitrust lawsuit that alleged more than \$1 billion in damages. This complex case involved both an investigation by the Department of Justice and civil lawsuits.

During the litigation, which lasted seven years, Storino obtained a steady stream of victories. First, the Department of Justice closed its investigation without bringing any charges or issuing any fines against Storino's client. Secondly, Storino led a strategy that ultimately resulted in a favorable outcome for his client in the civil lawsuits.

One important victory in this case? Storino successfully argued to obtain significant discovery into the plaintiffs' own businesses. He then uncovered that the plaintiffs themselves were engaged in a price-fixing conspiracy. Armed with this evidence, Storino negotiated a favorable settlement for his client.

Illinois attorney Michael Durkin said that Storino not only saw an opportunity to vigorously fight for his client, he took full advantage of it.

"Realizing that turnabout was fair play, Dan flipped the script on the plaintiffs and sought discovery about whether the plaintiffs had ever attended dinners or meetings with their own competitors," Durkin said. "The plaintiffs fought the discovery tooth and nail, but the court agreed with Dan, awarding him thousands of documents and over 40 depositions into the plaintiffs' businesses."

Storino also earned a complete victory for his client in the Online Travel Company Hotel Booking Antitrust Litigation. This case involved antitrust claims brought against the country's largest hotel chains and online travel agents.

Storino played a key role in debunking the plaintiffs' legal claims and obtained a full dismissal of the action.

Storino has also represented health insurers, including one of the largest insurers in the country, and healthcare providers in a variety of antitrust, tax, and contract disputes pending in state court, federal court, and arbitration. In one recent matter, Storino was critical in obtaining a judgment that resulted in just 1 percent of the damages that were being sought from his client. Storino, too, has experience with commercial litigation and obtained a judgment worth more than \$150 million for a global investment firm in a case in which the arbitrator ruled in his client's favor on all claims.

Reginald McKnight, head of U.S. Economic Development Policy for Facebook, has worked with plenty of attorneys. Storino, though, stands out.

"Dan is truly a 'lawyer's lawyer,'" McKnight said. "His devotion is to the legal system itself. His exceptional lawyering skills and successful results show that he rises to the highest aspirations of the legal profession."

Outside of the courtroom, Storino is on the Advisory Council of the John Howard Association, a non-profit that monitors Illinois prisons and fights for a more humane and effective criminal justice system in Illinois.

"Dan has a strength of character that is not often found in people his age," McKnight said. "He is sincerely concerned for the well-being of others, which is exhibited in the way he treats those who work with him."

**UNDER FORTY**

“Storino consistently obtains extraordinary results for his clients.”





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AUSTIN**

on her distinguished recognition as one of

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Firm **Foley Mansfield, Ltd.**

Law School **DePaul University College of Law**

Area of Practice **Toxic torts, asbestos**



James Svajgl is an attorney known for his ability to relate to people and get great results. Peers described him as a high performer who is relentless when advocating for his clients.

The partner at Foley Mansfield has represented and defended his client's toxic tort, asbestos and medical-malpractice cases in federal and state courts across the country. Through hard work for his clients Svajgl has earned a national reputation among members of the asbestos defense bar.

Svajgl has served as lead counsel in several cases, taking cases to verdict in both state and federal court. His clients include manufacturers, premises liability contractors facing complex multiparty litigation. In addition, he serves as the national coordinating and local counsel asbestos litigation for companies of all sizes.

One *Forty Under 40* nominator met Svajgl around 2007 and has opposed Svajgl on several cases since then. "In a litigation where most attorneys are consumed by ego and unable to see the forest for the trees, Jim is a refresh-

ing exception," the nominator wrote. "As coordinating counsel for an increasingly relevant defendant in asbestos litigation, Jim has consistently found creative ways to craft simple solutions to complex cases."

Robert E O'Malley of Chicago's Smith Blake Hill LLC worked with Svajgl for about 10 years. He praised his range of legal know-how.



UNDER FORTY

“Jim is an intelligent, thoughtful litigator who also has an innate ability to maintain professional relationships with opponents.”

"I've worked on a variety of litigation matters with Jim, from general personal injury to medical negligence," O'Malley wrote. "He is as versatile as he is successful. He has participated of cases, from asbestos, medical malpractice to general liability. ... He is extremely capable in all settings of litigation."

O'Malley continued, "Jim is an intelligent, thoughtful litigator who also has an innate ability to maintain professional relationships with opponents. He is very talented in multiple areas of litigation, including toxic tort, general litigation and medical negligence."

Svajgl is a member of The Chicago Bar Association, the Illinois State Bar Association and DRI, a national organization representing the defense bar.

RUTH YACONA

38

Firm **Lake County State's Attorney's Office**
Law School **The John Marshall Law School**
Area of Practice **Family law**

Ruth Yacona recently moved to the Lake County State's Attorney's Office that is not before she made name for herself practicing family law.

Prior to her recent move to the State's Attorney's office Yacona, 38, handled a variety of family disputes including prenuptial and postnuptial agreements, divorce and dissolution of civil unions, custody, spousal and child support matters at the prominent family law firm of Grund & Leavitt. While practicing family law attorneys have noticed Ruth's exceptional lawyering skills both in and out of the courtroom.

Dwyane Douglas of the Law Offices of Dwayne Douglas, P.C. recently had a case with Yacona where she was advocating for a parenting time restriction where she used a private investigator to help her case. Douglas said, "Most other attorneys would have considered this a Hail Mary and not even bothered with an investigator and let the judge deny the motion to appease the client for at least having tried. She did an excellent job. It is not always easy to articulate what stands out,

but her advance preparation and the manner in which she argued the case

did." Douglas added, "Ruth is both even-tempered and tenacious. In the family law world, it is hard to strike that balance, but she does so, and this gives her clients confidence and permits her to present arguments persuasively. Also, her knowledge of the law is rock solid."

“When Ruth steps up before the Court, there is no question that her word is good and she is well prepared.”

Opposing counsel are quick to praise Yacona's abilities. David Del E of The Law Offices of David R. Del Re, P.C. has opposed Yacona on multiple occasions, said "Ruth has a tremendous work ethic and is a very tough negotiator. But when negotiations fail, she can litigate beyond her years."

Amy Gertler of Mediate North Shore PC said, "She elevates the practice by her conduct. She takes reasonable positions and counsels her clients on the value of settlement." Gertler continued, she understands the unique charge of a family law attorney—to vigorously represent her client while protecting the family relationships at stake."

Even with her heavy case load Yacona never hesitated to help young lawyers at her firm Grund & Leavitt. Theresa Lechner now with Dussias Wittneberg Koenigsberger LLP, clerked and practiced at Grund & Leavitt with Yacona, admired her work at the firm, "Despite her heavy caseload, Ruth always took the time to answer questions and provide thorough explanations." Lechner said. "She

is not only extremely knowledgeable, but also respectful, forthright, and an incredible advocate. Ruth is a skilled negotiator, persuasive writer, and zealous litigator

Yacona is also committed to serving her community she is actively involved in the legal community as a member of the Illinois State Bar Association and the Lake County Bar Association and the Restorative Justice program at The John Marshall Law School.



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40 Illinois Attorneys Under 40 to Watch – 2019

Law Bulletin Publishing Company conducts an annual survey to determine who Illinois attorneys believe are the "up and comers" of law in Illinois. To maintain objectivity, attorneys cannot recommend themselves or attorneys from their law firm, corporation or public entity.

The strength of the nomination will be subjectively based upon the reputation of the nominator, the professional relationship between the nominator and the nominee, and the nominator's first-hand knowledge of the nominee's experience, skill, and character

These rules are instituted to maintain the integrity of the nomination process

- 1) Nominee cannot have reached 40 years of age on or before May 1, 2019.
- 2) Only an Attorney may submit a nomination.
- 3) An Attorney cannot nominate him/herself.
- 4) An Attorney cannot nominate attorneys from his/her own firm.
- 5) There is no limit to the number of Attorneys one can nominate.
- 6) All information regarding both the nominee and the nominator must be filled out and sent in.

All requested information must be completed and submitted by **May 1, 2019**.

If you have any questions call Adam Hrejsa at 312-644-2942.

Please attach additional page(s) and e-mail to Adam Hrejsa at AHrejsa@LBPC.com or fax to at (312) 644-0542

Nominee Information:

Name: _____

Firm/Office/Corporation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Age (note the current)

Circle one: Private Practice Public Sector Corporate Counsel

Litigator (Circle one) Yes or No

Area of Concentration/Extensive Experience: _____

Law School Name: _____

Please answer questions on additional pages

Question 1) How do you know the nominee and for how long?

Question 2) What unique and exceptional results has the nominee achieved that qualify him/her for this honor?

Question 3) Please cite examples of this attorney's unique and exceptional lawyering skills.

Question 4) List any Bar and/or community involvement.

Nominator Information:

I am a former 40-Under Forty: Yes No Year _____

Name: _____

Firm/Office/Corporation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Circle one: Private Practice Public Sector Corporate Counsel

Litigator (Circle one): Yes No

Confidential nomination: (circle one) Yes No

Email completed survey to Adam Hrejsa at: AHrejsa@LBPC.com



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on being selected to the 2018 Forty Under 40



40 UNDER FORTY

Since 2000, Chicago Lawyer's *Forty Under 40* program has honored just under 700 up and coming leaders in our legal community. Many of our alumni are the guiding forces behind the notable legal accomplishments that have shaped our city, state and nation.

2000

Arkebauer, Evelyn C.
Aronovitz, Cory J.
Barnes II, Earl J.
Behn, Michael I.
Bickel, Roger H.
Braun, Bruce R.
Cali-Grabow, Joni M.
Castro, Martin R.
Cipriano, Renee
Conti, Karen
Dolan, Martin A.
Heffernan, William P.
Hughes, Patrick D.
Kasper, Michael J.
Katz, P. Andre
Kaufman, Daniel A.
Konicek, Daniel F.
Kroll, Jeffrey J.
Leovy, John M.
Levin, Richard I.
Levitt, Adam J.
Lyons, Francis X.
Mahoney, Michael G.
McGough, Brian E.
Morkin, Michael L.
Muriel, Robert H.
Napleton, Robert J.
Nijman, Jennifer T.
O'Hagan, Kevin M.
Piland, John C.
Pinkert-Lieb, Karen
Schollett, Lyn M.
Sciaccotta, John C.
Stone, Susan A.
Strauss, Peter J.
Tomasik, Timothy S.
VanFleet, Joseph B.
Wachowski, Peter C.
Zimmerman, Thomas A Jr.
Zouras, James B.

2001

Aeschliman, Ronald R.
Block, Janice L.
Bro, Ruth H.
Bryant, Beverly C.
Burke, Helen M.
Carley, Thomas M.
Cavanagh, Timothy J.
Conway, Michael P.
Davis, Leslie D.
Drumke, Michael W.
Ettelson, Bruce I.
Glaser, D. Louis
Golden, Kevin J.
Harris, Martin
Karnezis, John T.
Kaveny, Elizabeth A.
Krzak, Michael S.

Larson, Anne E.
LeVee, Janet S.
Martin, Craig C.
McCrohon, Craig
McDonald, Sally J.
Mendenhall, Samuel
Murphy, Eugene E. Jr.
Nisivaco, John L.
O'Connor, Daniel V.
Oldenburg, Anne M.
Rich, Allegra R.
Robinson, Daniel A.
Roth, Mitchell S.
Rubinstein, Javier H.
Ryan, W. Michael
Schaffer, David S.
Simmons, John
Smith, Leslie M.
Soffer, Gil M.
Stamatakos, Philip S.
Taylor, Barry C.
Thompson, Steve J.
Wise, David C.

2002

Bartholomy, Erin P.
Berman, Debbie L.
Block, Bradley S.
Bloom, Ilene L.
Bonoma, David A.
Collins, John P.
Dudley, J. Matthew
Dussias, Dean S.
Duston, Thomas
Ehlers, Elizabeth Bacon
Enright, Karen M.
Fowkes, Scott W.
Friedman, Peter M.
Gamrath, Celia G.
Geardes, Lynn
Georges, Mara S.
Claves, Bob
Goldstein, Robert G.
Haase, Kerryann M.
Hill, Gregory Q.
Hurst, James F.
Kotin, Daniel M.
Lane, Scott D.
Levinson, Kenneth
Lynch, John P. Jr.
Marrinson, Thomas A.
Masters, Douglas N.
McNabola, Ted
Nakos, Telly C.
Nicolaidis, Richard H. Jr.
O'Brien, Jill P.
O'Donnell, Ger P.
Ohlms, Todd J.
Quinlan, William J.
Rhatigan, Timothy P.
Richardson, Timothy M.
Rooney, John
Scimeca, Colleen
Stearney, Ronald A. Jr.
Whiting, Timothy

2003

Budzinski, Elizabeth M.
Clewis, Scott R.
Coladipietro, Franco A.
Colpoys, Lisa
Conforti, Gregory D.
Cramer, Michael H.
Dakoff, Howard S.
Dixon, G. Grant III
Durbin, Mark
Ehlman, Todd J.
Fagan, Shawn F.
Falk, R. Scott
Frank, Joseph D.
Goldberg, Michael K.
Graham, Douglas A.
Hart, Brett J.
Hoffman, Kenneth A.
Johnson, Mark L.
King, Alan
Kirschner, Daniel
Masciopinto, Anthony J.
Michael, David N.
Morrissey, Frank
Nadler, James A.
Nash, Brian
O'Connor, Karen J.
O'Donnell, Margo Wolf
O'Reilly, Kevin E.
Patterson, Chaka M.
Prangle, Michael E.
Roach, James P.
Rowden, Todd A.
Ruiz, Jesse H.
Shannon, Robert T.
Sullivan, John P.
Swartzmeyer, Sarah
Ventrelli, Anita M.
Warren, Morrison C.
Weinberg, Neil H.
Weiss, Robert M.

2004

Addy, Meredith Martin
Burke, Matthew
Burke, Jennifer A.
Connelly, Matthew P.
Cotter, Daniel A.
Crawford, Cathryn S.
Drobny, Dane A.
Fields, Barry E.
Freeman, Kevin L.
Gonzalez, Dawn
Hanahan, Michael J.
Harmon, Meighan A.
Johns, LaVon
Jochner, Michelle M.
Kasserman, Shawn S.
Kerwin, Brian P.
Kipnis, Robert S.
Kopecky, James L.
Koski, John C.
Kramer, Samuel G.
Krippner, Timothy L.
Lee, John Z.
Leonard, Michael
Martin, Laura Keidan
Mohr, Phillip J.
Muir, John Stewart
Murhane, Mark C.
Neils, W. Scott
Niro, Raymond P. Jr.
O'Shaughnessy, Patrick S.
Pugh, Preston L.
Ray, Timothy
Sanchez, Vincent A.
Singer, Eric L.
Slovits, Michael R.
Sterling, Hillard M.
Torosian, Jeffrey S.
Walsh, Matthew P. II
Warren, Todd Robert
Willens, Matthew L.

2005

Auerbach, Nicole Nehama
Bilimora, Neville M.
Blonder, Steven P.
Bloomer, Andrew B.
Chu, Michael P.
Cox, John F.
Darrow, John A.
Dillon, Erika
Duffy, John J.
Dzik, Katherine L.
Farkas, Alan L.
Gamrath, Robert L. III
Goldstein, Harley J.
Gómez, Verónica
Koenigsberger, Michael F.
Laudeman, Kirk
Letchinger, John S.
Liljestrand, Craig T.
Liss, Laura Shroyer
Lona, Marie A.
Lumb, Kenneth T.
Mackoff, Myron F.
Mann, Monte L.
Marsh, Jordan Eric
McAndrews, Matthew G.
McCaulley, Richard T. Jr.
McLawnhorn, Todd L.
Merrell, Dina
Meyer, Derek (Rick)

ALUMNI THROUGH THE YEARS

Mitchell, Raymond W.
Riback, Adam B.
Richardson, Travis
Seward, Renata Szczygiel
Smeltzer, Robert H.
Spesia, John M.
Thompson, Pia N.
Viner, Anne E.
Weinstein, Mitchell D.
White, Lawrence E.
Wood, P. Shawn

2006

Cohen, Leslee M.
DeMarte, Luke
Donati, Peter F.
Donati, Victoria L.
Drazdys, Vilia M.
Ellis, Robert B.
Garetto, Janet M.
Gill, Michael Thomas
Hill, Lawrence N.
Hunt, LaShonda A.
Kimbarovsky, Ross E.
Kotz, Jennifer Dillon
Kriha, Darcy L.
Lacey, Gregory L.
Lakin, Brad
Leinberger, Karl G.
Loevy, Jon
Madigan, Daniel T.
Marszewski, Tom
Mitchell, Stephen S.
Mogul, Alyssa
Moynihan, Michael A.
Mulroy, Thomas R. III
Naar, Sonya D.
Nahrstadt, Bradley C.
Navarre, James P.
Pauling, Gerald L. II
Pelletier, Dean A.
Potts, J. Ryan
Remus, Mark H.
Rin-Laures, Li-Hsien (Lily)
Rosenblatt, Brian A.
Ryan, Bridget Healy
Sacks, Eric A.
Stanton, Patrick T.
Stoltmann, Andrew
Vance, Geoffrey A.
Wilson, Mary G.
Wood, Bari D.
Zimring, Jon

2007

Albritton, Douglas A.
Amari, Katherine A.
Anderson, Michele C.
Ayala-Bermejo, Karina
Berkowitz, Sean M.
Bernstein, Moria
Blum, David C.
Blumberg, Jeff
Boykin, Richard R.
Braun, Scott D.
Brown, Mark A.

Dinizulu, Yao O.
Eulgen, Lee J.
Feinberg, Mitchell S.
Fruehling, Keith E.
Galasso, Mark C.
Girard, Ellen M.
Gollwitzer, Arthur III
Gottshall, Justine Y.
Hamill, John J. Jr.
Hoste, Peter D.
Jacobson, Ryan B.
Kohut, Michelle M.
Kujawa, Michael E.
Lee, Sang-yul
Mann, Gregory B.
McNulty, Shannon M.
Nuttall, James R.
Prendergast, Jean M
Pipal, Susan A.
Pravacek, Jody
Rasmussen, Mark D.
Rundio, Matthew M.
Rupe, Michael C.
Sandberg, Craig M.
Schulman, Eric L.
Scott, Kenyana M.
Som, Sonya
Sukhman, Alexander M.
Taylor, Jeffrey S.

2008

Adess, Jason
Bernstein, Robert
Bresney, Todd
Camerlingo, Pepi
Dahlin, Jay
D'Amore, Stephen
DeHayes, Karina
Ellenbecker, Stephen
Feeney, Daniel
Fisher, Ian
Garr, Anne
Goel, Asheesh
Harlin, Michael
Herrington, Elizabeth
Huber, David
Hudson, Nathalina
Hunter, Steven
Kamin, Kim
Kanovitz, Michael
Kimrey, Blaine
Klein, Margot
Lastre, Leopold
Malitz, Steven
Mannarino, Craig
McCabe, Daniel
Miller, Matthew S.
Miller, Richard L.
O'Flaherty, Tracy
Onixt, Micah
Pillsbury, Andrew
Ruiz, Michele
Shaw, Anne
Siwik, Christine
Squillace, Craig
Stone, Mona

Storino, John
Tumialan, Rosa
Vlahakis, James
Webb, Jill
Zinman, Lance

2009

Aiken, Alicia L.
Anderson, John C.
Apicella, Kenneth C.
Blake, Jenny O.
Bruce, Devon C.
Cashmere, Ed
Cibulskis, Julie L.
Edelson, Jay
Fardy, Stephen
Ferguson, Thomas H.
Gibbs, William T.
Goldberg, Andrew S.
Gordon, Mitchell
Groetkin, Troy A.
Hammer, Aaron
Hurst, Brian J.
Iorio-Power, Sandra
Kawashima, Neil
Kirsch, Thomas L.
Kozminski, Brian
Lawless, Michelle A.
McCoy, Joseph Q.
Moskowitz, Keith
Niccogorski, Alan
Oberts, William B.
O'Connor, Gail M.
Richards, Dave J.
Rock, John J.
Russell, Delisa
Santiago, Beatrice
Scruggs, Lisa
Scudder, Michael
Shallcross, Brian S.
Shaw, Michael B.
Shonkwiler, John
Spingola, Peter
Stanton, Aaron T.
Steadman, Paul
Waterhouse Wilson, Elaine
Whitson-Owen, Eugena A.

2010

Abraham, Enrique
Anderson, Shelli L.
Barnerd, John A. Jr.
Begley, Heather A.
Blitz, Brian J.
Bonamarte, Michael F. IV
Carani, Christopher V.
Carder, Deborah A.
Chaloemtiarana, Thad
Decker, Deborah E.
Demeros, Georgia L.
Donoghue, R. David
Dunn, Colin H.
Elbert, Angela R.
Field, Thomas T
Goldberg, Michael J.
Haile, Debrai G.

Harris, Marla Shade
Hull, Kevin M.
Goldberg, Michael J.
Jeffrey, Craig D.
Keberlein-Gutiérrez, Miguel
Kocoras, John C.
Kornak, Michael P.
Ledbetter, Eric D.
Martini, Christina L.
Nocera, Nicole
Nutter, Michael
O'Malley, Colin J.
Paul, Brian P.
Renken, Sammi L.
Risatti, Carrie M.
Risch, Jeffrey A.
Rosenthal, Jason M.
Sathy, Anup
Scodro, Michael A.
Silver, Marc S.
Tsai, Diana Y.
Veugeler, Kevin T.
Vigano, Jon C.
Wolven, Lauren J.

2011

Basil, Matt
Battersby, Margaret
Bauer, Beth A.
Campbell, Tracy A.
Cellitti, David T.
Werries Collier, Kristen
Collier, Paul D.
Crane, Ben
Cullis, John
Delaney, Aimee E.
Driscoll, Sean P.
Elliott, Tim
Friedel, Laura B.
Friedman, Mitchell B.
Gallo, Claudia
Harris, Kristen A.
Heather, Justin L.
Henry, Scott W.
Herman, Athena M.
Hill, Hamilton H.
Kirk, Daniel A.
Lingertat, Jessica G.
Monico, Brian T.
Moorhead, James P.
Pearlman, Steven J.
Phelan, James E.
Phillip, Danielle A.
Posey, Thomas J.
Pinnell Reed, Jacquelyn T.
Rubin, Jamie
Salvi, Patrick A.
Sarafa, Derek J.
Schoop, Devlin J.
Sheahan, Terrence J.
Siegel, Marc J.
Silva, Rosa Maria
Thomas, Brian C.
Giganti Valentino, Karie J.
Wallenfelsz, Rebecca
Zhao, Gary

40 UNDER FORTY ALMUNI THROUGH THE YEARS

2012

Abramic, John
Booker, Matthew
Bradford, Derek
Breitlander, Sarah
Castro, Claudia
Ciszewski, Steven
Conlon, Alison
Farahvar, Paul
Haddox, Velisha
Halvorsen, Kim
Hammer, Brendan
Hoffman, Craig
Hudson, Tim
Huntington, Howard
Jones, Eric
Jurasek, Michael
Kassof, Andrew
Kramer, Heather
Madiar, Eric
Markus, Lindsey Paige
Mayster, Courtney
McHugh, David
Mickelson, Kathryn
Nowak, Conrad
Nowak, Jeff
Okorafor, Ngozi
Owens, Marcia
Powell, Jordan
Proscia, Julie
Ryan, Aaron
Saper, Daliah
Sharuzi, Jacqueline
Slavick, Scott
Smith, Brian
Sommarino, Frank
Tarnow, William
Tautges, Kelly
Torshen, Jacqueline
Weiss, Daniel
White, Patrick

2013

Adelman, Robert
Atterberry, Rachel
Barickman, Jason
Bergmann, Michael
Bills, Matthew A.
Cook, Kimberly A.
Covington, Jamila S.
Dates, Lindsey
Denning, Michael
Doellinger, Chad J.
Douglass, Richard G.
Dunn, Jennifer A.
Eldridge, Brian
Gabrielson, Anthony
Garrett, Amy E.
Hurst, Heather
Jenkins, Matthew T.
Jones, Norah L.
Koenig, Ray J., III
Lamden, Seth D.
Ledebuhr, Meg Nemeth
Lee, Josh

Malamis, Kathy Karaboyas
Marincsin, Courtney Boho
Murphy, Richard J.
Murray, Brian J.
Nichols, Benjamin L.
O'Danovich, A. Mark
Park, Samuel S.
Plotkin, Gabriel
Pontikes, Rachael
Sénat, Anastasie M.
Shulman, Daniel H.
Skallas, Tom
Slavick, Marni R.
Tsantilis, Peter
Vitek, Shana L.
Walker, Timothy
Webster, Diane
Williams, Matthew L.

2014

Cannon, Erin
Cischke, Stacey
Cloud, Patrick
Cosgrove, Bradley
Darmstadter, Seth E.
Devine, Tara R.
Egan, Ricahrd
Frantzen, Sandra A.
Garrett, Matthew M.
Grosh, Katherine
Grund, Melissa A.
Hartzell, Julianne M.
Hooker, Darrick J.
Hudson, Kristen E.
Irmien, Jennifer
Kasdin, Chad D.
Kelly, Adam G.
Luk, Olivia T.
Lundy, Jason
McCrory, Michael
Milman, Emily
Minarik, Katherine G.
Pokorny, William R.
Ritchey, Timothy J.
Roche, Michael T.
Rubenstein, Amy M.
Satchwell, Matthew
Schey, Emily
Schramm, Jessica M.
Silverman, Cari F.
Siporin, Mathew T.
Siprut, Joseph
St. Peter, Michael
Strauss, Michael S.
Vaught, Heather
Wideikis, James L.
Wright, Kenya

2015

Becker, Jeffrey
Belcore, Todd
Bender, Kelley
Bennett, Ryan
Collison, Muriel
Comstock, Thomas

Davis, Sara
Ehrhart, Katheleen
Engle, Andrew
Fisher, Marc
Fitzgerald, John
Friedman, Ross
Gilbert, Jennifer
Harper, Tiffany
Hass, Douglas
Heaton, Conor
Hirsh, Jason
Kim, Jenny
Kincaid, Timothy
King, Sarah
Kogut, Eva
Krehbiel, Karen
Law, Diana
LeFevour, Genevieve
MacEntee, Barry
Martin, Misty
Mehta, Manish
Passen, Matthew
Patt Pellettiere, Jodi
Pinter, Gary
Schroeder, Richard
Shinsky, Michael
Soucie, Miranda
Stockton, Richard
Sweis, Marvet
Thomson, Wade
Wahlke, Lydia
Walsh, Ryan
Waskowski, Adam
Wilder, Michael

2016

Becker, Heather R. M.
Boyce, Chasity
Carstens, Karoline
Codilis, Adam E.
Daley-Scott, Carolyn
Eggert, Devon
Epstein, Timothy Liam
Eveland, Toby
Gallagher, Michael L.
Geller, Jeremy L.
Giese, Patrick J.
Goldstein, Jacob Z.
Gordon, Richard
Harney, Christine
Hermes, Elizabeth
Hoey, Laura
Jacobson, J. Alex
Jasper, Timothy
Kasdin, Michael
Kibort, Adam
Kiley, Rachel D.
Kim, Paula
Kozziel, Jamie
Liebman, Joshua
McCall, Kara
Medrano, Sulema
Newman, Justin M.
O'Connor, Kevin A.
Poullaos, Ivan

Schulman, Brad
Shrestha, Roshan P.
Spousepp, Jason N.
Stogsdill, Morgan
Tesmer, Trisha
Tyson, Malaika D.
Vail, Andrew
Vaught, Adam R.
Weiner, Justin
Wiegler, Shera D.

2017

Ikaraki, Michael
Auty, Christian
Babel, Sabina
Bensinger, V. Brette
Berg, Nicholas
Boesche, Ashly
Byrne, Matthew
Carter, Matthew
Colunga, Gia
Cruz, Scott
Davis, Suheily
Diamantatos, Tinos
Doherty, Brion
Fisher, Jamie
Flint, Tacy
Gekas, John
Ginex, Gregory
Haarlow, John
Hill, Mercedes
Hirsch, Danielle
Husnick, Chad
Lydigsen, Laura
Mandell, Craig
Masalski, Emily
McCaskey, Michael
Mendez, Marvin
Morinec, Mitchell
O'Brien, Elizabeth
O'Callaghan, Sean
Pinkus, Jared
Pitts, Dartesia
Rich, Trisha
Riddle, Kristofer
Rosenberg, Sonya
Schopfer, Melissa
Sorich, Michael
Thut, Andrew
Torre, Andrew
Vance, Blake
Vandesteeg, Lisa

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Freeborn attorney
to be named to the Law Bulletin's
40 under Forty list since 2000.**



Ari Krigel, a Partner in the Real Estate Practice Group, and a member of the Food Industry Team, is a deal-driven business advisor for prominent real estate developers, owners (including REITs and funds), tenants, and lenders, in the Chicago area and nationally. His practice routinely involves acquisitions, dispositions, development, complex financing, and structuring deals across a wide range of asset classes.

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& Restructuring
Practice Group



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Integral member of
Freeborn's Insurance and
Reinsurance Industry
Team



Brian Smith, 2012:
Leader of Freeborn's Food
Industry team and member
of the Firm's Executive
Committee



T.J. Sheahan, 2011:
Leader of Freeborn's
Insurance Brokerage
Industry Team

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