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.”

**Immigration**

**Rami Fakhoury**

Mr. Rami Fakhoury is the founder and Managing Attorney of Fakhoury Global Immigration, (FGI). FGI specializes in U.S. and global business-based immigration. The firm’s clients represent many of the world’s most innovative brands ranging from the Automotive, High Tech, Engineering and Healthcare industries. For the past 20 years, Mr. Fakhoury has grown his practice to become one of the largest independent immigration law firm. Rami Fakhoury’s emphasis on immigration expertise and service excellence has heavily influenced his firm’s immigration practice. FGI distinguishes itself from traditional immigration law firms through the application of technology-driven solutions and Six Sigma processes.

Mr. Fakhoury, and Fakhoury Global Immigration, has received multiple awards such as the AV ranking from Martindale-Hubbard, Super Lawyers 2017, Who’s Who Legal and U.S. News 2017. All of these awards recognize outstanding legal thinking, high ethical standards and excellent results. Mr. Fakhoury’s thought leadership in immigration is far-reaching. He has co-authored and published 4 immigration law books and is a regular contributor to news sources on US immigration. Mr. Fakhoury also provided immigration advice on immigration policy reform. Rami Fakhoury is an equity partner with the Alliance of Business Immigration Lawyers (ABIL), the largest international consortium of immigration lawyers.

**David Swaim**

Swaim, Swaim & Associates was founded in 1978 and has represented over 40,000 clients in all areas of immigration law with a success rate of over 98%. David Swaim is the Managing Partner and has practiced immigration law exclusively since 1986 and managed the firm since 1991.

He is Board Certified in Immigration and Nationality Law and Preeminent AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell. David developed many innovative techniques for H-1 and labor certification cases and created the internal immigration procedures at many companies such as Texas Instruments, i2 Technologies, Microtune and PDX.

He is one of only two attorneys in Texas authorized to represent the faculty and researchers at both the University of Texas System and the Texas A&M System.

David represents employers of all sizes and in all industries from startups to Fortune 500, including technology, research, accounting, marketing/ advertising, communications, oil and gas/energy, health care and engineering.

David and his staff have successfully represented over 5,000 investors including E visas, L-1 startups, EB-1 Managers/Executives as well as individual EB-5 investors and the creation of EB-5 Regional Centers.

**The Law Firm of**

**Tidwell, Swaim & Associates, P.C.**

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**MISSOURI**

**ST. LOUIS**

**MELANIE GURLEY KEENEY**

Melanie Gurley Keeney practices in Immigration, Employment and Education Law representing corporations, institutions of higher education, and individuals in immigration matters, including obtaining temporary and permanent visas, employer sanctions issues, I-9 compliance, E-Verify, consular processing and naturalization. She was named St. Louis Best Lawyers “Education Law Lawyer of the Year” for 2017 and “Immigration Law Lawyer of the Year” for 2015 and 2012. Since 1997, she has been listed in St. Louis Magazine’s “St. Louis Best Lawyers” and in “The Best Lawyers in America” in Education Law, Employment Law - Management and Immigration Law. She has been named to “Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers,” as a “Top 50” Woman Lawyer in Missouri and Kansas. In 2016, Missouri Lawyers Weekly awarded Melanie the Women’s Justice Litigation Practitioner Award. In 2014, Washington University School of Law honored Melanie with the International Women’s Day Award for Employment Law. Melanie also represents public and private employers in the full gamut of employment issues, including state and federal litigation. She is a featured speaker and provides preventive employment law services, including supervisor training and compliance audits. Melanie is a founding Shareholder of the Firm and serves as Chairwoman. She graduated from Baylor University, phi beta kappa, and from Washington University School of Law.

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**OHIO**

**CLEVELAND**

**ROBERT L. BROWN**

An attorney and Managing Partner Robert B. Brown received his Juris Doctorate from the Cleveland Marshall School of Law and is admitted to practice law in the State of Ohio and District of Columbia. He is also accepted to practice before the Executive Office of Immigration Review, Board of Immigration Appeals, and all Homeland Security offices throughout the US, the US District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Federal Court for the District of Columbia and the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals.

As Managing Partner, Robert oversees all of the firm’s offices in Ohio, North Carolina and Florida, and practice areas including employment-based immigration, family-based immigration, naturalization and citizenship, removal defense and employer compliance. His career spanned five decades in the immigration field, including over twenty-five years of employment with the legacy US Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service (“INS”). With the INS, Robert held varying field and leadership positions, including, Special Agent, NYC, Deputy Chief of Investigations, Washington, D.C., Cleveland District Director, acting Regional Commissioner, Burlington, Vermont and Chairman of the Immigration Director’s Association. He served under Presidents Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, Bush and Clinton.

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**ALABAMA**

**BIRMINGHAM**

**JAMES R. MOCUS III**

As a versatile, highly-experienced trial lawyer, Jamie has been recognized twice by the National Law Journal in its prestigious “Top 100 List” for obtaining verdicts of $37.5 million in 2011 and $40 million in 2013. The following year, he obtained a record medical malpractice verdict in the State of Alabama. All three cases were widely reported in various national media.

In 2017, Jamie was a part of a trial team that successfully represented thousands of corn farmers across the country against the biotech giant, Syngenta, resulting in a verdict of $218 million in the State of Kansas. The same year, he reached a settlement in the State of Texas for the family of two men killed in a tractor-trailer accident for more than $10 million.

Jamie is deeply committed to the principle of equal justice for all. “Our courthouses exist to level this playing field and to see that everyone gets fair justice under the law. The cases we handle make a difference in our communities and improve public safety,” he says.

During his career, Jamie has tried everything from month-long aviation accident cases, or class actions in federal court to personal injury, automobile and bicycle accidents, and fraud and wrongful death actions in state courts. Some of his cases have involved copyrights, trade secrets, commercial disputes, product failures, employment contract actions, and insurance cases of all types.

Jamie has given lectures to lawyers in 47 states across the country and spends time teaching other lawyers and representing indigent clients in pro bono matters. In addition, he is a member of several professional organizations whose mission is to preserve the right to trial by jury and to enrich the lives of the public through the stewardship of our civil justice system.

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**IMMIGRATION**

**LITIGATION**
Melanie Gurley Keeney practices in Immigration, Employment and Education law representing corporations, institutions of higher education, and individuals in immigration matters, including obtaining temporary and permanent visas, employer sanctions issues, E-Verify, consular processing and naturalization. She was named St. Louis Best Lawyers “Education Law Lawyer of the Year” for 2017 and “Immigration Law-Lawyer of the Year” for 2015 and 2012. Since 1997, she has been listed in St. Louis Magazine’s “St. Louis Best Lawyers” and in “The Best Lawyers in America” in Education Law, Employment Law - Management and Immigration Law. She has been named to “Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers,” as a “Top 50” Woman Lawyer in Missouri and Kansas. In 2016, Missouri Lawyers Weekly awarded Melanie the Women’s Justice Litigation Practitioner Award. In 2014, Washington University School of Law honored Melanie with the International Women’s Day Award for Employment Law. Melanie is a founding Shareholder of the Firm and serves as Chairwoman. She graduated from Baylor University, phi beta kappa, and from Washington University School of Law.

Robert L. Brown

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Jamie R. Moncus III

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