



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"



WOMEN LEADERS IN THE LAW

STEPHANIE RESNICK

A partner and seasoned trial lawyer at Fox Rothschild LLP, Stephanie Resnick is consistently ranked among top business litigators and lauded by her colleagues and peers for her strategic handling of high-stakes, complex business disputes in both federal and state courts. She has served as lead counsel in numerous high-profile litigation matters.

Stephanie is Chair of the firm's Directors' & Officers' Liability & Corporate Governance Practice and is a member of Fox Rothschild's Executive Committee. She chaired the firm-wide Litigation Department for seven years, overseeing more than 200 attorneys. In state and federal courts across the United States, she has earned a reputation for sound judgment and innovative problem solving. Corporate executives, *Fortune* 500 companies and family-owned businesses turn to Stephanie for solutions to their most difficult and sensitive personal and professional issues.

Throughout her career, Stephanie has received numerous accolades, including being named among the "Women Leaders in the Law" by American Lawyer Media; *The National Law Journal's* list of Litigation Trailblazers; "The Best Lawyers in America" for Commercial Litigation; a "Litigation Star" in Pennsylvania and listed in the "Top 250 Female Litigators in America" by *Benchmark Litigation: Guide to America's Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys*; and listed among the "Top 50 Women Super Lawyers in Pennsylvania" and "Top 100 Lawyers in Pennsylvania" by *Philadelphia Magazine* and *Law & Politics Magazine*.



Fox Rothschild LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



2000 Market Street, Twentieth Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215.299.2082 | sresnick@foxrothschild.com
www.foxrothschild.com

NEBRASKA OMAHA

MARY E. VANDENACK

Mary E. Vandenack is founding and managing partner of Vandenack Weaver LLC, a boutique tax, business, trusts and estates, real estate, and asset protection planning firm in Omaha, Nebraska. Mary founded the firm in 2005 with a vision for improving the delivery of legal services by embracing innovation and technology.

Vandenack's areas of expertise include tax law, real estate, high net worth estate planning, asset protection planning, business succession planning, and tax-exempt entities. Mary regularly writes and speaks on issues related to her practice areas and on practice management issues.

Mary is a commentator for Leimberg Services, a prestigious publication covering taxes, business succession, asset protection, and non-profits. Mary recently acted as an editor for a Leimberg publication, *The Tools & Techniques of Trust Planning*.

Mary's efforts as a legal innovator and technologist were recognized with the 2015 James I. Keane Memorial Award, for excellence in e-lawyering. Mary has also been appointed to the College of Law Practice Management.

Mary has been active in the national bar, serving the Law Practice Division as an Executive Council Member and as Features Editor for the Law Practice Magazine. Mary writes a leadership column for Law Practice Magazine. Mary served on the American Bar Association Futures Commission and currently acts as co-chair of the Futures Task Force for the Real Property, Trusts & Estates Section of the ABA. Mary is also a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation.

As well as being active in the national bar, Mary is active in the local community. She has served on the boards of many non-profits. She recently received an award for partnership from the Nebraska Cancer Coalition.

For more information, visit www.vwattys.com.

VANDENACK WEAVER LLC


17007 Marcy Street, Suite 3
 Omaha, NE 68118-3122
 Phone: 402.504.1300 | Fax: 402.504.1935
mvandenack@vwattys.com

DELAWARE WILMINGTON

MARIA PARIS NEWILL

Maria Paris Newill is one of two Managing Directors for the Firm of Heckler & Frabizzio where she has worked since 1990 representing Employers and Insurance Companies in Workers' Compensation matters before the Delaware's Industrial Accident Board, Superior Court and/or Supreme Court.

Ms. Newill's professional memberships include, or have included: American Bar Association; Delaware State Bar Association; Workers' Compensation Section of the Delaware State Bar Association; Women and the Law Section of the Delaware State Bar Association; National Association of Professional Women VIP Member; Defense Counsel of Delaware; Defense Research Institute; and Council for Litigation Management. Additionally, Maria has received multiple awards such as the Delaware Top Lawyer for Workers Compensation by *Delaware Today Magazine* for 2015 & 2016, as well as being AV Rated by Martindale-Hubbell.

For fun, Ms. Newill enjoys being on or near the water, antiques/auctions, historic preservation, movies, music (especially blues), reading and spending time with family and friends.


HECKLER & FRABIZZIO

800 Delaware Avenue, Suite 200
 Wilmington, Delaware 19801-1367, P.O. Box 128
 Wilmington, Delaware 19899-0128
 Telephone: 302.573.4800 | Fax: 302.573.4806
www.hfddel.com

OKLAHOMA OKLAHOMA CITY

DONNA J. JACKSON

Donna J. Jackson is a nationally recognized attorney, authority, speaker and educator in estate planning. Ms. Jackson is a CPA and holds a Master Degree (LL.M.) in Elder Law. Ms. Jackson has over 28 years of legal experience. She limits her practice to estate planning with an emphasis on Medicaid, VA Benefits and special needs planning, including trusts, special needs trusts, wills, durable power of attorneys and living wills. In addition, Ms. Jackson's practice includes taxes, corporate, trust, individual, gift and estate, probates and business organizations, including corporations, limited partnerships and limited liability companies.

Ms. Jackson obtained a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master's degree in Accounting from Oklahoma State University. She received her Juris Doctor degree from Oklahoma City University School of Law in 1988, and LL.M. in Elder Law from Stetson College of Law in Florida. She currently serves on the board of National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. She has served on numerous committees of the American Bar Association, Oklahoma Bar Association, the Oklahoma Society of CPAs and National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys.

Ms. Jackson has been a keynote speaker for the Oklahoma Bar Association, Strafford, and National Business Institute (NBI). She was honored as one of the 2011-2015 Five Star Wealth Managers in Estate Planning in the *Oklahoma Magazine*. In 2013, she received the Earl Sneed Award from the Oklahoma Bar Association for her contribution to continuing legal education.

DONNA J. JACKSON
ATTORNEY AT LAW

10404 Vineyard Blvd, Ste E
 Oklahoma City, Ok 73120
 Ph: 405.840.1874 | Fax: 405.840.1880





WOMEN LEADERS IN THE LAW

NEW YORK NEW YORK

LAURA A. BREVETTI

Over the past 25 years, Ms. Brevetti has built a highly respected and successful white-collar criminal defense and business litigation practice. She is a superbly skilled, tenacious, and zealous advocate for her clients, and has been recognized by her peers as one of Manhattan's Super Lawyers and a preeminent-rated lawyer in her specialties. Ms. Brevetti has experience as a General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of a NYSE-listed company, managing attorneys, supervising litigations and major outside law firms, conducting internal investigations, advising the Board, and responding to government and SRO regulatory inquiries.

She now regularly represents individual and corporate clients in investigations and at trial and arbitration; conducts complex internal corporate investigations of allegations of fraud, bribery, and violations of employment and corporate policy; advises companies on matters of governance, compliance, and crisis management; and defends individuals and financial entities facing government and SRO enforcement investigations and actions in securities and other areas.

LAW OFFICES
LAURA A. BREVETTI

430 Park Avenue, 6th Fl, New York, NY 10022
p: 212.735.8599

laura.brevetti@brevettilaw.com • www.brevettilaw.com

GEORGIA ATLANTA

ALLEGRA LAWRENCE-HARDY

Allegra Lawrence-Hardy is the co-founding partner of Lawrence & Bundy LLC, a commercial litigation firm with a comprehensive breadth of experience representing and advising clients across a wide spectrum of industries. Allegra uses creativity and results-oriented strategic analysis to develop legal solutions that work for her clients. Allegra focuses her practice on Business and Commercial Litigation and Labor and Employment law. She has successfully defended Fortune 100 companies throughout the United States and abroad in numerous trials, arbitrations and other forms of alternative dispute resolution. Allegra is known for her skill in trying cases, negotiating complex settlements and finding creative solutions. She helps develop processes and tools for improving the efficiency and delivery of legal services.

LAWRENCE & BUNDY LLC
Agile Client Service

1180 West Peachtree Street, NW
Suite 1650, Atlanta, GA 30309
404.400.3350 main | 404.400.3340 direct | 404.609.2504 fax

FLORIDA MIAMI

CAROL C. LUMPKIN

Equity Partner and Practice Group Coordinator

Carol Lumpkin's national practice focuses on litigation with an emphasis on commercial disputes, class action defense, food safety litigation and, employment law matters. In addition, Carol has been at the forefront of litigating Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) suits, creating highly favorable case law for her representative clients. She has testified before the DOJ and Access Board with regard to 2010 amendments to the ADA.

Carol has substantial experience representing companies ranging from closely-held family businesses to multi-national public corporations. Her multi-faceted practice encompasses a broad spectrum of sectors within the national and global economy, including manufacturing, retailers, healthcare, hotels, professional sports teams and banking. Carol has been repeatedly recognized and honored for her charitable and professional achievements, including annual recognitions in Best Lawyers, SuperLawyer and Florida-specific lists of the top lawyers in her community.



K&L GATES

Southeast Financial Center
200 South Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 3900
Miami, Florida 33131
Ph: 305.539.3323 | F: 305.358.7095
carol.lumpkin@klgates.com • www.klgates.com

NEW MEXICO ALBUQUERQUE

SUSAN G. CHAPPELL

Susan G. Chappell has 20 years' experience in complex business and commercial litigation and advice, and employment law. She is a knowledgeable, professional, responsive, and skilled advocate. She has litigated in state and federal court, and before administrative bodies, and she has arbitrated complex matters under the AAA rules and otherwise. Her clients – including international companies and local businesses, corporate directors and shareholders, employers, employees and other individuals – value her significant experience in civil litigation, which she acquired over her years in private law firm practice. Ms. Chappell practiced in a private law firm until January 1, 2016, when she opened her own practice. She now proudly serves her own clients, giving them her effective, efficient, individualized, and hands-on attention. They turn to her for her ability to solve or resolve their most difficult issues. She is a skilled negotiator, as well as a litigator.

Ms. Chappell is highly regarded by her peers. She is rated AV Preeminent® by Martindale-Hubbell, and has been included in The Best Lawyers in America in Commercial Litigation.

SUSAN G. CHAPPELL LAW FIRM

Albuquerque Office
P.O. Box 424, 1001 Gold Avenue SW
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103-0424
Phone: 505.717.1978 | Fax: 505.242.6225
susangchappell.law@gmail.com • www.susangchappellnm.com



CALIFORNIA PASADENA**LINDA S. KLIBANOW**

Ms. Klibanow celebrates her 20th Year maintaining her Martindale-Hubbell "AV" "highest possible peer review rating in legal ability and ethical standards." Throughout her career, while "wearing many hats" (management advocate, defense litigator, labor/individual advocate/litigator, neutral mediator, employment arbitrator, collective bargaining arbitrator, hearing officer, discovery referee), Ms. Klibanow has always focused her practice in the continually evolving and constantly fascinating fields of labor and employment law.

A member of the California and National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals, she is a member of several nationwide employment law panels, including AAA, NAM, CPR (Employment and Commercial), FMCS, is an Advanced Workplace Arbitrator with ACR, and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

Ms. Klibanow has served in leadership positions with the Labor and Employment Section of the Los Angeles County Bar and most recently with the ADR Committee of the California Bar Association. She has contributed to several seminal treatises and enjoys authoring magazine and journal articles on practice-impacting caselaw developments. Ms. Klibanow's legal acumen, keen insight, and wise judgment render her widely sought to hear, determine, or resolve the most daunting of labor and employment controversies.

B.A. Harvard College J.D. Yale L.S. M.A. Int'l. Aff. Tufts Fletcher Sch.

LAW OFFICES OF LINDA S. KLIBANOW**KLIBANOW CONFLICT RESOLUTION SERVICES**

595 E. Colorado Blvd., Ste. 325
 Pasadena, California 91101
 p: 626.204.4000 | f: 626.204.4001
 lklibanow@lindaklibanow.com • www.lindaklibanow.com

**MINNESOTA** MINNEAPOLIS**TARA C. NORGARD****IP and Technology Law Litigator**

Drawing on her extensive experience in complex litigation, technology and business, Tara helps clients leverage and defend their intellectual property in the courtroom. Her background on behalf of both plaintiffs and defendants, coupled with a keen understanding of technology, markets and people, allows Tara to customize legal strategies designed to meet the specific needs of each client she serves. With an unrelenting focus on results, Tara has secured victories for her clients in district and appellate courts and arbitrations around the nation. Tara is a highly respected member of the legal community where she serves as president of the Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association and is a Fellow of the American Bar Association and the Litigation Counsel of America. She has earned the Martindale Hubbell AV Preeminent® rating, is listed in Best Lawyers in America® and named among the Top 50 Women Minnesota Super Lawyers®.

**CARLSON, CASPERS, VANDENBURGH, LINDQUIST & SCHUMAN, P.A.**

Capella Tower, Suite 4200, 225 South Sixth Street
 Minneapolis, MN 55402, USA
 Ph: 612.436.9620
 tnorgard@carlsoncaspers.com | www.carlsoncaspers.com

NEW YORK NEW YORK**LAURIE BERKE-WEISS**

Laurie Berke-Weiss focuses her practice on all aspects of employment law.

Ms. Berke-Weiss has over 30 years' experience in state and federal litigation, arbitration and mediation. She negotiates employment contracts and severance agreements, handles partnership issues, provides advice and counsel on workplace policies and procedures, and conducts workplace investigations. She also litigates claims of sex harassment, discrimination and wrongful termination, Family Medical Leave Act and pregnancy issues, and non-competition agreements and other restrictive covenants in federal and state courts and before government agencies. Corporations, non-profits, and professional practices, as well as executives, lawyers and physicians are among her clients. Ms. Berke-Weiss is a leader in the New York City legal community. She is a past President of the NY Women's Bar Association and served as Executive Committee Chair of the New York City Bar Association. She is a member of the President's Council of Cornell Women and a Vice-President of the Fordham Law Alumni Association.

**BERKE-WEISS LAW PLLC**

950 Third Avenue, 32nd Floor
 New York, NY 10022
 Ph: 212.888.2680
 info@berkeweisslaw.com | www.berkeweisslaw.com

FLORIDA MIAMI**JACQUELINE M. VALDESPINO**

Jacqueline Valdespino is a highly regarded and recognized Matrimonial and Family Law practitioner with a record of success. She is well regarded and respected by her colleagues and the judges she appears before. Ms. Valdespino has established a professional reputation for passionately representing her clients at both the trial and appellate levels with true grit and determination. Ms. Valdespino provides expert litigation services in contested matters including complex financial issues, and high conflict dissolution of marriage cases. She is equally adept at aggressively advocating litigated cases and negotiating resolutions. She is straightforward, fair and employs a team approach that includes the client in each aspect of the case.

Ms. Valdespino is a sought out speaker, writer and commentator on a number of news outlets on issues of Family Law. In the Fall of 2015 she was published in the Florida Bar Journal on issues of relocation. In 2013 she spoke on domestic violence for the ABA Family Law Section at the Supreme Court in Alaska.

**VALDESPINO & ASSOCIATES, P.A.**

2641 Abaco Avenue, Miami, FL 33134
 p: 305.442.1200
 www.valdespinopa.com • legalservice@valdespinopa.com