# SPEAKER BOOK



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A MAGNA LEGAL SERVICES PRODUCTION

#### **About Magna Legal Services**



Magna Legal Services provides end-to-end legal support services to law firms, corporations, and governmental agencies throughout the nation. As an end-to-end service provider, we can provide strategic advantages to our clients by offering legal support services at every stage of your legal proceeding. It is our mission to ensure that all your legal support needs are delivered to you with the highest quality in a reliable, consistent, and responsive manner.

Magna's court reporters are among the most accomplished in the nation, providing real-time reporting, interactive Internet depositions, rough disks and Web-based transcript and exhibit repositories.

Our trial consultants are experts in their fields and approach every case with the decision-makers in mind. We understand how judges, jurors and arbitrators form decisions and we provide our clients with action items in the form of strategic recommendations, story lines, themes, and graphics to persuade at deposition and trial.

Through every stage of the legal process, Magna's consultants will be there to assist you. We provide:

- Court Reporting
- Record Retrieval
- Language Services
- Litigation Consulting
- Jury Research
- Graphics Consulting
- Trial Presentation Services

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**David Barnard, Ph.D. Director of Jury Consulting**DBarnard@MagnaLS.com

### Peter Hecht Co-Founder & Executive Vice President of Sales

As a founding partner and Executive Vice President of Sales for Magna Legal Services, Peter Hecht has orchestrated the company's growth from a single office start-up to an industry leader. Mr. Hecht brings to the company significant experience in identifying emerging markets, managing sales professionals and establishing new marketing partners. He has directed the company's national and local sales and marketing initiatives through a period of remarkable growth.

## David Barnard, Ph.D. Director of Jury Consulting

Dr. Barnard has a doctorate in psychology from the City University of New York with a concentration in law. His background in psychology and law allows him to combine expertise in statistics and research methodology with cutting-edge data gathering and analytic techniques to assist attorneys in venue analysis, juror profiling, jury selection and the development of effective and resonant communication strategies.

His primary practice area includes civil litigation with a focus on products liability, medical and legal malpractice, personal injury, insurance, libel, and real estate. He has also assisted both plaintiffs and defendants in matters involving complex commercial litigation, intellectual property, contract disputes, antitrust, securities, and fraud. Dr. Barnard has selected juries in Federal and State Court for both plaintiffs and defendants across the country. He has facilitated hundreds of pre-trial research projects and has extensive experience preparing both fact and expert witnesses for deposition and trial testimony.

With 15 years of experience researching juror behavior, Dr. Barnard is highly adept in procedural design, survey construction, and statistical analysis. He has also extensively studied the psychology of persuasion and processes of juror reasoning. This unique blend of the quantitative and the qualitative enables him to provide empirical insight into pre-trial research, and specifically to attitudinal characteristics, juror bias, and issues of juror perception.

Dr. Barnard is a member of the American Bar Association, the American Psychology and Law Society, the American Society of Trial Consultants. He also serves as a Trial Consultant Advisor to the Civil Jury Project at NYU Law School. Originally from California, Dr. Barnard lives in New York City and is an avid racerunner.

#### **About Ringler**

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#### **Dennis Alonso**

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A structured settlement from Ringler should be your FIRST CHOICE. You have many choices for investing in your settlement. Only structured settlements were created exclusively to secure your future. Only a Ringler consultant can best collaborate with all parties to find a solution that's a perfect fit for you, and only Ringler Associates write more structures than anyone else in the country.

Brian began his career with Ringler in 2009. He now owns and manages the Connecticut office and is currently Chairman of the Ringler Board of Directors. Brian joined the structured settlement industry with another firm in 2002. Brian has now helped place over \$1 billion in structured settlements in his career. He has 12 years of experience in the property casualty claim industry in several claim handling and management experiences, in both a home office and multiple field office setting.

Dennis, a former Vice President of Excess Casualty claims at AIG, brings 18 years of structured settlement experience to Ringler. He was a lead negotiator of catastrophic injury claims, utilizing structured settlements to match the needs of the injured party. Dennis has participated in mediations in multiple jurisdictions across the country over his 18-year career.

### **About Kopka Pinkus Dolin**

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Established in 1987, Kopka Pinkus Dolin is a regional firm dedicated to the defense of litigated matters on behalf of corporations and insurance companies. Exceeding our clients' expectations is at the core of the firm's practice in bankruptcy, commercial litigation, construction, fraud/SIU, governmental entities, product liability, professional liability, restaurant & retail,

toxic tort & environmental liability, trucking & railroad, and workers' compensation, among others. Our client base includes over eighty insurance carriers, including the nation's leading commercial insurers, over one hundred self-insured companies and numerous third-party administrators.

With five offices throughout Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan, we maintain strong local roots unique to each state, but we all share the same philosophy of delivering excellent service and superior responsiveness to our clients. The centralized structure of our multi-state partnership combines the advantages of extensive resources, expertise, and technology along with our focus on providing personalized "concierge" service to each of our clients. Our success stems from our integrity in placing our clients' interests above those of the law firm.

#### Offices:

- Chicago, IL
- Buffalo Grove, IL
- Crown Point, IN
- Indianapolis, IN
- Farmington Hills, MI
- Sault Ste. Marie, MI

**Robert J. Kopka** has handled a wide variety of business disputes, commercial litigation, and insurance defense matters for over 30 years, including consumer fraud, breach of contract, significant bodily injury, and employment disputes. Bob handles large lawsuits, appeals and a wide range of alternative dispute resolutions. His experience extends to professional liability including insurance and real estate agent errors and omissions, legal malpractice and director's and officer's errors and omissions. Bob litigates declaratory judgment actions on behalf of insurance companies and advises them regarding coverage. He also defends toxic tort suits involving asbestos, pesticides, paints, and industrial coatings.

Representing common carriers in hazardous waste and toxic spill litigation, Bob also directs the firm's transportation department including automobile, UM/UIM, trucking and FELA defense. He has argued appeals before the United States Supreme Court, the Illinois, and Indiana Supreme Courts and several other federal and state appellate courts. Prior to forming Kopka Pinkus Dolin and its predecessor firm Kopka, Landau & Pinkus in 1999, Bob formed Landau, Omahana & Kopka in 1987.

A member of the Federal Trial Bar, Bob has been admitted pro hac vice, for the purpose of trying individual cases from coast to coast. He is a frequent speaker on various topics, including tort reform, insurance coverage, litigation management techniques, alternative billing arrangements, premises liability,

additional insured endorsements, admiralty, and warehouseman's legal liability. Bob is a founding member of the National Retail and Restaurant Defense Association, whose mission is to advance and protect the interests of the retail and restaurant industry; he serves on the Board of Directors and is the Past President.

#### **About Lewis Brisbois**

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LBBS is primarily a trial firm, with nationally recognized trial lawyers and over 30 members of the American Board of Trial Advocates. Lewis Brisbois has consistently ranked in the top 10 in recognized diversity surveys since 2005, including being ranked #! By American Lawyer Media as the nation's most diverse law firm on multiple occasions. With offices from Los Angeles to New York, Lewis Brisbois can provide full service legal services across the nation, with 40 fully staffed offices in the 26 states.

**Tera Sherman Edwards** is a Partner in the Cleveland Office of Lewis Brisbois and has a successful track record of representing clients in cases and matters involving business disputes, trucking and transportation, general liability, insurance defense, professional liability, catastrophic injuries, insurance matters, premise liability, employment, and products liability. She has practiced in a variety of jurisdictions across the country and represented both corporate and individual clients from a variety of different fields and backgrounds with great success. Tera is a litigator and an aggressive trial lawyer with experience at both the federal and state court levels. She has handled numerous arbitrations, mediations, and administrative proceedings with successful outcomes for her clients.

Prior to joining Lewis Brisbois, Tera worked at a law firm representing large insurance companies. She also previously worked as a Staff Attorney for two Common Pleas Court Judges in Geauga County, Ohio.

**Tom Mannion** is the managing partner in the Cleveland, OH and Weirton, WV offices of Lewis Brisbois, a member of the Healthcare, Medical Malpractice, Products Liability, Toxic Tort & Environmental Litigation Practices, and vice-chair of the Architects & Engineers Practice. Mr. Mannion has developed a reputation as one of the nation's top catastrophic injury defense trial lawyers, having obtained defense verdicts in cases involving cerebral palsy, ventilator dependent quadriplegia, paraplegia, traumatic brain injury, failed medical devices, necrotizing fasciitis and other viral and bacterial infections, severe burns, and death.

His abilities and proven track record in the courtroom have resulted in some of the world's largest companies and insurers calling him to defend their most serious cases in the most notorious jurisdictions. Mr. Mannion has parachuted into and defended catastrophic injury cases throughout the nation, including Florida, New York, Missouri, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, North Dakota, Michigan, Tennessee, Michigan, Ohio, and other venues.

Mr. Mannion also has extensive experience in class actions and multi-district litigation (MDLs), including actions involving pharmaceuticals, medical devices, environmental hazards, and professional services, including D&O matters involving reporting errors, shareholder actions, failure to comply, employment and HR matters.

**Brad Barmen** is a partner in the Cleveland office of Lewis Brisbois, a vice-chair of the General Liability Practice, and a member of the Medical Malpractice Department. Mr. Barmen's practice includes representing clients in complex commercial, labor and employment, real estate litigation, and products liability. He also represents several Ohio-based trucking and logistics firms relative to PUCO regulations and state and federal DOT compliance.

Mr. Barmen has extensive trial experience at the state and municipal court level, and has also handled numerous arbitrations, mediations and administrative hearings. Mr. Barmen also has extensive experience in a variety of employment-related matters, including, but not limited to, discrimination and wrongful termination actions in both state and federal courts and he has also litigated matters involving non-compete and non-solicitation agreements.

In 2009, 2010, and 2011, Mr. Barmen was named to Rising Stars as published in Ohio Super Lawyers. He is a graduate of Cleveland State University and Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. He is a member of multiple local, regional, and national organizations.

#### About MC Consultants, Inc.

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MC Consultants serves clients nationwide in forensic related claims and litigation matters. For over 30 years MC's team of professional consultants, including architects, engineers, construction managers, general contractors, cost estimators, water intrusion experts and project managers, have leveraged their extensive backgrounds in both construction and construction forensics to deliver industry-leading third-party quality assurance consulting services.

**Mr. Ducommun** directs all MC Consultants, Inc. consulting groups through dynamic leadership and strategic planning, guiding the organization to ensure continued growth and effectively cultivating key business relationships. Through his visionary leadership, Mr. Ducommun is committed to position TEAM MC to be recognized as an industry leader, committed to innovation while maintaining a corporate culture of excellence, performance and integrity. Mr. Ducommun received his Liberal Arts and Sciences degree from Lake County College in Illinois.

**Jeffrey Jannarone**, based in Belmar, NJ, US, is currently an Expert Witness at MC Consultants. Jeffrey brings experience from previous roles at Jannarone Consulting LLC, TEAM Coalition, Exigent Group Limited and Wall Township Fire District Number 2. Jeffrey Jannarone holds an M.Ed in Administration of Special Education from Rutgers. Jeff's specialties combine backgrounds in both public and private sectors, focused on the areas of Alcohol Liability, and Public Safety, Internal Investigations, Private Investigations, Public Safety, Government and more.

**Mr. Sigesmund** is responsible for leading the business development efforts for all MC Consultants, Inc. consulting groups. Mr. Sigesmund identifies and implements local and national partnership opportunities. He manages existing client relationships, plays a critical role in expanding MC services into new geographic locations, and is integral in the effective negotiation and implementation of business partnership agreements.



Mr. Sigesmund brings extensive entrepreneurial capabilities to MC Consultants including his precise analysis of competitive marketplace trends and his ability to identify prospective opportunities. Mr. Sigesmund received his Juris Doctorate from Whittier College in Los Angeles, MBA from San Diego State University, and Bachelor of Science from Arizona State University in Tempe.

#### **About Exponent**

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Exponent is a multi-disciplinary engineering and scientific consulting firm, which brings together more than 90 different disciplines to solve business issues facing clients, industry and the government today. With roots in Silicon Valley, Exponent now operates in the United States, Europe and China, employing the best and the brightest from major academic institutions as well as technical specialists from a variety of industries.

The Exponent name is recognized for its integrity, objectivity, independence and professionalism in practice areas including, engineering sciences, health and environmental sciences and laboratory and other services. The company's corporate values also drive a commitment to client service, which enables the consistency of high-quality work.

**Dr. Lemberg** is a licensed Metallurgical Engineer specializing in failure analysis, fracture mechanics, metallurgy, and materials science engineering with a particular emphasis on understanding the fracture behavior of materials.

Over the past 12 years at Exponent he has consulted on fractures, corrosion, and other metallurgical failures of a variety of large structures, including gas, water, and other chemical pipelines, storage tanks, heavy equipment, rail tank cars, building glazing systems, and on-road & off-road vehicles. On a smaller physical scale, Dr. Lemberg has consulted on brass systems for potable water, glass cookware and drinkware, fire sprinklers, medical devices, other consumer products, as well as various other materials issues.

Prior to joining Exponent, Dr. Lemberg was a graduate research assistant at the University of California, Berkeley, where he studied the fracture behavior of Mo-Si-B alloys at ambient and ultra-high (1300 °C) temperatures, the fracture

behavior of carbon-nanotube-impregnated, Nb-toughened nanocrystalline alumina, and the fracture behavior of alumina/silicon nitride functionally-graded joints at elevated temperatures. Dr. Lemberg also has experience studying the fatigue properties of tree-resistant cross-linked polyethylene insulation of underground power distribution cables.

**Ms. McKenzie** is a Client Serves Manager for Exponent's East Coast offices. With more than 15 years of experience in client relations and professional services/sales, Ms. McKenzie knows the functions of internal and external marketing and business development.

Prior to joining Exponent, Ms. McKenzie was responsible for maintaining customer relations at a major Boston law firm, managing the firms' entire client base, and developing new clients nationally. Other responsibilities included coordinating the firm's conferences and networking events, and responsibility for business development matters. The latter included such activities as troubleshooting client/firm interactions and acting as liaison between attorneys and staff. During her time in this position, the firms' client base grew by 66%.

#### About Rimkus Consulting Group, Inc.

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Rimkus experts specialize in forensic consulting, dispute resolution, construction management services, solutions for the built environment, and assisting with the development of better products and processes for the consumer, industrial, and healthcare industries. For more than 40 years, the company's professional engineers, architects, scientists, and technical specialists have been recognized for their commitment to service excellence by local, national, and international business communities. Rimkus operates more than 110 offices worldwide

**Mr. Justin Grammer** holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Civil Engineering, is a registered professional engineer in several states, and is a licensed residential home builder in the State of Alabama. He has an extensive background in engineering design, general construction, and forensics. Mr. Grammer has

provided deposition and trial testimony in support of technical findings in premises liability, civil/structural engineering, and construction defect matters.

As a civil/structural design engineer, Mr. Grammer's experience included the analysis of new and existing structures and the design of the entire building system from its foundation through superstructure and roof. His design projects included residential, commercial, manufacturing, and industrial facilities. Mr. Grammer's experience has encompassed projects with nearly every building material, including timber framing, light-gauge metal framing, aluminum, structural steel, plain, concrete, and masonry.

Mr. Grammer has been involved in general construction from the permitting stage to completion in roles ranging from tradesman to project manager. This on-site construction experience included hands-on placement and installation of building components through means and methods decision making. As a project manager, Mr. Grammer's responsibilities included estimating, scheduling, procurement, and project execution. His construction projects included residential, commercial, manufacturing, and industrial facilities.

#### **About Envista Forensics**

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Envista Forensics is the global leader in providing comprehensive forensic consulting and engineering services. Our identity is rooted in our strength in investigation and conveys our comprehensive capabilities as a global, multi-disciplinary, and highly skilled forensic engineering partner for insurance claims and legal professionals.

The nearly 600 professionals, located across 30 offices in seven countries comprise the Envista team. Our team is committed to providing the best possible service through vast experience, thought leadership, and unparalleled expertise. It's the people, our trusted advisors, who make Envista Forensics the world-class organization we are today. We're there to be the face of certainty for our clients when they need it most.

**Carla** is a seasoned professional with over 30 years of experience in business development, sales, account management, and client services. In her role as Director of Legal Accounts at Envista, she's responsible for creating and executing initiatives to enhance relationships with national legal clients, establish new connections, and drive firm growth. Before joining Envista, Carla held Senior Account Management and Client Services positions at national companies including Ernst & Young Consulting, REI, Inc, Bravo Sports, and Raleigh USA. She's skilled in driving impactful sales and marketing activities, brand development and sales operations. Carla is a graduate of Central WA University, School of Business & Economics, earning her B.S. in Business Administration with a focus in Marketing.

Mr. Daniel is the co-author of the book Digital Forensics for Legal Professionals: Understanding Digital Evidence from the Warrant to the Courtroom, published by Syngess. He is also co-author of the book Digital Forensics Trial Graphics: Educating the Jury Through Effective Use of Visuals, Published by Academic Press. Mr. Daniel has qualified as an expert witness and testified in both state and federal courts, qualifying as a digital forensics' expert, computer forensics expert, cell phone forensics expert, video forensics expert, and photo forensics expert. He has testified for both the defense and prosecution in criminal cases and the plaintiff and defense in civil cases. Mr. Daniel has provided training to many thousands of attorneys and claims professionals with over 300 classes taught, providing CLE (Continuing Legal Education) and CE (Continuing Education) classes Across the United States.

Michelle Bennett joined Envista Forensics in September 2023 as the Business Development Manager for the Southeast US. Born and raised in Central Florida, Michelle studied at Pasco Hernando State College and Saint Leo University. Michelle has spent over 20 years in the insurance industry and has a strong background with selling forensic engineering, construction services and remediation services to insurance carriers, government contracting officers, law firms, real estate firms and privately owned companies.

Over the years Michelle has developed and maintained great relationships with clients, colleagues, and friends throughout the insurance industry. As a member of many insurances-based associations she attends events, industry seminars and tradeshows monthly.

#### About Robson Forensic, Inc.

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Robson Forensic is a multidisciplinary national Forensic Expert firm offering a broad range of specialty experts. Our firm is a collaboration of experts in various types of Engineering, Construction Safety, Architecture, Toxicology, Product Safety, Supervised Care and Trucking/ Vehicle practices. The services our experts provide include non-litigation and litigation consulting, investigations, damage analysis and expert testimony.

Anthony DiLiberto manages business development efforts and client relationships on the West Coast. Prior to joining Robson Forensic, Anthony worked in retail sales management, where he developed a keen attention to detail and a strong focus on customer satisfaction. Anthony's retail background has proven valuable in his current role, providing firsthand insight into a range of premises liability and security claims.

**Dr. Kenyon Conklin** is a licensed veterinarian with over 20 years of experience in the private practice, corporate, military, and research sectors. She provides technical investigations, analysis, reports, and testimony towards the resolution of litigation involving veterinary standards of care, animal bites and injuries to humans, working dogs, horses, animal abuse and neglect, animal behavior, facility design, and safety issues.

Over the course of her career, Dr. Conklin has practiced in a variety of clinical settings, including small animal general medicine and surgery, and emergency medicine at smaller, independently owned animal hospitals as well as multiclinic corporate settings. She has deep knowledge and experience in the nuances of veterinary medicine and veterinary hospital operations, from personnel issues and client relations to safety concerns and medical standards of care.

**Jessica Maddii** joined Robson Forensic in 2020 to offer New Jersey clients a dedicated, local point of contact. She has brought to the firm her experiences in various industries and complementary disciplines. In 2017, Jessica applied her relationship management skills to a fundraising and event planning role with a

start-up children's international humanitarian aid organization, where she established cause marketing, event programming and communications programs for the charity.

After graduating from The College of New Jersey with a bachelor's degree in Women's and Gender Studies, Jessica laid the groundwork of her career in the fashion industry, specializing in international wholesale, retail and licensed businesses. Through relationship building and problem solving with clients across the globe, Jessica developed a unique talent for tailoring her sales approaches to fit an array of customs, laws, expectations, business identities and individual personalities.

#### About DJS Associates, Inc.

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#### **Justin Schorr**

#### Principal Collision Reconstruction / Transportation Engineer JPS@ForensicDJS.com

DJS Associates, Inc. has been, and continues to be, a trusted source of quality forensic consulting and litigation support services for the legal community, insurance industry, government entities, and the public and private sectors. Our global experience in all aspects of forensic investigation, comprised of forensic engineering, technologies and animations, is further complemented by an independent storage, inspection and conference facility to secure, test, analyze and document accident and crime scene evidence.

**Lauren** earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Bloomsburg University (BU) in 2013 and her Master of Business Administration with a concentration in innovation from Thomas Jefferson University (TJU) in 2020. While working her way through many roles at DJS, including billing administration, case management, and marketing, Lauren developed a passion for organizational planning and operations, leading her to continue her education at Thomas Jefferson University.

Now, in her current role as the Executive Director, Lauren works with the CEO, President, and Executive Director of Human Resources & Operations to plan and execute the growth and operational strategies of DJS Associates and Forensic Storage and Technology Center. Along with internal administration, she oversees the Outside Consulting Department, Marketing Department, and organizes DJS' CLE and CE credit approved educational seminars/webinars

across the United States. Outside of DJS, Lauren spends her time with her loving pets: Doug, Peg, Indiana Jones, and Bigfoot. She enjoys learning new languages, watching true crime shows, and traveling.

Justin P. Schorr, Ph.D., is the President and Principal Collision Reconstruction Engineer at DJS Associates, Inc., a full-service, forensic engineering and consulting firm in Abington, PA. Dr. Schorr's career in forensic investigations began long before completing his 25 years of formal education, as an intern for his father and grandfather, both of whom he credits his most valuable training to. In addition to earning his Doctorate in Civil and Environmental Transportation Engineering, he has completed continuing education courses and earned certifications in Event Data Recorder Use in Traffic Crash Reconstruction, Berla iVe Vehicle System Forensics (Infotainment), PC-Crash, Laser Scanning, and more.

Prior to his role at DJS, Dr. Schorr served as an adjunct professor and the lead researcher at the Vehicle Instrumentation and Driver Simulation Laboratory at George Washington University. As an expert in Collision Reconstruction, Dr. Schorr utilizes his past teaching experience to simplify potentially complex scientific scenarios and effectively convey relevant concepts to clients, judges, and juries. Along with the other experts and consultants at DJS, Dr. Schorr provides CE and CLE-accredited presentations covering a range of topics, including autonomous vehicles, collision reconstruction, and innovative courtaccepted demonstratives.

As a sought-after speaker, Dr. Schorr accepts several annual invitations to present at conferences organized by the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, the New Jersey Association for Justice, and the Florida Insurance Fraud Education Committee, among others. More recently, Dr. Schorr has also collaborated with several podcast series hosted by both local industry professionals and well-known content creators.

#### **About Blank Rome**

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BLANKROME

Blank Rome is an Am Law 100 firm with 14 offices and more than 600 attorneys and principals who provide a full range of legal and advocacy services to clients operating in the United States and around the world.

Our professionals are widely recognized for their leading knowledge and experience across a broad spectrum of industries, as well as their dedication to diversity and inclusion initiatives and pro bono work.

But what really sets us apart is our investment in client relationships—our unwavering commitment to understanding their businesses, the around-the-clock access we provide, and our nimble and customized delivery of services. We treat your goals, ideas, and objectives as our own and fight fiercely for resolutions that are in your best interest. This promise goes deeper than words. It is our creed, adopted and held true at all levels, starting at the very top.

Dan Rhynhart is the co-chair of Blank Rome's firm-wide Litigation Department, encompassing more than 300 trial lawyers in 14 offices. Recognized by the Philadelphia Business Journal as "Best of the Bar" for Business Litigation (2019) and the Philadelphia Inquirer as one of five "Influencers of Law" for Litigation (2018), Dan has 25 years' experience trying and litigating high-stakes business disputes across the country. He has been specially admitted to practice in more than 20 states and has won significant damages awards and secured defense verdicts in jury trials, bench trials, and arbitrations. Dan has tried or arbitrated dozens of cases as a first chair involving hundreds of millions of dollars, in a wide variety of business disputes spanning software and technology, telecommunications, financial services, retail, and real estate.

#### About Cole, Scott & Kissane P.A.

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Cole, Scott & Kissane, P.A. ("CSK") is Florida's largest and leading trial defense law firm and consists of approximately 600 attorneys, 65 paralegals/nurses, professional litigation managers and information systems personnel. CSK has 12 offices strategically positioned throughout the State of Florida. One of the components of CSK that helps to distinguish itself from other firms is its ability to develop a litigation game plan and stick to that game plan in order to ensure, to the extent possible, a highly efficient and prompt resolution. Of course, the majority of claims are indeed resolved and they are resolved highly efficiently and to a great benefit to CSK's valued clients. However, if cases cannot be resolved, CSK has some of Florida's finest trial attorneys. In fact, CSK tries more cases than any other defense firm in the State of Florida, which has an added value as Plaintiff attorneys recognize that CSK attorneys are willing to try cases if they are not resolved at an acceptable number at a very early stage.

Joseph J. Goldberg is a Partner in the firm's Miami and Key West offices. Mr. Goldberg practices in the areas of Personal Injury Litigation, Trucking Accident Defense, Negligent Security, Sex Trafficking/Human Trafficking Defense, Condominium & Homeowners' Association Law and Vehicle Negligence. Mr. Goldberg attended the University of Florida where he received a Bachelor of Science in Sports Management. While at the University of Florida, Mr. Goldberg served as the Student Body President. During that period, he also served on the University of Florida Board of Trustees, and on the board of directors of the University of Florida Alumni Association, University of Florida Foundation, and the University Athletic Association. Additionally, he was elected chairman of the Florida Student Association and served as the only student member on the Florida Board of Governors. Mr. Goldberg was inducted into the University of Florida Hall of Fame, is a member of Florida Blue Key Honorary, and was chosen as an Outstanding Male Graduate.

Mr. Goldberg also served as the President of the Florida International University College of Law Alumni Association Board of Directors; was a member of the University of Florida board of directors of the University of Florida Alumni Association; Member of the University of Florida Foundation; and Member of the University Athletic Association Board of Directors. Mr. Goldberg was inducted into the University of Florida Hall of Fame and is a member of Florida Blue Key Honorary. He is a Member of the Transportation Industry Defense Association (TIDA) and has been recognized as 2021-2023 'Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch' – Insurance Law, Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants and Transportation Law.

#### About Sodoro Law Group, LLC

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The best interests of our clients is our number one focus, and we understand that communication is paramount to providing the most zealous and thorough representation possible. As a law firm specializing in defense, we understand all cases are unique and each one requires intense focus on obtaining the best possible outcome in a cost-effective and efficient manner. Our attorneys are licensed throughout Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, Colorado, and Arizona.

Patrick has spent his career handling insurance defense claims and litigation for numerous insurance carriers and their insureds. Throughout his career, Patrick has successfully defended cases through Trial (Jury and Bench) and the Appellate process, obtaining a favorable decision from the Nebraska Supreme

Court. He also leads training sessions on insurance defense law, including CLE and CEU credits, for arenas of professional organizations, as well as directly to insurance professionals.

Patrick is a graduate of Creighton University (2004) and Creighton University School of Law (2007). Patrick is a member of the Claim and Litigation Management Alliance and Defense Research Institute. He is also a board member of the Omaha Chapter of the American Red Cross and an avid supporter of local and national charities. Patrick is also a proud member of the Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel (FDCC) – an inspired community of vetted defense counsel, exceptional leaders and even better people. Patrick is an Omaha native and, in his leisure time, enjoys spending time with his family and friends.

#### **About Lydecker LLP**

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Lydecker is an AV-rated full-service law firm with over 150 attorneys Nationwide! The Firm has earned a strong and positive reputation for its tenacious defense and protection of the best interests of its clients, and for obtaining optimal results. Our long-standing relationships with our clients are grounded in mutual trust and an understanding of each client's needs and goals.

**Howard Sucher** is a seasoned marketing professional with over 20 years of diverse experience. With his wide-ranging skill set, Howard plays a crucial role in spearheading our firm's Local, State, and National Marketing initiatives. As a native Floridian, Howard's roots trace back to the vibrant city of Miami Beach, where he grew up. Currently, he resides in South Florida.

Howard's extensive background includes working with an AMLAW 200 firm, where he honed his expertise in legal marketing. Additionally, he has successfully launched and established several prominent car wash brands nationwide, leaving an indelible mark on their branding and positioning efforts.

With his proven track record and knack for crafting innovative marketing solutions, Howard brings a wealth of knowledge to our firm. His strategic thinking, coupled with a deep understanding of our business expansion plans and growth

initiatives, ensures that our marketing efforts align seamlessly with the evolving industry landscape.

Jeremy W. Harris is the Co-Chair of the Firm's National Catastrophic Injury and Loss Defense Department. Mr. Harris has extensive trial and appellate court experience in complex litigation, with a special focus on the defense of claims involving wrongful death, paralysis, amputations, traumatic brain injury, sexual assault, and other serious injuries. These claims can result from a multitude of alleged causes, including construction site accidents and collapses, road construction accidents, commercial trucking and car accidents, premises liability, negligent security, and products liability, to name a few. Mr. Harris has specialized knowledge of each of the industries involved in these claims-knowledge that he uses to represent his clients to the best of his abilities.

Mr. Harris's judicial philosophy involves every action being taken only if it is a purposeful step towards a favorable end result for his clients, whether that involves litigating a matter to conclusion or providing the best possible platform for settlement. He believes attention to the plaintiff's claim is paramount, but opportunities for risk transfer must always be fully explored. This is especially true in cases involving catastrophic injury, as these claims often have millions or tens of millions of dollars at stake.

Before joining the firm, Mr. Harris was a shareholder and managing attorney of a national firm's Florida office, leading a large team of attorneys in complex litigation. Prior to going to law school, Mr. Harris was part of his collegiate and high school debate teams-qualifying in college for the prestigious National Debate Tournament. He is a proud husband and father of four boys and enjoys weightlifting in his free time.

#### **About Palm Coast Staffing**

Contact Information:

#### Lauren Fernandez

Lauren@PalmCoastStaffing.com



Palm Coast Staffing is an executive search provider that specializes in sourcing top talent for jobs in the legal space.

Bringing the human element back to hiring. Palm Coast Staffing focuses on recruiting for all roles within the legal industry on a national level. We believe building strong teams begins long before the new hire start date. Anyone can match keywords - connecting on a human level is where the difference is made.

The Palm Coast Staffing team has over a decade of experience with recruiting, team development, and business growth. We believe that successful companies are made up of successful individuals and that true success is only achieved when there is an alignment of goals and vision.

**Lauren Fernandez** is a rising star in the insurance and legal industry, having been named one of the 2022 Rising Star 35 Under 35 recipients. Lauren co-founded Palm Coast Staffing, a recruiting firm that primarily focuses on all roles within the legal space.

#### **About Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell LLP**

Contact Information:

Andrew Unthank, Esq.
Partner
Unthank@WTOTrial.com



Juan Ramirez, Esq. Partner

Ramirez@WTOTrial.com

Natalie Colao, Esq. Associate

Colao@WTOTrial.com

Few firms can match Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell's passion for client service, standup experience, and deep trial bench.

Our lawyers have taken more than 1,100 trials and arbitrations to verdict or award and hundreds of appeals to opinion all across the nation, with exceptional results for our clients.

Established in 1998, WTO currently has more than 110 trial lawyer and litigators. The firm represents sophisticated clients in high-stakes civil trials, appeals, and related litigation ranging from complex commercial to class actions to catastrophic torts.

**Drew Unthank** represents major companies in consumer class action, complex commercial, and product liability litigation. He regularly leads teams in novel and complex matters, including the recent successful defense of a unique mass arbitration involving creative strategies and defense tactics.

Drew's passion for helping his clients tell their stories in court is the fuel that drives his practice, leading to lasting, collaborative client relationships. He has represented several long-time clients, including Fortune 100 and 500 companies,

and has served as lead defense counsel in dozens of consumer class actions across the country.

When Drew was the Chair of WTO's Recruiting Committee, he helped introduce new behavior-based recruiting and interviewing methods to help the firm identify and hire exceptional attorneys poised to grow with the firm.

Colorado Super Lawyers has named Drew to its list for Class Actions/Mass Torts Defense. He is also listed in The Best Lawyers in America for Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions. Drew is Martindale-Hubbell AV Peer Review Rated, and Benchmark Litigation named him a 40 & Under National Star in 2019.

Drew earned his J.D. degree from University of Denver Sturm College of Law.

**Juan Ramirez** brings clients a wealth of experience in both defending catastrophic torts and leading complex commercial litigation and appellate advocacy. Juan represents companies and consumer product manufacturers against existential litigation threats and government investigations at home and abroad. He helps clients protect their reputations, employees, and assets, including through affirmative claims against suppliers, distributors, and competitors.

Juan's experience leading the litigation functions of two international, Fortune 150 corporations means that he truly appreciates the pressures his clients face: from plaintiffs, courts, regulators, and public perception. Juan brings that awareness and know-how to meet his clients where they are—and lead them to higher ground—when they face major litigation.

As both inside and outside counsel, Juan has managed large litigation teams, including coalitions comprised of experts from different firms, to oversee and execute legal strategy to help his clients meet their business objectives. From consumer class actions to government investigations to mass torts, Juan has the knowledge and creativity to effectively engage stakeholders from the C-suite to discovery vendors to claims professionals.

Juan earned his J.D. degree from University of Wisconsin Law School.

**Natalie Colao** represents clients in complex civil litigation. She has significant experience defending major companies in high-stakes product liability and employment litigation. She has represented clients in industries including manufacturing, shipping, pharmaceutical, and healthcare.

Prior to joining WTO, Natalie worked as a litigation associate in a full-service law firm with offices in New York and New Jersey. She also served federal clerkships in the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey, as well as a state clerkship in the Appellate Division of the New Jersey Superior Court. While in law school, Natalie held a legal internship with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Natalie earned her J.D. degree from Vermont Law School.

#### **About IDS**

Contact Information:

**Shameka Glover** 

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#### **Pam Keller**

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Founded in 2008, iDS is a professional services consulting firm that specializes in Digital Forensics, e-Discovery, Structured Data, Cybersecurity, Data Privacy, and Information Governance. iDS is often called upon to provide expert opinions, or to serve as fact witnesses, PMK, 30(b)(6), or data neutral. Their case portfolio includes defense and plaintiff matters. iDS has over 50 full-time employees working in multiple jurisdictions from the United Kingdom, to the U.S. East Coast, to the U.S. West Coast. Since its founding, iDS has worked on over 3,000 matters and on projects ranging from a single mobile device to cases involving 10,000, 40,000, or even 450,000 plaintiffs and billions of data records.

In addition to multiple awards from INC 5000 and other organizations, iDS has been honored as a Band One and Band Two consulting firm by Chambers and Partners. CEO and founder, Dan Regard, is also currently ranked as a Band One e-discovery consultant. iDS not only participated but has an active leadership role in the Sedona Conference, the Electronic Discovery Institute (EDI), and the Georgetown Global Advanced Electronic Discovery Institute (AEDI). They also have one of the leading and most progressive pro-bono programs in e-Discovery.

Pam is a progressive, client focused professional with over 28 years in the legal industry, including 11 years of experience in a consultative sales role. At iDS, Pam is responsible for all aspects of business development and maintaining client relationships. Prior to joining iDS, Pam spent 16 years managing training and support at Patton Boggs LLP (now Squire Patton Boggs). After transitioning to business development, she held sales roles at several leading eDiscovery organizations. When she is not working, Pam can be found spending time with family. She loves to travel, cheering on her Cowboys and Steelers, and always searching for her next big adventure.

#### **About SERMA**

Contact Information:

Richard Lenkov, Esq. Capital Member

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The Sports and Entertainment Risk Management Alliance (SERMA) is the first risk management association devoted entirely to the sports and entertainment industries. It is an organization of risk managers, claims managers, general counsels, outside counsel and other associated professionals who work in the sports and entertainment field.

As a Capital Member of Downey & Lenkov LLC, **Rich** has been representing professional sports organizations and multiple entities in the entertainment industry for 25 years. Rich is also the co-founder of Triopolis, a production company with credits including '85: The Greatest Team in Football History (starring Barack Obama, Bill Murray, Mike Ditka) and John Wayne Gacy: Defending a Monster. Rich was also the lead producer for the very successful Las Vegas production Renegades, and is involved in other productions including Rock of Ages and Elvis Presley's Heartbreak Hotel In Concert.

#### **Debbie Akhbari**

### Senior Corporate Counsel, Litigation T-Mobile

#### **Arturo Antezena**

#### Assistant Vice President, Excess Casualty Claims Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance

Arturo Antezana has been in the insurance industry for over 25 years as both a manager and handler of Excess Casualty claims for insurance carriers such as Crum & Forster, Gulf/Travelers and ACE/Chubb. Arturo currently is with Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance as an AVP in Excess Casualty claims handling high exposure cases throughout the nation.

#### Claudia Arguello

## Sr. Claim Examiner Berkley Environmental

I have recently joined Berkley Environmental as a Senior Claims Examiner. My primary focusses are centered around managing severe and complex claims arising out of Berkley's Commercial Auto, GL and Excess /Surplus claims nationwide. Prior to joining Berkley, I was a Consultant for Nationwide, Northland and The Hartford managing similar complex exposures including Transportation and Toxic Torts. I am originally from Miami and graduated from the University of South Florida. I have been in Hartford County, CT since 2001. When I am not working, you can typically find me hiking in the mountains of New Hampshire.

### <u>Todd Brandenberger</u>

### Vice President, Claims Prime Insurance

Todd Brandenberger has been working as a Vice President, Claims at Prime Insurance Company for 4 years. Prime Insurance Company is part of the Insurance industry, and located in Utah, United States.

#### **Kevin Breeze**

#### AVP Major Claims Unit Arch Insurance Group

Kevin Breeze has a diverse insurance background ranging from running the claims operations for a multi-office national third-party administrator to running a multi-national claims unit for one of the top 5 Property Casualty carriers. Kevin currently works in the Arch MCU unit focusing on high exposure losses.

#### Lloyd Brown

### Casualty Claims Manager Wawa Inc.

Lloyd oversees the day-to-day operations and overall performance and development for the casualty claims team. Lloyd manages all claims (GL, WC, Auto, PD) from first report to closure. His team partners with several business units throughout the company to process claims, as well as external vendor partners, Third-Party Administrators & Defense counsels. He coordinates claims reviews / Round tables, discusses defense strategies on litigation and afford reserves and trial authorizations.

#### Kim Campbell

Claims Litigation Sr Supervisor
Wellpath

### **Brian Cardoza**

### Lead Claims Trial Counsel Southern California Edison

Brian A. Cardoza was named an honoree of the Los Angeles Times B2B Publishing 2021 In-House Counsel Leadership Award. He is a senior attorney at Southern California Edison Company in Los Angeles, CA, and focuses on the prosecution and defense of high exposure electrical utility matters, catastrophic personal injury claims, product liability, and structural and wildland fire matters. He is one of only a few attorneys in California to have tried to verdict a California wildland fire case and is currently on several trial teams defending high-stakes wildland fires cases for the company.

#### **Melanie Copic**

### Technical Claims Specialist Brinker International

Melanie Copic is the Technical Claims Specialist for Brinker International. Brinker International, one of the world's leading casual dining restaurant companies, owns, operates or franchises over 1,600 restaurants in 29 countries and 2 territories under the names of Chili's Grill and Bar and Maggiano's Little Italy. Melanie has over 12 years' experience in Risk Management with Brinker and over 18 years managing claims for insurance carriers. Melanie successfully implemented the in-house General Liability Claims Unit at Brinker.

#### **Michael Cortese**

## SVP of Claims Westfield Specialty

Michael Cortese, based in Alpharetta, GA, US, is currently a SVP, Head of Casualty Claims at Westfield Specialty Insurance, bringing experience from previous roles at IAT Insurance Group, Navigators, AIG and Allied World Assurance Comapny. Michael Cortese holds a 1983 - 1987 Bachelor of Science - BS in BS - Kinesiology @ University of Maryland College Park. With a robust skill set that includes Claims Management, Professional Liability, Casualty, Insurance, Property & Casualty Insurance and more, Michael Cortese contributes valuable insights to the industry.

#### **Jerry Craig**

### Manager, Excess Litigation Protective Insurance

Jerry Craig is the excess litigation manager for Protective Insurance, an Indianapolis based multi-line insurer that focuses on the transportation industry. Protective is now part of the Progressive family of insurance – as Progressive Fleet. Jerry oversees litigation of high profile fatality and catastrophic injury claims, mostly associated with trucking accidents. He attends multiple mediations and trials each year. Jerry joined Protective Insurance in 2002. Previously, he was a litigator in Indiana and Illinois in the insurance and business fields. His current litigation management role permits him to engage proactively with front line transportation litigators nationwide to reduce the exposure of the large trucking companies that are his valuable clients.

#### **Melody Curry**

#### Vice President, Environmental Claims Leader Chubb

Melody is the Vice President and Environmental Claims Leader at Chubb North American Claims. Melody leads the Environmental claims teams within the Severity Discipline and serves as the point of contact for coordination and collaboration with the Environmental Underwriting team. Ms. Curry has over 15 years of experience in a broad range of insurance including professional, environmental, toxic tort claims and general liability. Melody began her Chubb career in 2008 in the Environmental Claims Group. In 2013, Melody was promoted to AVP, Claims Manager leading a team within Environmental claims where she has consistently exhibited strong technical expertise and effective leadership. Prior to claims, Melody was an attorney with St. Pauls Travelers.

In addition to her role as VP at Chubb, Melody is an active member of Impact, Mosaic, and the Chubb Start Mentorship Program. Melody attended the University of Michigan, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and the City University of New York of Law, where she received a Juris Doctor degree.

#### Mitchell Dane-Henry

## Senior Manager Insurance Programs Sprouts

Mitchell Dane-Henry is the current Senior Manager Insurance Programs at Sprouts Farmers Market. In this role, he is responsible for procuring and managing the insurance program at Sprouts while interfacing with various departments within the organization to help assess and manage its internal and external risks. In addition, he oversees the internal and external claims roles at Sprouts. Prior to joining Sprouts, Mr. Dane-Henry began his career in 2007 with a non-standard insurer based in Illinois, Founders Insurance Company, handling personal and commercial automobile losses before moving to Travelers to join their inland marine division and most recently held the role of Claims Manager at Retail Properties of America, Inc. where he was primarily responsible for handling the organization's property and casualty claims nationwide.

Mr. Dane-Henry received his Bachelors of Arts from DePaul University located in Chicago, Illinois. He currently holds a Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) designation as well as an Associates in Claims (AIC) designation. In addition, he holds two CLM sponsored designations which are the Certified Litigation Management Professional (CLMP) and the Certified Claims Professional (CCP). Mr. Dane-Henry is currently serving on the Young

Professionals Advisory Board as well as is a Regional Chair for the Claims and Litigation Management Alliance.

#### **Jeff Davis**

#### **AVP & Senior Counsel Lincoln Financial Group**

Jeff currently serves as in-house litigation counsel for Fortune 250 financial services company. He manages litigation caseload, manages paralegals, and supervises subpoena responses. He is also a member of the Crisis Management Team. Prior to joining Lincoln Financial Group in 2012, Jeff worked at Higgins Benjamin PLLC where he served as lead counsel in complex construction arbitrations. He received his B.A. in Political Science and Speech Communication Studies, 2000 Cum Laude, from Clemson University. He received his Juris Doctorate from UNC Chapel Hill School of Law in 2003.

#### Mark DiGiovanni

#### Vice President, Litigation Management Global Indemnity Group

Mark F. DiGiovanni, Esq. joined Global Indemnity Group in April 2008 in the position of Vice President, Claims/Litigation Management. His responsibilities include major litigation oversight as well as the hiring and retention of panel counsel. Prior to joining Global Indemnity, he served as Claims Counsel for The Travelers overseeing major exposure litigation in Eastern Pennsylvania and New England. Mr. DiGiovanni has practiced law for various law firms and insurance companies. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar, and New Jersey Bar, and is admitted to practice in all Federal District and Appellate Courts in those jurisdictions. In addition, Mr. DiGiovanni is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court. He resides in Wayne, Pennsylvania with his wife and four children.

### Kim Dwyer

#### Senior Vice President – Risk Management Interstate Cleaning Corporation

Kim handles the Risk Management and Information Systems for Interstate Cleaning Corporation, a leading national janitorial and maintenance company servicing shopping centers, lifestyle centers, retail stores, and office buildings nationwide. She joined ICC in January 2013. She worked as the Workers' Compensation Administrator for four years and the Risk Manager for six years

before assuming her current role. Kim started her career as a Pricing Analyst at Moog Automotive and then worked at the May Department Stores Company as a Sr. Financial Analyst for five years. Kim also worked as a freelance accountant for over 15 years. She is a fellow at CLM, the Claims and Litigation Management Association, and frequently participates in conferences and educational programs.

#### **Craig Freeberg**

### Vice President, Large Loss & Litigation PURE Insurance

Craig Freeberg is currently serving as AVP, Large Loss & Litigation at PURE Insurance since September 2019. Prior to this, Craig worked as Large Loss and Litigation Management Director at Chubb from September 2016 to September 2019. Craig has also worked as an Attorney at Swift, Currie, McGhee & Hiers from October 2015 to September 2016, and as a Senior Claims Specialist, Excess & Umbrella Complex at ACE Group from August 2011 to October 2015. Craig holds a Juris Doctorate from Florida Coastal School of Law and a Bachelor of Science in Political Science from Florida State University.

#### **Dwight Geddes**

#### Founder Metro Claims & Risk Mgmt

Prior to founding his own business, Dwight Geddes worked in several different roles within the insurance industry, including as an inside/desk adjuster, claims manager and director of claims. Geddes dedicates his time to several industry organizations, including NAAIA; the Dive In Festival; the CLM Alliance, where he is co-chair of the D&I committee; and the annual Claims College, where he serves as a faculty instructor to insurance professionals.

### <u>Krista Glenn</u>

## EVP & Chief Claims Officer Westfield Specialty

At Westfield Specialty, with 30 years of insurance claims and management experience, Ms. Glenn is building a new, full-service claims organization to support all of Westfield Specialty's lines of business which currently include E&S Casualty; E&S Property; Financial Institutions; Management Liability and Westfield Pro (Cyber, E&O and Professional Liability).

Prior to joining Westfield Specialty, Krista spent five years as EVP, Chief Claims Officer at a North Carolina-based insurance carrier. Krista also spent more than 21 years at the ACE/Chubb companies where she held many roles in Chubb, ACE North America and ACE Group Claims. She ended her career at Chubb as the Head of Multinational Claims with dual reporting to the Global Accounts underwriting division. Krista began her career handling claims and declaratory judgment actions at AIG in New York.

Krista is a member of Chief, a 2019 Women to Watch and a 2015 Woman on the Move award winner, a member of the Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel and APIW, and an advisory board member for the CLM. She is a graduate of Seton Hall University and Delaware Law School and is admitted to the bar in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. In her most important role, Krista is the proud mother of two adult daughters.

#### **Justin Gourley**

### Legal Counsel MGM Resorts International

Justin Gourley, based in Las Vegas, NV, currently serves as Legal Counsel at MGM Resorts International. Justin brings experience from previous roles at Harper Selim, Nationwide and The Cooper Castle Law Firm. He brings a robust skill set that includes Legal Research, Employment Law, Legal Writing, Dispute Resolution, Clinical Research and more.

#### **Christopher Greene**

#### Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Canal Insurance Company

Since January 2009, Chris has served Canal, a leading provider of insurance to the commercial trucking marketplace for more than 75 years, as its General Counsel and Corporate Secretary. Additionally, in June 2017 Chris was appointed by the company's board to also serve as its Chief Claims Officer. As the lead lawyer for Canal, Chris focuses his practice on contract review/drafting, regulatory and employment related matters, corporate governance, enterprise risk management, and litigation management. In his additional role as Canal's Chief Claims Officer, Chris provides both strategic and operational leadership to Canal's Claims Department, including all associated litigation across the U.S. A frequent lecturer on the topics of litigation management and bad faith, Chris is a graduate of the University of Alabama School of Law and is admitted to several state and federal bars.

#### Kellen Hade

#### Senior Litigation Counsel | Legal Affairs T-Mobile

Kellen Hade serves as senior litigation counsel at T-Mobile, where he helps the nation's best wireless carrier avoid and resolve disputes with its customers, partners, and regulators. Kellen's team oversees consumer and business litigation across the entire enterprise, which includes product, technology, financial services, and real property issues. He has a particular focus on data privacy and cybersecurity matters. Before joining the Un-carrier, Kellen was a litigation partner at Miller Nash LLP, where his practice similarly focused on advising and defending highly regulated companies. A West Coast native, Kellen received his J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley and B.A. from Oregon State University (no, not the Ducks).

#### **Michelle Han**

#### Senior Claims Specialist Hudson Insurance Group

Michelle Han works as a Senior Specialist at Hudson Insurance Group companies, which is an Insurance company with an estimated 404 employees; and founded in 1918. Michelle is currently based in New York City.

#### **Brittnie Hayes**

#### Vice President, Claims The Doctors Company

Brittnie Hayes, JD, is the Vice President of Claims for Region II at The Doctors Company. Ms. Hayes is honored to help lead Region II and is committed to The Doctors Company's values of reducing risk, improving healthcare, and protecting healthcare practitioners. Ms. Hayes began her career in the courtroom, defending practitioners and healthcare entities in medical malpractice claims. Ms. Hayes later transitioned into the insurance sector, where she has spent over a decade successfully leading claims teams.

As a former trial lawyer defending doctors in the courtroom, Ms. Hayes brings a valuable perspective to litigation management and strategies for successful claims management and outcomes. She brings her hands-on experience to analyzing data, analytics, and team performance, dedicated to supporting processes that work and implementing change when needed.

Ms. Hayes holds a bachelor's degree from Nebraska Wesleyan University and a juris doctor from Creighton University. Ms. Hayes is dedicated to upholding the company's mission and values in her role at The Doctors Company.

#### **Collin Hite**

### Head of Litigation, Insurance Markel

Collin is responsible for oversight of all insurance related litigation, including arbitrations, pending in the United States against Markel entities. In addition, he is tasked with understanding the drivers of social inflation and developing a claims-specific strategy and industry-wide coalition to combating social inflation. As Head of Litigation, he promotes training for claims professionals and outside counsel on litigation strategy, trial tactics, and Markel's expectations on litigated files. Collin is a graduate of Boston College and Southern Methodist University School of Law.

#### **Meghan Hvizdos**

## Vice President, Transportation Claims MC Transportation, Inc.

Meghan Hvizdos is the Vice President of Commercial Auto for Integrated Specialty Coverages, LLC (ISC), a 5-Star Wholesale Broker and MGA with over 16,000 trucks. Meghan has 15+ years' experience in the transportation and insurance industry. She serves on the Board on the Trucking Industry Defense Association (TIDA) Board of Directors and advocates for the industry. As Vice President for ISC, Meghan is responsible for the management and oversight of insurance, claims, and accident litigation. In addition, she collaborates with executive leadership to create and implement continuous improvement initiatives as well as cross-collaborates with multiple departments including risk management, underwriting, insurance programs, brokers and safety. Outside of work, she enjoys traveling, playing golf, and spending time with her family, friends, and dog Ruger.

### **Hillary Jarvis**

#### Chief Claims Officer – North America R&Q Legacy Insurance

Hillary brings over 20 years of experience and was most recently Managing Director, Claims – Compliance and Strategy at Markel where she led a team of

60 responsible for claims compliance, business intelligence, innovation, and strategic planning functions. Prior to this, Hillary was General Counselor, Second Vice President to the Travelers' largest claims center. She started her career practicing law at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman and was of counsel at Steptoe & Johnson.

#### Jessica Johns

### Senior Director, Westchester Excess Complex Casualty Claims Chubb

#### **Jackie Jones**

### Sr. Manager Property Claims Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance

Jacqueline Jones, based in Indianapolis, IN, US, is currently a Property, Commercial and SIU Claims Manager at Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance. Jacqueline Jones brings experience from previous roles at Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance and PLRB.

#### **Richard Kim**

Assistant Director - Corporate Claims Universal Health Services, Inc.

#### Susan LaBar

SVP Large Casualty Practice - Risk Services Leader Lockton Companies

#### **Ozie Lewis**

Assistant Vice President Claim Client Manager
Old Republic Risk Management

Ozie Lewis joined Old Republic Risk Management in August 2015 serving as Claims Manager, responsible for oversight for the Auto Liability, Worker's Compensation and General Liability programs for Old Republic Insurance Company.

#### **Ron Lowell**

General Counsel Western Express

#### **Brad Markvart**

### Senior Manager, Personal Lines Property Litigation American Family Insurance

Brad A. Markvart, Esq. is the Senior Manager of Personal Lines Property Litigation – External Counsel for American Family Mutual Insurance Company. He is a 2002 graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School, and a 1999 graduate of Marquette University. Attorney Markvart is admitted to practice by the State Bar of Wisconsin, the U.S. District Courts for the Western and Eastern Districts of Wisconsin, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, as well as the Oneida Tribal Judicial System. He is a member of the Wisconsin Supreme Court Office of Lawyer Regulation District 10 Committee. He is the past chairman of the State Bar of Wisconsin Lawyer Dispute Resolution Program Committee. Attorney Markvart is a member of the Wisconsin Defense Counsel Insurance Law Committee and the Defense Research Institute. He formerly served as the Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (CLM) Southeast Wisconsin Chapter Secretary.

### **Ronald Mazariegos**

## Vice President, Public Entity and Non-Profit Claims Ambridge Group

Ronald Mazariegos, based in Charlotte, NC, US, is currently a Vice President of Public Entity and Non-Profit Claims at Ambridge Group. Ronald Mazariegos brings experience from previous roles at D.H. Griffin Companies, Arrowpoint Capital, Wilson Elser and New York City Law Department.

#### **Katherine McDaniel**

### Director, Cybersecurity Compliance, Legal Affairs T-Mobile

Katherine is a Director in the Legal Affairs department at T-Mobile where she is responsible for the implementation of T-Mobile's enterprise-wide cybersecurity compliance program applicable to the 24/7 protection of T-Mobile's nationwide wireless, wireline and IT networks, as well as overseeing T-Mobile breach reporting and incident response. Katherine also provides strategic guidance on

emerging T-Mobile products and services, influencing the design of those products and services to ensure compliance with applicable cyberthreat and infrastructure security laws and best practices.

Prior to joining T-Mobile, Katherine worked in private practice in New York, where she represented public and private companies, financial institutions, and corporate executives and individuals involved in high-stakes commercial litigation matters. Katherine holds a J.D. from Yale Law School and B.A.s from the University of Washington in Philosophy and Intellectual History. Katherine has also been the recipient of several awards for her dedication to pro bono work.

#### **April McIntire**

Sr Manager Claims Litigation Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance

#### James Minniti

### Vice President Allied World

James Minniti, based in New York, New York, United States, is currently a Vice President at Allied World, bringing experience from previous roles at Marsh and AIG. James Minniti holds a 1995 - 1998 Doctor of Law (JD) @ St. John's University School of Law. With a robust skill set that includes Product Liability, Liability, Claim, Litigation, Arbitration and more, James Minniti contributes valuable insights to the industry.

### Nicole Moodie

## Claims Specialist Hudson Insurance Group

Since 2021, Nicole Moodie has been employed with Hudson Insurance Group as a Claims Specialist. She started working in Auto Claims in 2001. With 23 years of experience, Nicole handles mid to high exposure Commercial Auto and Bodily Injury Claims. She handles Catastrophe Losses and completed Diminished Value Assessments for different states; including auto theft claims in four states which included, Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina and South Carolina. When a suit is filed, Nicole works closely with the Defense Counsel partners to resolve those claims pre-trial. She was an Arbitration Panelist where she would hear cases in Manhattan in the Financial District area.

Outside of Hudson, Nicole enjoys working out, spending time with my family and friends, and being a mom to her active and athletic son Caleb who has just started playing football. She is also involved in numerous charity organizations including Susan B Komen, March of Dimes, Westchester Food Bank, and NAACP just to name a few.

#### Michel Morgan

### General Counsel of Operations Universal Property

Michel specializes in insurance coverage, liability defense, and legal department operations as General Counsel of Operations at Universal Property and Casualty Insurance Company. In this role Michel effectively evaluates business risks and provides strategic direction that minimizes or avoids extracontractual exposure in the management of legal affairs as it relates to property damage claims and the operation of the Company's legal department.

Prior to joining Universal, Michel served as defense counsel in state and federal court lawsuits on behalf of corporations facing exposure against multimillion-dollar judgments for professional and commercial general liability claims.

#### **Stephanie Morris**

## Paralegal - Insured Litigation The Kroger Co.

Stephanie S. Morris has been a litigation paralegal for 25 years. Since September 2012, Stephanie has worked at The Kroger Co., one of the largest retailers in the United States, as a Corporate Insured Litigation Paralegal. She is responsible for supporting eight (8) Kroger divisions which responsibilities include the management of their claims and litigated cases, third-party subpoenas, providing legal guidance to clients, and attending settlement conferences and mediations. In addition to supporting eight (8) Kroger divisions, she is also responsible for the handling of FTC and SEC matters, Civil Information Demands, and Michigan bounty law cases for the entire company. She is one of two associates responsible for assigning matters served upon the company's registered agent. Prior to The Kroger Co., Stephanie was a medical malpractice defense litigation paralegal.

Stephanie earned her Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Thomas More College, her Associate's Degree for Paralegal Studies from Beckfield College and is an OSBA Certified Paralegal through the Ohio State Bar Association. She has been a member of the Cincinnati Paralegal Association

since 2006, has served on their Board of Directors, and is currently serving as their Parliamentarian for the 22024-2025 term.

In her spare time, Stephanie enjoys antiquing, watching ice hockey (go Pens!) and baseball (go Reds!), researching and reading about esoteric subjects, traveling, and is an avid book collector. She is an advocate for all animals and believes that the world would be a much better place if everyone displayed kindness to one another. Her favorite quote is by Maya Angelou: "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

#### Yara Mouded

### Divisional Assistant Vice President, Excess Casualty Claims Great American Custom Insurance

Yara Mouded, based in New York, NY, US, is currently a Divisional Assistant Vice President, Great American Custom Insurance at Great American Insurance Group. Yara Mouded brings experience from previous roles at Navigators, a brand of The Hartford, Chubb and AIG.

#### **Derrick Mullen**

#### Vice President, Home Office Claims Seneca Insurance Company

Derrick Mullen is a Vice President with the responsibility for handling complex and high exposure litigated claims involving major coverage issues, coordinating mediation days, manages a plaintiff doctors spreadsheet as well as managing defense and coverage law firms at Seneca Insurance Company, Inc. Since 1991, he has also worked for Hartford Insurance Company and Crum & Forster Insurance Company as an inside claims representative and an auto claims supervisor. Derrick gained a Bachelors of Science degree in Computer Engineering at Gardner Webb University in Boiling Springs, North Carolina. In his current role, Derrick specializes in commercial general liability insurance claims, as well as first party property litigation filed against the company.

Derrick's success in this area is supported by excellent negotiation and communication skills, high claim technical ability, leadership, organizational skills combined with a special interest in coverage, habitability, products defect as well as construction defect claims. Derrick also carries an insurance adjusting license in 17-States and has a designation as a Master Certified Special Arbitrator (MCSA) as well as a Certified Claims Professional (CCP) designation. Derrick lives in Ozone Park, New York with his cat named Kobe. When not

working, Derrick likes to watch movies, spend time with his two adult daughters, attend sporting events, workout, travel and dine at restaurants.

#### **Scott Rogers**

### Associated Counsel Invited Clubs

Scott Rogers (Dallas, Texas) is Associate Counsel handling litigation and disputes for Invited, the largest owner and operator of private clubs in the U.S. As the company's litigation counsel, he manages a variety of business disputes for the company in jurisdictions nationwide and coordinates the company's defense against general liability claims. He is responsible for directing strategy and engaging and working with outside counsel to handle the day-to-day prosecution and defense of these claims, providing advice to clubs across the Invited network, and collaborating with the company's small internal legal team to implement best practices.

#### Phyllis Rosenbaum

### Assistant Vice President, Deputy General Counsel, Operations Nemours Children's Health

Phyllis Rosenbaum joined the Legal Department of Nemours Children's Health in May 2005, and has been responsible for medical malpractice litigation, medical-legal issues, employment matters, and medical staff matters. In October 2022, Phyllis was named Assistant Vice President and Deputy General Counsel for Operations. In this capacity, she serves as primary counsel on legal issues related to the medical staff, labor and employment, employee benefits, and a broad range of medical/legal issues such as informed consent, advance directives, patient privacy, bio-ethical matters, and other patient care issues.

Prior to joining Nemours, Ms. Rosenbaum served as a Hospital Director at Temple University Hospital with responsibility for Medical Staff Affairs, Graduate Medical Education, Risk Management, and Performance Improvement. She also served as Director of Risk Management at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, and Staff Attorney at Vanderbilt University.

Ms. Rosenbaum received a Bachelor's of Arts Degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1989 and a Juris Doctor Degree from The Dickinson School of Law in 1992. She is admitted to practice law in Pennsylvania and Tennessee.

#### Rachel Schulman

#### AVP Chubb

Rachel is currently an Assistant Vice President in Environmental Claims with Chubb where she manages a team of claims handlers who oversee both first party and third-party environmental matters. Prior to that Rachel worked in various technical roles in the environmental claims group with Chubb. Rachel received a B.A. in history from the State University of New York at Binghamton and a J.D. from Brooklyn Law School. She is admitted to practice law in New York and in New Jersey.

Rachel has over 16 years in the insurance industry. Prior to joining Chubb she was a Claims Specialist with Zurich handling general liability claims. She began her insurance career at AIG handling long term environmental liability claims as a Home Office Supervisor. Rachel began her legal career in Rockland County New York where she represented clients in a range of matters including personal injury matters and bankruptcy matters.

#### Aileen Schwartz

### Senior Vice President, Senior Corporate Counsel US & Privacy Officer Hill International, Inc.

Aileen R. Schwartz has over 25 years of experience as an Attorney at Law including 7 years of experience as General Counsel to a real estate development, investment, and property management company. Ms. Schwartz has specialized in the areas of real estate development, construction law, corporate law, leasing, contracts, and litigation management. Ms. Schwartz has worked for privately held companies and law firms, and she was also the principal of her own private law firm. She is a Certified Mediator and has acted as an Arbitrator for the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas.

As Senior Vice President, Senior Corporate Counsel, Privacy Officer, and Assistant Corporate Secretary for Hill International, Ms. Schwartz's primary responsibilities are to draft, negotiate, manage, maintain, and administer Hill's United States contracts and leases, handle Human Resource issues and investigations, and to manage and oversee Hill's litigation in North America. Ms. Schwartz also implements and oversees Hill's privacy policies in North America and Internationally.

#### Richard Sedory

## General Counsel Wastequip LLC

Richard Sedory joined Wastequip as General Counsel in 2013. Prior to joining Wastequip, he was General Counsel for Transtar Industries and Axiom Automotive Technologies, and held senior legal, human resources and administrative positions at United Technologies, PNC Bank and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Rich has significant expertise in mergers and acquisitions; employment, labor and employee benefit laws; intellectual property; and negotiating and drafting all types of commercial agreements.

Rich is the President Elect of the University of Pittsburgh Alumni Association, a Director for Patriot Container Corp. and a member of the National Association of Corporate Directors and Association of Corporate Counsel. He was recognized as "General Counsel of the Year" by the Charlotte Business Journal in 2018 and OnCon Icon "Top 50 Corporate Counsel" in 2020. He serves on the Executive Committee for ManUp Charlotte, is an Advisory Council Member for Carolina's Executive Roundtable and previously served as a Board Member of the Charlotte Chapter of the Association of Corporate Counsel and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh. Rich regularly presents and moderates nationally at numerous continuing legal education seminars and volunteers for pro bono and charity activities in the Charlotte area. Rich received his JD from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law and has dual undergraduate degrees in Business and Political Science from the University of Pittsburgh.

### <u>Thomas Sheridan</u>

### VP, Director of Specialty & Delegated Authority Claims MSIG Insurance Services

Tom Sheridan is VP, Director of Specialty Lines & Delegated Authority Claims at MSIG USA. Tom is a claims leader with a decade of experience managing and resolving complex and high severity claims across many product lines. Tom has developed operational and technical teams to handle claims for each new specialty line that MSIG USA has pursued in the last 10 years – e.g. Management Liability, Cyber, Financial Lines and others. Prior to joining MSIG USA, Tom was a commercial litigator at Riker Danzig LLP where he helped his clients achieve their business objectives. On a personal note, Tom is happily married and dad to two great kids. Tom coaches ice hockey and lacrosse, and enjoys running.

#### **Matt Shusterman**

### Senior Vice President - Claims Attorney Prime Insurance

Matt Shusterman joined Prime Insurance Company, an excess and surplus lines carrier, as a claims attorney in January 2020 working out of its Exton, Pennsylvania office. Shusterman is currently a senior vice president managing property and bodily injury claims, in addition to supervising a team of adjusters. Before working for Prime Insurance Company, Shusterman was an attorney in Philadelphia at a regional insurance defense firm.

#### Susan Smith

### Claims Specialist Next Insurance

Susan Smith is a Claims Specialist with Next Insurance. She has been in the insurance business since 1991, with extensive experience in litigation and coverage. Susan completed her CPCU in 2016. She was born and raised in Northwest Indiana, approximately 35 miles from Chicago and graduated from University of Houston with a BBA. Susan currently lives in Austin, TX.

#### **Matthew Spector**

### VP, Excess Complex and Environmental Claims Leader Chubb

Matt began his career in 2003 with New Jersey Manufacturers Insurance handling various 1st and 3rd party claims. In 2006, Matt began with Harleysville Insurance (Nationwide) working as a Commercial Claims Examiner handling both Property Damage and Bodily Injury claims. He moved to York Risk Services in 2009 handling high exposure casualty claims for various insurers and clients. In 2012 Matt joined Hess Corporation in a Risk Management role in their Corporate Insurance department managing their foreign and domestic claims along with overseeing their TPA operations. In 2014, Matt joined CHUBB as a Sr. Claims Director in the Primary Complex Casualty unit. Matt has spent his last ten years at Chubb handling roles of increasing responsibility.

Within CHUBB, his current role is Vice President, Excess Casualty and Environmental Claims Leader. He currently manages a team of Excess Complex Claims groups, which consists of 2 AVP – Claims Managers and 13 technicians, along with the Environmental group, which consists of three managers and 15 technicians. Matt is a graduate of Fairleigh Dickinson University, where he was a

business management major. Matt also has achieved multiple insurance designations including AIC, LPCS and AINS.

#### Carl St. Amand

### Claims Director Chubb

#### **David Stark**

#### Former GC of Teva, Founder of Stark Creative Industries

As the former Chief Legal Officer at Teva, the world's largest generic drug manufacturer, David delivers value by orchestrating legal wins and settlements and negotiating multibillion-dollar transactions – and has worked extensively with boards, multiple CEOs, executives, colleagues and peers to chart an organization's strategic direction. 20+ years of experience as in-house counsel and 8 years of experience as an associate in several New York law firms, David has played a key role in an array of complex legal matters across industries and across geographies.

- Strategic Legal Executive who counseled and partnered with directors and chief executives to overcome a significant number of highly intense legal, regulatory and compliance challenges.
- Accomplished attorney with strong business acumen and unmatched record of accomplishments in nearly every facet of the legal ecosystem, governance and large team dynamics.
- Leading Governance Expert who shepherded public company board, and its members, through multiple existential threats.
- Global Leader & Team Builder who drives high performance while maintaining strong compliance culture. Known for making tough decisions, building and supporting high functioning teams, and remaining calm under pressure.

### Frank Tarsi

## Sr Claim Analyst Universal Health Services, Inc.

Frank Tarsi has been working as a Claims Adjuster at Universal Health Services for 9 years. Universal Health Services is part of the Hospitals & Physicians Clinics industry, and located in Pennsylvania, United States.

#### **Eric Wood**

## Senior Litigation Counsel AtlantiCare Health System

Eric is an accomplished trial attorney with over 33 years of experience handling various types of litigation matters and providing general business advice relating to complex commercial transactions, construction related matters, and trust and estate disputes. Eric has served as lead trial counsel for over 100 matters in which several million dollars in damages were at issue. Most recently, Eric joined the AtlantiCare Health System as its Senior Litigation Counsel. Eric has argued matters before the New Jersey Appellate Division, Pennsylvania Superior Court, New Jersey Supreme Court, Pennsylvania Supreme Court, and the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. Eric regularly lectures on such topics as witness preparation for both discovery and trial, demonstrative evidence, preparation of expert reports, professional litigation avoidance for physicians, nurses and other health care professionals, peer review and self-critical analysis privileges, and courtroom presentation. Eric is a Certified Civil Trial Attorney in New Jersey and AV Preeminent rated by Martindale Hubbell. Eric has been recognized as a New Jersey Super Lawyer from 2010 to the present. In 2023, Eric was awarded the Professional Lawyer of the year award by the Atlantic County Bar Association.