



6th Annual State Bar of Michigan Business Law Section Symposium

“Experts and Trial Practice”

February 8, 2024 | The Guardian Building

Agenda

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKERS
5:15 – 5:25	Opening Statement	Mark Rossman (<i>Rossman, P.C.</i>)
5:30 – 6:20	Panel Discussion Young Lawyer Perspectives on Litigation and Trial Practice and Q&A Session	Mahde Abdallah (<i>BSP Law</i>) Jacob Campbell (<i>The Miller Law Firm</i>) Isra Khuja (<i>Rossman P.C.</i>) Paige Szymanski (<i>Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP</i>) Moderator: Daniel Ravitz (<i>The Miller Law Firm</i>)
6:25 – 7:15	Panel Discussion Expert Perspectives on Litigation and Trial Practice and Q&A Session	Daniel Agauas (<i>B Riley Advisory Services</i>) Van Conway (<i>Van Conway & Partners</i>) Tom Frazee (<i>FVF Consulting</i>) James Harrington (<i>MDD Forensic Accountants</i>) Jesse Ultz (<i>Stout</i>) Moderator: Mark Rossman (<i>Rossman, P.C.</i>)
7:20 – 8:10	Panel Discussion Judicial Perspectives on Litigation and Trial Practice and Q&A Session	Hon. Victoria Roberts (<i>Ret., E.D. Mich.</i>) Hon. Kimberly Altman (<i>E.D. Mich.</i>) Hon. Anthony Patti (<i>E.D. Mich.</i>) Moderator: Sara MacWilliams (<i>Doerr MacWilliams Howard</i>)
8:15 – 9:00	Presentation The Art of The Opening Statement	E. Powell Miller (<i>The Miller Law Firm</i>)

Speakers



Mahde Abdallah is a Senior Associate at Bush Seyferth PLLC. He is a 2015 graduate of Wayne State University Law School where he was awarded the Order of the Coif and multiple scholarships. Mahde has extensive experience in complex commercial, tort, and class action cases. He has been rated as a Michigan Super Lawyers Rising Star since 2020. In addition to being an attorney, Mahde sits on the Planning Commission for the City of Dearborn and holds a realtor license. Mahde is presenting on the Young Lawyers Perspectives Panel.



Dan Agauas is a Director at B | Riley Advisory Services, specializing in economic damages analysis, business valuation, and forensic accounting, with 17 years of experience. As a CFA charter holder, Accredited Senior Appraiser, and a member of the American Society of Appraisers, Dan excels in valuations for shareholder disputes, mergers and acquisitions, and economic damages analyses in commercial lawsuits. He attended Oakland University where he graduated cum laude with his MBA and magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in mathematics. Dan will be presenting on the Expert Perspectives Panel.



Magistrate Judge Kimberly Altman was sworn in as a United States Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan in 2020. She holds a Bachelor of Arts with high honors from Michigan State University and earned her J.D. magna cum laude from Wayne State University Law School. Before being appointed to the bench, she served in a variety of positions in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, including as a law clerk to the Hon. Robert E. DeMascio, a Staff Attorney, and as the Career Law Clerk to the Hon. Avern Cohn. She also served as an officer and board member of the Federal Bar Association, Eastern District of Michigan Chapter, and as a committee member in the National Federal Bar Association. Magistrate Judge Altman is currently a Trustee of the Court Historical Society for the Eastern District of Michigan and a Master for the University of Detroit's Inn of Court program. Judge Altman is presenting on the Judicial Perspectives Panel.



Jacob Campbell is an Associate Attorney at the Miller Law Firm, P.C. After graduating from the University of Michigan in 2014 with his Bachelor of Arts in psychology, Jacob went on to earn his Juris Doctor from Wayne State University Law School in 2019. Jacob has experience litigating before both state and federal courts. Before joining Miller Law, Jacob served as in-house counsel for a regional superstore chain and worked as an associate attorney for a reputable commercial litigation firm. Jacob's current practice focuses on complex commercial litigation. Jacob is presenting on the Young Lawyers Perspectives Panel.



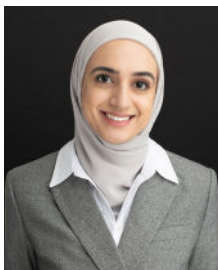
Van Conway is Founder & CEO of Van Conway & Partners, a boutique financial advisory and business consultancy firm, and is internationally recognized in the fields of insolvency/bankruptcy; financing, reorganization, management of troubled companies; mergers and acquisitions; debt restructuring; and litigation support. Conway was the restructuring advisor for the highly publicized \$18 billion City of Detroit Chapter 9 Bankruptcy, and his advisory work played a key role on the city's road to recovery. His firm has received numerous awards and been recognized as one of the top turnaround firms in the country for over a decade. In the area of litigation support services, Van is uniquely qualified to provide expert testimony on lost profits, economic damages, business valuation, and related matters. Over the last 40 years, Van has been engaged in over 1,000 matters representing various corporations and has been a named expert in over 1,500 complex commercial cases involving damages of over \$5 Billion. He has also been involved in over 120 trials and hundreds of depositions in state and federal courts, before administrative and regulatory agencies, and in alternative dispute resolution forums, and is nationally recognized as one of the leading experts on matters involving economic damages & valuation issues. Van's firm has been recognized by Michigan Lawyer's Weekly as one of the best crisis management companies, litigation consulting companies, forensic experts, business accounting partners, and forensic accounting providers for the past 5 years. Van is a Certified Public Accountant, Certified Fraud Examiner, Certified Valuation Analyst, Certified Patent Valuation Analyst, Certified in Distressed Business Valuation, Accredited in Business Valuation and Certified in Financial Forensics by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Van is presenting on the Expert Perspectives Panel.



Tom Frazee is the Managing Director at FVF Consulting, assisting clients with complex financial issues and data analyses related to financial fraud, the valuation of businesses, and the analysis of economic claims in legal disputes. He is a graduate of Oakland University, and has provided expert testimony on valuation, accounting, and financial topics for more than 25 years. Tom is presenting on the Expert Perspectives Panel.



Jim Harrington is a Director at MDD Forensic Accountants boasting over 25 years of expertise specializing in damages and causation analysis. His broad skill set spans various industries and dispute types, from intellectual property disputes to business valuations and diverse commercial disputes. Jim has provided expert testimony in state court, federal court, and arbitration forums. He is a Certified Public Accountant and holds Certified in Financial Forensics (CFF) and Certified Valuation Analyst (CVA) credentials. He graduated with honors from Oakland University, earning a Bachelor of Science in Accounting. Jim is presenting on the Expert Perspectives Panel.



Isra Khuja is an associate attorney at Rossman, P.C., where she specializes in the areas of partnership and fiduciary duty, business torts, and breaches of contract. She is experienced in both trial and arbitration practice. Isra earned her Bachelor of Arts from Wayne State University with a double major in Honors Political Science and English, graduating cum laude, and her Juris Doctor from Wayne State University Law School. Isra serves on the council for the Young Lawyers Section of the State Bar of Michigan and is an active member of the Privately Held Businesses Forum of the Business Law Section. Isra is presenting on the Young Lawyers Perspectives Panel.



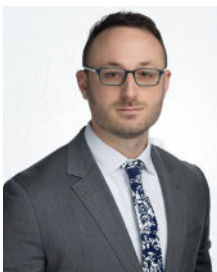
Sara MacWilliams is a Partner of Doerr MacWilliams Howard PLLC and specializes in complex commercial litigation, business advisory services, and commercial real estate matters. She has extensive trial experience and enjoys taking high stakes matters to trial. A graduate of University of Michigan Law School, she is routinely named one of the top female attorneys in Michigan. Sara is also a mother of five. Sara will be moderating the Judicial Perspectives Panel.



E. Powell Miller is the managing partner of The Miller Law Firm. Powell has repeatedly been awarded the Lawyer of the Year Award by Best Lawyers, included in the Super Lawyers Top 10 list for over twelve consecutive years, and he is currently Super Lawyers #1 ranked attorney in Michigan. Powell is an expert litigator, having won numerous trials in big cases, and garnering over \$6 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. Powell is Co-Chair of the Business Law Symposium this year, and he will be closing the program with a presentation on “The Art of the Opening Statement.”



Magistrate Judge Anthony Patti was sworn in as a United States Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan on January 5, 2015. Prior to his judicial career, he joined the law office of Hooper, Hathaway, Price, Beuche & Wallace in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he practiced for 24 years in the areas of complex and general commercial litigation, trade secrets and unfair competition law, trademark and copyright law, employment and employment litigation, securities litigation, tort litigation, professional malpractice law, probate litigation, and appellate work. He received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Michigan cum laude in 1987 and a Juris Doctor from the University of Notre Dame in 1990. He has served as an adjunct professor of law at the Ave Maria School of Law and at Western Michigan University’s Thomas M. Cooley Law School and is currently an adjunct faculty member at the University of Michigan – Dearborn. Judge Patti will be presenting on the Judicial Perspectives Panel.



Daniel Ravitz is a Partner at The Miller Law Firm. In 2016, he received his Juris Doctor from Colombia Law School where he was twice designated a James Kent Scholar for outstanding academic achievement. He also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree with honors from the Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan. Before joining Miller Law, he served as an Associate Attorney at Fensterstock & Partners, LLP in New York, New York. Daniel’s current practice focuses on complex commercial litigation. Michigan Super Lawyers recognized him as a Rising Star in both 2022 and 2023. Daniel is moderating on the Young Lawyers Perspectives Panel.



Honorable Victoria Roberts (Ret.) was a dedicated member of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan following her unanimous confirmation by the United States Senate in 1998 and until her retirement in September 2023. She now serves as a neutral Mediator/Arbitrator with JAMS. Before her esteemed judicial career, Judge Roberts served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Eastern District of Michigan and held the position of managing partner at Goodman, Eden, Millender, and Bedrosian. Judge Roberts, the 62nd president of the State Bar of Michigan, has been a respected faculty member for legal education seminars both domestically and internationally. She served as an adjunct professor at the University of Michigan Law School. Her exceptional contributions earned her numerous awards, including the Roberts P. Hudson Award and the Champion of Justice Award, the highest honors from the State Bar of Michigan. In recognition of her outstanding public service, she was named Michigan Lawyers Weekly “Woman of the Year” in 2013 and received the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association Foundation Dennis W. Archer Public Service Award in 2012. Additionally, in 1997, she was honored as one of the Lawyers of the Year by Michigan Lawyers Weekly. Judge Roberts earned her Juris Doctor degree from Northeastern University School of Law in Boston in 1976 and holds an undergraduate degree in journalism and sociology from the University of Michigan. She is a native of Detroit and Valedictorian of the 1969 graduating class of St. Martin de Porres High School. Judge Roberts played a crucial role as one of the mediators in the City of Detroit Bankruptcy case. She successfully negotiated collective bargaining agreements and contributed to the confirmed Plan of Adjustment in 2014. Judge Roberts is presenting on the Judicial Perspectives Panel.



Mark Rossman is the owner of Rossman P.C. Mark specializes in business litigation and corporate transactions. 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 business law and he has been listed in Super Lawyers Top 100 Lawyers List. Mark is Co-Chair of the Privately Held Businesses Forum, he has chaired the Business Law Symposium each of the last 6 years, and he will be delivering opening remarks and moderating the Expert Perspectives Panel this year.



Paige Syzmanski is an experienced Associate Attorney at Taft, Stettinius, & Hollister, LLP. Paige is a member of the litigation practice group where she represents clients in all aspects of securities disputes, probate litigation, complex commercial litigation, and employment discrimination claims. Paige holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Michigan and a Master of Laws in Securities and Financial Regulation from the Georgetown University Law Center. She earned her Juris Doctor with honors from the Michigan State University College of Law. Michigan Super Lawyers has recognized Paige as a Rising Star since 2021. She is named in the Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch for securities litigation, was a 2022 Up & Coming Lawyers honoree in the Michigan Lawyers Weekly, and was named a Go to Lawyer for Business Litigation in 2023 in Michigan Lawyers Weekly. Paige is presenting on the Young Lawyers Perspectives Panel.



Jesse Ultz is the co-leader of the Business Valuation practice at Stout, also sitting on their Fairness and Solvency Opinion Committee. He has over two decades of expertise in valuation, mergers and acquisitions, and litigation, coupled with a robust background in providing expert testimony. Jesse is licensed as a Chartered Financial Analyst and an Accredited Senior Appraiser. He graduated from Michigan State University with high honors. His experience spans a diverse client base, from regional middle-market businesses to multi-billion-dollar enterprises. Jesse will be presenting on the Expert Perspectives Panel.

Sponsors

Thank you to the 6th Annual State Bar of Michigan Business Law Section Symposium sponsors (pg. 9-15) and in-kind partners (listed below).

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL
JOURNAL OF BUSINESS LAW

DBUSINESS
DETROIT'S PREMIER BUSINESS JOURNAL

HOUR
DETROIT



EMMA BURCUSEL

FORTZ Legal

FULL SERVICE LITIGATION SUPPORT

COURT REPORTING

REMOTE DEPOSITIONS

TRIAL SUPPORT

E-DISCOVERY

DOCUMENT SERVICES

844.730.4066

FORTZLEGAL.COM



MILLER

LAW

MICHIGAN'S LEADING
SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS
LAW FIRM



**SHAREHOLDER
OPPRESSION**

**PARTNERSHIP
DISPUTES**

**BUSINESS
BREAKUPS**

BILLIONS RECOVERED

WWW.MILLER.LAW | (248) 841-2200



Client-Focused & Results-Driven

PRACTICE AREAS

Business Litigation

Corporate Structuring & Transactions

Corporate Protection

Commercial Collections

Family Law

Mediation Services

CONTACT US

2145 Crooks Road, Suite 220, Troy

rossmanpc.com | (248) 385-5481



Our team of Litigation Support professionals has over 75 years of collective experience helping attorneys in Michigan, and across the country, during every stage of the litigation process.

From case assessment to expert testimony, we excel at delivering results in cases involving breach of contract, valuation disputes, solvency disputes, lost profits, professional malpractice, lender liability, antitrust, fraud, shareholder disputes, and other complex commercial and bankruptcy litigation issues. With more than 1,500 engagements, 400-plus depositions, and 120-plus trials under our collective belt, Van Conway & Partners has what it takes to help our clients win when the stakes are high. We have testified on behalf of both plaintiffs and defendants in federal and state proceedings, before administrative and regulatory agencies, and in arbitration and other alternative dispute resolution forums. Van Conway is a nationally recognized damages expert on “bet the farm” cases, and our team of professionals includes a licensed attorney with significant experience in complex business litigation. Our credentialed experts will perform a thorough analysis of each case, on a *no-charge basis*, to understand your client’s needs and determine how Van Conway & Partners can be of value and ensure the best possible outcome for you and your client.



› vanconwayandpartners.com | 248.590.0940

344 NORTH OLD WOODWARD, SUITE 304, BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN 48009

Trusted in the trenches

Proud sponsors of the
2024 Michigan State Bar
Business Law Symposium

HONIGMAN

Our attorneys are trustworthy, talented, and operate as a natural extension of your team — we consider your business our business and our work reflects this value.

honigman.com

THE GO-TO BUSINESS TRIAL LAWYERS

FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT:

DANIEL D. QUICK

Member - Troy, MI | 248.433.7242
dquick@dickinsonwright.com

DICKINSONWRIGHT



DOERK MACWILLIAMS HOWARD
LLP

—A Business Law Firm—

dmlawyers.com | 248.432.1586

B | RILEY Advisory Services

BRINGING CLARITY

TO COMPLEX

BUSINESS CHALLENGES

Appraisal & Valuation Services
Compliance, Risk & Resilience
Forensic Accounting & Litigation Support
Interim Management & Executive Search
Operations Management Services
Restructuring & Turnaround Management
Transaction Support

ROD CRAWFORD

rcrawford@brileyfin.com

BOB WINIARSKI

rwiniarski@brileyfin.com

Southfield, MI | Grand Rapids, MI

www.brileyadvisoryservices.com

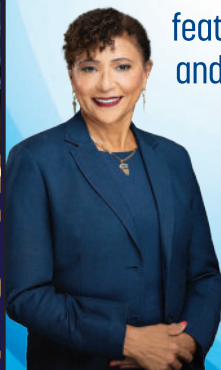
NASDAQ:RILY



We're proud to
be a sponsor of the
**6th Annual State
Bar of Michigan
Business Law
Section Symposium**

featuring speaker
and JAMS neutral

**Victoria A.
Roberts**



[jamsadr.com/
detroit](http://jamsadr.com/detroit)



Our expertise

Routinely engaged in:

- Business Valuations
- Business & Shareholder Disputes
- IP/Patent
- Commercial Damages

Suzanne Tarchala, CPA, CFF Partner

Jim Harrington, CPA, CFF, CVA Director



Making Numbers Make Sense mdd.com



RELENTLESS EXCELLENCE®

VALUATION ADVISORY

TRANSACTION ADVISORY

ACCOUNTING & REPORTING ADVISORY

DISPUTES, CLAIMS, & INVESTIGATIONS

SPECIALTY & INDUSTRY SERVICES

[Learn more at stout.com](https://stout.com)

Stout is a global advisory firm specializing in corporate finance, accounting and transaction advisory, valuation, financial disputes, claims, and investigations. We serve a range of clients, from public corporations to privately held companies in numerous industries.

J.J. CONWAY LAW

CONQUER TOMORROW™



Rochester, Michigan
248.841.1949

**Supporting Legal Counsel and
Business Decisions with
Practical & Efficient Solutions,
Experience, Effective
Communication, and Objectivity**



Dismondy, P.C.

U.S. EXPORT CONTROLS & GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS

*Helping small to midsize
businesses address issues related
to U.S. Export Controls and
Government Contracts.*

**WINNING SHAREHOLDER
LITIGATION FOR MORE
THAN 25 YEARS.**



248-723-1238

hjn@hjoelnewman.com

H. JOEL NEWMAN, PLLC

Taft/

The Modern Law Firm.

875 attorneys strong.

Taftlaw.com



