

[NAMWOLF hosts networking event](#)

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The National Association of Minority & Women Owned Law Firms held a networking breakfast Friday. Those who attended included Ray Manista, general counsel for Northwestern Mutual; NAMWOLF CEO Joel Stern; Doug Hagerman, Rockwell Automation's general counsel; Brian Cadwallader, general counsel for Johnson Controls; Jeffrey Lane, general counsel for MGIC Investment Corp.; and Paul Jones, general counsel for Harley Davidson. (Staff photos by Erika Strebel)

The National Association of Minority & Women Owned Law Firms held a networking breakfast Friday.

Around 40 people were expected to attend, including general counsel from various Milwaukee-area companies such as Johnson Controls, Northwestern Mutual and Harley Davidson.

The event was held at the University Club, 924 E. Wells St.

The National Association of Minority & Women Owned Law Firms is a nonprofit trade association founded in Milwaukee in 2001 by Gonzalez, Saggio and Harlan LLP, Milwaukee.

Its mission is to promote diversity in the legal profession by fostering relationships between minority- and women-owned law firms and public and private companies.

"NAMWOLF is the kitchen," said NAMWOLF CEO Joel Stern. "The delicacies are the lawyers that are part of the law firms."

Stern, who has been involved with NAMWOLF for nearly a decade, said he brings a unique approach because he was in-house counsel for more than 30 years.

"I'm selling to in-house counsel what I bought for many years," Stern said.

The association's annual meeting will be from Sept. 16-19 in Hollywood, Calif.

