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™.

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JUDGE MARK P. PAINTER (RETIRED)

Retired Judge Mark P. Painter served for 30 years (1982–2012). He is now available to review, edit, and improve your briefs and motions. Your writing will be shorter, more readable, and even look better.

- Judge, United Nations Appeals Tribunal, 2009–2012
- Judge, Ohio Court of Appeals, 1995–2009
- Judge, Hamilton County Municipal Court, 1982–1995
- Adjunct Professor, University of Cincinnati College of Law, 1990–2010
- Of Counsel, MANLEY BURKE LPA, 2012–

Painter is one of the most prominent experts on plain English legal writing. His book on plain writing, The Legal Writer: 30 Rules for the Art of Legal Writing, came out in 2002. The Legal Writer: 40 Rules for the Art of Legal Writing was published in 2003, and the 5th edition will arrive in 2016.

For 20 years, he was the author of Ohio Driving Under the Influence Law, the only textbook on DUI in Ohio. He is coauthor of another legal treatise, Ohio Appellate Practice. He has written four law review articles, 145 articles for other journals, and a biography, William Howard Taft: President and Chief Justice. Write Well: 25 Rules to Improve Your Business and Professional Writing was published in 2007.

As an Adjunct Professor of Law at the U.C. College of Law for 20 years, Painter taught agency and partnership for 13 years and advanced legal writing for 7 years. He has lectured at more than 260 seminars for the Ohio Judicial College, the Ohio State Bar Association, the National Institute for Trial Advocacy, and countless firms and bar associations nationwide. In 2008, he traveled to Malaysia as one of four international experts on plain-language writing.

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Jennifer Donaldson

Jennifer Donaldson is an AV Preeminent rated attorney and a graduate of the University of Colorado Law School. She has practiced personal injury law in the Denver area and throughout the State of Colorado for 27 years. Ms. Donaldson represents victims of auto, motorcycle and truck accidents; bicycle accidents; dog bites; ski collisions; and wrongful death claims. Jennifer Donaldson helps injury victims obtain compensation for damages including medical expenses, lost wages and pain and suffering.

Ms. Donaldson understands that injury victims experience unique challenges as they attempt the process of putting the pieces of their life back together. She and her staff make it a priority to provide each client with the care and attention they need to get through the often difficult process of a personal injury claim.

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Michael Bogdanow

Michael Bogdanow is the Managing Officer of Meehan, Boyle, Black & Bogdanow, P.C., a firm specializing in representing victims of personal injuries and wrongful death. Michael has handled numerous federal and state court appeals for MBBB and other firms. He was recognized as one of 2015’s top ten lawyers of the year by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly for his appellate advocacy in Reckis v. Johnson & Johnson, 471 Mass. 272 (2015). Samantha Reckis suffered debilitating injuries as a result of taking Children’s Motrin, the firm obtained a $63,000,000 jury verdict for her and her parents, and the judgment was affirmed by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. Bogdanow received his J.D. degree, cum laude from Harvard, Master of Fine Arts degree from Columbia, and B.A. degree, magna cum laude from Brandeis. He was selected as Boston’s 2015 Appellate Lawyer of the Year by U.S. News & World Report and Best Lawyers. He is the author of Massachusetts Tort Damages (Lexis Legal Publishing), and has served as Chair of the Joint Bar Committee on Judicial Appointments, Co-Chair of the Boston Bar Association Litigation Section and President of the Massachusetts Chapter of the Federal Bar Association.

Phil Talmadge

Phil Talmadge is a National Merit scholar, with a B.A. (magna cum laude) from Yale and a J.D. from the University of Washington where he was an editor of its Law Review. Phil served in the Washington State Senate from 1979 to 1995, and served on the Washington Supreme Court, Washington’s highest appellate court, from 1995 to 2001. Admitted to practice in Washington’s state and federal courts, the Ninth and Federal Circuit Courts of Appeals, and the United States Supreme Court, Phil has argued hundreds of state and federal appellate cases in his career. Phil has taught appellate advocacy at the Seattle University and University of Washington Law Schools. He is the author of numerous law review articles on wide-ranging legal issues, and is a contributor to the Washington Appellate Practice Deskbook. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers, and a member of the Washington Appellate Lawyers Association, an association whose membership is limited to active Washington appellate practitioners.

Alan S. Hock

Alan S. Hock, a partner of the firm and Martindale AV-Preeminent rated, has been practicing law for over 30 years and Chairs the Intellectual Property Department at Moritt Hock & Hamroff. A significant part of his intellectual property practice involves representing celebrities in connection with endorsements, licensing and business transactions where his clients’ valuable intellectual properties are integral assets. Alan’s clients include Emmy® Award winning producers, Grammy® Award performers and All-Star professional athletes. Alan also represents some of the nation’s leading retailers both in the traditional retail setting and in connection with their online properties. In 2014, Alan was recognized as one of New York’s leading lawyers by New York Super Lawyers®.

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