

SBM Business Law

Symposium

*4th Annual State Bar
of Michigan Business Law
Symposium Program*

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“The Business of the Law Firm”

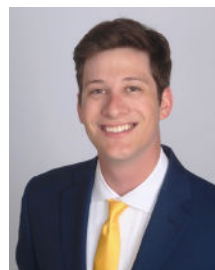
January 20, 2022 | The Detroit Club

Agenda

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKERS
3:00 – 3:15	Opening Statement	Mark Rossman
3:20 – 3:35	<i>Lecture: Securing the Law Firm – Data and Cyber Security</i>	Jennifer Dukarski
3:40 – 3:55	<i>Lecture: Estate Planning for the Lawyer</i>	Elizabeth Vincent
4:00 – 4:30	Roundtable: Mentorship – What is it and How Does it Happen?	Charles Ash Thomas J. Cedoz Hon. Lita M. Popke Hon. Michael Warren Linda Watson <i>Moderator: Linda Roelans</i>
4:35 – 5:05	Roundtable: Retaining Young Lawyers – What do they really want?	Dan Ackerman Emily Burdick Richard Plowden Andrew Reside Milan Reside <i>Moderator: Tishia Browning</i>
5:10 – 5:40	<i>Lecture: What Happened in MJC Ventures, LLC v Detroit Trading Co... Harbinger of things to come?</i>	Prof. Douglas Moll
5:40 – 6:00	Intermission and Music	PJ Muer
6:05 – 6:35	<i>Lecture: The “Fire-Proof” Law Firm</i>	Mike Morse
6:40 – 7:10	Roundtable: Building Your Brand and Protecting It – Responding to a Four Alarm Fire	Tyler Cady R.J. Cronkhite Mary Ann Sabo Roy Sexton Lindsay Sikora <i>Moderator: Maxwell Goss</i>
7:15 – 7:45	<i>Lecture: Internal Investigations – Top Tips for Managing a Client Crisis</i>	<i>Jennifer Belveal</i>
7:50 – 8:20	Roundtable: Employing Lawyers in the Pandemic	Terry Bonnette Deborah Brouwer John J. Conway Daimeon Cotton Courtney Nichols James Reid IV <i>Moderator: Joshua Lushnat</i>

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKERS
8:25 – 8:55	Roundtable: Entrepreneurial Strategies for the Pandemic	Kassem Dakhallah Shaun Fitzpatrick Alexis Johnson Sara MacWilliams Jasmine Rippey Ameena Sheikh <i>Moderator: Powell Miller</i>
9:00 – 9:30	Roundtable: Law Firm Management in the Pandemic	Michelle Harrell Linda Paullin-Hebden Jonathan Martone Powell Miller <i>Moderator: Bernard J. Fuhs</i>
9:30	Closing Argument	Mark Rossman

Speakers



Daniel Ackerman is an associate at Butzel Long. Daniel graduated from the University of Michigan Law School. While in law school, Daniel served as Secretary of the Black Law Student Association and worked as a Student Attorney for the Community & Economic Development Clinic. He has previously worked as a legal intern for the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure and as a U.S. House of Representatives Page.



Charles Ash is a partner and trial lawyer at Warner Norcross + Judd, specializing in commercial and business litigation and dispute resolution. He graduated from Stanford University Law School and is admitted to the State Bar of California and the State Bar of Michigan.



Jennifer Z. Belveal is a partner at Foley & Lardner LLP, leading the Detroit office's Government Enforcement Defense & Investigations practice. She represents companies, boards, and individuals in internal and government investigations, as well as civil and criminal litigation. Jennifer has successfully handled many trials, arbitrations and preliminary examinations, but she is equally skilled in avoiding formal proceedings and criminal prosecutions, such that many of her most successful matters have never been publicly disclosed. A graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, Jennifer is ranked by *Chambers USA*.



Emily Burdick is an associate at Dickinson Wright, specializing in taxation, commercial and business litigation, government investigations, and other areas of law. Emily is a Certified Fraud Examiner and Certified Public Accountant. Emily graduated magna cum laude from Michigan State University College of Law, where she was managing editor on the *Michigan State Law Review*.



Terry Bonnette is a managing partner at Nemeth Law PC, specializing in labor and employment counseling and litigation. Terry graduated from Wayne State University Law School, where he was on the National Moot Court Team. He has written and delivered numerous articles and presentations, and he is a member of the State Bar of Michigan's Labor and Employment and Alternative Dispute Resolution Sections.



Tyler Cady is the CEO and Founder of 2nGage, the premiere digital marketing agency for any profession. 2nGage offers full-service solutions including marketing, website creation, APP development, training, consulting, and subscription services. 2nGage is very proud to be the agency that designed the SBM Business Law Symposium website.



Deborah Brouwer is a managing partner at Nemeth Law PC, practicing in labor and employment law. She specializes in defense of lawsuits against employers as well as discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. Deborah graduated from Wayne State University Law School. She is the chair of Assured Family Services and president of the Michigan Defense Trial Counsel.



Thomas J. Cedoz is an associate at Dinsmore and focuses on representing businesses, business owners, executives, and other individuals in commercial tort and employment lawsuits. Thomas received his undergraduate degree from Miami University, graduating from the Farmer School of Business. He then went on to receive his Juris Doctor from the University of Kansas School of Law.



Tish Browning is an experienced commercial litigation attorney at Rossman PC. Tish graduated in the top 10% of her class from Wayne State University Law School, where she was awarded numerous honors, including the Gold Key Award, and served as a member of the *Wayne Law Review*. Tish currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Detroit Bar Association, a position to which she was elected by the Detroit Legal Community, and in 2019 was awarded the Association's Fellow Award for professional achievement and dedication to the legal community.



John J. Conway is the principal attorney and founder of J.J. Conway Law. J.J. is a trial attorney, advocating for employees facing benefit disputes. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.



Daimeon Cotton is managing attorney at the Cotton Law Center PLLC, working in employment law, workers' compensation, ERISA, and alternative dispute resolution. He graduated from Wayne State University Law School. Prior to creating the Cotton Law Center, Daimeon worked at multiple law firms in the Metro-Detroit area.



R.J. Cronkhite is a partner and trial attorney at Dinsmore, specializing in competition law, including trade secret and trademark protection. R.J. graduated from the University of Chicago Law School and litigates across the nation. R.J. is the past chair of the Michigan State Bar Litigation Section. *Best Lawyers* and *Super Lawyers Rising Star* have recognized R.J.'s legal skills in business litigation and employment law, among others.



Kassem Dakhallallah is a founding partner of Hammoud & Dakhallallah Law Group, specializing in complex commercial litigation and white-collar criminal defense. Kassem has been awarded the *Super Lawyers Rising Star* in the business law category. He graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in computer science. After working as a software engineer, he earned his law degree from Wayne State University Law School.



Jennifer Dukarski is a shareholder at Butzel Long, specializing in intellectual property, media and technology, and data privacy and protection. Prior to attending law school, she worked as an engineer, holding high-level positions. Jennifer graduated magna cum laude from University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, where she was associate editor at the *University of Detroit Mercy Law Review* and Executive Director of the Moot Court Board of Advocates.



Shaun Fitzpatrick is the proud owner and CEO of Fortz Legal Support, LLC, a full-service litigation support and court reporting firm with expertise in remote depositions. In both 2020 and 2021, Fortz Legal was named to Inc. Magazine's top 5,000 fastest-growing, privately held companies in America.



Bernard J. Fuhs is an equity shareholder, vice president, and on the Board of Directors at Butzel Long. Bernie specializes in non-compete, trade secret, and franchise litigation, serving as chair of the firm's Franchise Specialty Team. He has been selected as a *Michigan Super Lawyer* every year since 2013. Bernie received his bachelor's degree in accounting and finance from the University of Detroit Mercy, where he graduated summa cum laude, before graduating magna cum laude from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, where he was on the Dean's list all years attended.



Maxwell Goss is a litigation partner with Fishman Stewart PLLC. Max represents clients in intellectual property and business cases in Michigan and around the country, with a particular focus on trade secret law and litigation. In addition to his litigation practice, Max provides strategic advice to businesses, creators, and professionals on intellectual property, technology, and business law matters. Max is the host of The Litigation War Room Podcast.



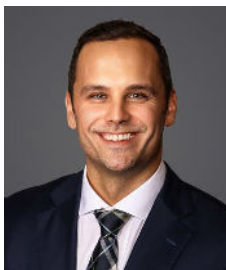
Michelle Harrell is a shareholder of Maddin Hauser, where she is a member of the firm's Executive Committee and chair of the firm's Complex Litigation and Risk Advisory group. Michelle graduated from Wayne State University Law School. An experienced litigator, she specializes in areas of complex commercial litigation, real estate, shareholder disputes, and many other areas of law.



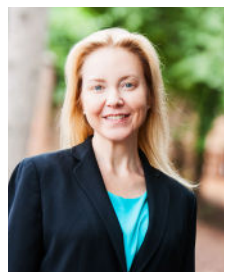
Linda Paullin-Hebden is the executive partner of Warner Norcross + Judd's Detroit and Bloomfield Hills offices. She focuses her practice on mergers and acquisitions, venture and angel capital, investment advisor compliance, and general corporate matters in several industries including automotive, financial services, and aerospace and defense. Linda graduated cum laude from Wayne State University Law School.



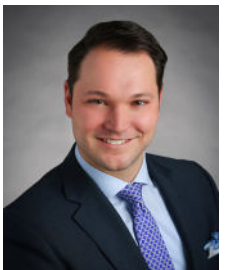
Alexis Johnson is the founder of AFJ Law Group PLLC, specializing in business litigation and real estate transactions. After graduating from Wayne State University Law School, Alexis joined a large Metro-Detroit law firm. The skills she gained there, coupled with her previous experience as a small business owner, enable Alexis to provide each client with individualized services in both a legal and business management capacity. Alexis has created a highly-specialized firm where small business owners have access to the experience and skill of a large law firm, with the personalized attention of a small firm.



Joshua Lushnat is a shareholder at Ogletree Deakins, an international management-side labor and employment firm. His practice is focused on assisting clients with risk avoidance, litigation, and dispute resolution. He regularly counsels employers on all stages of the employee lifecycle and represents them in state and federal courts, as well as private arbitrations. Prior to joining Ogletree Deakins, Josh practiced commercial litigation.



Sara MacWilliams is the owner of MacWilliams Law PC. Sara is a top commercial litigator, excelling in business law, real estate, and commercial litigation. She graduated from the University of Michigan Law School.



Jonathan Martone is a member of Clark Hill, where he specializes in commercial transactional and litigation work. Jonathan received his BA with honors from James Madison College at Michigan State University. He graduated cum laude from Wayne State University Law School, where he was a Dean's Scholar and a member of the National Moot Court Team.



E. Powell Miller is the owner and managing partner of The Miller Law Firm. Powell has repeatedly been awarded the Lawyer of the Year by Best Lawyers and included in the *Super Lawyers* Top 10 list for ten consecutive years. Powell is an expert litigator, having never lost a trial, and garnered over \$3 Billion in litigation and class action recoveries. In 1986, Powell joined the Detroit law firm of Honigman, where he was elected partner in 1990. By 1994, he formed his own firm.



Professor Douglas K. Moll has taught business law at the University of Houston Law Center since 1997. He graduated from the University of Virginia and then magna cum laude from Harvard Law School. He is the co-author of a treatise on closely held corporations, three casebooks on business law, and a concise hornbook on business organizations. He has also written numerous law review articles focusing on closely held businesses and related fiduciary duty and oppression doctrines.



Mike Morse is founder of the Mike Morse Law Firm, specializing in personal injury law. He received a Bachelor of Science in business from the University of Arizona and a Juris Doctor from the University of Detroit School of Law. Since founding the firm in 1995, Mike has received many awards, established charitable organizations, and written a book on how to build a successful law firm, *Fireproof: A Five-Step Model to Take Your Law Firm from Unpredictable to Wildly Profitable*. As the largest personal injury firm in Michigan, and one of the largest in the country, Mike's firm recovers over 150 million dollars each year for his clients and employs over 170 legal professionals.



Courtney Nichols is a partner at Plunkett Cooney. She focuses her practice in employment litigation, labor law, and Title IX Law. She is co-leader of the firm's Labor and Employment Law Practice Group and a member of the firm's crisis response team. Courtney graduated cum laude from the Chicago-Kent College of Law.



Richard Plowden is an associate at Honigman LLP, focusing his practice on private equity, financing, and general corporate matters. Richard received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan in political science and graduated from Wayne State University Law School. Previously, he worked as a judicial intern at the Theodore Levin United States Courthouse.



Lita Masini Popke recently joined JAMS after a distinguished 20-year career as a Wayne County Circuit Court judge, including service as chief judge pro tem and as presiding judge in the Family Law Division. Judge Popke spent six years on Wayne County's Business Court, where she was known for efficiently managing the litigation before her, taking a hands-on approach to practical and cost-conscious solutions.



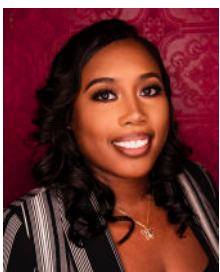
James Reid, IV is a partner at Dinsmore specializing in labor and employment law. James received his bachelor's degree from Michigan State University, graduating cum laude. He then graduated cum laude from Wayne State University Law School. James is a renowned keynote and national speaker at numerous events.



Andrew Reside is an associate at Warner Norcross + Judd, specializing in corporate transactions. Andrew received his bachelor's degree from Michigan State University, graduating with high honor in political theory and constitutional democracy. He graduated cum laude from the University of Michigan Law School, where he was a notes editor for the *Michigan Business & Entrepreneurial Law Review* and student attorney in the Entrepreneurship Clinic.



Milan Reside is an associate at Jaffe Raitt Heuer & Weiss, working in the firm's Litigation and Dispute Resolution groups and an adjunct in the Insolvency & Reorganization practice group. Milan worked as an intern for Chief Judge Scott W. Dales in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Michigan. She graduated from the Michigan State College of Law, where she was an associate editor on the *Michigan State Law Review*.



Jasmine Rippy is the co-founder of Ladies in Law®. Jasmine is a Cleveland native who attended the University of Toledo College of Law, graduating magna cum laude. She started her career at a large Detroit law firm, later opening her own practice with her friend and law partner, Ameena Sheikh. She focuses her practice on estate planning and corporate matters.



Linda Roelans is an attorney at Rossman PC. Linda graduated cum laude from Wayne State University Law School, where she won the Mock Trial In-House Competition, competed on the National Team, and worked as a student attorney for the Legal Advocacy for People with Cancer Clinic. Before joining Rossman, PC., Linda sharpened her swords on the cutthroat landscape of the Chicago business world, holding executive positions not dissimilar to those held by many of her clientele. In April 2021, Linda was elected to the Board of Directors of the American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association, Inc.



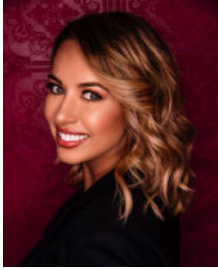
Mark Rossman is the owner of Rossman PC. Mark specializes in business litigation, corporate transactions, and family law. He received an English degree with honors from the University of Michigan and graduated cum laude from Wayne State University Law School. Mark is repeatedly voted a *DBusiness Top Lawyer* in the categories of both business and family law, and he was listed in the 2020 *Super Lawyers Top 100 Lawyers List*. Mark has hosted the Business Law Symposium each of the last 4 years.



Mary Ann Sabo is the president of Sabo PR, one of the leading crisis management and litigation PR practices in Michigan. A former business reporter, she uses her decades of experience with media, social media, and brand management to help law firms and their clients navigate potentially reputation-destroying issues, from social media kerfluffles to mass violence in the workplace.



Roy Sexton is the Director of Marketing at Clark Hill. Roy has 20 years of experience in marketing, communication, business development, and strategic planning. He is the 2022 international president elect for the Legal Marketing Association, with 3,500 members globally. He is the author of *Reel Roy Reviews, Volumes 1 and 2*, and (when time allows) a semi-professional actor, having won *BroadwayWorld's* "Best Actor Detroit" for Ann Arbor Civic's *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. He was named one of Crain's Detroit Business' "Notable LGBTQ in Business 2021." He serves on the boards of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Ann Arbor and Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit.



Ameena Sheikh (pronounced "shake") is the co-founder of Ladies in Law®. Ameena, originally from Lexington, Kentucky, moved to Detroit in high school for her ice-skating career. After graduating magna cum laude from Wayne State University Law School, Ameena worked at a large Detroit law firm before obtaining her California law license and working at a boutique law firm in Beverly Hills. She returned to Detroit and teamed up with her friend and law partner, Jasmine Rippy, specializing in estate planning and corporate matters.



Lindsay Sikora is the founder and lead counsel of Sikora Law Firm, a Farmington Hills firm specializing in personal injury law. Lindsay is also the founder of Sikora Business Solutions, a consulting firm focused on helping small businesses organize and systemize their business. Lindsay graduated cum laude from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. Since graduation, she has devoted her career to helping her clients and achieving results.



Elizabeth Vincent is an attorney at Rossman PC, where she leads the firm's corporate transactions, estates, and corporate structuring and succession planning groups. She also handles business litigation matters, special needs planning, and elder law. Liz graduated cum laude from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School. As an expert in estate planning, Liz serves on the Legal Advisory Council for Triage Cancer, a national non-profit organization. Liz also regularly presents on the topic of estate and corporate succession planning. Most recently, she presented at the Summer 2021 Troy Chamber of Commerce Corporate Succession and Estate Planning Think Tank.



Honorable Michael Warren has served on the Oakland Circuit Court since 2002. A graduate from the University of Michigan Law School, he has taught Constitutional Law at Western Michigan Cooley Law School, is the sponsor and pilot judge for Michigan's e-filing and paperless courtroom, and is a former member of the State Board of Education. He is also the co-creator of Patriot Week and host of the Patriot Lessons TV Show and Patriot Lessons Podcast.



Linda Watson has served for six years on Clark Hill's Executive Committee, is chair of the Automotive and Manufacturing Industry Group, and leads the firm's DEI initiatives. She graduated cum laude from Michigan State University College of Law. Linda has significant trial experience and is a formal and informal mentor to associates and partners. Linda is a content editor for Michigan Pretrial Civil Procedure, a Lexis Nexis Practice Guide first published in 2016.

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Shazia Siddiqi, MA, LPC, ATR-BC is Founder/CEO of Let's Art About It, a Michigan business that facilitates virtual and in-person experiential workshops to help business teams and employees cope with burnout, stress, and change, renew vision, and more. Shazia is a Board Certified Art Therapist, Licensed Professional Counselor, and Adjunct Professor at WSU, where she obtained an MA in both Art Therapy and Clinical Mental Health Counseling. Her clients include DLA Piper, Google, Mitsubishi, Universal Music, Accenture, Deloitte, Match, MLB Network, and DIA.

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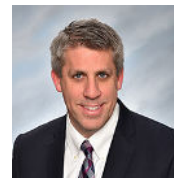
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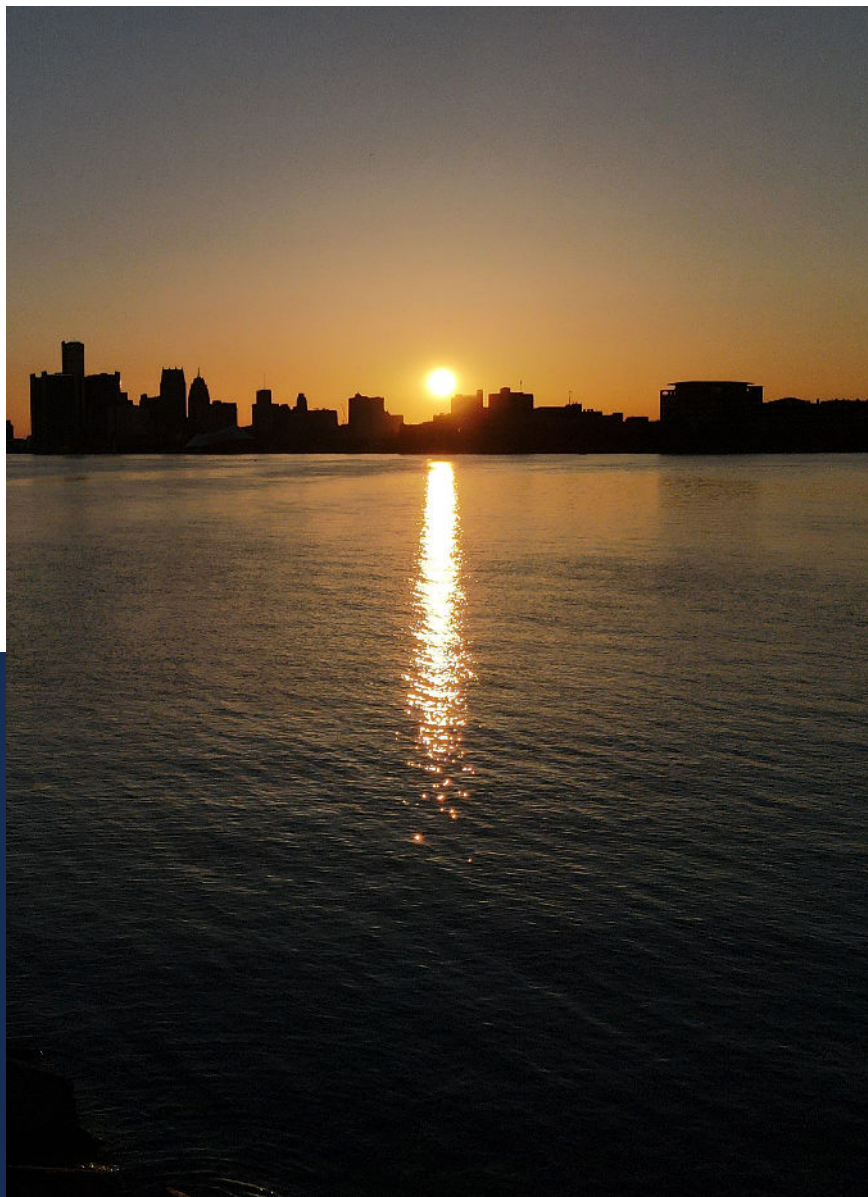
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