



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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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”



TOP RATED LAWYERS

NEW YORK

CARL M. BORNSTEIN

Carl Bornstein has conducted complex civil and criminal litigation and sensitive business investigations throughout his career in the private sector and in government service. He has litigated cases as trial counsel involving criminal tax, securities and insurance fraud, copyright violations, and professional disciplinary matters for both physicians and lawyers, among other matters. He has tried significant criminal cases to verdict as both a prosecutor and a defense lawyer.

He also has expertise in establishing and assessing compliance functions for both private and government entities.

He was a co-founder and the chief operating officer of a joint venture that was appointed as the integrity monitor for the \$3.8 billion construction of 1 World Trade Center reporting to the Inspector General of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. Previously, he had been the Inspector General for the NYC School Construction Authority for almost four years. In 2013, He was appointed by the Mayor of Philadelphia to an independent mayoral commission to evaluate a city Department's operations after a building wall collapsed during demolition onto an adjoining building killing six and injuring 13 people.

Mr. Bornstein served on federal monitoring teams for GM related to its compliance with a deferred prosecution emanating from its agreement regarding its ignition switch recall and as co-counsel for a team assessing Hewlett Packard's business investigative practices including a report to the California Superior Court about HP's compliance with its order. Others include those for a major bank's compliance with the Global Research Settlement Agreement; for a self-assessment of the NYS Metropolitan Transportation Authority's compliance and procurement integrity controls; and of a major NYC residential real estate company's compliance with a discontinuance order of the NYS Attorney General.

His early public service included 12 years prosecuting major organized crime and public corruption cases as a Special Attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Offices of the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, as an Assistant District Attorney in executive positions in both the Bronx and Queens District Attorneys' Offices, and as the Executive Special Assistant Attorney General in the NYS Special Prosecutor's Office for the NYC Criminal Justice System.

He has taught trial advocacy for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy (NITA), Northeast Region at Hofstra Law School for over 30 years. Since 2005 he has been an Adjunct Assistant Professor at John Jay College for Criminal Justice where he teaches investigative techniques in the MPA Oversight & Inspection (IG) program.



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MANHATTAN LONG ISLAND

RONALD FATOULLAH

Attorney Fatoullah and his firm of dedicated attorneys and professionals are renowned for their cutting-edge expertise in elder law, estate planning and special needs. The firm adheres to the highest of professional and ethical standards and handles cases involving estate planning, Medicaid eligibility & applications, living trusts, wills, special needs planning, probate, guardianships, and probate & guardianship litigation.



Mr. Fatoullah's distinguished reputation is based on his contributions to the senior citizen community and his 15-year inclusion as one of the New York Metro Area's "Best Lawyers" and as a "Super Lawyer".

He co-chairs the Financial Planning and Investments Committee of the Elder Law and Special Needs Section of the New York State Bar Association, serves as chair of the Board of Directors of the LI Chapter of The Alzheimer's Association, and he served on the Executive Council of AARP in New York.

Mr. Fatoullah's firm is committed to delivering the ultimate client experience by staying true to his values of integrity, honesty, and excellence. Mr. Fatoullah was a recent guest on The Today Show with Maria Shriver, and he is also a frequent speaker on estate planning and elder law and has been quoted in the New York Times, Newsday, The Wall Street Journal, AM New York, Kiplinger's and the Queens Courier.

The attorneys at the firm are fierce and effective advocates for their clients.

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NEW YORK NEW YORK

RUTH JIN

Ruth Jin is an exceptional corporate and securities law attorney with in-depth knowledge of laws and regulations and tremendous experience in negotiating and crafting legal mechanisms that solve clients’ challenging issues. Ms. Jin’s clients range from entrepreneurs to Fortune 500 companies, and she is known for her thorough, tough and result-driven approach to her clients’ legal issues. She regularly advises businesses through all stages of growth from start-up/capital financing to IPO. She has extensive experience in mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and alternative public offerings, and is very familiar with legal issues related to cross-border transactions. Prior to founding Jin & Koppell, she was an attorney at Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP. She has her law degrees from Georgetown University, University of Tokyo and Peking University. She is fluent in Chinese, Korean and Japanese.



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NEW YORK GARDEN CITY

STEVEN R. SCHLESINGER

For 75 years, Jaspan Schlesinger LLP has been one of the New York metropolitan area’s leading full-service law firms, providing exceptional legal services in the areas of commercial litigation, banking and financial services, education law, municipal law, matrimonial and family law, real estate, land use and zoning, tax certiorari and condemnation, and estates & trusts. Jaspan Schlesinger maintains a comprehensive COVID-19 Resource Center at its Long Island and Westchester County offices, providing individuals, businesses, local municipalities, schools and libraries with information on pandemic-related topics.

Steven R. Schlesinger is the Co-Managing Partner of Jaspan Schlesinger LLP and heads the firm’s Litigation Practice Group and Appellate Practice Group. He concentrates his practice on complex commercial litigation, commercial and real estate matters, bankruptcy and New York State election law.

For more than forty years, Mr. Schlesinger has acted as counsel to many of New York’s largest residential and commercial real estate developers and corporate entities, and has achieved significant victories on their behalves in both federal and state court. He has served as lead counsel in many federal and state trials, and in numerous appeals before the Appellate Divisions of the New York State Supreme Court and the New York State Court of Appeals. He is admitted to practice in New York, the federal district courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and the United States Supreme Court.

Mr. Schlesinger is a principal author of Commercial Litigation in New York State Courts (4th Edition) and a contributing author of Goldfeder on Modern Election Law (3rd Edition). He has represented many elected officials in litigation pertaining to their public office and has acted as counsel on numerous political campaigns.



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At Weber Gallagher, our lawyers work collaboratively with clients to understand their legal and business needs and develop impactful results for them. Our clients range from Fortune 500 to emerging market companies. Our top-tier team in New York concentrate their practices on retail and commercial litigation, professional liability, insurance, general liability, product liability, workers' compensation, labor law, admiralty and maritime law, and toxic tort and environmental matters, delivering excellent service and innovative solutions.

We congratulate partner, **Scott W. Bermack**, on being recognized as a  
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TOP RATED LAWYERS

NEW YORK NEW YORK

LAURA NOBLE

With over two decades of diverse legal experience including civil litigation, negotiation, counseling and consulting, Laura Noble’s passion is offering clients personal and powerful representation on employment law issues. She developed this conviction from her legal background in New York City and from her personal experiences as a woman and mother in the workplace.



Laura serves as Managing Partner of The Noble Law, a women-owned firm and recognized national leader in employment law. Founded in 2009, the firm provides legal assistance along the east coast, from offices in Chapel Hill and Charlotte, North Carolina, New York, and South Carolina. The firm’s goal is providing exceptional employment law representation to individuals by focusing on core values: collaboration, leadership, equity, empathy, integrity, and innovation. The Noble Law measures success by delivering positive impacts for clients and serving as a catalyst for changes in employment law and society at large.



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TOP RATED UPSTATE LITIGATORS

E. Stewart Jones Hacker Murphy, LLP, founded in 1898, is one of Upstate NY’s oldest and most respected law firms focusing on personal injury, medical malpractice, criminal defense, commercial litigation and eminent domain. The firm’s senior partner, E. Stewart Jones, has consistently ranked as the number one attorney in the Upstate NY “Super Lawyers” directory.

- Other recognition includes:
- \* AV Rating by Martindale-Hubbell
  - \* “Tier One” Ranking by U.S. News & World Report
  - \* American College of Trial Lawyers
  - \* Inner Circle of Advocates
  - \* Multi-million Dollar Advocates Forum

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VINOO VARGHESE



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As one of the nation’s top white-collar and criminal defense attorneys, former prosecutor Vinoo Varghese takes on trials and appeals other lawyers won’t—and wins. Yet, he prides himself on the fact that he has repeatedly convinced prosecutors to end cases against his clients without charges or gaining public attention, allowing those he defends to resume their lives. Varghese is a visiting faculty member at Harvard Law School’s Trial Advocacy Workshop. He is a member of the Forbes Business Council and the Entrepreneurs Organization. Varghese has been included on The National Trial Lawyers Top 100 list for eight consecutive years. He has been named a Super Lawyer for the past seven years and Martindale-Hubbell has rated him AV Preeminent for five straight years. Earlier in Varghese’s career, the New York Law Journal recognized him as a Rising Star.

The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, the New York Law Journal, and Law360 have quoted Varghese multiple times for his vigorous advocacy of clients. In addition, multiple newspapers have published his op-eds highlighting prosecutorial quandaries in the cases of O.J. Simpson, George Floyd, and the Central Park “Karen.” In an op-ed published on March 21, 2020, Varghese challenged then Governor Cuomo’s failure to include criminal defense attorneys as “essential workers.” The next day criminal defense lawyers were deemed “essential.”

Known as one of the nation’s foremost white-collar and criminal legal experts, Varghese is a regular guest commentator on cable networks ranging from FOX to CNN, and international networks from BBC to Sky News Arabia. His expert status led Vanity Fair to have him fact check Hollywood scenes from The Wolf of Wall Street to Billions. Varghese graduated from Brooklyn Law School, New York University, and Chaminade High School. In 2000, Varghese began his career as a prosecutor and in 2006, he founded Varghese & Associates, P.C., a white-collar and criminal defense firm dedicated to helping clients across America resume their lives.

WHITE COLLAR  
CRIMINAL DEFENSE

NEW YORK ALBANY

HOWARD M. KOFF

The Koff Law Firm, PLLC was founded by attorney Howard M. Koff, J.D., LL.M. (Tax) after he left the Tax Division of the U.S. Department of Justice. He then decided to dedicate his time guiding clients and their businesses through IRS law in the Albany, NY area. As a former appellate attorney, Koff brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to our practice. Reach out to attorney Koff today to learn more about The Koff Law Firm. We’ll do everything we can to help you find the right solution to your tax problem.



- Concerning Howard Koff’s qualifications, some highlights:
- Former Appellate Attorney, Tax Division, United States Department of Justice (Attorney-General’s Honors Program)
  - Former Chairman, Public Advisory Council, New York State Ethics Commission
  - Marquis, Who’s Who in American Law\*
  - Martindale-Hubbell- AV Preeminent rating (the highest peer rating for Legal Ability and -Ethical Standards)\*
  - AVVO Rating-10 (the highest attorney rating)
  - Former Chief Tax Counsel - Connecticut General Life Insurance Company (now Cigna)
  - Author of the book “IRS Problems? The Anatomy of a Non-Filer”

\*Prior Results Do Not Guarantee A Similar Outcome.  
Our well-qualified attorney can be there for you  
Attorney Koff will work hard to help you through your tax legalities. You can view his educational qualifications below:  
• B.S. from New York University in accounting and finance  
• Recipient of the New York University Founders Day Award, the highest university-wide award for academic excellence  
• J.D. from Brooklyn Law School  
• Editor-in-Chief of the Brooklyn Law School Law Review  
• LL.M. in Taxation from Georgetown University Law Center

Schedule a consultation with attorney Koff in Albany, NY today to get help with your tax issues.



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