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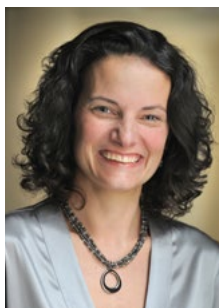
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LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER



The Daily Record's editors gathered in August to review and consider the 50 nominations we received for Attorneys of the Year. This is always a favorite time of year for me because reading

these nominations and applications as well as the letters of references provides great insight into the legal community of Western New York and clearly shows that we have many outstanding attorneys who are not only practicing law but using their knowledge and influence to impact the community and the next generation of legal leaders.

The Daily Record has been publishing the legal news of Western New York for 109 years. We are proud to shine a spotlight on the leaders that you will meet in this magazine.

Nominated by their peers, the attorneys chosen for this award are highlighted in two distinguished groups – Leaders in Law and Top Counsel. The Leaders in Law honor recognizes attorneys who serve across a variety of disciplines in the legal community, while our Top Counsel award honors in-house and general counsel.

Their reach in the community extends beyond the courtrooms and conference rooms where they work.

They volunteer their time and energy to serve the Greater Rochester region in a variety of ways, serving organizations

like the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys, Alzheimer's Association and Hunter's Hope, to name just a few. Whether it's sitting on statewide committees or serving their local municipal government, working with youth sports teams or helping the financially disadvantaged stay in their homes, these attorneys use their savvy to serve a greater good.

We are so proud to recognize these 15 Attorneys of the Year. They protect, create change and make a difference in the lives of so many, every single day. On behalf of the Daily Record, I want to congratulate them on this honor and to say thank you for their commitment to excellence.

—Suzanne Fischer-Huettner
Publisher

TOP COUNSEL AWARD

Teia Marie Bui

Chief Counsel – Clover Management Inc.

As the only in-house legal counsel for Clover Management, Teia Marie Bui has plenty of accomplishments to look back on. As she puts it, she was charged with “the responsibility of starting a practice from the ground up,” within an already established company.

Her hard work paid off, as after three years with the company her department became vital for the organization. The need for a strong in-house counsel was not limited to offering legal advice, but also helped in bridging gaps in communication between the different departments in the organization.

“In one instance, bridging the gap resulted in the reorganization of an entire arm of the company and physically tearing down walls in the building,” she says.

Aside from her work, Bui is also in-



vested in mentoring the next generation of law school graduates, having served as president of the University at Buffalo Law School’s Graduates of the Last Decade Group. As part of the GOLD group,

Bui has had the privilege of guiding a number of young students into successful law careers. Now Bui is also teaching, having earned a part-time position at Erie Community College. As she puts it, the area is familiar to her, giving her a unique edge in working with the student body, since she is “familiar with the types of challenges many students of ECC are challenged with.”

Aside from teaching and mentoring, Bui ultimately prefers accomplishments “that go without honor and reward.”

Whether it involves getting a deal completed by the deadline, or a colleague coming to her in search of legal advice, Bui is honored by the trust and faith in her abilities the company has shown.

“Some may think it is just humility, but in my opinion, their trust in me is a testament to my character and success.”

Jennifer Weidner

Senior Vice President, General Counsel - Canandaigua National Bank and Trust

With her wide-ranging field of expertise and practical approach to problem-solving, Jennifer Weidner carries full-throated praise from her colleagues and employers. Some of the most glowing remarks come from her current employer Frank Hamlin III, president and CEO of Canandaigua National Bank and Trust.

As he puts it, Weidner sets a great example in the workplace by always modeling values such as honesty and integrity, responsibility, teamwork, respect, innovation, professionalism and commitment. She always maintains “exceptional integrity and ethics,” and “excellent listening and communications skills,” Hamlin says, and “is well-respected throughout our organization and in the community.”

Weidner’s 20 years of experience in the legal field have provided her with a strong sense of how to handle both challenging situations and people.

“Her interpretation of the law is on point and she is practical and calm in her approach



to situations that arise,” Hamlin says. “Clients, employees, peers and others have remarked on Jennifer’s excellent listening and communication skills.”

Prior to joining Canandaigua National Bank and Trust, Weidner was a partner in the Trust & Estate Group at the law firm of Boylan Code, where she specialized in trust

and estate planning and administration, and transfer tax planning for high-net-worth individuals and business owners. Other areas of knowledge include contract negotiations, tax challenges and regulatory issues.

Some of Weidner’s peers have said they recommend their clients use Canandaigua National Bank and Trust for their financial planning needs “mainly due to the professionalism that Jennifer Weidner exhibits in her work product.”

“She is reliable, knowledgeable and extremely capable and communicable when it comes to addressing specific clients’ needs, and personally makes a point to be involved with her clients,” said James G. Vazzana, partner at Wiedman, Vazzana, Corcoran & Volta, P.C.

Outside of the office, Weidner has sat on multiple boards including the Estate Planning Council of Rochester, Rochester Rehabilitation Center and Monroe Community College Foundation.



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LEADERS IN LAW AWARD

Rob Brown

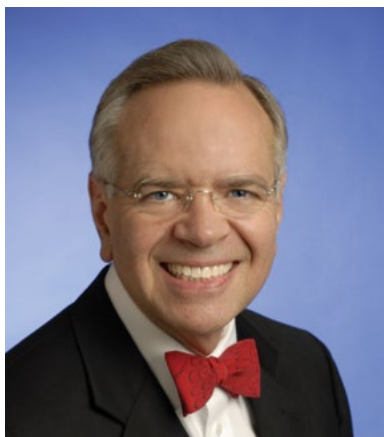
Partner-ESOP Plus: Schatz Brown Glassman LLP

Much of Rob Brown's law career has been spent working with businesses to give their employees stock options and ownership rights within their company.

Brown, a partner at the Rochester-based firm ESOP Plus: Schatz Brown Glassman LLP, is an expert in the field of employee ownership. He has published numerous articles and often speaks about ESOP-related issues at national, regional and local meetings.

"His philosophy supports the concept of employee ownership and engagement in success of the enterprise," says Jim Stefano, president of Synergy IT Solutions, where Brown has given counsel for decades.

Brown was a founding member and director, vice president and president of the New York Employee Benefits Confer-



ence. He is also a member of the Alliance of Merger & Acquisition Advisors.

He is listed in The Best Lawyers in America in both tax law and employee benefits law, the key ESOP-related legal

practice fields. He has been elected as a fellow of the American College of Employee Benefits Counsel and is listed in The Best of the U.S. (Tax Law) and the 2012 Top 50 Upstate New York Super-lawyers.

Brown has been rated by other lawyers in the Martindale-Hubbell Peer Rating system as "Preeminent" in ESOPs and Employee Ownership Law. He is also a recipient of the President's Award from the Monroe County Bar Association, a member of the Executive Committee of the New York State Bar Association Tax Section and a member of The ESOP Association's Legislative and Regulatory Committee.

He has also been affiliated with WXXI Public Broadcasting Council for more than 35 years, serving in a variety of roles including board member and chairman.

William E. Brueckner

Partner-McConville Considine Cooman & Morin PC

William E. Brueckner is a native Rochesterian who has practiced law in this community since returning from law school in 1989. He is a litigator with a practice that places a particular emphasis on matters involving commercial law, creditors' rights and insolvency issues.

Brueckner also has substantial experience representing municipalities and other government entities in a wide variety of contexts, both reducing their exposure to potential litigation and litigating on their behalf as necessary.

For the partner at McConville Considine Cooman & Morin P.C., his most significant professional accomplishment came the first time he was able to change a judge's thinking during a courtroom argument.

"At the outset of that appearance, the court was clearly prepared to rule against me, but over the course of the argument, I



was fortunate to convince the court to view the issue from a different perspective, and to prevail in the matter," Brueckner says.

This experience taught him "the subtle but immense power of persuasive advocacy," something he has carried with him

throughout his career.

Outside of work, Brueckner helps the YMCA of Greater Rochester's annual campaign. This campaign, formerly known as the Invest in Youth Campaign, allows families and children in need to partake in the services and activities offered by the group regardless of their ability to pay. He is also actively involved with Boy Scouts of America, having served as committee chair for the Penfield troop, and on the troop's Eagle Committee as well.

Brueckner may have an impressive track record when it comes to his law career and community service, but for him an even greater source of pride is being the father to his two children, Natalie and Evan. Brueckner says, the two children are his most "significant accomplishment," noting how they both are "never-ending sources of pride and motivation."

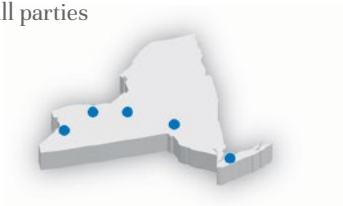


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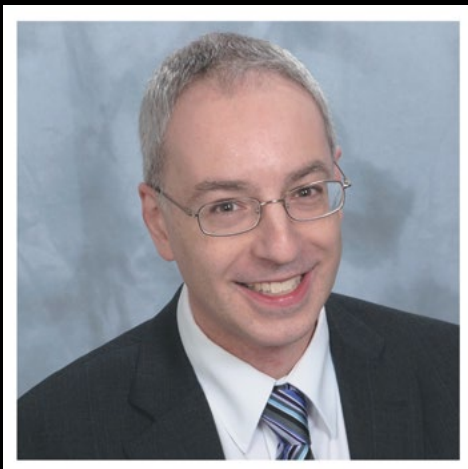


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LEADERS IN LAW AWARD

Joseph G. Casion

Partner-Harter Secrest & Emery LLP

While many may seek accolades for doing good work or coming up with unique ideas, Joseph G. Casion prefers to let others take the lead.

“Joe never seeks the limelight, and yet his help has been crucial to so many organizations in Rochester,” says Farash Foundation Executive Director Hollis Budd, who wrote in support of Casion’s nomination.

A partner with Harter Secrest & Emery LLP, where he leads the firm’s nonprofit practice, Casion has lent his expertise to many local nonprofits requiring legal guidance. Besides the Farash Foundation, he has worked with the United Way of Greater Rochester, as well as Friendly Senior Living, where he is also a board member.

Patricia Leo, United Way’s director of community impact, says Casion has played a vital role for the organization, serving on



the organization’s Community Investment Cabinet in a variety of roles while helping streamline the group’s grant making.

“His compassion for the people, impressive knowledge of nonprofit organizations,

good humor and willingness to roll up his sleeves and get to the work of improving the community quickly established him as a leader,” she says. “It is absolutely who he is to do whatever he can to make our community better.”

Casion also serves as secretary and is a board member for the Grantmakers Forum of New York, Foodlink and the Al Sigl Foundation.

While he has always found fulfillment in helping his firm’s clients achieve their goals, today Casion is finding satisfaction in seeing those he has mentored find success.

“It is the best feeling one can have to watch the people you have worked with and taught flourish on their own,” he says, adding that the “small” role he may have had in helping others develop their careers “is my most significant accomplishment to date.”

Gregory Connors

Founding Partner-Connors & Ferris LLP

Greg Connors, one of the founding partners of the legal firm Connors & Ferris, has spent decades in the field of workers compensation, oftentimes providing vital information to help the claimant navigate the process.

Nominator Nicole Morelle says Connors has “dedicated his entire career to protecting Western New York’s injured workers” and has a reputation of being “well prepared and proactive in the pursuit of his clients’ rights.”

Over the course of his career, Connors has represented clients before the Workers’ Compensation Board, Workers’ Compensation Board Office of Appeals, the Appellate Courts of New York State and the Social Security Administration.

Also active in professional organizations, Connors is a member of the New York State Bar Association, the Erie County Bar Association, the Monroe County Bar Association



and the New York State Injured Workers Bar Association.

Connors makes time for community service as well, currently serving on the Hunter’s Hope board of directors. Created by former Buffalo

Bills quarterback Jim Kelly and his wife, Jill, the nonprofit helps raise awareness of leukodystrophy, a family of disorders that affect the brain.

A graduate of Alfred University and Ohio Northern Law School, Connors has remained involved with AU and is the current chair of the university’s board of directors. Prior to being unanimously elected to that position, he was a trustee and a member of the Alumni Council.

Connors is married to another Alfred University graduate, Jeni Wetzel Connors, and the couple is well known among Alfred alumni for their service to the university. They are both former athletes — Greg played football while Jeni played soccer — and both are members of the Saxon Nation. They remain avid sports fans and have hosted many alumni events in both Rochester and Buffalo.

Connors and his wife live in Pittsford with their two children, Will and Luke.

Faraci Lange

ATTORNEYS



**Congratulations to
John A. Falk**
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LEADERS IN LAW AWARD

Carey Ann Denefrio

Associate-Littler Mendelson PC

Carey Ann Denefrio remembers first mentoring law students while working as a law clerk for a local federal judge, where she supervised some 25 interns over a seven-year time span, providing them with “daily feedback, encouragement and advice.”

Now an associate with Littler Mendelson P.C., Denefrio still finds time to help those former students — many of whom now practice at top national and regional firms — who still reach out to her for support and advice. Whether mentoring students or serving her clients, she brings all of her skills and focus to tackling the task in front of her.

“I find continuous fulfillment in supporting and advocating for my clients,” to achieve success, she says.

With a 4-year-old son and 8-month-old twins, Denefrio carries that focus over to her home life, where she carries “the same ardent passion to the joys and responsibilities of caring for my children.”

Her enthusiasm extends to the local commu-



nity, where Denefrio lends her time and expertise to several organizations, serving on the board of directors for the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys, the Nominating Committee for the Flower City Arts Center, and both the board of directors and the Nominating Commit-

tee for Catholic Charities Community Services.

Active in the Foundation of the Monroe County Bar, Denefrio is chair of the Grants Committee in addition to serving on the board of the directors and the Nominating Committee. She is a delegate for the Women’s Bar Association of the State of New York, and she serves on its Legislation Committee as well.

Denefrio’s dedication to her work and community has been recognized with multiple local awards. Among them, she received the Up and Coming Attorney of 2011 from The Daily Record and the Emerging Bar Leader Award from the Monroe County Bar Association in 2013. She was also a member of the RBJ Forty Under 40 class of 2013.

Maintaining equilibrium no matter what the current mission is clearly her specialty.

“Efficient and creative time management allows me to draw the best balance among my professional, community and personal commitments,” she says.

Jeffrey P. DiPalma

Partner-Osborn Reed & Burke LLP

As a former assistant district attorney for both Erie and Monroe County, Jeffrey P. DiPalma believes the justice system can do a world of good for those in need.

“I have always operated on the principle that there are good and decent people in the world who deserve to live in peace,” he says. He felt that his role during those 13 years as a prosecutor was to help “restore (people’s) trust in a system that may have often failed them before.”

DiPalma, now a partner with Osborn Reed & Burke LLP, seeks to pass on this view of the legal system to legal students and younger attorneys. Himself a graduate of the University of Rochester, SUNY Buffalo and Albany Law School, he worked for a time as an adjunct professor at SUNY Buffalo.

He often brought students into the



courtroom so they could witness firsthand the workings of the legal system.

“I truly believed that I was able to impress upon many the value to society the many dedicated people in our justice system provide,” he says.

At his current firm, he works directly with associate attorneys as they develop their careers. Nominator Jennifer Schwartz says DiPalma is a “leader both inside the firm and in the community,” and adds that he finds time to coach his daughter’s Little League team.

DiPalma also is a member of the New York State Bar Association and the Monroe County Bar Association.

In mentoring young lawyers, DiPalma says he hopes to “prevent them from repeating the same mistakes I may have made as well as give them examples of strategies that I have employed with success.

“It is my hope that I can share my knowledge and experience in the same manner as the many fine attorneys who spent their time to help me advance in my career.”

Congratulations to
Carey Ann Denefrio

for being named a
2017 Attorney of the Year
by The Daily Record



Carey Ann Denefrio, Associate
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Congratulations!

We congratulate our colleague Joe Casion and all the Attorneys of the Year and Top Counsel honorees. Thank you for your contributions to the legal profession and the communities we serve.

Joseph G. Casion
Partner
Health Care and Human Services



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LEADERS IN LAW AWARD

John A. Falk

Partner—Faraci Lange LLP

A leading attorney in the area of personal injury litigation, John A. Falk's legal practice focuses primarily on medical malpractice, product liability, negligence matters, motor vehicle accidents and wrongful death matters. Over the course of his career he has helped numerous clients with severe injuries and their families obtain substantial recoveries.

Falk joined the team at Faraci Lange in 1997, where colleagues describe him as the firm's top personal injury attorney. Prior to joining the firm, he was a Monroe County assistant district attorney for nearly seven years, prosecuting violent felony offenses.

Falk was recently appointed by New York State Court of Appeals Chief Judge Janet DiFiore to serve on the state's Commission on Judicial Conduct. Outside of the office, Falk serves as a town court



justice in Brighton. He also sits on several boards including the Town of Brighton Planning Board, the Parks and Recreation Citizens' Advisory Committee and the Western New York chapter of the American Liver Foundation, and coaches multiple

youth sports teams.

Falk has been selected as one of the Best Lawyers in America for medical malpractice, personal injury and product liability law since 2009. He was named a Best Lawyers Lawyer of the Year for Rochester in 2017 for personal injury litigation, and again for 2018 for product liability litigation.

He has been featured in New York Magazine as one of the New York Area's Top Lawyers and selected as one of the magazine's Top Attorneys in New York, New Jersey & Connecticut. He remains well-respected in the legal community and has been awarded Martindale-Hubbell's highest rating in both legal ability and ethics. He has also been chosen as one of Upstate New York's Super Lawyers for medical malpractice and personal injury law.

Greta K. Kolcon

Partner—Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP

Greta K. Kolcon, a partner in the Litigation Department of Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP, experienced a life-threatening car accident shortly after moving to Rochester.

"I was not expected to survive transport from the scene to the hospital," Kolcon says.

She sustained a serious head injury that "stole my memory and cognitive functions and threatened to end my short legal career altogether," she explains.

"For months I could not even read. Fighting back over the course of a year to learn to be able to function again as a lawyer was the most difficult thing I have ever done."

But recover she did, and she went on to work as an associate attorney with Harter Secrest & Emery, LLP before joining Woods Oviatt, where she currently also serves as chair of the Environmental Practice Group. Over the course of her career, she has become a "fixture in local, regional and state bar associations," according to her nominator, Heidi Gregory.



"She readily gives her time, talent, energies and leadership to associations and other professional organizations to help advance women in the legal profession, Gregory says.

These organizations include the New York State Bar Association, where she is a member of the Dispute Resolution Committee; the Monroe County

Bar Association, where she is a member of the Environmental Committee; the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys, where she is a member of the Nomination Committee; and the Women's Bar Association of New York, where she served a number of leadership roles and is currently president-elect.

Anne Joynt, the current president of the Western New York chapter of WBASNY, first encountered Kolcon in the courtroom in 2006.

"I was immediately struck by Greta's grasp of the law and zealous advocacy for her clients," she says. "Then and now, I am impressed with the way Greta extends herself to others, and in coming to know her better, I have even more respect for the work she has done in building up the legal community and its reputation."

Other facets of Kolcon's community work include serving as a mentor for the Stetson Law Review Mentoring Program, a volunteer speaker at Young Women's Charter Prep, and a lay worship assistant for St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

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Canandaigua National Bank & Trust congratulates all of Rochester's Attorney of the Year recipients. We admire your enthusiasm for the legal profession and your community, and your dedication to helping others. These are values we share as well, and it's why we strive to enrich the communities we serve.

We congratulate Jennifer N. Weidner, recipient of *The Daily Record's* Top Counsel Award.



Jennifer N. Weidner, Esq.
Senior Vice President,
General Counsel



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LEADERS IN LAW AWARD

Patrick Pullano

Member—Pullano & Farrow PLLC

A founding partner of Pullano & Farrow PLLC, Patrick Pullano helped guide it to remarkable growth in a short amount of time.

“(It started out as) a two-person practice (and became) a full-service firm of over 30 people over the course of just four years,” he says.

This impressive accomplishment got its start in 2013, when Pullano launched the firm with his partner, Brett Farrow. Through his practice, Pullano provides counsel to a wide range of health care providers, including nursing homes, hospitals, physician organizations and individual physician practitioners.

Pullano takes an active role in mentoring at Pullano & Farrow, advising a group of health care and corporate at-



torneys on matters of law as well as “the practical issues that arise when serving clients.” He also serves on the firm’s Ethics Committee.

When he’s not mentoring others or handling the day-to-day work of maintaining his practice, Pullano invests time in the community. Among the local organizations and events to benefit from his contributions are Greentopia, where he has been a member and secretary of the board of directors, and the Mary M. Gooley Hemophilia Center, where he has been the compliance committee director.

Prior to starting the firm, Pullano was with Harter Secrest & Emery, LLP.

A graduate of the University of Rochester and Albany Law School, he has also been honored by the local legal community, having been named in the Best Lawyers in America list for the field of health care each year since 2013.

Kevin Purcell

Staff Attorney—Empire Justice Center

As a staff attorney with the Consumer Finance and Housing Unit of the Empire Justice Center, Kevin Purcell works with low-income homeowners who have been targeted by predatory lenders or others who are struggling to meet their mortgage obligations to help prevent foreclosure.

Purcell first started work at the center during a period of change. A month before coming on board, New York State had changed the foreclosure process to include mandatory settlement conferences, in which lenders and homeowners appear in court with the goal of finding a solution that allows the borrower to retain ownership of the home.

Purcell has worked diligently with local courts and bank attorneys to establish a process in Monroe County that protects homeowners’ rights and ensures each step of the procedure is as efficient



as possible. As a result of Purcell’s and the center’s efforts, a weekly courthouse clinic was established in the county at which homeowners are informed of their rights and given an overview of the foreclosure process prior to their first settle-

ment conference.

Over the course of the last eight years, Purcell has spoken to over 2,000 homeowners through these clinics. Many attendees of these events have thanked Purcell, often with a renewed sense of hope.

“Homeowners consistently will come up to me and thank me for all the information we have given them, often stating that for the first time they feel like they understand what their options are and have some optimism about their chances,” Purcell says.

In addition to his work at the clinics, Purcell represents individual homeowners in their foreclosure actions — often at no cost to them — through an Empire Justice Center grant program. As a result of his efforts, Empire Justice Center has been able to help some 500 homeowners keep their homes.

Donald M. Thompson

Partner-Easton Thompson Kasperek Shiffrin LLP

For Donald M. Thompson, practicing law is all about helping people in need.

While Thompson is a managing partner for Easton Thompson Kasperek Shiffrin, LLP, pro bono work takes up quite a bit of his time. Nominator Robert Estephan, who is a partner with the same firm, says that while Thompson doesn't keep track of how much volunteer legal work he does, "I am sure that he leads the community in that category."

Thompson's main motivation, Estephan adds, is "helping people who need and deserve help."

Estephan says that Thompson "was instrumental in freeing innocent people" through the Innocence Project, a nonprofit organization dedicated to exonerating people who have been wrongfully convicted.

Among some of those defendants were three people who had served sentences ranging from six to 19 years, during which Thompson worked alongside the Innocence Project and the New



York City-based firm of Neufeld Scheck and Brustin.

Thompson also aided another defendant who had served 25 years. This particular individual was not only exonerated and released from cus-

tody, but also received civil compensation.

Aside from his work in the courtroom, Thompson is active in the Monroe County Bar Association. He is a board member and former board president of the Pretrial Services Corporation, a former trustee and chair of the Judiciary Committee, as well as a member of the Criminal Justice Section, Website Task Force and Assigned Counsel Committee.

In addition, Thompson routinely offers opportunities to younger attorneys, typically giving them roles they may not receive otherwise. He says he may often have "younger attorneys as second chairs for murder trials." He is a former instructor at Judicial Institute seminars for judges and law clerks, and has regular speaking engagements at CLE programs as well.

All of this involvement is just Thompson's way of giving back, according to Estephan, who summed him up as a "selfless attorney who always puts his clients before himself."

Laurie A. Vahey

Partner-Leclair Korona Vahey Cole LLP

Laurie A. Vahey is a litigator with a passion for justice and the courtroom. A founding member and partner at Leclair Korona Vahey Cole LLP, Vahey focuses her practice in the areas of insurance law, as well as commercial and personal injury litigation.

Vahey is a Rochester native who remains active in the community, believing that service is a way of life for her and her family. She lives in Pittsford with her husband Mark, who currently serves in the military.

For Vahey, attaining her law degree is among her most significant accomplishments in life — it provided not only a fulfilling career, but also the skills to successfully advocate for her children.

"Advocacy skills have allowed me to help my youngest daughter not only survive past her doctors' stated life expectancy of 2 years old, but thrive. She is now



15, is a student, plays varsity golf and, most importantly, has friends and hope for the future," Vahey says. "Whether it's questioning doctors about treatments, researching issues for her or others needing a medical advocate, my degree has em-

powered me to help others."

Vahey's contributions and experience in the areas of personal injury and insurance law have garnered her many awards and recognitions from local, state and national organizations. Laurie has consistently been included in The Best Lawyers in America Guide and Super Lawyers, Upstate and Corporate Counsel editions. Further, she is frequently asked to lecture to attorneys, judges and insurance professionals in her areas of practice and on trial skills. She recently presented at the NYSBA's Annual Trial Academy on the topic of "Evidence at a Civil Trial."

Outside of work, she is an active bicyclist who, among other accomplishments, has ridden 100 miles around Lake Tahoe to honor those who have battled cancer and to raise funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

LEADERS IN LAW AWARD

Miles P. Zatkowsky

Partner—Dutcher & Zatkowsky

Miles Zatkowsky brings a passion for helping older adults to his work as an elder law attorney. A partner at Dutcher & Zatkowsky, his practice places a particular emphasis on Medicaid planning and asset protection, estate planning, probate and estate administration, and guardianships for incapacitated individuals.

After graduating law school in 1981, Zatkowsky worked for the justices of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, in the Second Judicial Department — one of the busiest appellate courts in the nation. A native of Brooklyn, he moved to Rochester in 1986 and says it was the process of moving his parents up to this area that influenced his decision to focus his practice on helping older adults.

“It was my own experience looking after my parents in their later years, managing their affairs and dealing with the stress and complications of that time of life that led me to make the decision to focus my practice entirely on elder law,” Zatkowsky says.



kowsky says.

Zatkowsky is also one of the area’s most active and engaged advocates for people living with Alzheimer’s disease and their caregivers. He has spent more than seven years on the board

of directors for the Rochester and Finger Lakes chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association. He has also represented the chapter as a delegate to the association’s national assembly, and he has presented numerous free seminars for the organization locally.

“As an attorney and Alzheimer’s advocate, he has the knowledge and understanding of the needs of someone who has Alzheimer’s disease and their caregivers,” says Kelly Harris, the chapter’s director of administration and public policy.

Zatkowsky is also a member of the Elder Abuse Prevention Consortium, a collection of professionals whose objective is to protect the rights of elder adults and reverse the growing trend of abuse. In addition, he serves on the Monroe County Older Adult Fatality Review Committee, one of only a few panels in the nation that reviews the cases of deaths of older adults in an effort to prevent future abuses and fatalities.

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Western New York, with his partner Tom Ferris. Greg has dedicated his entire legal career to protecting the region's injured workers and built the firm on the simple principle in mind that injured workers deserve the best as well as the most responsive representation possible from knowledgeable attorneys with a friendly and helpful support staff. Over the last 15 years, Connors & Ferris has offices in Rochester and Buffalo helping over 10,000 people, which not only embrace a highly client focused culture, but also a fun place to work.

Having appeared at thousands of Workers' Compensation hearings, Greg understands how frustrating and confusing Workers' Compensation can be. He has lectured for the Monroe County Bar Association and throughout the State for Continuing Legal Education with respect to Workers' Compensation along with his representation of injured workers.

Greg is committed to ensuring each client is provided all of the necessary and pertinent information to maximize their Workers' Compensation and Social Security benefits. Greg's reputation of being well prepared and proactive in the pursuit of his clients' rights has resulted in consistent favourable outcomes. For example, some career highlights include, securing weekly benefits for a volunteer firefighter after he had been denied benefits for over 5 years. In addition, Greg was able to secure

More than a decade ago, Greg Connors co-founded Connors & Ferris, a leading Workers' Compensation, Social Security Disability and personal injury law firm in

death benefits for the children of a worker who passed away as a result of complications related to his work related injury.

In addition to running a successful multi-office law firm, Greg still finds time to give back to his community and has integrated his passion for philanthropy into the firm's culture. Greg is an active member and Vice President of the Hunter's Hope Board of Directors, an organization established by Buffalo Bills Hall of Fame Quarterback, Jim Kelly and his wife Jill that focuses on education and awareness, research, and family care for Krabbe, Leukodystrophies, and Newborn Screening. Greg and his wife, Jeni, were the Honorary Chairs of the 2010 Hunter's Hope Rochester Gala.

Greg is particularly proud of the long term partnership Connors & Ferris has developed with the NFL's Buffalo Bills, the Section V Football Committee, the creation of the Connors & Ferris Bowl along with the I-90 Thruway Regional Football Championship series between Section V and Section VI in addition to the support of Section VI Football, Section V Basketball as well as Section V men's and women's Lacrosse.

Greg has been a member of the Alfred University Board of Trustees since 2007 and is currently the Chairman of the Board, while also serving as Chairman of the Capital Campaign and the successful Presidential search committee selecting Mark Zupan. Other organizations Greg and the firm support include Compeer, YMCA, Rochester St. Patrick's Day Parade, McQuaid, Youth Counseling Services, Autism Up, Our Lady of Mercy High School, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, School of Holy Childhood, Monroe County Youth Football, Habitat for Humanity, Camp Good Days, Monroe Community College, and the Boys and Girls Club along with others.

Greg received his Bachelor's degree from Alfred University with honors and his J.D. from Ohio Northern Law School. Greg is a member of the New York State Bar Association, the Erie County Bar Association, the Monroe County Bar Association, as well as an Executive Board Member of the NYS IWBA and the WCA. Additionally, Greg was recognized as a recipient of the Rochester Business Journal's "Forty Under 40 Award."



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