A versatile, highly experienced, complex case trial lawyer, John O’Connor has for over 25 years devoted a significant portion of his practice to attorneys and attorney fee disputes, both as an expert witness and as a litigator. From years of evaluating, assessing, and litigating fees, O’Connor brings a depth of expertise and context as an expert witness that only an experienced litigator can offer in fee disputes.

O’Connor has tried a wide variety of cases in federal, state and arbitration courts throughout the country, including not only professional liability, attorney fee, and law firm buy-out cases, but also patent, anti-trust, civil RICO, ADA/disability discrimination, civil rights, employment, insurance coverage and bad faith, construction, product liability, toxic tort, defamation, fraud and contract, real estate, white collar criminal, and sports management, among others. This experience allows him to distinguish between efficiency and inefficiency in litigation management.

He has frequently associated with other firms to provide trial and deposition assistance, either on behalf of a separate co-party or as co-counsel, and often serves as local counsel. O’Connor and Associates prides itself on being cooperative, responsive, and efficient.

O’CONNOR AND ASSOCIATES

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”.

Berluti McLaughlin & Kutchin LLP is a multi-disciplinary law firm that specializes in trial advocacy, business law, corporate transactions, commercial and real estate finance, and sophisticated estate planning. Robert Berluti practices all aspects of complex civil litigation. He advises clients in all aspects of business disputes, including shareholder, valuation, derivative actions, individual and class action wage and hour cases, trade secrets, intellectual property, non-compete and non-solicitation agreements, employment law, contract, real estate, and construction disputes. Mr. Berluti has tried cases in state and federal courts including the United States Tax Court and has appeared in state and federal trial and appellate courts in Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut, and New Hampshire, as well as state and federal administrative agencies, including FINRA and the Internal Revenue Service.

Edward D. Kutchin has a practice that focuses on the areas of corporate transactions, complex business litigation, and commercial finance. Prior to joining the firm, he was a founding partner of Kutchin & Rufo, P.C., a firm that specialized in corporate law, complex commercial litigation, commercial finance, and real estate law. Drawing on his background as a corporate attorney, Mr. Kutchin’s practice also involves the litigation of a wide variety of disputes in federal and state court, including breach of contract, business tort, securities fraud, real estate-related disputes, and employment matters for clients across a diverse spectrum of industries.
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James R. Moncus III

As a versatile, highly-experienced trial lawyer, Jamie has been recognized four times by the National Law Journal in its prestigious "Top 100 List" for obtaining verdicts of $31.5 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 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 verdict represented the 10th largest verdict in the United States last year. The same year, Jamie 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, again setting a record in the state of Texas, coming in at #2 according to Texas Lawyers Top Verdicts and Settlements.

Jamie is deeply committed to the principle of equal justice for all. “Our courtrooms exist to level the playing field and to see that everyone gets fair justice under the law. I like to take cases for the underdog, the downtrodden, and the underprivileged in society,” he says. “Last year, I had the chance to represent the American farmer in a case against one of the biggest biotech companies on earth—there’s no greater pleasure than seeing a jury of 12 people come together to find the truth of a case, and render a verdict that is just, but perhaps against all odds.”

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 primarily focused on jury psychology and trial presentations 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 it 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.

Michele Wynn

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David S. Olson

David Olson Law Group provides passionate representation to clients in legal matters along with a demonstrable record of success. David S. Olson graduated Order of the Coif from the University of Southern California Law School where he served as an editor on the Law Review. Mr. Olson brings over thirty years of large law firm experience to a litigation based practice geared toward results and client service. “It’s all about caring, communicating with clients, and doing everything possible to obtain the absolute best outcome,” Olson says. “I cannot sleep at night unless I know I brought commitment and all my energy to every legal matter.”

In 2000, Mr. Olson was named one of California’s lawyers of the year by California Lawyer Magazine. He achieved the highest rating possible by Martindale-Hubbell over twenty years ago and is rated Superb by the attorney website www.Avvo.com.

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 "Immigration Law Lawyer of the Year" for 2019, 2015 and 2012, and "Education Law Lawyer of the Year" for 2017. Since 1997, she has been listed in St. Louis Magazine’s "St. Louis' Best Lawyers" and in "The Best Lawyers in America." She is listed in the areas of Employment Law – Management, Immigration Law, and in Education 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 honored 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 Chairperson. She graduated from Baylor University, Phi beta kappa, and from Washington University School of Law.

Rami Fakhoury

Mr. Rami Fakhoury is the founder and Managing Director of Fakhoury Global Immigration, USA PC (FGI). FGI specializes in U.S. and global business-based immigration. The firm’s clients represent many of the world’s innovative brands in the automotive, IT, engineering, architecture, and health care industries. For over twenty years, Mr. Fakhoury’s emphasis on thought leadership and service excellence has enabled FGI to become one of the largest independently-owned immigration law firms in the U.S. FGI distinguishes itself from traditional immigration law firms through the application of technology-driven solutions and Six Sigma processes.

Mr. Fakhoury has received multiple recognitions such as being named as a Fellow of the American Bar Association, a 2018 Leading Lawyer and Equity Member of the Alliance Business Immigration Lawyers, a Global Immigration Thought Leader by Who’s Who Legal, Super Lawyers 2017, and a Global Detroit Champion Award in 2016. FGI has been honored as an AV ranked firm with Martindale-Hubbell, a U.S. News and World Report Best Law Firm for 2016 and 2017, and Corporate NLJ Global Immigration Law Firm of the Year for Excellence. These awards attest to Mr. Fakhoury’s outstanding legal thinking, his high ethical standards, and the excellent results his firm produces for its clients. His thought leadership is further demonstrated by his authoring and editing of five immigration law books, his regular contributions to news sources, and his sought-after advice on immigration policy reform.

FGI

Immigration

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T**M A R Y A L E X A N D E R**

Ingebritsen v. City of San Carlos – A $6,000,000 Dangerous Condition Victory

This was a survival and wrongful death action brought by Sarah Ingebritsen, her daughter, Eden Ricci and son, Charles (“Charlie”) Ricci for the loss of their husband and father, Christopher (“Chris”) Ricci, age 53, on April 23, 2016, and for personal injuries to Sarah and Charlie. Causes of action were for dangerous condition of public property, negligence and negligent infliction of emotional distress. Chris was struck and injured by a vehicle driven by Randall Rubingh while walking westbound along the north side of San Carlos Avenue in San Carlos, California. Rubingh was driving under the influence of alcohol at the time. The City was represented by Gregg A. Thornton of Selman Breitman LLP and Rubingh was represented by Timothy W. Workman of Case & Fedor.

Chris subsequently died as a result of his injuries. Sarah was walking with Chris at the time and suffered significant emotional distress. Charlie had just seen his parents walking behind him, and heard the accident from inside their home just yards away. Sarah and Chris had been at a neighbor’s house, just a block and a half away from their home. Charlie had been playing basketball with his friends at a neighborhood school.

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Litigation

**JAMES R. MONCUS III**

A versatile, highly-experienced trial lawyer, Jamie has been recognized four times 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 for the family of two men killed in a tractor-trailer accident for more than $10 million, again setting a record in the state of Texas, coming in at #2 according to Texas Lawyers Top Verdicts and Settlements.

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Jamie has given lectures to lawyers in 47 states across the country primarily focused on jury psychology and trial presentations 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 it 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.

**THOMAS M. WILSON**

Preparation, hard work and a thorough understanding of the client’s goals are the guiding principles which Mr. Wilson brings to the table, on behalf of each of his clients. Following these principles, Mr. Wilson was able to obtain a $1.25 Million jury verdict against Giant Eagle supermarkets involving a motorized cart injury. This jury verdict was the first of its kind against Giant Eagle.

Mr. Wilson has over 30 years of trial and litigation experience in federal courts, MDL’s, and state courts. Having represented thousands of people in tobacco, asbestos, pharmaceutical, and wrongful death cases, Mr. Wilson understands the difficulties faced by individuals in mass tort cases. When tragedy forces a person into the legal system, Mr. Wilson is able to simplify the process so that his clients understand the full range of options available to them. The end result is that Mr. Wilson is able to provide his clients with the personal service of a small-firm combined with large-firm expertise.

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