



The Nation's Most Powerful Employment Attorneys—Top 100

The following list, in alphabetical order, was prepared exclusively for *Human Resource Executive*® by Lawdragon, a Los Angeles-based networking site for lawyers and clients. In addition to this list of 100, three lists of 20 are featured after it, specifying the most powerful attorneys for immigration law, labor law, and employee benefits and ERISA law, respectively. The Hall of Fame list, featured on page 23, honors those now considered legends in the field, and the Top 40 Up-and-Comers on page 22 represent employment and labor-law stars most likely to take their place on any of the other lists in the years ahead. (Lists can also be found on *HREOnline*'s Awards drop-down tab and on Lawdragon.com.)

Name/Title	Law Firm	City	Law School	Years in Practice	Practice Specialty
Nancy L. Abell Partner, Employment Law Department	Paul Hastings	Los Angeles	UCLA	36	Trial representation and advice on full range of employment issues, including class and individual cases
Rory Judd Albert Partner	Proskauer	New York	Columbia	38	Employee benefits, executive compensation and ERISA litigation
Rosemary Alito Global Practice Area Leader, Labor, Employment and Workplace Safety	K&L Gates	Newark, N.J.	Rutgers	37	Employment litigation
Fred W. Alvarez Partner, Labor and Employment Practice	Jones Day	Palo Alto, Calif.	Stanford	40	Employment class-action and executive-level claims defense, governmental and internal investigations, consent-decree monitoring/compliance
Michael L. Banks Partner	Morgan Lewis	Philadelphia	Columbia	34	Employment litigation
Paula A. Barran Partner	Barran Liebman	Portland, Ore.	York University	36	Employment-law litigation and advice, higher-education law and appellate law
Ned H. Bassen Chair, Labor and Employment Department	Hughes Hubbard	New York	Cornell	42	Labor and employment law, including litigation, defamation, unfair competition, trade-secret litigation, government-contract litigation and debarment proceedings
Joseph Baumgarten Co-Chair, Labor and Employment Department	Proskauer	New York	Harvard	32	Labor and employment litigation, arbitration and counseling
Scott C. Beightol Partner; Member of Firm's Management Committee	Michael Best	Milwaukee	University of Wisconsin	27	Management-side employment litigation and counseling, noncompetes, misconduct investigations, union campaigns, collective bargaining and training
Charles S. Birenbaum Shareholder; Chair, Northern California	Greenberg Traurig	San Francisco	Georgetown	33	Labor and employment
Elise M. Bloom Member, Executive Committee; Co-Chair, Class Actions	Proskauer	New York	Emory	33	Employment class and collective actions, including wage/hour and discrimination matters, and extensive trial experience and employment counseling/training
James N. Boudreau Shareholder; Chair, Class and Collective Action Group	Greenberg Traurig	Philadelphia	University of Minnesota	25	Class-action, wrongful-termination and trade-secret litigation
Paul W. Cane Jr. Partner, Employment Department	Paul Hastings	San Francisco	UC Berkeley	36	Employment litigation, appellate
Charles S. Caulkins Managing Partner, Ft. Lauderdale	Fisher & Phillips	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.	Creighton	39	Labor and employment, union-representation campaigns, collective bargaining, arbitrations, dispute resolution, FLSA and trade-secret protection
Apalla U. Chopra Partner; Chair, Labor and Employment Practice	O'Melveny	Los Angeles	UC Hastings	23	Labor and employment litigation
Vincent A. Cino Chairman	Jackson Lewis	Morristown, N.J.	Rutgers	36	Advises and litigates on behalf of companies and employers in complex cases
Shauna Clark Head, Employment and Labor, United States	Norton Rose Fulbright	Houston	Tulane University	21	Employment law, including trials, class actions, arbitration, mediation and collective bargaining
Joseph T. Clees Shareholder	Ogletree Deakins	Phoenix	Villanova	31	Employment litigation and counseling, training and executive coaching, compliance strategies and litigation avoidance, and tribal law
William L. Cole Partner	Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp	Los Angeles	Stanford	38	Employment litigation, including class actions, and traditional labor law, including NLRB proceedings, arbitrations and union negotiations
John J. Coleman III Partner	Burr & Forman	Birmingham, Ala.	Duke	34	Class and individual discrimination; FLSA, NLRA and OSHA litigation defense; union campaigns; and training and counseling
Catherine A. Conway Partner	Gibson Dunn	Los Angeles	Indiana University	37	Represents companies in high-stakes employment cases
Harriet E. Cooperman Co-Chair, Labor, Employment and Employee Benefits	Saul Ewing	Baltimore	University of Maryland	37	Labor, employment and employee benefits
Joseph J. Costello Practice Leader, Labor and Employment	Morgan Lewis	Philadelphia	Stanford	30	Labor and employment counseling and litigation, with a focus on ERISA class actions and whistleblower claims
Barbara Jean D'Aquila Partner	Norton Rose Fulbright	Minneapolis	University of Minnesota	36	Class, collective and complex employment and business litigation for major companies; broad-based labor and employment experience (discrimination, wage/hour, ERISA, trade secrets, etc.)
Lisa J. Damon National Chair, Labor and Employment	Seyfarth Shaw	Boston	Fordham	28	Labor and employment
Mike Delikat Chair, Global Employment Law	Orrick	New York	Harvard	38	Class-action and agency systemic claims defense, whistleblower claims, trade-secret litigation and cross-border employment-law advice
Lawrence C. DiNardo Practice Leader, Labor and Employment	Jones Day	Chicago	Notre Dame	41	Labor and employment
Dennis P. Duffy Partner	BakerHostetler	Houston	University of Virginia	33	Complex labor and employment litigation and strategic advice, including class and collective actions, discrimination, retaliation, wage/hour, labor relations, trade secrets/noncompetes and corporate transactions
Brian West Easley Partner	Jones Day	Chicago	University of Michigan	15	Labor and employment law
Kim F. Ebert Managing Shareholder	Ogletree Deakins	Indianapolis	Indiana University	39	Defends interests of employers in full range of labor and employment matters
Anne Marie Estevez Partner	Morgan Lewis	Miami	University of Miami	22	National complex litigator handling class and collective actions in any employment area
Debra J. Fischman Partner	Sher Garner	New Orleans	Tulane University	37	Defends employers, including schools and other governmental agencies and bodies in employment matters
Mark J. Foley Chair, Labor and Employment Department	Cozen O'Connor	Philadelphia	Villanova	28	Collective bargaining and traditional labor litigation and counseling, employment discrimination, wage/hour and other employment litigation



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Gary D. Friedman Partner	Weil	New York	Georgetown	26	Class actions, high-level counseling and other complex discrimination, wage/hour and trade-secret litigation and arbitrations
John P. Furfaro Partner	Skadden	New York	St. John's University	35	Advice on variety of employment and labor-law matters, including M&A guidance
Michael J. Gray Practice Leader Labor and Employment	Jones Day	Chicago	Northwestern	23	Class-action wage/hour and discrimination defense, complex employment litigation and trade-secret enforcement
Brian S. Greig Partner	Norton Rose Fulbright	Austin, Texas	University of Texas	40	Trade-secret and noncompete issues, complex litigation and union-related cases
Elizabeth P. Hardy Member	Kienbaum Opperwall Hardy & Pelton	Birmingham, Mich.	Wayne State University	31	Employment litigation, appellate
Barry A. Hartstein Shareholder	Littler	Chicago	Northwestern	39	Labor and employment
Gerald T. Hathaway Partner	Drinker Biddle (previously Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp)	New York	University of Pittsburgh	36	Labor due diligence on deals and guidance on massive layoffs, complex litigation
Lynne C. Hermle Partner	Orrick	Menlo Park, Calif.	UC Hastings	34	Complex employment litigation, with special focus on EEO and wage class actions and jury trials
Patrick H. Hicks Shareholder	Littler	Las Vegas	UC Hastings	28	Employment litigation
Stephen J. Hirschfeld Founding Partner and Co-Managing Partner	Hirschfeld Kraemer	San Francisco	George Washington University	33	Employment litigation, counseling, union organizing, collective bargaining, labor arbitrations, misconduct investigations and cross-border employment law
Robert W. Horton Partner	Bass Berry & Sims	Nashville, Tenn.	University of Tennessee	24	Advice and litigation of employment-related issues
Jerry M. Hunter Partner	Bryan Cave	St. Louis	Washington University	38	Employment-discrimination litigation and counseling, complex labor-relations issues and strategy, preventive labor relations
Maurice G. Jenkins Office Managing Shareholder, Detroit and Grand Rapids	Jackson Lewis	Detroit	Michigan State University	34	Labor and employment litigation and strategy, arbitrations, corporate governance, compliance investigations, workforce and corporate restructurings
W. Carl Jordan Partner and General Counsel	Vinson & Elkins	Houston	Harvard	41	Labor and employment litigation and counseling
Ellen C. Kearns Partner	Constangy	Boston	Boston College	39	Labor and employment, including wage/hour law
Tracey A. Kennedy Partner	Sheppard Mullin	Los Angeles	University of Texas	26	Employment litigation on behalf of employers and management
Thomas G. Kienbaum Member	Kienbaum Opperwall Hardy & Pelton	Birmingham, Mich.	Wayne State University	47	Employment class action, labor disputes
F. Curt Kirschner Jr. Partner	Jones Day	San Francisco	University of Michigan	30	Strategic labor relations and employment advice
Jeffrey S. Klein Chair, National Employment Practice	Weil	New York	Columbia	34	Complex employment litigation and counseling, including class actions, trade secrets, ERISA, wage/hour and executive employment
Jeffrey Kohn Partner	O'Melveny	New York	George Washington University	31	Broad employment-practice litigation, employment disputes and counseling on executive compensation and benefit plans
Jay P. Krupin /National Labor and Employment Practice Team Leader	BakerHostetler	Washington	St. Louis University	37	Employment and personnel issues
Matthew W. Lampe Partner	Jones Day	New York	Cornell	26	Class-action and other complex litigation
John B. Langel Partner	Ballard Spahr	Philadelphia	Temple	41	Labor and employment matters
Kevin B. Leblang Chair, Employment Law Department	Kramer Levin	New York	Fordham	31	Employment advisory matters, negotiations and litigation
Adam Levin Partner	Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp	Los Angeles	University of San Diego	24	Employment discrimination, wrongful termination, trade secret/unfair competition
John B. Lewis /Past National Chair; Member, Employment Class Action Team	BakerHostetler	Cleveland	University of Missouri	43	Complex employment and labor litigation, including class and collective actions and appellate advocacy
Robert G. Lian Jr. Partner	Akin Gump	Washington	Catholic University of America	21	Complex employment litigation, workplace-regulatory investigations and enforcement litigation, and strategic labor advice
Joseph C. Liburt Partner	Orrick	Menlo Park, Calif.	UC Berkeley	24	Extensive litigation experience defending claims of discrimination, harassment, retaliation and numerous class actions
Donald R. Livingston Partner	Akin Gump	Washington	University of Georgia	38	Employment litigation and government investigations, with emphasis on complex cases and class actions
Alison B. Marshall Partner	Jones Day	Washington	University of Pennsylvania	31	Employment litigation, with emphasis on complex and class actions, government investigations and whistleblower claims
William C. Martucci Partner	Shook	Kansas City, Mo.	University of Arkansas	38	High-stakes employment litigation, especially class actions, wage/hour and EEOC litigation and jury trials
Matthew T. Miklave Partner	Robinson+Cole	Stamford, Conn.	Notre Dame	31	Civil rights, employment relations, traditional union management and complex employment litigation
Armin J. Moeller Jr. Partner	Balch & Bingham	Jackson, Miss.	Louisiana State University	43	Labor and employment
Marko J. Mrkonich Shareholder	Littler	Minneapolis	Harvard	35	Labor and employment law, and firm management
Daniel L. Nash Partner	Akin Gump	Washington	UC Hastings	32	Complex labor and employment litigation and strategic counseling



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Michael Patrick O'Brien Shareholder; Former Chair, Litigation Department; Leader, Employment and Labor Law Practice Group	Jones Waldo	Salt Lake City	University of Utah	29	Risk avoidance, EEO, fair-labor standards, immigration and wrongful-termination litigation and counseling
Camille A. Olson Co-Chair, Complex Litigation Practice Group; National Chairperson, Complex Discrimination and Litigation Class Action Group	Seyfarth Shaw	Chicago	University of Michigan	32	Employment-practices litigation
Anthony J. Oncidi Chair, Labor and Employment Department, Los Angeles	Proskauer	Los Angeles	University of Chicago	31	Employment litigation, including wage/hour and discrimination class actions, restrictive covenants and trade secrets
William P. Perkins Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	New York	Western New England College	35	Labor and employment-law matters, including discrimination, reduction in force and wage/hour claims
Laura R. Petroff Partner	Winston & Strawn	Los Angeles	Vanderbilt	35	Labor and employment litigation and counseling, including litigation and preventive counseling and guidance
Charles M. Poplstein Partner	Thompson Coburn	St. Louis	University of Toledo	35	Representation of private- and public-sector employers in a broad range of labor and employment issues
Roger K. Quillen Chairman and Managing Partner	Fisher & Phillips	Atlanta	Ohio State	35	Labor and employment, with an emphasis on appellate litigation
James R. Redeker Partner	Duane Morris	Philadelphia	University of Pennsylvania	47	Union prevention, collective bargaining, unfair-labor-practice proceedings, arbitrations, counseling, succession planning and employee-discipline systems
Colleen M. Regan Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	Los Angeles	Loyola	30	Employment counseling and litigation, including discrimination, harassment, wage/hour cases, compliance strategies and litigation avoidance
D. Michael Reilly Shareholder; Director, Labor and Employment and Employee Benefits Practice	Lane Powell	Seattle	Catholic University of America	31	Employment and ERISA advice and litigation; class actions
Theodore O. Rogers Jr. Partner	Sullivan & Cromwell	New York	Harvard	36	Employment litigation and counseling, including restrictive-covenant, discrimination, wage/hour, retaliation and labor issues
Lawrence J. Rosenfeld Partner	Squire Patton Boggs	Phoenix	Yale	40	Employment litigation, particularly federal/state statutory claims, including class-action defense and client counseling
Jeremy A. Roth Co-President and Managing Director	Littler	San Diego	Boston University	29	Represents retailers, hotels and other management clients in state and federal courts and before governmental agencies
Paul Salvatore Partner; Member, Executive Committee	Proskauer	New York	Cornell	31	Collective bargaining and labor-management relations, employment law, and litigation and counseling
Terry E. Sanchez Partner	Munger Tolles	Los Angeles	Stanford	34	Employment litigation defense, class action
Eugene Scalia Co-Chair of the Firm's Labor and Employment Practice Group	Gibson Dunn	Washington	University of Chicago	25	National labor and employment practice, including discrimination law, wage/hour, NLRA, ERISA and Sarbanes-Oxley
Jonathan A. Segal Partner, Employment, Labor, Benefits and Immigration Practice Group; Managing Principal, Duane Morris Institute	Duane Morris	Philadelphia	University of Pennsylvania	30	Wage/hour compliance and action plans; gender-equality assessments and implementation plans; social-media policies and initiatives; union-avoidance-rapid-responses plans; training of HR professionals, executives and judges on myriad employment issues



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Samuel S. Shaulson Co-Chair, Labor and Employment Practice's Financial Services Group	Morgan Lewis	New York	University of Pennsylvania	22	Has represented clients in more than 75 class and collective actions, including matters involving Title VII, Americans with Disabilities Act and Fair Labor Standards Act
Patrick W. Shea Partner, Employment Law Department	Paul Hastings	New York	Yale	34	Employment litigation and counseling, including employment discrimination, wage/hour and employee-benefit class actions
Jeremy P. Sherman Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	Chicago	George Washington University	39	Labor-relations counseling, arbitrations and labor-union negotiations
Richard J. Simmons Partner	Sheppard Mullin	Los Angeles	UC Berkeley	39	Labor-relations matters involving state and federal wage/hour laws, wrongful discharge, employment discrimination, employee discipline and termination
Grace E. Speights Managing Partner, Washington Office	Morgan Lewis	Washington	George Washington University	33	Employment litigation and counseling, with a focus on employment-discrimination class-action litigation and crisis management
Steven W. Suflas Managing Partner, Denver and New Jersey Offices	Ballard Spahr	Cherry Hill, N.J.	University of North Carolina	39	All areas of employment law, including traditional labor law, counseling and litigation
Nigel F. Telman Partner	Proskauer	Chicago	Boston University	22	Single-plaintiff and class- and collective-action litigation, including discrimination and wage/hour, noncompete/trade-secret, and employment counseling and training
Joseph E. Tilson Firm Co-Chair and Founding Partner	Cozen O'Connor	Chicago	University of Michigan	36	Labor and employment litigation and counseling, including large wage/hour class-action cases
Joseph J. Torres Partner	Winston & Strawn	Chicago	University of Illinois	25	Labor, employment and ERISA litigation before state and federal trial courts, appellate courts and administrative agencies
Geoff Weirich Partner, Employment Law Department	Paul Hastings	Atlanta	Duke	31	Employment discrimination, restrictive covenants and accessibility litigation and counseling
Allan Weitzman Partner	Proskauer	Boca Raton, Fla.	Cornell	42	Employment and labor litigation and counseling, class and collective actions, EEO, wage/hour, whistleblowing, restrictive covenants and accessibility
A. Martin Wickliff Jr. Member	Cozen O'Connor	Houston	Texas Southern University	42	Labor and employment trials and appeals, NLRA, trade secrets, noncompetes, FLSA and class actions
Kirby C. Wilcox Partner, Employment Law Department	Paul Hastings	San Francisco	UC Hastings	38	Employment litigation and corporate counseling
Robert M. Wolff Shareholder; Co-Chair, Healthcare Practice Group	Littler	Cleveland	University of Illinois	35	Employment litigation, class action and counseling with emphasis in healthcare, energy, and financial and retail industries
John F. Wymer III Member; Partner, Employment Department	Sherman & Howard	Atlanta	University of Virginia	41	Traditional labor law, and management and complex employment litigation and defense



The Nation's Most Powerful Employment Attorneys—Labor

Name/Title	Law Firm	City	Law School	Years in Practice	Practice Specialty
M.J. Asensio Partner	BakerHostetler	Columbus, Ohio	Indiana University	30	Employment and labor relations
Robert P. Brooks Managing Partner	Adler Pollock & Sheehan	Providence, R.I.	Suffolk University	28	Labor relations and employment law in the public and private sectors
Brian Clemow Partner	Shipman & Goodwin	Hartford, Conn.	University of Pennsylvania	46	Labor relations, personnel problems and other employment-law matters for public and private employers
Howard E. Cole Practice Group Leader; Partner	Lewis Roca Rothgerber	Las Vegas	UCLA	36	Employment and labor
Louis P. DiLorenzo Managing Member, New York Office	Bond	New York	University at Buffalo	39	Labor and employment law, especially collective bargaining, workplace investigations and NLRB proceedings
Angelo J. Genova Co-Founder and Partner	Genova Burns	Newark, N.J.	Rutgers	37	Traditional labor law and collective bargaining, employment-litigation defense and counseling
Clifford A. Godiner Partner	Thompson Coburn	St. Louis	University of Michigan	29	Represents management in litigation and other employment and labor matters
Steven M. Gutierrez Partner	Holland & Hart	Denver	University of Denver	22	Employment litigation and counseling, traditional labor, misconduct and workplace-violence investigations, and trade-secret/noncompete claims
W. Melvin Haas III Partner	Constangy	Macon, Ga.	University of Alabama	44	Labor relations, including collective bargaining, union elections, and administrative and state and federal proceedings
Mark A. Hutcheson Firmwide Chair	Davis Wright	Seattle	University of Washington	48	Strategic labor planning, union-organizing campaigns, collective-bargaining and strike-prevention counseling
Michael J. Lotito Shareholder; Co-Chair, Littler's Workplace Policy Institute	Littler	San Francisco	Villanova	41	Labor relations and workplace policy matters
Thomas Y. Mandler Capital Partner	Hinshaw	Chicago	University of Illinois	44	Traditional labor law, including collective bargaining, arbitration, NLRB proceedings and employment-law counselling
Steven R. McCown /Chair, Workplace Safety and Health (OSHA & MSHA) Practice Group	Littler	Dallas	So. Methodist University	40	Complex employment litigation and proceedings under OSHA
Neal D. Mollen Partner	Paul Hastings	Washington	University of Richmond	30	Labor and employment-law matters, with particular emphasis on complex and appellate litigation, and traditional labor-law matters, including under the Railway Labor Act
Theodore R. Opperwall Member	Kienbaum Opperwall Hardy & Pelton	Birmingham, Mich.	University of Michigan	36	Labor arbitrations, NLRB proceedings, union avoidance, collective bargaining, injunctions, noncompetes and WARN
Bernard M. Plum Member	Proskauer	New York	Columbia	36	Collective bargaining, arbitration and strategic planning
W.V. Bernie Siebert Partner	Sherman & Howard	Denver	University of Nebraska	43	Labor and employment matters
Robert Siegel Partner	O'Melveny	Los Angeles	University of Michigan	41	Labor negotiations, arbitrations, and litigation under the Railway Labor Act and other laws
Richard F. Vitarelli Shareholder	Jackson Lewis	Hartford, Conn.	Suffolk University	21	Represents clients in NLRA and Railway Labor Act matters as well as employment-law matters
Stanley Weiner Partner	Jones Day	Cleveland	Marquette University	37	Complex labor and employment matters, union-management relations, NLRB proceedings, collective-bargaining negotiations, union-corporate campaigns, labor-arbitration proceedings and litigation, including collective-bargaining agreements



The Nation's Most Powerful Employment Attorneys—Immigration

Name/Title	Law Firm	City	Law School	Years in Practice	Practice Specialty
David P. Berry Partner	Berry Appleman & Leiden	San Francisco	Antioch School of Law	37	Works with human resource and global-mobility professionals to optimize worldwide immigration programs
Daryl Buffenstein Partner	Fragomen	Atlanta	University of Rhodesia	37	Corporate immigration, including strategic planning, legislative and regulatory assistance, DOL and DHS, and immigration compliance; foreign-national recruitment and retention
Bo Cooper Partner	Fragomen	Washington	Tulane University	28	Legislative and administrative representation, strategic-immigration counseling, compliance planning and responses to government audits
Matthew S. Dunn Partner	Kramer Levin	New York	Brooklyn	21	Corporate-immigration counsel to domestic and international companies
H. Ronald Klasko Partner	Klasko Immigration Law Partners	Philadelphia	University of Pennsylvania	41	Immigration counseling for individuals, multinational corporations, small companies, universities and hospitals
Mark D. Koestler Partner, Co-Chair, Business Immigration Group	Kramer Levin	New York	Brooklyn	24	Business immigration with an emphasis on the advertising/PR, entertainment and financial-services industries
Ira J. Kurzban Chair, Immigration Department	Kurzban Kurzban Weinger Tetzeli & Pratt	Miami	UC Berkeley	39	Immigration and nationality law and litigation
Cyrus Mehta Founder and Managing Attorney	Cyrus D. Mehta & Associates	New York	Columbia	27	Represents businesses and individuals from around the world in business and employment immigration
Deborah J. Notkin Partner	Barst Mukamal & Kleiner	New York	New York University	28	Immigration law
Angelo A. Paparelli Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	Los Angeles	Wayne State University	39	Global immigration visas and permanent residency, strategic corporate consulting, immigration compliance and defense of management
Michael D. Patrick Partner	Fragomen	New York	Hofstra	37	Corporate and sophisticated business immigration, with emphasis on I-9, PERM and visa-application compliance
Julie Pearl Managing Attorney	Pearl Law Group	San Francisco	UC Hastings	27	Immigration and nationality law and litigation
Eleanor Pelta Partner	Morgan Lewis	Washington	Harvard	29	Assists corporate clients in a variety of industries with the international transfer of key personnel
Laura Foote Reiff Co-Managing Shareholder, Tysons Corner Office	Greenberg Traurig	Washington	George Washington University	26	Business-immigration laws and regulations affecting U.S. and foreign companies, employment compliance and legislative issues
Theodore Ruthizer Co-Chair, Business Immigration Group	Kramer Levin	New York	Columbia	43	Immigration and nationality law and litigation
Denyse Sabagh Partner	Duane Morris	Washington	George Mason University	38	Immigration and nationality law and litigation
Suzanne B. Seltzer Principal	The Seltzer Firm	New York	Georgetown	22	Extensive immigration representation of universities, hospitals, research institutions, and their medical and research personnel
William A. Stock Partner	Klasko Immigration Law Partners	Philadelphia	University of Minnesota	22	U.S. immigration for corporations, universities, hospitals and start-ups, and defense in immigration-related labor enforcement
Bernard Wolfsdorf Managing Partner	Wolfsdorf	Santa Monica, Calif.	Suffolk University Law School	32	Global-corporate immigration, emphasizing compliance for businesses and visas for universities, artists/entertainers and investors
Scott W. Wright Partner	Faegre Baker Daniels	Minneapolis	University of Minnesota	27	I-9 audits, investigations and immigration-related litigation



The Nation's Most Powerful Employment Attorneys – Employee Benefits and ERISA

Name/Title	Law Firm	City	Law School	Years in Practice	Practice Specialty
James D. C. Barrall Partner	Latham	Los Angeles	UCLA	40	Employee benefits and executive compensation
Gregory C. Braden Partner	Morgan Lewis	Washington	University of Wisconsin	33	Complex class-action ERISA litigation involving fiduciary, benefits and tax claims
Gregory K. Brown Partner	Holland & Knight	Chicago	University of Illinois	39	Employee benefits and executive compensation, with an emphasis on ESOPs and ERISA fiduciary matters
Steven G. Eckhaus /Chair, Executive Compensation and Employee Benefits	Cadwalader	New York	Cornell	39	Executive employment, compensation and employment law in the financial-services industry
Stephen W. Fackler /Partner; Co-Chair, Executive Compensation and Employee Benefits	Gibson Dunn	Palo Alto, Calif.	Stanford	31	Advises public and private companies, private-equity funds and boards of directors on compensation and benefits
Robert C. Fleder Partner	Paul, Weiss	New York	Columbia	42	ERISA, employee benefits and executive compensation, including in connection with M&A transactions
Gary M. Ford Principal	Groom Law Group, Chartered	Washington	Boston University	36	Plan funding and restructuring, litigation, policy and legislation
Thomas S. Gigot Principal	Groom Law Group, Chartered	Washington	Georgetown	31	ERISA litigation, especially plan funding and restructuring
Paul M. Hamburger /Partner; Co-Chair, Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation Group	Proskauer	Washington	University of Michigan	32	Employee-benefit-plan compliance (tax and ERISA) for retirement plans, executive compensation, health plans and other benefits
Eric W. Hilfers /Partner; Head, Executive Compensation and Benefits	Cravath	New York	University of Chicago	17	Advises clients and compensation committees in all aspects of executive compensation and benefits
Charles C. Jackson Senior Counsel	Morgan Lewis	Chicago	Northwestern	38	Represents plan sponsors, employers, service providers and insurers in complex employee-benefits (ERISA and church plan) litigation, particularly class actions
John F. McGuiness Principal	Groom Law Group, Chartered	Washington	William and Mary	21	Executive-compensation arrangements for public and private companies
Paul J. Ondrasik Jr. Partner	Stephoe	Washington	University of Virginia	40	ERISA litigation, focusing on defense of complex fiduciary and investment-related claims and class actions
Nicholas J. Pappas Partner	Weil	New York	Rutgers	28	Defends ERISA class actions challenging the administration of healthcare-benefit plans, 401(k) plans and defined-benefit plans
Andrea S. Rattner Partner; Member, Executive Committee	Proskauer	New York	Cardozo	29	Employee benefits and executive compensation
Myron D. Rumeld Partner	Proskauer	New York	Columbia	32	Employee benefits and ERISA litigation
Howard Shapiro Partner	Proskauer	New Orleans	Loyola	36	ERISA litigation
Richard C. Shea /Chair, Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation Practice	Covington & Burling	Washington	University of Virginia	32	Employee benefits and executive compensation, especially strategic advice on legislative, rulemaking, litigation, audit, transactional, advisory and plan-design matters, domestically and globally
Charles R. Smith Partner	K&L Gates	Pittsburgh	University of Pittsburgh	41	Transactions involving ESOPs, fiduciary aspects of employee-benefit plans and executive compensation
René E. Thorne Managing Shareholder, New Orleans Office	Jackson Lewis	New Orleans	Loyola	22	Employee-benefits litigation on behalf of employers, fiduciaries, plans and service providers



The Nation's Most Powerful Employment Attorneys—Up-and-Comers

Name/Title	Law Firm	City	Law School	Years in Practice	Practice Specialty
Lorie E. Almon Co-Managing Partner, New York Office	Seyfarth Shaw	New York	University of Virginia	21	Complex employment litigation
Eric Amdursky Partner, Managing Partner, Silicon Valley Office	O'Melveny	Menlo Park, Calif.	Loyola	20	Employment litigation and counseling
John M. Bagyi Member	Bond	Albany, N.Y.	Albany Law School	19	Employment litigation
Reginald W. Belcher Shareholder	Turner Padgett	Columbia, S.C.	University of South Carolina	19	Defends businesses and employers in state and federal courts and before governmental agencies
Sarah E. Bouchard Partner	Morgan Lewis	Philadelphia	Villanova	20	Whistleblower, noncompetition and trade-secret matters across the United States for clients in many sectors, including financial services, technology, healthcare and retail
Tristan Brown Partner	Simpson Thacher	Palo Alto, Calif.	Georgetown	19	Advises private-equity funds and publicly held corporations on executive compensation and employee-benefits issues arising from corporate transactions
Colleen L. Caden Partner	Pryor Cashman	New York	Brooklyn	16	Business immigration for pharmaceutical, media, consumer-products, food-manufacturing and sports clients
Meredith S. Campbell Partner	Shulman Rogers	Potomac, Md.	Harvard	14	Employment law, including equal-employment litigation, wage/hour litigation, the protection of confidential and proprietary business information, executive compensation and enforcement of restrictive covenants
Julie M. Capell Partner	Winston & Strawn	Los Angeles	University of the Pacific	12	Provides strategic guidance to employer clients by crafting policies and procedures that protect employers and minimize the risk of litigation
Terri L. Chase Partner	Jones Day	New York	Harvard	21	Complex employment-litigation matters, including discrimination, harassment and retaliation claims; FLSA and state wage/hour actions; breach of employment contract; and noncompete-agreement claims
Adam S. Forman Principal	Miller Canfield	Detroit	Syracuse University	19	Labor relations
Robert F. Friedman Partner	Littler	Dallas	Southern Methodist University	17	Litigation and administrative matters brought by employees and government agencies
Malcolm A. Heinicke Partner	Munger Tolles	San Francisco	Stanford	18	Employment litigation, employee-mobility matters
Matthew C. Kane Partner	McGuireWoods	Los Angeles	Pepperdine	21	Employment and labor litigation and counseling
Jennifer P. Keller President and COO	Baker Donelson	Johnson City, Tenn.	University of Tennessee	19	Employment-discrimination litigation, litigation-prevention counseling, and management and employee training
Sameer Khedekar Partner	Pearl Law Group	San Francisco	Santa Clara University	12	Immigration
Michael J. Lebowich Partner	Proskauer	New York	Harvard	18	Labor relations, including counseling, collective-bargaining negotiations, contract arbitrations and NLRB proceedings
Penelope M. Lechtenberg Partner-in-Charge, Rockford	Hinshaw	Rockford, Ill.	Illinois Institute of Technology	22	Labor and employment-law matters before state and federal courts and administrative agencies
David N. Levine Principal	Groom Law Group, Chartered	Washington	University of Pennsylvania	18	Employee benefits, executive compensation and retirement planning
Laura L. Lichter Founder and Managing Partner	Lichter Immigration	Denver	University of Colorado	21	Immigration
Fermin H. Llaguno Office Managing Shareholder	Littler	Irvine, Calif.	USC	19	Class- and collective-action avoidance and defense; employment counseling, training and litigation; and wage/hour compliance
Lynden Melmed Partner	Berry Appleman & Leiden	Washington	University of Virginia	17	Brings experience in legislative and executive branch to immigration advice
Cindy Schmitt Minniti Partner	Reed Smith	New York	St. John's University	16	Represents management exclusively in labor and employment law
Robert Newman Partner	Covington & Burling	Washington	New York University	19	Employee benefits and executive compensation
Christy Nguyen Partner	Pearl Law Group	San Francisco	UC Hastings	15	Immigration
Kristen A. Page Partner	Shook	Kansas City	University of Missouri at Kansas City	14	Represents corporate employers in federal and state court in business and employment matters
Jessica R. Perry Partner	Orrick	Menlo Park, Calif.	Santa Clara University	15	Defends class and collective actions involving overtime, minimum wage, vacation and other benefits
John C. Romeo Director	Gibbons	Philadelphia	Western New England	20	Employment litigation, class action
Seth J. Safra Partner	Covington & Burling	Washington	Duke	14	Employee benefits and executive compensation, including the design, implementation and administration of retirement plans
David E. Schwartz Partner	Skadden	New York	Cornell	21	Advises clients on full range of employment-related issues, including litigation and arbitration
Jason C. Schwartz Partner	Gibson Dunn	Washington	Georgetown	17	Labor and employment litigation
Dawn Siler-Nixon Partner	FordHarrison	Tampa, Fla.	University of North Carolina	22	Partners with clients to guide and direct employment decisions to avoid litigation and defend when necessary
Brian Sinclair Partner	Rutan & Tucker	Costa Mesa, Calif.	UC Davis	20	Represents clients in federal and state court, including individual and class actions
Grant Sovern Partner	Quarles & Brady	Madison, Wis.	University of Michigan	19	Employment immigration for employers and employees
Jonathan Stoler Partner; Co-Chair, Global Labor and Employment	Sheppard Mullin	New York	Brooklyn	20	Advises on a wide range of labor and employment matters, including the defense of single-plaintiff and class-action discrimination, wrongful discharge and wage/hour claims
Julie A. Totten Partner	Orrick	Sacramento, Calif.	University of San Diego	22	High-stakes employment litigation, including wage/hour class and collective actions, and employment and compliance counseling
Denise L. Wheeler Partner	FordHarrison	Fort Myers, Fla.	Stetson University	21	Employment litigation and advice to employers regarding contracts, discipline and other employment transactions
Susan A.P. Woodhouse Principal	Littler	San Francisco	Santa Clara University	19	Oversees firm's knowledge-driven employment-law technology solutions for clients and firm attorneys
Todd D. Wozniak Shareholder	Greenberg Traurig	Atlanta	University of Michigan	21	Defends companies and public institutions nationwide in complex labor, employment and ERISA litigation, and enforcement actions
Joshua Zuckerberg Partner	Pryor Cashman	New York	Brooklyn	18	Represents and counsels employers on all matters affecting the workplace, including discrimination, harassment and disability claims



The Nation's Most Powerful Employment Attorneys— Hall of Fame 2015 Inductees

The 10 attorneys listed below are this year's inductees to the Most Powerful Employment Attorneys' Hall of Fame. Up to 10 lawyers will be added to the HOF each year and retired from future consideration for other lists; their achievements will be forever recognized on *HREOnline*™ at <http://bit.ly/1JZ1WAX> and on Lawdragon's website at <http://bit.ly/1gysegx>. Very few lawyers are considered for this status—which begins with 35 years in the employment-law trenches and requires consistent recognition for all-around excellence in counseling clients, contributing to the bar and serving as a visionary to improve workplaces.

Name/Title	Law Firm	City	Law School	Years in Practice	Practice Specialty
Jeff T. Appleman Retired Partner	Berry Appleman & Leiden	San Francisco	Golden Gate University	36	Immigration counseling and litigation
Lynne Deitch Director, Staff and Labor Relations	Duke	Durham, N.C.	University of Michigan	39	Advising, directing and counseling on labor, employment, human resources and compliance issues; investigating workplace issues
Zachary D. Fasman Partner	Proskauer	New York	University of Michigan	43	Employment-discrimination and class-action litigation, labor-law litigation and advice
Baruch A. Fellner Partner	Gibson Dunn	Washington	Harvard	47	Founded occupational safety and health practice, and represents clients in federal civil litigation, including labor, pension, profit-sharing, employee benefits and consumer-product safety
James C. Franczek Jr. Partner	Franczek Radelet	Chicago	University of Chicago	44	Labor and employment, including chief labor counsel to many public agencies
Willis J. Goldsmith Partner	Jones Day	New York	New York University	43	Labor, employment and occupational safety and health trial and appellate litigation and counseling, and collective bargaining
Hunter R. Hughes III Partner	Rogers & Hardin	Atlanta	University of Virginia	45	Labor and employment
Stephen A. Ploscowe Partner	Fox Rothschild	Roseland, N.J.	Cornell	50	Labor-management relations
Ronald H. Shechtman Managing Partner	Pryor Cashman	New York	New York University	43	Labor and employment matters
Gary R. Siniscalco Senior Counsel	Orrick	San Francisco	Georgetown	46	Litigates complex employment cases and counsels clients