The following section features attorneys who have demonstrated leadership qualities and have achieved the AV Preeminent rating by Martindale-Hubbell®.

Martindale-Hubbell®, the company that has long set the standard for lawyer ratings, has supplied ALM with a list of Top Rated Lawyers who have achieved an AV® Preeminent® Peer Review Rating, the highest rating in legal ability and ethical standards. To create this section, Martindale-Hubbell® tapped its comprehensive database of Martindale-Hubbell® Peer Review Ratings™ to identify lawyers who have been rated by their peers to be AV® Preeminent™.

Martindale Hubbell Peer Review Ratings are driven by the confidential opinions of lawyers and members of the judiciary who receive invitations from Martindale-Hubbell®, via an online survey or by mail, to provide reviews of lawyers of whom they have professional knowledge.

A complete directory of all AV® Preeminent™ lawyers can be found online at Lawyers.com® and Martindale.com, in the Martindale-Hubbell® Law Directory in print and CD-ROM formats, and online through the LexisNexis® services and at lexis.com. Attorneys shown do not constitute the full list of “Top Rated Lawyers.”

Thomas S. Ingrassia is a founding member of Pettit Kohn Ingrassia & Lutz, and serves as the firm’s Chief Financial Officer. As co-chair of the firm’s Employment and Labor Department, Tom regularly assists his clients in developing and enforcing appropriate employment practices and policies and defending all forms of employment litigation before State and Federal courts and administrative agencies. Tom has achieved Martindale-Hubbell’s highest rating for his legal ability and ethical standards. Tom was selected for inclusion in San Diego Super Lawyers every year since 2008 and also honored as one of The “Top 50 Attorneys” in San Diego for 2016. In addition, Tom was selected by his peers as one of San Diego Daily Transcripts “Top Attorneys” for Labor/Employment Law in 2011 and 2015. Tom has also been selected by his peers for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America, a publication regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence, each year since 2013.

Tom is a widely-acclaimed speaker who is frequently invited to provide employment practices and employee management training for private firms, other attorneys, and professional organizations through California. Tom’s leadership in the community was formally recognized with his election as the 2002 President of the San Diego Society for Human Resource Management, the region’s largest organization of human resource professionals.

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Since 1993, Rosen Saba, LLP has prosecuted and defended a wide range of federal and state civil litigation matters, involving complex business and entertainment disputes, professional liability claims, women’s rights, catastrophic injury claims and class actions. The firm maintains a significant emphasis and expertise in the area of employment disputes including claim prosecution and prevention and the defense of wage and hour class actions.

Under the leadership of James Rosen and Ryan Saba, this unique and growing firm wins from both sides of the courtroom. Rosen Saba, LLP has successfully obtained plaintiff’s verdicts and settlements in excess of $100,000,000 and has never lost a jury trial for a defense client either. The firm also has successfully obtained numerous published decisions in state and federal courts of appeal.

This nine-lawyer firm is rated Best Law Firms by ALM, Tier 1 (highest) by U.S. News and World Report, and is AV-Preeminent (highest) rated by Martindale Hubbell. Both Mr. Rosen and Mr. Saba have been honored as Southern California’s “Super Lawyers” for multiple years in succession and two of the firm’s associate attorneys have been honored as “Rising Stars.” Rosen Saba LLP’s impressive resume of recent employment law accomplishments include: a $5.7 million jury verdict in a wrongful termination action for four minimum wage workers, a $1.5 million settlement in a single Plaintiff, quiet pro quo sexual harassment action, a string of summary judgment victories for the firm’s employer clients, and the successful defense and appeal of a wage and hour class action, which literally established new parameters of the dual employer doctrine. The firm pays referral fees per state bar rules.

**Litigation**

**Jonathan Schochor**

Jonathan Schochor is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University and the American University School of Law, where he was Associate Editor-In-Chief of the Law Review. He has served as a Board Member, Secretary, Vice-President, and President of the Maryland Trial Lawyers Association, and has further served as the Maryland State Delegate and Governor of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America.

Mr. Schochor has been requested to teach and lecture both nationally and locally by institutions such as the Johns Hopkins Hospital, and the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Additionally, he has been a guest expert on a variety of radio and television programs, speaking on issues involving the law, medicine and tort reform.

Over his career, Mr. Schochor has been recognized by many legal organizations including: The Association of Trial Lawyers of America’s Top 100 Lawyers™, Maryland Super Lawyers™, Bar Register of Pre-Eminent Lawyers™, Best Lawyers in America™, and Baltimore and Washington D.C.’s Best Lawyers™. Additionally, he has achieved the highest rating possible by Martindale-Hubbell™—a rating which recognizes the highest level of both legal ability and ethical standards, and has been selected as one of America’s Most Honored Professionals™, an accomplishment realized by the top five percent of American professionals. His firm has also been recognized by U.S. News and World Report and Newsweek. Most recently, Mr. Schochor was named one of the Top 100 Litigation Lawyers in the State of Maryland by the American Society of Legal Advocates. Additionally, Jonathan Schochor has been named Best Lawyers® 2015 and 2016 “Lawyer of the Year” for Baltimore Medical Malpractice Law – Plaintiffs.

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**Labor & Employment Law**

**Lewis H. Chimes**

The Law Office of Lewis Chimes LLC is dedicated to representing the best interests of each of its clients with the highest quality legal counsel, combining zealous advocacy, pragmatism, and sensitivity to the needs of the individual client.

After over 20 years of practice as a prosecutor and a name partner in other law firms, Lewis Chimes opened his own practice in August 2012. Attorney Lewis Chimes has tried over fifty cases to verdict and argued numerous appeals in the state and federal courts. He has developed a reputation as one the pre-eminent attorneys specializing in employment law in the state, and currently co-chairs the Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association Employment Law Section. He has been recognized in Best Lawyers in America, and Connecticut and New England Super Lawyers since 2006.

The Law Firm of Lewis Chimes LLC also handles personal injury, civil rights, criminal and civil litigation. Your initial contact on any of these matters will be an attorney who will answer your questions and schedule an immediate appointment.

**The Law Office of Lewis Chimes LLC**

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Congratulations to Patricia Nemeth, Anne Widlak and Susan Koval

Patricia Nemeth, founder of Nemeth Law, P.C., is a litigator, consultant and negotiator and also a certified mediator and arbitrator for all types of civil and commercial litigation, including employment. Ms. Nemeth has been recognized as one of the Best Lawyers in America—Labor and Employment, one of the top 50 Women Super Lawyers in Michigan and one of the top 25 Women Business Leaders in Michigan by Super Lawyers. Under her leadership, Nemeth Law has grown to be the largest woman-owned law firm in Michigan to exclusively represent management in the prevention, resolution and litigation of labor and employment disputes.

Anne Widlak has a distinctive sensitivity to complex matters that call for diplomacy and discretion. Among her many honors, Ms. Widlak was named a 2013 Top Rated Lawyer in Labor and Employment by American Lawyer Media and Martindale-Hubbell. She also was selected as one of 25 Leaders in The Law for 2012 by Michigan Lawyers Weekly and is a repeat honoree for Michigan Super Lawyers. Ms. Widlak serves as a Panel Chairperson of the Michigan Attorney Discipline Board and is a Fellow of Litigation Counsel of America.

Susan Koval is an accomplished trial attorney who focuses her practice on employment litigation and arbitration and has extensive experience counseling employers on the full scope of employment and labor relations subject matters. She utilizes a strategic, proactive approach to resolving workplace issues and aggressively defends employers against claims such as wrongful discharge, discrimination including LGBT issues, harassment, retaliation, breach of contract, FMLA and wage and hour claims. Ms. Koval is a repeat honoree for Michigan Super Lawyers, and was selected by Michigan Lawyers Weekly as a “Woman in the Law Class of 2015” honoree.

Bill Martucci is a national employment litigator and policy strategist for a number of Fortune 500 companies. Chambers USA America’s Leading Lawyers for Business notes “Bill Martucci garnered overwhelming feedback for ‘his great knowledge in the employment arena, his ability to relate well to clients, and winning personality in the courtroom.’ Clients say: ‘His trial skills and work ethic are second to none. His vigorous and passionate defense of clients and creative utilization of innovative strategies earns this national practitioner ‘star status.’ He is ‘well informed and well respected,’ and focuses on complex class actions. Bill Martucci is worth having on any dream team for employment litigation and policy issues.” Highly regarded as an exceptional trial lawyer, his jury work has been featured in the National Law Journal. A graduate of Georgetown University Law Center where he earned a Master of Laws in labor and employment, he is included in the Best Lawyers in America for employment and business litigation. He teaches multinational business policy and the global workplace at Georgetown.

Dennis Johnson has represented businesses in healthcare, commercial and employment cases in trials and appeals in federal and state courts, in arbitration hearings and in administrative agency proceedings. Since 1992, Dennis has been a Shareholder at Pugh, Jones & Johnson, P.C., and has led its Labor and Employment Practice Group. His employment experience includes successful trials of age, pension and other discrimination suits, workplace and campus harassment and sexual violence claims; other workplace violence claims; whistleblower and retaliation claims; FMLA suits; and restrictive covenant and trade secret claims. Dennis has represented colleges and universities in employment cases for over a decade, and has also defended insurance and manufacturing clients, a public utility, a major wireless communications company, not-for-profit service providers, pharmaceutical manufacturers, consulting, outsourcing, advertising and specialty construction firms in class action and single plaintiff federal employment claims and labor arbitrations. Dennis has been selected repeatedly as both a Leading Lawyer by the Leading Lawyers Network and a Super Lawyer by Super Lawyers Magazine.

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Winterbauer & Diamond PLLC

Steven Winterbauer and Kenneth Diamond are counselors and litigators dedicated exclusively to representing management in employment and labor matters. They are listed among Chambers USA's leading lawyers for labor and employment law in Washington, Woodward/White's Best Lawyers in America®, and Thomson Reuters’ Washington Super Lawyers®. Their firm, Winterbauer & Diamond PLLC, serves as the Washington state representative to the Worklaw® Network, a national consortium of employment and labor law boutique firms, and has been recognized among leading labor and employment law firms in Washington by Chambers USA since 2005. Mr. Diamond serves on the Worklaw Network Executive Committee and as an Adjunct Professor of Employment Law for Seattle University School of Law. Mr. Winterbauer is the firm’s managing member and served on the Executive Committee of the Washington State Bar Association Employment and Labor Law Section.

Sheila Biehl, Esq.

Sheila Biehl, Esq. is a trial lawyer. She received her board certification in business litigation from The Florida Bar in August of 2011. She holds the “AV Preeminent” rating by Martindale-Hubble. In 2000, Attorney Biehl established her own firm, Sheila Biehl, PA. She has a team of associates and staff who are committed to providing great legal services. The firm’s focus is to help corporations and individuals achieve their business goals. Attorney Biehl is admitted to practice in Florida State courts, the United States District Courts for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida, the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and the United States Supreme Court. She prefers a direct approach and believes in the importance of fully understanding her client’s needs. Attorney Biehl is well respected by her peers and clients. She has served in many leadership roles within her community and the legal profession, including past president of the Martin County Bar Association. She can provide her valuable expertise, experience, and leadership as an aggressive advocate or as a trusted advisor.

Sheila Biehl, P.A.

Sheila Biehl, P.A.

Rami Fakhoury

Mr. Rami Fakhoury is the founder and Managing Attorney of Fakhoury Law Group, PC (FLG). FLG specializes in U.S. & international business immigration. The firm’s client list consists of Automotive, IT, Healthcare & Academia companies. Over the past 20 years, Rami Fakhoury organically grew his law practice to become Michigan’s largest independent immigration law firm. FLG has also expanded from its Midwest headquarters to 4 additional locations consisting of India, California, Colorado & New York. The 2016 Award list for Mr. Fakhoury and his FLG practice consists of: AV Martindale-Hubbell, U.S. News, Super Lawyers & Who’s Who Legal. Mr. Fakhoury’s thought leadership in immigration is far-reaching, he has co-authored and published 4 immigration law books that have been internationally circulated. Rami Fakhoury most recently demonstrated his immigration expertise when he acted as an advisor to the State of Michigan on immigration policy matters. Mr. Fakhoury is also a majority equity partner with the Alliance of International Immigration Law firms. For more information on Rami Fakhoury and his FLG practice, please visit www.fakhourygloba.com

Douglas A. Pettit

Douglas A. Pettit has extensive trial and litigation experience in the areas of civil litigation, business litigation, and professional liability. He has tried over 30 cases in California. His extraordinary record of favorable outcomes and exemplary client service has resulted in recognition by his peers over the years. He was inducted into the American Board of Trial Advocates in 2007 as the youngest member of the San Diego Chapter. He has been selected for inclusion in the San Diego Super Lawyers list every year since 2007 and most recently listed as one of the Top 10 San Diego Super Lawyers in both 2015 and 2016. Doug has been recognized by every possible “Top Attorney” list for San Diego including “San Diego’s Top Attorneys” by the San Diego Daily Transcript, the San Diego Business Journal’s Best of the Bar, the San Diego Magazine’s Best Lawyers and Best Lawyers in America. Notably, Best Lawyers in America awarded Doug as Best Lawyers’ 2013 San Diego Legal Malpractice Lawyer of the Year. Doug is also a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, an honor limited to one third of the percent of the lawyers in America.