

# NAMWOLF

## PRACTICE AREA COMMITTEE

**INSURANCE** 

# POLICIES



# PROCEDURE



## About the Insurance Practice Area Group

NAMWOLF's Insurance Practice Area Committee's ("I-PAC") mission is to introduce insurance clients to a national network of preeminent women and minority owned law firms comprised of highly skilled attorneys who are interested in their clients' issues, with the goal of fostering synergistic relationships. Member firms have significant expertise representing insurance companies relating to insurance products and personal and commercial insurance lines of business. Member firms also have experience with insurer recovery actions, and matters involving life, health, annuities and disability products and ERISA plans. Many Member attorneys came from the largest and most well-known firms and in-house legal departments in the country, and have significant experience representing Fortune 500 corporations. Through the I-PAC, NAMWOLF law firms and insurers will partner to identify potential problems, develop cost-effective solutions and explore the potential for an early resolution. If a settlement is not achievable, the Member firms have the depth of experience to try cases and handle appeals.

This booklet contains profiles of NAMWOLF firms that have significant experience working with insurance companies on a variety of matters. The firms are divided alphabetically, by practice area and by state.





# About NAMWOLF

Founded in 2001, NAMWOLF is a nonprofit trade association comprised of minority and women-owned law firms who have exhibited excellence in the legal profession, and other interested parties throughout the United States. Many corporations and public entities committed to diversifying their outside law firm ranks have focused on the utilization of minority and female attorneys at majority firms. However, the most effective way for corporations and public entities to increase diversity in the legal profession is to increase their utilization of minority and women-owned law firms. NAMWOLF's mission is to promote true diversity in the legal profession by fostering the development of long lasting relationships between preeminent minority and women-owned law firms and corporations and public entities.

## About NAMWOLF's Law Firm Membership

NAMWOLF Law Firm Members must complete an extensive application and screening process before they can be admitted for membership. Law Firm Candidates must exhibit excellence in the quality of law practiced, as evidenced by corporate references, presence on outside counsel approved lists and panels for national or regional corporations, Martindale-Hubbell AV Peer Review Rating, and other awards and memberships. Law firms must be headquartered in the United States or Puerto Rico and have a minimum of three full-time attorneys. profession by fostering the development of long lasting relationships between preeminent minority and women-owned law firms and corporations and public entities.

## NAMWOLF INSURANCE

## INJORANCE

## PRACTICE AREA COMMITTEE

## PAC Firms

Boggs, Avellino, Lach & Boggs, L.L.C.Illinois   Missouribalblawyers.comChristian, Dichter & Sluga, P.C.Arizona   Nevada   New Mexicocdslawfrm.comClayborne & WagnerIllinoiscswlawlip.comColvin, Saenz, Rodriguez & Kennamer, LL.P.Texasrcclaw.comCourington, Kiefer, Sommers, MarulloLouisiana   Missispip   Texascourington-law.com# Matherne LCWisconsinemilebankslaw.comFields & Brown, LLCWisconsinemilebankslaw.comFields & Brown, LLCMissourifeldsandbrown.comHamilton, Miller & Birthisel, LLPFiorda   Janaza   New York   Puero Rokhamiltonmillerlaw.comHamilton, Miller & Birthisel, LLPFiorda   Janaza   New York   Puero Rokhamiltonmillerlaw.comLog Langetter Law, P.A.Minesotajaelmeniaw.comJ. Selmer Law, P.A.Galforniakickw.comLafayette & Kumagai LLPCaliforniakickw.comLafayette & Kumagai LLPSouth CarolinaIbrblaw.comMartineau King PLLCNorth Carolina   South Carolinamartineauding.comNilan Johnson LewisMinnesotanallonjohnson.comParz MorrisConnect(Lt   New Jersey   New Yorkperz-morris.comSacro & Walker, LLPCaliforniasacrowalker, comSacro & Walker, PCCalifo	Firm Name	Location/s Website		
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	Torres Law	Florida	torresvictor.com	
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## NAMWOLF

## INSURANCE

## PRACTICE AREA COMMITTEE

#### **Automobile Liability**

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#### **Commercial General Liability**

Boggs, Avellino, Lach & Boggs, L.L.C. Christian, Dichter & Sluga, P.C. Clayborne & Wagner Colvin, Saenz, Rodriguez & Kennamer, L.L.P. Courington, Kiefer, Sommers, Marullo & Matherne LLC d'Arcambal Ousley & Cuyler Burk, LLP Emile Banks & Associates, LLC Fields & Brown, LLC Fisher Maas Howard Lloyd & Wheeler P.C. Hamilton, Miller & Birthisel, LLP Hozubin, Moberly, Lynch & Associates J. Selmer Law, P.A. Magdich Law Martineau King PLLC Nilan Johnson Lewis Perez Morris Roig Lawyers The Royal Law Firm Sacro & Walker, LLP Sanchez Daniels & Hoffman LLP SMGO Law Sutton Booker PC Torres Victor Walsh Pizzi O'Reilly Falanga LLP Wells, Anderson & Race, LLC

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Our practice is litigation, frequently trying cases to verdict. We have tried cases in Illinois (Adams, Bond, Clinton, Franklin, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Lawrence, Macon, Macoupin, Madison, Marion, Massac, Monroe, Perry, Pope, Pulaski, Randolph, Saline, Sangamon, Shelby, St. Clair, Tazewell, Wayne, and Williamson counties); Missouri (Boone, Camden, Cape Girardeau, Cole, Greene, Phelps, Jackson, Jefferson, Marion, Monroe, St. Louis, St. Louis City, and Taney counties); and the United States District Courts for the Southern District of Illinois and Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri. Yet, we also recognize the value of resolving cases before trial and assess cases early to resolve cases at the earliest stage possible.

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#### **Cost-Effective, Client-Centered Focus.**

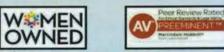
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#### Contact:

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Christian, Dichter & Sluga insurance attorneys offer a four-decade tradition of committed advocacy for insurers in complex insurance coverage and bad faith matters. In coverage matters, we try to minimize surprises and maximize predictability, with thoughtful, practical advice designed to avoid unexpected turns of events and expensive litigation. We address coverage issues directly, resolve them, and get our lawyers off the clock. Most recently, CDS secured a victory for their insurer clients before the Supreme Court of Nevada in an appeal regarding the validity of an exclusion for damages "payable to insured" in a personal umbrella liability policy.

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- Arizona Association of Defense Counsel
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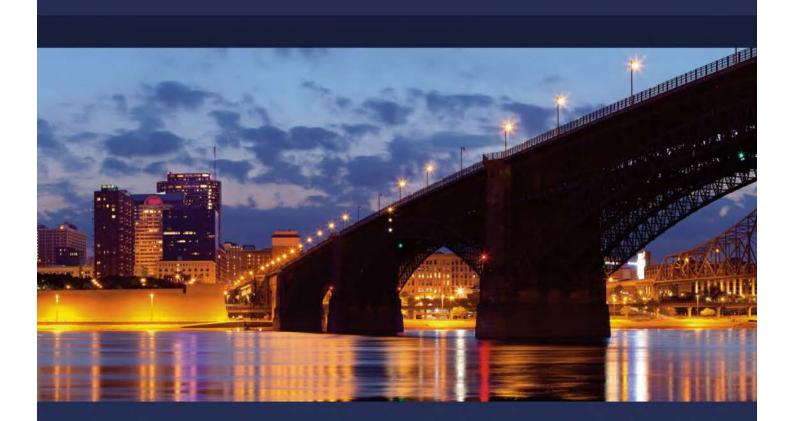
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Michelle d'Arcambal: New York office. Ms. d'Arcambal has more than twenty-five years of experience defending companies in all aspects of commercial litigation, including banking fidelity bonds, mortgage, and other financial products litigation. She has handled many and varied matters relating to life, health, and disability litigation since 1994. Ms. d'Arcambal developed a unique understanding of corporations and their businesses while working in the Legal Department of Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. At MetLife, she defended the company in nationwide class actions relating to allegations concerning the sale of individual life insurance products in connection with the "vanishing premium" litigation. Ms. d'Arcambal also defended the company in group life, health, and disability matters, supervised outside counsel nationwide, and advised business clients regarding pre-litigation issues.

Jodie Ousley: New York office. Ms. Ousley has a diverse commercial litigation background that includes life, health and disability product and plan litigation as well as fraud investigation and litigation. She has represented companies in actions against providers, insureds, and plan members regarding fraudulent claims for benefits. In addition, she successfully represented the interests of financial institutions in federal actions involving fraud, negligence, and ADA and DTPA claims. Ms. Ousley began her legal career in New York City as an examining attorney for the Public Assistance and Grants Unit of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI). While with DOI, Ms. Ousley investigated and referred for prosecution cases of fraud, corruption and unethical conduct by city employees, contractors, and others who received city funds. Ms. Ousley also represents hotels and hospitality companies in connection with building and fire codeviolations.

Jaclyn DiLascio Malyk: New Jersey office. Ms. Malyk is licensed to practice in the state and federal courts of New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. Ms. Malyk focuses her practice on insurance law, including life, health, and disability litigation, other insurance coverage litigation and insurance products regulation, general contract litigation, and tort defense. Ms. Malyk gained invaluable experience during her tenure in the in-house law department of a Fortune 100 life insurance company. Ms. Malyk continues to give advice on state insurance and annuities regulations in connection with the development of new lines of insurance business and the operation of existing lines. Ms. Malyk further advises on litigation readiness, and has been instrumental in fostering program-wide proactive approaches to discovery to increase success and cost-effectiveness.

Kimberly A. O'Toole: New York office. Ms. O'Toole has practiced for sixteen years. Among matters at DO&CB, she has defended insurance companies in life insurance matters involving allegations of bad faith. She represents financial service companies in contested foreclosure matters and she defends hotel clients in various civil and criminal matters relating to violations and complaints issued by the FDNY and ECB. In addition, she managed e-discovery in response to a third party subpoena issued in a securities class action matter. Ms. O'Toole previously practiced law for more than six years as a litigator with Shearman & Sterling, representing financial institutions in complex civil litigations and for two years as a transactional real estate attorney in solo practice. She graduated cum laude from Georgetown's Law Center in 1991, where she was a Notes and Comments Editor on the Georgetown Law Review, and graduated summa cum laude from Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business in 1988.

Nada Maalouf Peters: New Jersey office. Ms. Peters's practice focuses on life, health, and disability litigation, including ERISA, insurance coverage and other commercial litigation and tort defense litigation and products liability. Prior to joining DO&CB in 2007, Ms. Peters worked in the litigation department at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, where she was centrally involved in a two-year internal investigation of Fannie Mae. Ms. Peters is licensed to practice in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

Ms. Creed is a Partner at d'Arcambal Ousley & Cuyler Burk LLP ("DO&CB"), based in New York City and New Jersey. Ms. Creed has several years' experience defending major insurance companies in litigation involving life, health, and disability insurance, including matters involving allegations of bad faith and consumer fraud. Ms. Creed also defends corporate clients in various other commercial, premises liability, tort, and breach of contract actions. DO&CB serves as national coordinating counsel in insurance interpleader actions for two major insurance companies throughout the country and Ms. Creed plays a senior role in the program's management and litigation of those cases.

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**ABOUT THE FIRM**: Emile Banks & Associates, LLC is a Milwaukee defense firm with nine attorneys having over 200 combined years of experience in courtrooms throughout Wisconsin. The firm was founded in 1999 to provide clients with high-quality, cost-effective legal services. The firm's principal, **Emile H. Banks**, Jr., is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, one of the premier legal associations in the United States. Fellowship in the College is extended by invitation only, comprising the top 1% of trial lawyers in United States and Canada. Emile is also a member of the International Association of Defense Counsel, the oldest and most prestigious international organization of attorneys representing corporations and insurers. Membership in the IADC is a select privilege and also by invitation only. Emile has also been selected as a Super Lawyer from 2005-2008, including being listed as one of the **Top 50 attorneys in Wisconsin** in 2008.

The goal of Emile Banks & Associates, LLC is to achieve the best possible result for clients at a fair cost. The firm believes that early, aggressive and thorough preparation is essential, along with innovation and creativity during the litigation process in order to achieve positive results.

The firm believes in vigorous advocacy on behalf of its clients. Through experience, the firm has found that mediation, arbitration and other creative forms of alternative dispute resolution are effective and economical ways of resolving certain disputes. The firm's reputation for high quality legal representation and skilled trial practice often enables it to secure favorable pre-trial settlements for its clients. However, once a decision has been made to try a case, the firm is willing to do so at any time and at any location. The firm is known for its aggressive and well-prepared trial attorneys, and opposing litigators know there is a strong likelihood Emile Banks & Associates, LLC will prevail at trial.

<u>AREAS OF PRACTICE</u>: Emile Banks & Associates, LLC has provided trial and appellate representation in virtually every area of commercial and civil practice, including product liability, auto accident liability, professional liability, medical malpractice, transportation, building construction, premises liability, inland marine, employment law, fire and explosions, environmental impairment, toxic torts, insurance, municipal law, school law, contract interpretation and claims disputes. In addition, our firm advises insurance company clients on risk assessment and management, coverage opinions and insurance code compliance.

**FIRM DEMOGRAPHICS AND GEOGRAPHIC PRACTICE AREA**: The only principal of Emile Banks & Associates, LLC, since being established in 1999, is Emile H. Banks, Jr., who is African-American. Each of the firm's attorneys practices in state and federal courts across Wisconsin. One of the firm's attorneys is also licensed to practice in Illinois and another in California.

**REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS/REFERENCES**: GEICO Ins. Co.; American Family Ins. Co.; Acuity, A Mutual Ins. Co.; Progressive Ins. Co., State Farm Ins. Co.; Continental Western Ins. Co.; General Casualty Ins. Co.; Aegis Corporation; Wisconsin Mutual Ins. Co.; OHIC Ins. Co.; Wisconsin Patients Compensation Fund; AIG, The Truck Ins. Group; Triangle Ins. Co.; Shelter Mutual Ins. Co.; Johnson Controls, Inc.; Milwaukee Transport Services; Districts Mutual Ins. Co.; Wisconsin Health Care Liability Ins. Plan; Medical Protective Ins. Co.; Northwestern National Ins. Co.; Highlands Insurance Group.

Vicki L. Arrowood Timothy L. Baldwin Emile H. Banks, Jr. Thomas J. Donnelly L. Nicole Kintop Jonathan M. Ray Brenda M. S. Rivecca Ellen L. Spahr Karri E. Zwicker **Emile H. Banks. Jr.** (Senior Partner) born Chicago, Illinois, February 2,1959; admitted to bar, 1984, Wisconsin and U.S. District Court, Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin. **Education:** Cardinal Stritch College (B.A., 1981); Ohio Northern University, (J.D., 1984). Phi Alpha Delta. Associate Research Editor Ohio Northern Law Review, 1982-1983. Super Lawyer for Wisconsin, 2005-2009 (top 50, 2008-2009). Member, Supreme Court of Wisconsin Board of Attorney Professional Responsibility. Board Member, State Bar of Wisconsin Litigation Section. **Member:** State Bar of Wisconsin, (Member, Chief Judge Subcommittee on Juror Treatment and Selection); American Bar Association; Wisconsin Association of Minority Attorneys; Civil Defense Counsel of Wisconsin; Defense Research Institute: International Association of Defense Counsel; National Association of Bond Lawyers; National Association of Minority & Women Owned Law Firms; Council on Litigation Management. Fellow: American College of Trial Lawyers; Litigation Counsel of America; ABOTA; Council on Litigation Management. **Practice Areas:** Insurance Litigation; Negligence Law; Insurance Coverage law; Product Liability Law; Corporate Law; Personal Injury Litigation; Environmental Law; Medical Malpractice Defense; Securities Litigation; Transportation Law; Employment Law. **Email:** emile@emilebankslaw.com

Thomas J. Donnelly (Partner) born Detroit, Michigan, June 5, 1970; admitted to bar, 1995, Wisconsin and U.S. District Court, Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin. Education: Northwestem University (BA, Economics, with honors, 1992); Marquette University (J.D., 1995). Member: State Bar of Wisconsin. Practice Areas: Insurance Defense. Email: tom@emilebankslaw.com

Vicki L Arrowood (Associate) born Milwaukee, Wisconsin, February 25, 1960; admitted to bar, 1986, Wisconsin and U.S. District Court, Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin. Education: University of Wisconsin-Madison (BA, with distinction, 1982); Marquette University (J.D., 1986). Delta Theta Phi. Member, National Moot Court Team. Member: State Bar of Wisconsin; Civil Trial Counsel of Wisconsin. Practice Areas: Litigation; Insurance Coverage Law; Appellate Practice; Medical Malpractice Defense. Email: vicki@emilebankslaw.com

**Denise M. Harron** (Associate) born Pennsylvania, 1960; admitted to bar, 1988, Wisconsin and U.S. District Court, Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin. **Education:** Marquette University (B.S.N., 1982; J.D., 1988). Registered Professional Nurse; Police Commissioner for Whitefish Bay, WI (2002-Present); Supervising Attorney, Marquette University Law School Mediation Clinic, Milwaukee County Circuit Court, 1999-present; Supervising Attorney, Marquette University Law School's Alternative Dispute Resolution Programs, 1999; Certified National Arbitrator for Better Business Bureau's Autoline Program, 2001-2003; Managed review of complex medical records for HEDIS Audit for Outcomes, Inc. 2004; Frequent Lecturer/Presenter to Incarcerated Inmates: State of Wisconsin, Department of Corrections, Conflict Resolution for Inmates in Maximum Security, 1999-Present, Green Bay Correctional Facility, Green Bay, WI; Frequent Writer/Lecturer on Interpreting Medical Records in Complex Litigation, Mediation/Conflict Resolution and Worker's Compensation Matters. Wisconsin Association of Mediators, Wisconsin Nurses Association. Member: State Bar of Wisconsin. **Practice Areas:** Workers Compensation; Litigation. **Email:** denise@ emilebankslaw.com

Jonathan M. Rav (Associate) born Libertyville, Illinois, July 4, 1961; admitted to bar, 1986, Wisconsin and U.S. District Court, Eastern and Western Districts. of Wisconsin. Education: Luther College (B.A., magna cum laude, 1983), Phi Beta Kappa; University of Wisconsin-Madison (J.D., 1986). Phi Beta Kappa. Inhouse Attorney, Allstate, 1991-2000. Member: State Bar of Wisconsin. Practice Areas: Litigation; Insurance Coverage; Corporate Law; School Law. Email: jon@emilebankslaw.com

Ellen L Spahr (Associate) born Milwaukee, Wisconsin, December 12,1958; admitted to bar, 1985, Illinois, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois and U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin; 2006, Wisconsin. Education: University of Wisconsin-Platteville (B.A., cum laude, 1981, Phi Eta Sigma; Alpha Lamda Delta); John Marshall Law School (J.D., 1984). Member, Moot Court Executive Board. Listed, Super Lawyer for Illinois, 2007. Member: State Bar of Wisconsin; Illinois Trial Lawyers Association; Illinois Defense Council; Chicago Bar Association. Practice Areas: Insurance Litigation; Negligence Law; Insurance Coverage law; Product Liability Law; Corporate Law; Personal Injury Litigation; Environmental Law; Securities Litigation; Transportation Law; Employment Law. Email: ellen@emilebankslaw.com

Brenda M.S. Rivecca (Associate) born Ellendale, North. Dakota. October 21,1976; admitted to bar. 2005, Wisconsin and California. Education: University of. Wisconsin, Eau Claire (B.BA, cum laude, 1999); California Western School of Law (J.D., 2004). Member: State Bar of Wisconsin; State Bar of California; Milwaukee Bar Association; Association of Women Attorneys. Practice Areas: Insurance Defense Litigation. Email: brenda@emilebankslaw.com

L. Nicole Kintop (Associate) born Milwaukee, Wisconsin, March 4,1980; admitted to bar, 2005, Wisconsin. Education: Lane College (B.A., valedictorian, 2000); William Mitchell College of Law (J:D., 2004). Real Estate Broker, Wisconsin, 2006. Member, National Association of Realtors; Wisconsin Realtors Association; Greater Milwaukee Association of Realtors. Member: State Bar of Wisconsin; American Bar Association; National Association of Bond Lawyers; Wisconsin Association of African-American Lawyers; NAIOP, Commercial Real Estate Development Association. Practice Areas: Public Finance; Insurance Defense; Real Estate; Personal Injury; Subrogation. Email: nicole@emilebankslaw.com

Karri E. Zwlcker (Associate) born Milwaukee, Wisconsin, October 30, 1974; admitted to bar, 2002, Wisconsin and U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin; 2004, U.S. District Court, Western District of Wisconsin. Education: Marquette University (B.A., 1998; J.D., 2002). Member: State Bar of Wisconsin. Practice Areas: Insurance Defense. Email: karri@emilebankslaw.com



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#### **ABOUT THE FIRM**

Since 1987, the attorneys at Fields & Brown have been committed to providing aggressive legal representation with cost-effective solutions. Fields & Brown is the oldest and largest minority-owned law firm in the Kansas City metropolitan area. The Firm represents clients in both Kansas and Missouri, utilizing over 150 years of combined legal experience. The Firm has attained a peer reviewed Legal Ability Rating of "AV" Preeminent through the Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory.

#### WHY CHOOSE FIELDS & BROWN

- Our attorneys are seasoned litigators who have tried more than 100 jury trials, many more bench trials, and conducted countless mediations, administrative hearings, and arbitrations.
- We take time to learn the unique and peculiar challenges of each client's industry at our own expense.
- We believe the interests of our clients are best served by diverse, talented attorneys, paralegals, and legal assistants who pursue strong advocacy and maintain high standards of professional conduct.
- Over the past 28 years, Fields & Brown has built a reputation of integrity and credibility with our clients, colleagues and the judiciary.

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#### **ABOUT THE FIRM**

Attorneys at Fields & Brown have significant experience and skill in defending automobile personal injury, premise liability, products liability and workers' compensation maters. The firm currently defends on a significant number of personal injury and premises liability claims, as well as vexatious refusal claims. The firm also handles a significant number of workers' compensation claims managed through various claims agencies and insurers such as Sedgwick CMS, GAB Robins North America, Thomas McGee, L.C., Underwriters Safety & Claims, Inc., Travelers, and one of the largest retailers in the world.

Taylor Fields and Charles R. Brown collectively have over 70 years of experience litigating personal injury, premises liability and workers' compensation claims. The firm presently represents the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KCATA), General Motors Corporation, Missouri Department of Transportation, Missouri Highway Commission, Petco Animal Supplies, Inc, The Prudential Insurance Company of America, The Kroger Company and one of the world's largest retailers in defense of insurance and workers' compensation matters.

#### SENIOR ATTORNEY BIOGRAPHIES

**Taylor Fields** is a member and the managing director of Fields & Brown, LLC. For the past 25 years, Taylor Fields has served as chief employment law counsel to the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority. He received his B.S. in chemical engineering from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1967 and his J.D. from the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 1971. Mr. Fields was a 2003 recipient of the Deans of the Trial Bar award presented by the Kansas City Bar Association, and was honored as recipient of the Lewis Clymer Award for outstanding service to the legal community and was named by the Kansas City Magazine as a "Super Lawyer." Only five percent of the lawyers in Missouri and Kansas receive this honor.

**Charles Brown** is a member and senior partner of Fields & Brown, LLC. Mr. Brown manages the workers' compensation and insurance defense section for the firm. As such, he is responsible for overseeing more than 200 open workers' compensation and personal injury matters. During his career he has successfully tried over 75 jury trials to verdict and conducted numerous workers' compensation hearings. He graduated cum laude with a B.A. in Business Administration and Economics from Graceland University in 1973 and he received his J.D. from the University of Iowa School of Law in 1976.

J. David Bowers is a partner with Fields & Brown, LLC and joined the firm in 1995. Mr. Bowers has extensive trial experience in the areas of employment law, premises liability, products liability and personal injury defense. Mr. Bowers has conducted over 30 jury trials to verdict and numerous bench trials and administrative hearings in his career. Mr. Bowers obtained his B.A. in Economics and Political Science from Missouri State University in 1980 and his J.D. from Washington University in 1983.

**Carla Fields Johnson** is a partner with Fields & Brown, LLC and is admitted to the bar in Missouri and Kansas. Ms. Johnson joined the firm in 1995. She has extensive experience in defending workers' compensation and personal injury matters. Ms. Johnson manages the General Motors Kansas matters handled by the firm. She also represents several clients in premises liability claims. Ms. Johnson serves as Vice Chairperson of NAMWOLF and is the organization's past Treasurer. Ms. Johnson is also a member of the National Bar Association where she served as a past board member. She is a past President of the Jackson County Bar Association. In 2006 she was recognized by Ingram's magazine as one of Kansas City's top 40 individuals under the age of 40.



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With the level of experience of our attorneys and staff, we have sufficient depth to handle all cases regardless of complexity. Through this level of experience, credibility with the court and opposing counsel, and direct accountability at the highest levels, Hozubin, Moberly, Lynch & Associates strives to provide the most efficient, effective legal services to each individual client. We offer the following services:

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**Ruty Gebreab** 



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JSL attorneys skillfully navigate insurers and their insureds through complex matters in **Minnesota**, **Wisconsin**, **North Dakota** and **South Dakota**.

JSL possesses the **Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent Rating**, is a member of the prestigious Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (**CLM**), a member of the Defense Research Institute (**DRI**), and a preeminent member of **NAMWOLF**.

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#### ABOUT THE FIRM:

Called a "Big Gun" and "High Profile" by the *San Francisco Chronicle* and the *Recorder*, and a "Top Law Firm" by the *National Law Journal*, Lafayette & Kumagai LLP is a minority-owned boutique litigation firm that specializes in business torts, employment, complex litigation and trials. Founded in 1994, the firm has earned a reputation for excellence and for providing strong advocacy. Headed by a core of seasoned litigators, the firm has handled a number of high-profile and high-exposure cases on behalf of corporate and public entity clients and is frequently contacted to take over cases from other firms, particularly cases that appear headed for trial. The firm utilizes a full range of litigation approaches to resolving cases, including mediations and other methods of early dispute resolution.

Lafayette & Kumagai received the Minority-Owned Law Firm Client Service Award, presented by the California Minority Counsel Program for outstanding client service. The firm was named by clients as an Honor Roll firm in Complex Commercial Litigation and Complex Employment Litigation in *BTI Litigation Outlook 2019: Changes, Trends and Opportunities for Law Firms*. The firm has been listed in "Litigation Kings" and in "Who Represents America's Biggest Companies?" in *Corporate Counsel* magazine's annual report on the law firms most used by the *Fortune* 100.

#### INSURANCE INDUSTRY PRACTICE:

Lafayette & Kumagai LLP handles insurance defense work on behalf of both insurance carriers and insurance policy holders, in matters including business litigation, product liability and employment litigation. The firm's attorneys have substantial experience handling cases involving insurance law, including insurance coverage and bad faith claims. Lafayette & Kumagai represents several clients in the insurance industry, including the Prudential Insurance Company of America, Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company, Aetna Life Insurance Company, The Hartford, New York Life Insurance Company, Sedgwick Claims Management Services and others.



# Lafayette & Kumagai

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#### PARTNERS:

## Gary T. Lafayette glafayette@lkclaw.com

A founding partner of Lafayette & Kumagai LLP, Gary T. Lafayette graduated from Dartmouth College and received his J.D. from the University of California at Berkeley, School of Law. Mr. Lafayette has an AV Preeminent rating from Martindale-Hubbell, serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the National Employment Law Council. He previously served as a member of the NAMWOLF Board of Directors and was a founding co-chair of the NAMWOLF Trials Practice Area Committee. A highly regarded trial attorney, Mr. Lafayette has tried in excess of thirty cases to verdict. Twenty-nine of his cases have resulted in published opinions, including a significant Supreme Court housing case, *HUD v. Rucker*, 535 U.S. 125 (2002).

Mr. Lafayette received the 2002 *California Lawyer* of the Year Award and the Charles Houston Bar Association Clinton W. White Advocacy Award. Mr. Lafayette is a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America and has been recognized in the Northern California Super Lawyers list for fifteen years. Mr. Lafayette's recent speaking engagements include "Litigation, Mediation and Arbitration "War Stories": The Most Effective Strategies for Remote vs. In-Person Proceedings," American Conference Institute's 29th National Conference on Employment Practices Liability Insurance; "The Practice of Labor & Employment Law: Tools for Success in a New Millennium," National Employment Law Council Bay Area Regional Conference, presented by Facebook and Google; and "The New Age of Privacy: GDPR," NAMWOLF Annual Meeting.

#### Brian H. Chun

#### bchun@lkclaw.com

Brian H. Chun graduated from Stanford University in 1997 and earned his Juris Doctorate in 2001 from Northwestern University. Prior to joining Lafayette & Kumagai, Mr. Chun practiced complex commercial litigation at Bingham McCutchen LLP in San Francisco. His current practice focuses on representing *Fortune* 500 companies in civil litigation matters with an emphasis on employment law. Mr. Chun has been recognized in the Northern California Rising Stars list. He is a member of the Bar Association of San Francisco, the Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area and the Korean American Bar Association of Northern California.

AREAS OF PRACTICE: Labor and Employment Litigation; Insurance Bad Faith; Commercial Litigation; Trial Practice; Appellate Practice; Toxic Tort; Product Liability; Environmental Litigation; Class Actions

#### LICENSED TO PRACTICE IN: California

REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS: Aetna Life Insurance Company; AT&T Services, Inc.; CalPERS; CBS Broadcasting, Inc.; The Coca-Cola Company; Comcast Cable; Denny's, Inc.; DirecTV Group, Inc.; E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Company; Facebook, Inc.; GlaxoSmithKline; Home Depot; Johnson & Johnson; Macy's, Inc.; McDonald's; McKesson Corporation; Microsoft Corporation; MTV Network; Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company; Pacific Bell Telephone Company; Pacific Gas and Electric Company; PBF Energy; Prudential Insurance Company of America; Sedgwick Claims Management Services; Shell Oil Company; The Hartford; United Continental Holdings, Inc.; United Parcel Service, Inc.; Viacom, Inc.; and Xerox Corporation.





**MAGDICH LAW** is a Michigan-based, woman-owned law firm specializing in Insurance Defense and Corporate Litigation in State and Federal Courts. Our attorneys have the expertise to defend our clients aggressively and efficiently. We resolve matters when it is in our client's best interest, yet we are proven trial attorneys, who are ready, willing and able to take a matter to trial or through the appellate process. We provide superior, yet personalized service in a wide variety of civil litigation matters for insurance companies, their insureds, national health care systems and small to mid-sized businesses and corporations. **MAGDICH LAW** attorneys handle matters in State and Federal court. Our attorneys utilize technology in the presentation of trials so juries can see the evidence being discussed in real time. Having tried many cases throughout the State of Michigan, we are well known by the judges. Our attorneys have a proven track record of taking matters over from other counsel for the purpose of trying the case.

#### DIVERSITY

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#### **AFFILIATIONS**

American Bar Association Defense Research Institute Oakland County Bar Association State Bar of Michigan

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#### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Appellate Corporate Defense \* Contract disputes \* Defamation \* Subrogation and restitution Health Care / Medical Malpractice Insurance Coverage Insurance Defense \* Personal Lines \* Commercial General Liability

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<u>About the Firm</u>: Located in Charlotte, NC, and Rock Hill, SC, Martineau King is a certified Woman and Veteran Owned law firm dedicated to representing employers and businesses on legal matters throughout the Carolinas.

About Elizabeth A. Martineau: USMC veteran, Elizabeth Martineau is a founding member of Martineau King. She served on active duty with the United States Marine Corps from 1992-1999, ending her career as a Captain, Judge Advocate. Elizabeth started her civilian legal career in North Carolina where she worked for one of the larger Charlotte-based defense firms. Elizabeth embodies tenaciousness, an unsurpassed work ethic, and, above all, complete loyalty to her clients. With extensive trial experience before state, federal, and administrative courts, Elizabeth offers clients maturity, precise legal analysis, and - when needed - aggressive representation. You definitely want this Marine in your corner.

<u>Our Attorneys:</u> The attorneys at Martineau King are as much innovators in business as they are skilled and experienced trial lawyers. Our attorneys bring a fresh and timely approach to how a litigation firm works. We want your business to not only survive but to thrive. Martineau King successfully handles all levels of litigation and consultation for businesses with legal issues in North and South Carolina. Additionally, our attorneys, including current Trials PAC co-chair **Natasha Durkee**, continue to be actively involved in NAMWOLF, as we believe it is important to not only promote but also exemplify diversity within the legal field.

<u>Why Martineau King</u>: At Martineau King, you get big firm talent without big firm fees. We run our law firm like a business, keeping our overhead down so that we can provide well-priced services without any compromise in quality. **Your mission is our business!** Our firm also has extensive trial experience. Within the last year and a half, our firm has been to trial more than six times.

<u>Our Clients:</u> Our clients range from individuals and small businesses to large international corporations and municipalities. We offer the personal attention that characterizes a small practice with the broad expertise and capabilities of a large firm, and most notably, Martineau King has and continues to garner stellar results for businesses of all sizes.

- Catastrophic injury
- Civil litigation
- Construction litigation
- Creditors' rights
- Defense of government and municipalities







## Our Practice Areas:

- Employment Law
- General business litigation
- Insurance coverage first party litigation
- Premises liability
- Products liability





- Professional malpractice
- Transportation litigation
- Vehicle accident defense
- Workers compensation
- Wrongful death







# **INSURANCE DEEP EXPERTISE**

#### NILAN JOHNSON LEWIS (NJL) is

an innovative, independent, women-owned law firm that is a first choice for organizations across the country seeking deep expertise to solve their complex business challenges and disputes. The firm's status as one of the largest womenowned law firms nationwide reflects NJL's longstanding commitment to fostering a diverse and inclusive workplace. We deliver exceptional results precisely because we celebrate and advance the diversity of our team and clients.

#### ERISA/LIFE, HEALTH, AND DISABILITY

Nilan Johnson Lewis' life, disability and health team represents insurers, ERISA-governed benefit plans, employers, third-party administrators, and reinsurers in federal courts throughout the Midwest and in numerous other states. Our attorneys also counsel clients on compliance with Department of Labor and state law regulations.

#### We defend ERISA claims in the following areas:

- Life, health, disability, and other benefit claims
- Breach of fiduciary duty
- Interpleader actions

#### Bad Faith/Other Benefits litigation:

- Defending bad faith/deceptive trade practices/breach of contract claims
- Punitive damage claims
- Class actions
- Interpleader actions

#### Reinsurance:

- Health care claims
- Coverage disputes

#### COMPLEX INSURANCE DEFENSE AND COVERAGE

Our product liability, complex tort, and commercial practice encompasses a wide range of expertise that allows us to hit the ground running when insurers and their insureds need us most. We have handled auto and truck liability, commercial general liability, negligence, product liability, professional liability, toxic tort, and a variety of other complex claims. We have also served as coverage counsel for coverage opinions and litigation, as well as agent errors and omissions claims. Among other engagements, we have resolved nine-figure contract disputes, defended industry-wide conspiracy and fraud claims, managed litigation across the country as national counsel on complex product liability cases, and taken over trials as drop-in and appellate counsel. We are well prepared to take on the most complex cases for insurers and insureds. Although our primary practice is focused in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and North and South Dakota, we handle cases in a number of other states as well.

#### **OUR NAMWOLF INSURANCE PAC MEMBERS**



612.305.7512 kcurtis@nilaniohnson.com





612.305.7721 bmorgenroth@nilanjohnson.com

#### NILANJOHNSON.COM



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## PAUL GARCIA & associates

.... ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS AT LAW ....

www.pgtxlaw.com

# INNOVATIVE LEGAL SERVICES FOR YOUR BUSINESS

Paul Garcia & Associates is a civil litigation boutique law firm specializing in lawsuits throughout the San Antonio and South Texas Region. The firm has offices in San Antonio as well as Harlingen, so that we can meet the growing needs of our clients that continue to expand through the Southern area of Texas. Paul Garcia has a proven record of success and the firm specializes in representing businesses and corporations with disputes arising from transactional matters to the most serious accidents. Our practice is primarily focused on the defense of businesses and corporations with a proven ability to win cases in counties that are known to be Plaintiff friendly throughout the state.

#### PAUL GARCIA & ASSOCIATES 4801 NW LOOP 410, SUITE 525 : SAN ANTONIO, TX 78229 ...... TEL 210-340-1818 : FAX 210-340-4073 ......

pgarcia@pgtxlaw.com



Paul Garcia & Associates is a civil litigation boutique law firm specializing in lawsuits throughout the San Antonio and South Texas Region. The firm has offices in San Antonio as well as Harlingen, so that we can meet the growing needs of our clients that continue to expand through the Southern area of Texas. Paul Garcia has a proven record of success and the firm specializes in representing businesses and corporations with disputes arising from transactional matters to the most serious accidents. Our practice is primarily focused on the defense of businesses and corporations with a proven ability to win cases in counties that are known to be Plaintiff friendly throughout the state.

#### ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS AT LAW

#### Paul Garcia & Associates

4801 N.W. Loop 410, Suite 525 San Antonio, Texas 78229 Office: 210.340.1818 Fax: 210.340.4073 www.pgtxlaw.com

#### AREAS OF PRACTICE

Building and Construction Claims General Insurance Matters Business and Consumer Credit Litigation Negligence Including Vehicle, Premises Liability/Premises Security Defamation Commercial Litigation Products Liability Transportation and Trucking (Intrastate and Interstate) Family Law and Divorce Products Liability Corporate Formation Business Law/Business Litigation

#### **REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS**

HEB Grocery Baxter Healthcare YRC Worldwide Whole Foods Grocery Broadspire Insurance Gallagher Basset Crawford & Company

#### Innovative Legal Services for Your Business™

At Paul Garcia & Associates, our philosophy is to put the clients first and obtain results in a cost effective manner. The legal team at Paul Garcia & Associates believes that efficient legal services that provide proven results will always benefit the client and consumers. The firm practice is to resolve a case as quickly as possible while ensuring the client's interest are always protected. The attorneys at Paul Garcia & Associates will often project the estimated costs of legal fees versus the benefit of early settlement, so that clients will see and understand the effectiveness of early disposition of cases.





A full-service business law firm practicing nationwide



# We Know Insurance Litigation

perezmorris.com

Perez Morris has extensive experience representing large insurance companies in a variety of complex coverage, extra-contractual and bad faith litigation matters, including those involving commercial general liability policies, specialty property and casualty policies, professional liability, excess and umbrella policies, health/life policies and workers' compensation policies. We also provide counsel to insurers on policy drafting and interpretation, claim handling practices, and risk management strategies to mitigate future exposure. We have successfully represented and defended insurance companies in first-party and bad faith litigation in both state and Federal courts.

We implement personalized strategies to simultaneously control exposure, avoid trial and minimize risk. Our team understands that the success of an insurance company's business depends on effectively handling claims. We work closely with our clients to develop a defense strategy tailored to their specific needs and goals. We use our knowledge of the insurance industry, regulations, and case law to advocate for our clients and achieve the best possible outcome.







# We are more than just creative thinkers.

# We are innovation in action.

Roig Lawyers takes a people-first approach to practicing law that allows for true collaboration, effective teamwork and, ultimately, success. Our clients – which include some of the world's largest technology companies, insurance carriers, retailers and national chain stores – trust us to bring a fresh approach to their complex legal issues. We work across a variety of practice areas, with a focus on insurance defense and commercial litigation.

As one of the largest minority-owned law firms in the U.S., diversity is deeply ingrained in our identity. Our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion fosters a welcoming culture for professionals of all races, religions, genders, sexual orientations and family structures. A diverse team means our clients benefit from diverse perspectives informed by unique points of view and lived experiences.

We are a Florida firm with offices in Deerfield Beach, Jacksonville, Miami, Orlando, West Palm Beach and Tampa. Our client base stretches well beyond our state's borders and includes companies headquarters throughout the world. To learn more about us, visit www.roiglawyers.com.

#### PRACTICES

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Appellate
- Attorney Fee Expert Services
- Automation
- Corporate
- Data Analytics
- Discovery Counsel Services
- Ethics
- First Party Property
- Fraud (SIU) Investigations
- Healthcare Fraud
- Homeowners/Property
- Insurance Services
- Labor & Employment
- Litigation
- PIP/No-Fault
- Premises Liability
- Products Liability
- Windshield/Auto Glass Litigation
- Workers' Compensation

#### 2022- 2023 DIVERSITY RANKINGS

- Ranked #2 on Law360's Diversity Snapshot "How Do Firms Measure Up?", "Representation In The Ranks" and "These Firms Have The Most Diverse Equity Partnership"
- Ranked in the SunSentinel in 2022 Top Work Places
- Ranked by Best Lawyers in the 2022 Best Law Firms

#### CONTACT

#### **Michael A. Rosenberg** Firm Managing Partner

mrosenberg@roiglawyers.com

#### Nelson C. Bellido

Managing Partner Miami Office nbellido@roiglawyers.com





The Royal Law Firm is 100% woman-owned and women-managed.

#### **AREAS OF PRACTICE**

- Labor Relations/Collective Bargaining
- Labor and Employment Law
- Employment Litigation
- Business Litigation and Trial Work
- Business Transactions
- Insurance Defense
- Commercial Real Estate
- Human Resource Law
- Business Formations & Agreements
- Contract Negotiations
- Local Counsel and Outside General Counsel
- Preventive Services, Compliance, and Training

#### Serving clients throughout New England and New York

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Albany, New York Hartford, Connecticut Springfield & Arlington, Massachusetts Providence, Rhode Island Bennington, Vermont

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# SACRO WALKER

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## DIVERSITY



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QUALITY • INTEGRITY DIVERSITY



In September 2015, Jennifer Yu Sacro and John Walker founded Sacro & Walker LLP with the goal of providing exceptional legal services at sensible rates. Drawing on forty years of combined experience practicing law in Los Angeles, Ms. Sacro and Mr. Walker have uncompromising dedication to achieving outstanding litigation results for their clients through vigorous advocacy and careful adherence to the profession's ethical standards. Immediately prior to forming Sacro & Walker, Ms. Sacro and Mr. Walker were litigation partners at prestigious downtown Los Angeles law firms.

Sacro & Walker is a certified woman and minority owned law firm focused on promoting diversity and equal opportunity in the legal profession. The firm is supported by an extraordinarily talented and diverse group of attorneys and professional staff who take enormous pride in the firm's status as a preeminent legal services provider.

## Insurance Coverage Advice and Coverage Litigation



Sacro & Walker has a leading practice providing insurance coverage advice and coverage litigation representation to several national insurers.

Sacro & Walker attorneys have extensive coverage and coverage litigation expertise involving commercial general liability insurance policies. Jennifer Yu Sacro serves as lead outside counsel for insurers in complex, multi-party coverage litigations throughout the country.

Sacro & Walker attorneys are also counsel to national insurers in connection with life, accident and disability insurance claims. John Walker provides coverage advice to insurers in these areas, and represents insurers in first party litigation challenging claims determinations.

Lead partners Jennifer Yu Sacro and John Walker have reputations for achieving excellent results for their clients, applying a practical approach to litigation that appropriately balances aggressive advocacy with sensitivity to achieving outcomes that are in line with their clients' economic and business goals. The firm is adept at identifying and pursuing theories that are calculated to secure dispositive rulings and other favorable results in the early stages of litigation, including creating leverage to secure settlements on favorable terms. If a dispute cannot be resolved short of trial, however, Sacro & Walker attorneys have the knowledge and experience to develop and implement a winning trial strategy founded on thorough preparation, intelligent advocacy and skillful execution.













## Sanchez Daniels & Hoffman LLP Attorneys and Counselors







Heather Erickson

A Diverse Firm for your Legal Needs



Chris Welch

Manny Sanchez

**Tim Hoffman** 

Sanchez Daniels & Hoffman LLP is one of the largest certified minority-owned law firms in the country. We are a civil litigation defense firm of 35 attorneys offering the highest level of services at competitive, cost-effective rates for over 25 years. In order to obtain this objective, we are pleased to draw upon the diverse talents and backgrounds of our people. We have worked hard to assemble and cultivate professionals who can share in our legal service mission. After all, the foundation upon which our firm is built rests squarely on the shoulders of the professionals who comprise the firm. We are proud that over half of our partners and associates are women and attorneys of color.

#### **PRODUCTS LIABILITY • TRANSPORTATION • CONSTRUCTION • WARRANTY • GAMING** TOXIC TORT/ASBESTOS • ENVIRONMENTAL • INSURANCE • PUBLIC FINANCE **CIVIL RIGHTS • REAL ESTATE • PREMISES • EMPLOYMENT • COMMERCIAL**

Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Wisconsin Languages: German, Italian, Korean, Mandarin, Polish, Spanish

> Sanchez Daniels & Hoffman LLP 333 W. Wacker Drive, Suite 500, Chicago, IL 60606 Telephone: (312) 641-1555 www.sanchezdh.com E-mail: sdh@sanchezdh.com



Elaine Davenport



ShawnTe Raines



Edric Bautista



Susan Chae

Yifan Xu Sanchez



Renee Ziolkowski

## About the Firm

Sanchez Daniels & Hoffman LLP is a mid-sized civil defense litigation firm with over 35 attorneys. We will assist in your efforts to handle legal matters in a cost-effective manner while obtaining outstanding representation.

**Sanchez Daniels & Hoffman LLP** is a full service civil practice law firm with the top A.V. Martindale-Hubbell rating. The firm is actively involved in the preparation, trial and appeal, if necessary, of civil cases of all kinds including personal injury, property damage, coverage disputes and other litigation. The firm specializes in the fields of product liability, strict liability in tort, construction, asbestos and civil rights litigation. A major portion of our practice is devoted to transportation issues, toxic torts, alleged "bad faith" insurance claims, insurance coverage, excess and reinsurance matters, homeowner's liability, and fire and explosion claims. Additionally, the firm handles contractual, commercial and real estate litigation as well as injunctive and/or equity relief, and appellate litigation. Sanchez Daniels & Hoffman LLP also has extensive expertise in the field of public finance and employment law. The firm's litigation practice takes it before all levels of State and Federal courts in IL, IN, MI, MN. MO and OH. The firm also practices before regulatory and administrative agencies as well as arbitration and mediation adjudicators.

#### We are quite proud of the fact that since 1987 we have:

- Grown from two to more than 35 attorneys; all solid, experienced professionals;
- Been honored as the recipient of the Thomas L. Sager Award in recognition of our commitment to diversity and gender balance. The award was given by the Minority Corporate Counsel Association;
- Become one of the largest minority-owned and controlled law firms in the United States;
- Gone to verdict in over 150 cases in State and Federal court;
- Been selected as Chrysler Group LLC's "Tier I" counsel from 1995-present with responsibility for all pending and future product liability cases filed against Chrysler for the northern half of Illinois and all of Indiana.
- Actively participated in the field of public finance working as underwriting counsel, bond counsel placement and borrower's counsel in transactions involving the City of Chicago, Chicago O'Hare International Airport, Chicago Midway Airport, the Chicago Park District, the Public Building Commission, the Chicago Board of Education, Cook County, United Airlines, St. Augustine College and Norwegian American Hospital.
- A partial list of established clients, include the following companies:

ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY	<b>BELLWOOD SCHOOLD DISTRICT 88</b>
BMW NA LLC	CHRYSLER GROUP LLC
CITY OF CHICAGO	COLONY SPECIALTY GROUP
DUPONT	EXELON
FORD MOTOR COMPANY	GALLAGHER BASSETT SERVICES
HARLEYSVILLE INSURANCE GROUP	MARMON GROUP
McDONALDS CORPORATION	STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANY

All of this is recounted simply to emphasize that the firm is dynamic, firmly established, and eager to demonstrate its effectiveness. Our success is a direct result of our commitment to the belief that our clients come first.

MIAMI, FL | ST. PETERSBURG/TAMPA, FL | WEST PALM BEACH, FL

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#### **ABOUT US**

From the courtroom to the boardroom, from coverage issues to litigation defense, Sioli Alexander Pino is a multi-faceted law firm equipped to guide you to the best possible results. Our legal team has a well-deserved reputation of excellence in providing smart, sensible, and cost-effective legal and business solutions for our clients. With our headquarter location in Miami and bilingual (English & Spanish) staff, we are also able to assist our clients in claims throughout the Caribbean and Latin America. We have attorneys admitted in a number of jurisdictions outside of Florida, including Texas, New York, New Jersey, and the District of Columbia. We serve a wide range of clientele, and every client relationship is valued greatly and treated with dignity and respect. Each engagement benefits from the depth and breadth of our expertise.

#### **CONTACT US**

#### MIAMI LOCATION

9155 S. Dadeland Blvd. | Suite 1600 Miami, Florida 33156 Phone: 305-428-2470 Fax: 305-428-2471

#### ST. PETERSBURG/TAMPA LOCATION

360 Central Avenue | Suite 800 St. Petersburg, FL 33701 Phone: 813-448-3669 Fax: 813-867-3986

#### WEST PALM BEACH Location

777 South Flagler Drive Suite 800 West Tower West Palm Beach, FL. 33401 Phone: 561-537-8382 Fax: 561-537-8360



- Admiralty/Maritime
- $\cdot$  Property/Casualty
- $\cdot$  Insurance
- · Worker's Comp/Employers' Liability
- $\cdot$  Business, Commercial & Cyber Law



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#### ATTORNEYS | SMGQLAW.com

SMGQ Law is an AV-rated, certified minorityowned, full service law firm with offices in Florida and Georgia, offering extensive experience in the handling of legal matters for key industries and clients ranging from Fortune 500 to privately-held businesses and high-net worth individuals. The Firm serves as counsel to several national clients, representing them in all state and federal courts throughout Florida and Georgia, as well as before arbitration tribunals. With its main office located in the gateway city of Miami, SMGQ Law also assists clients in transactions and legal proceedings throughout Latin America.

#### CONTACT:

EMILIA A. QUESADA, PARTNER CHAIR, INSURANCE PRACTICE GROUP EQUESADA@SMGQLAW.COM

#### **AREAS OF PRACTICE:**

Life, Health, Disability & ERISA Healthcare & Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage **Insurer Recovery Actions Commercial Liability Directors & Officer Claims** Errors & Omissions Extra Contractual & Bad Faith Fraudulent Claims Labor & Employment Negligence **Products Liability Professional Liability Real Estate Litigation** Complex Commercial & Business Litigation Corporate, Mergers & Acquisitions Tax Transactions, Federal & State Commercial Real Estate/Lending Transactions

#### **REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS:**

Aetna Life Insurance Company AFLAC Allstate Insurance Company Benefit Life Corporation Best Meridian Insurance Company Best Meridian International Insurance Company, SPC CIGNA **Continental American Insurance Company CVS Health** ELCO Mutual Life and Annuities Company Equitable Life Insurance Company Humana Health Insurance Company of Florida, Inc. Humana, Inc. Humana Medical Plan, Inc. Lincoln Benefit Life Company Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company New York Life Insurance Company Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company Prudential Insurance Company of America

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EMILIA A. QUESADA PARTNER | EQUESADA@SMGQLAW.COM

**CHAIR, INSURANCE PRACTICE GROUP** LIFE, HEALTH, DISABILITY & ERISA HEALTHCARE & PHARMACEUTICAL FIRST PARTY INSURANCE COVERAGE



Emilia A. Quesada is a founding partner and Chair of the Firm's Insurance Practice Group, focusing her practice in the areas of complex commercial litigation with specialized knowledge in insurance disputes including life insurance, health insurance, disability insurance and ERISA litigation, managed care litigation claims for healthcare organizations, healthcare consumer claims including HMO, PPO, Medicaid and Medicare claims, emergency services litigation for both in and out of network claims, pharmaceutical litigation, insurance coverage defense in first party cases, supplemental and accident insurance claims, financial service industry matters, banking litigation, general commercial litigation, products liability and class action defense.

Ms. Quesada has represented numerous Fortune 500 companies throughout her career including healthcare organizations, life and disability insurance companies, supplemental and accident insurance companies, pharmaceutical companies, financial institutions, banking entities and numerous other companies, as well as publicly-traded entities and privately owned businesses in the prosecution and defense of life, health, disability and ERISA matters, insurance coverage disputes, healthcare claims, agent claims, interpleaders, structured settlement disputes, vicarious liability issues, reinsurance matters, bad faith litigation, general commercial claims, business disputes, business torts, fraud and RICO claims, consumer claims including FDUTPA, FCRA and TCPA claims, officer/director liability claims, product liability matters and a panoply of civil claims in state and federal courts throughout Florida and Georgia, as well as before arbitration tribunals throughout the country.

Ms. Quesada is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review Ratings, the highest rating possible, and an Arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association (Commercial, Consumer and Healthcare rosters). Prior to forming SMGQ, Ms. Quesada was a partner at a national law firm and senior associate at Hunton & Williams LLP (n/k/a Hunton Andrews Kurth), one of the largest U.S. based international law firms. Ms. Quesada commenced her legal career in private practice at Steel Hector & Davis LLP (n/k/a Squire Patton Boggs) after completing a federal clerkship as an Honors Attorney through the Attorney General Honors Program for the U.S. Department of Justice in Atlanta, Georgia, where she was selected from over 2,500 applicants for one of eight positions.

Ms. Quesada is admitted to practice in Florida, including the U.S. District Courts for the Southern, Middle and Northern Districts of Florida; in Georgia, including the Northern and Middle Districts of Georgia; in New York; and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

#### NOTABLE RECOGNITION

Ms. Quesada served as one of 12 commissioners appointed to the ABA's Commission on Women in the Profession by the president of the ABA and was the first Hispanic appointed from Florida. Ms. Quesada has been featured in Attorney at Law magazine's Women in Law edition, Law360's series Minority Powerbrokers Q&A, the MCCA's Diversity & the Bar magazine, and Diversity Inc. magazine. She has also been highlighted as a Hispanic leader by Miami Today and South Florida CEO magazine, and honored as a Super Lawyer for Insurance, Top Lawyer in Insurance by the South Florida Legal Guide and Best Lawyer in America for Insurance Litigation. Ms. Quesada is a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America, a prestigious association where less than one-half of one percent of American trial lawyers have been invited to join.



Elizabeth Graddy



Rachel Walker OF COUNSEL



Rachael K. Williams

**FLORIDA** 

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Agricultural/CAFO • Bad Faith and Insurance Fraud Construction • Environmental/Toxic Tort • Insurance Coverage Insurance Defense • Employment • Transportation Trial • Products Liability • Worker's Compensation

## **Our Goal**

We believe that every case we handle, regardless of its complexity, deserves the most thorough and efficient service we can provide. We understand that every case entrusted to our firm has taken a toll of some sort on our clients in terms of stress, time and cost. Therefore, we strive to do everything possible to achieve a fast and final resolution of each matter we undertake through the means most suitable to our clients' expressed needs. Our goal is to know and meet your goals in every instance.

## **Our History**

Smith Fisher Maas Howard & Lloyd, P.C. is small by choice, not by chance. Founded in 1993, the firm's nine attorneys come from a wide variety of backgrounds and collectively have over two hundred years of experience in Indiana's courtrooms. A number of our attorneys are certified mediators. Several have been selected as Indiana Superlawyers. We have substantial trial experience and have been ranked in the top ten law firms in our state for the number of cases tried annually – trying more cases than firms twenty times our size. Smith Fisher Maas Howard & Lloyd, P.C. is certified by the state as a Women's Business Enterprise, is a member of WBENC, and is AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell.

## **Our Clients**

Our clients include Allstate; American Family Insurance; Auto-Owners Insurance; American Select Insurance; AT&T; Bituminous Companies; Citizens Insurance; Columbia Insurance Group; Continental Casualty; Erie Ins. Exchange; EMCOR Group; Esurance; The Farmers Automobile Insurance Association; FCCI Insurance Group; General Casualty Companies; Hanover Insurance Group; Hanover Professionals; Hastings Mutual Insurance; Hoosier Insurance; Indiana Farmers Mutual Insurance; Indiana Insurance; Liberty Mutual Insurance Companies; Mennonite Mutual Insurance; Motorists Mutual Insurance; Nationwide Insurance Company; Ohio Casualty Insurance; Ohio Farmers Insurance; Ohio Mutual Insurance Group; Pekin Insurance; Safeco Insurance; Selective Insurance Companies; Shambaugh & Son, LLC; Standard Mutual Insurance; State Auto Insurance; Viox Services, Inc.; West Bend Mutual Insurance; Western Reserve Group and Westfield Companies.

> 7209 N. Shadeland Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana 46250 (317) 578-1900 • (317) 578-1330 fax www.smithfisher.com

## PEOPLE YOU KNOW. EXPERIENCE YOU TRUST

Smith Fisher Maas Howard and Lloyd, P.C is a nine attorney firm located on Indianapolis' Northside. Since its inception in 1993, the firm's practice has focused on all areas of insurance defense. Currently, our insurance practice is evenly divided between first party coverage/ bad faith and third party liability issues running the gamut from minor vehicular accidents to major construction losses and environmental contamination claims. Our firm regularly tries cases throughout Indiana in both its state and federal courts. The firm is a member of CLM and is recommended by A.M. Best.



## Kimberly E. Howard, Principal

Kim Howard has practiced as a highly skilled defense trial lawyer in Indiana for over 20 years. Ms Howard practices in general defense litigation, including construction, products liability, and transportation law. She also practices in the area of bad faith litigation. Additionally, she devotes a portion of her practice to her small business clients in the areas of contract negotiation, Request for Proposal Responses and general business development. Ms. Howard was the recipient of the 2014 Indiana State Bar Association Civility Award. Ms. Howard attended Indiana University and graduated from Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis in 1991. E-mail: khoward@smithfisher.com



### Rebecca J. Maas, Principal

Becky Maas has been in practice over 25 years and has tried more cases than anyone in the firm, and has obtained favorable verdicts in all of her trials, including numerous defense verdicts. Her current practice includes the defense of catastrophic injuries and large personal injury claims on construction sites as well as construction defect claims. She is the firm's resident authority on confined animal feeding operation (CAFO) litigation and is currently defending several Indiana farmers against claims for nuisance and bodily injury. Mrs. Maas is a graduate of Indiana's Taylor University and of the Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis in 1988. E-mail: rmaas@smithfisher.com



## Mark. R. Smith, Principal

Mark R. Smith, CPCU, has over 30 years of experience in complex insurance coverage litigation. Mr. Smith, a member of the Indiana Bar, has defended thousands of cases in Indiana's state and federal courts, and before the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. He focuses his practice on the areas of insurance coverage, bad faith and punitive damage litigation. He also maintains a substantial state and federal appellate practice. Mr. Smith received his undergraduate degree from Hanover College (magna cum laude), his law degree from Indiana University at Indianapolis (magna cum laude), and his Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) designation from the American Institute for Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters. E-mail: msmith@smithfisher.com



## Marcum J. Lloyd, Principal

Marc Lloyd has a solid history of successful trial work and has tried over 30 cases in his career. Marc has tried numerous cases to winning verdicts. His practice focuses on general insurance defense including transportation, premises defense, workers' compensation and environmental law. Mr. Lloyd obtained his B.S., magna cum laude, from Valparaiso University in 1995 and graduated from Valparaiso's law school in 1999. E-mail: mlloyd@smithfisher.com



### Stephen C. Wheeler, Principal

Steve Wheeler's practice has focused on insurance defense for twenty-five years. He has served as lead counsel on numerous trials involving issues of products liability, UM/UIM, workers compensation, arson, fraud, bad faith and insurance coverage. He received his J.D. from American University in Washington D.C. where he served as a law clerk for the Department of Justice and represented veterans before the Department of Veteran's Affairs. E-mail: swheeler@smithfisher.com



#### Donna H. Fisher, Of Counsel

Donna Fisher, one of the firm's founding members, now serves as Of Counsel to the firm. While in active practice Ms. Fisher focused primarily on the areas of environmental defense and insurance coverage . She currently handles special projects for the firm while mentoring the firm's associates. Ms. Fisher is a Diplomat of the Indiana Defense Trial Counsel. She obtained her B.A. from Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania and her J.D., cum laude, from Indiana University in Indianapolis E-mail: dfisher@smithfisher.com



## Focus. Precision. Success. Excellent legal services and uniquely creative trial talent in every case.

**Practice** Areas

Appellate **Commercial Litigation** Coverage

**General Liability Defense** Insurance Bad Faith Mass Tort **Employment, Defamation** Personal Injury Defense

**Premises Liability** Product Liability **Property Damage** 

*Representative* **Practice** 

in state and federal courts. • Appellate practice, including amicus curiae briefing, and oral argument before the Colorado Supreme Court, Colorado Court of Appeals, and Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Over 100 jury trials in cases ranging from insurance bad faith, wrongful death, traumatic brain injury, premises liability, auto liability, dram shop, wrongful discharge, defamation, and medical malpractice

• Summary judgment and 12(b) dismissals in favor of insurance, retail, and individual clients.

**Jackie Booker** Managing Partner & Firm Contact jbooker@suttonbooker.com

suttonbooker.com in/sutton-booker-p.c. Denver, CO

## **CLIENT** FOCUSED. STRATEGICALLY MANAGED. **OUTCOME** DIRECTED.

TorresVictor is a full service, defense law firm providing legal services to the insurance industry, corporate risk management and commercial clients throughout the State of Florida. We represent clients in litigated matters in State and Federal Courts and alternative dispute resolution forums and provide legal advice and counsel on coverage and non-litigated matters.

We are a progressive law firm focusing on prompt and accurate delivery of high quality legal services, specifically tailored to the individual needs and goals of each institutional client. The client's priorities are our priorities. We provide customized solutions prioritizing efficiency, value, predictability of legal fees and superior outcomes.

Our clients value our ability to assess the situation, calculate the risks and offer straightforward opinions and practical decision making under conditions of uncertainty.

## What We Do

- Insurance Coverage Evaluation and Litigation
  - Commercial and Personal Lines
  - First Party Property
  - Casualty/Liability Coverage
  - Insurance Fraud
  - Insurance Bad Faith
  - Subrogation and Recovery
- Surplus and Excess Insurance

#### • Tort and Insurance Defense • Professional Liability Defense

- Intentional Torts
- Mass Torts
- Personal Injury
- Wrongful Death
- Premises Liability
- Negligent Security
- Products Liability
- Defamation
- Retail and Hospitality
- Construction Defect

- Motor Vehicle Litigation
- Cargo and Transportation
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Appeals
- Commercial and Business Litigation

## Certifications

- AV<sup>®</sup> Rated by Martindale-Hubbell Best's Client Recommended Insurance Attorneys
- National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms (NAMWOLF)
- Certified Women's Business Enterprise
- **Certified Minority Business Enterprise**



#### Contact:

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- (954) 416-2468

## WALSH PI77O'RFII FALANGA







Selina M. Fillis



**Richard J. Badolato** 



## **Insurance** Matters

In this complex and multifaceted area of the law, Walsh attorneys work diligently to clarify goals and find the most efficient solution to achieve results. Our Insurance practice encompasses a broad scope of services involving insurance defense work by representing insurance companies, self-insureds, and other industry stakeholders.

## How we Work with our Clients

Handling a variety of insurance matters from the straightforward to the complex, Walsh's attorneys have litigated insurance matters spanning a multitude of industries and professional services. We also have substantial experience with respect to bad faith claims asserted in first party insurance coverage actions. Subject matters include:

- Product liability
- Professional malpractice and negligence
- Construction defect litigation
- Fire and theft losses
- Subrogation recovery
- Environmental
- Errors & omissions
- Fraudulent claims
- Personal injury
- All forms of general liability

In addition to the diverse experiences of the attorneys in the practice area, the chair of the department is the former Commissioner of the Department of Banking and Insurance for the state of New Jersey. This enables us to provide clients with regulatory, compliance, transactional and litigation services.

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