



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 25, honors those now considered legends in the field, and the Top 40 Up-and-Comers list on page 26 represents 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	38	Trial representation and advice on full range of employment issues, including class and individual cases
Paul Lancaster Adams Shareholder	Ogletree Deakins	Philadelphia	Wake Forest	24	Represents employers in federal and state court employment litigation, class and collective actions, labor arbitrations and administrative proceedings; defends clients in investigations by government agencies
Rory Judd Albert Partner	Proskauer	New York	Columbia	40	Employee benefits, executive compensation and ERISA litigation
Rosemary Alito Practice Area Leader, Global Labor, Employment and Workplace Safety Practice	K&L Gates	Newark, N.J.	Rutgers	39	Employment litigation
Lorie E. Almon Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	New York	University of Virginia	23	Complex employment litigation
Michael L. Banks Partner	Morgan Lewis	Philadelphia	Columbia	36	Employment litigation
Paula A. Barran Founding Partner	Barran Liebman	Portland, Ore.	York University	38	Employment-law litigation and advice, higher-education law and appellate law
Mario A. Barrera Partner	Norton Rose Fulbright	San Antonio, Texas	University of Texas	33	Advises on a variety of issues, including all facets of discrimination, harassment, retaliation, wage/hour audit and compliance, and executive-compensation agreements
Mark W. Batten Partner; Co-Head, Class and Collective Actions Group	Proskauer	Boston	Harvard	29	Complex employment litigation, including class and collective actions on wage/hour matters and discrimination claims
Joseph Baumgarten Co-Chair, Labor and Employment Department	Proskauer	New York	Harvard	34	Labor and employment litigation, arbitration and counseling
Scott C. Beightol Partner	Michael Best	Milwaukee	University of Wisconsin	29	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	35	Labor and employment
Elise M. Bloom Co-Chair, Labor and Employment Department	Proskauer	New York	Emory	35	Employment class and collective actions, including wage/hour and discrimination matters, and extensive trial experience and employment counseling/training
Sarah E. Bouchard Partner	Morgan Lewis	Philadelphia	Villanova	22	Complex employment, whistleblower, non-competition and trade-secret matters across the U.S. for clients in many sectors, including financial services, technology, healthcare and retail
James N. Boudreau Shareholder; Co-Chair, Global Labor and Employment Practice	Greenberg Traurig	Philadelphia	University of Minnesota	27	Class-action, wrongful-termination and trade-secret litigation
Paul W. Cane Jr. Partner, Employment Department	Paul Hastings	San Francisco	UC Berkeley	38	Employment litigation, appellate
Mark Casciari Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	Chicago	Boston College	38	Represents employers, employee-benefit plans, and plan administrators and fiduciaries, including in litigation in the U.S.
Charles S. Caulkins Partner	Fisher Phillips	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.	Creighton	41	Labor and employment, union-representation campaigns, collective bargaining, arbitrations, dispute resolution, FLSA and trade-secret protection
Terri L. Chase Partner	Jones Day	New York	Harvard	23	Complex employment-litigation matters, including defending against employment discrimination, harassment and retaliation claims; FLSA and state wage/hour actions; and breach of employment contract
Apalla U. Chopra Partner; Chair, Labor and Employment Practice	O'Melveny	Los Angeles	UC Hastings	25	Labor and employment litigation
Vincent A. Cino Chairman	Jackson Lewis	Morristown, N.J.	Rutgers	38	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	23	Employment law, including trials, class actions, arbitration, mediation and collective bargaining
Joseph T. Clees Shareholder	Ogletree Deakins	Phoenix	Villanova	33	Employment litigation and counseling, training and executive coaching, compliance strategies and litigation avoidance, and tribal law
William L. Cole Partner	MSK	Los Angeles	Stanford	40	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	36	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	39	Represents companies in high-stakes employment cases
Harriet E. Cooperman Partner	Saul Ewing	Baltimore	University of Maryland	39	Labor, employment and employee benefits
Joseph J. Costello Partner	Morgan Lewis	Philadelphia	Stanford	32	Labor and employment counseling and litigation, with a focus on ERISA class actions and whistleblower claims
M. Carter Crow Partner in Charge, Houston	Norton Rose Fulbright	Houston	University of Oklahoma	26	Complex employment law and commercial litigation matters, including class- and collective-action cases, and disputes between senior executives and companies
Lisa J. Damon National Chair, Labor and Employment	Seyfarth Shaw	Boston	Fordham	30	Labor and employment
Barbara Jean D'Aquila Partner	Norton Rose Fulbright	Minneapolis	University of Minnesota	38	Class, collective and complex employment and business litigation for major companies; broad-based labor and employment experience (discrimination, wage/hour, ERISA, trade secrets, etc.)
Mike Delikat Chair, Global Employment Law	Orrick	New York	Harvard	40	Class action and impact cases, systemic government investigations, whistleblower claims and internal investigations, trade-secret litigation and cross-border employment-law advice
Dennis P. Duffy Partner	BakerHostetler	Houston	University of Virginia	35	Complex labor and employment litigation and strategic advice, including class and collective actions, discrimination, retaliation, wage/hour and labor relations



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Brian West Easley Partner-in-Charge, Minneapolis	Jones Day	Minneapolis	University of Michigan	17	Labor and employment law
Kim F. Ebert Shareholder	Ogletree Deakins	Indianapolis	Indiana University	41	Defends interests of employers in full range of labor and employment matters
Juan C. Enjamio Labor and Employment Head, Miami; Managing Partner, Miami Office	Hunton & Williams	Miami	University of Miami	31	Discrimination and harassment lawsuits, wage/hour collective actions, ERISA litigation and enforcement of non-competition agreements, and employment, labor and commercial issues
Anne Marie Estevez Partner	Morgan Lewis	Miami	University of Miami	24	National complex litigator handling class and collective actions in any employment area
Mark J. Foley Partner	Drinker Biddle	Philadelphia	Villanova	30	Collective bargaining and traditional labor litigation and counseling, employment discrimination, wage/hour and other employment litigation
Gary D. Friedman Partner	Weil	New York	Georgetown	28	Class actions, high-level counseling and other complex discrimination, wage/hour and trade-secret litigation and arbitrations
John P. Furfaro Retired Partner	Skadden	New York	St. John's University	37	Advises on a variety of employment and labor-law matters, including M&A
Michael J. Gray Practice Leader, Labor and Employment	Jones Day	Chicago	Northwestern	25	Class-action wage/hour and discrimination defense, complex employment litigation and trade-secret enforcement
Elizabeth P. Hardy Member	Kienbaum Opperwall Hardy & Pelton	Birmingham, Mich.	Wayne State University	33	Employment litigation, appellate
Gerald T. Hathaway Partner	Drinker Biddle	New York	University of Pittsburgh	38	Labor due diligence on deals and guidance on massive layoffs, complex litigation
Lynne Hermle Partner	Orrick	Menlo Park, Calif.	UC Hastings	36	Complex employment litigation, with special focus on EEO, and wage class actions and jury trials
Patrick H. Hicks Shareholder	Littler	Las Vegas	UC Hastings	30	Employment litigation
Stephen J. Hirschfeld Founding Partner and Co-Managing Partner	Hirschfeld Kraemer	San Francisco	George Washington University	35	Employment litigation, counseling, union organizing, collective bargaining, labor arbitrations, misconduct investigations and cross-border employment law
Robert W. Horton Member; Chair, Labor and Employment Practice Group	Bass, Berry & Sims	Nashville, Tenn.	University of Tennessee	26	Advises clients with respect to discipline and discharge; discrimination and civil rights; sexual harassment; non-competition agreements; disability and leave issues; and other employment issues
Jerry M. Hunter Partner	Bryan Cave	St. Louis	Washington University	40	Employment-discrimination litigation and counseling, complex labor-relations issues and strategy, and preventive labor relations
Maurice G. Jenkins Principal	Jackson Lewis	Southfield, Mich.	Michigan State University	36	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	43	Labor and employment litigation and counseling
Jennifer P. Keller President and COO	Baker Donelson	Johnson City, Tenn.	University of Tennessee	21	Employment-discrimination litigation, litigation-prevention counseling, and management and employee training
Tracey A. Kennedy Partner	Sheppard Mullin	Los Angeles	University of Texas	28	Employment litigation on behalf of employers and management
F. Curt Kirschner Jr. Partner	Jones Day	San Francisco	University of Michigan	32	Strategic labor relations and employment advice
Jeffrey S. Klein Head, National Employment Litigation Practice	Weil	New York	Columbia	36	Complex employment litigation and counseling matters involving wage/hour, discrimination, trade secrets, ERISA and executive employment issues
Jeffrey Kohn Partner	O'Melveny	New York	George Washington University	33	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	39	Employment and personnel issues
Matthew W. Lampe Practice Leader, Labor and Employment	Jones Day	New York	Cornell	28	Class-action and other complex litigation
Kevin B. Leblang Chair, Employment Law Department	Kramer Levin	New York	Fordham	33	Employment advisory matters, negotiations and litigation
Adam Levin Partner	MSK	Los Angeles	University of San Diego	26	Employment discrimination, wrongful termination and trade secret/unfair competition
Robert G. Lian Jr. Partner	Akin Gump	Washington	Catholic University of America	23	Complex employment litigation, workplace-regulatory investigations and enforcement litigation, and strategic labor advice
Joseph Liburt Partner	Orrick	Menlo Park, Calif.	UC Berkeley	26	Extensive litigation experience defending complex class actions, discrimination and wrongful-termination claims for leading employers
Donald R. Livingston Partner	Akin Gump	Washington	University of Georgia	40	Employment litigation and government investigations, with emphasis on complex cases and class actions
David Long-Daniels Shareholder; Co-Chair, Global Labor and Employment Practice	Greenberg Traurig	Atlanta	Mercer University	27	Represents clients in corporate espionage cases and in cases asserting claims under the FLSA, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, FMLA and ADA
Alison B. Marshall Partner	Jones Day	Washington	University of Pennsylvania	33	Employment litigation, with emphasis on complex and class actions, government investigations and whistleblower claims
William C. Martucci Partner	Shook	Washington	Georgetown	40	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	33	Civil rights, employment relations, traditional union management and complex employment litigation
Marko J. Mrkonich Shareholder	Littler	Minneapolis	Harvard	37	Labor and employment law, and firm management
Daniel L. Nash Partner	Akin Gump	Washington	UC Hastings	34	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	31	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	34	Employment-practices litigation
Anthony J. Oncidi Chair, Labor and Employment Group, Los Angeles	Proskauer	Los Angeles	University of Chicago	33	Employment litigation, including wage/hour and discrimination class actions, harassment, whistleblower, restrictive covenants and trade secrets
William P. Perkins Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	New York	Western New England College	37	Labor and employment-law matters, including discrimination, reduction in force and wage/hour claims
Laura R. Petroff Partner	Winston & Strawn	Los Angeles	Vanderbilt	37	Labor and employment litigation and counseling, including litigation and preventive counseling and guidance
Chuck Poplstein Co-Chair, Human Resources	Thompson Coburn	St. Louis	University of Toledo	37	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	37	Labor and employment, with an emphasis on appellate litigation
Colleen M. Regan Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	Los Angeles	Loyola	32	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 Group	Lane Powell	Seattle	Catholic University of America	33	Employment and ERISA advice and litigation, and class actions
Theodore O. Rogers Jr. Partner	Sullivan & Cromwell	New York	Harvard	38	Employment litigation and counseling, including restrictive-covenant, discrimination, wage/hour, retaliation and labor issues
Jeremy A. Roth Co-President and Managing Director	Littler	San Diego	Boston University	31	Represents retailers, hotels and other management clients in state and federal courts and before governmental agencies
Paul Salvatore Partner	Proskauer	New York	Cornell	33	Collective bargaining and labor-management relations, employment law, and litigation and counseling
Terry E. Sanchez Partner	Munger Tolles	Los Angeles	Stanford	36	Employment litigation defense, and class action
Eugene Scalia Partner	Gibson Dunn	Washington	University of Chicago	27	National labor and employment practice, including discrimination law, wage/hour, NLRA, ERISA and Sarbanes-Oxley
Jason C. Schwartz Partner	Gibson Dunn	Washington	Georgetown	19	High-profile trade secret and noncompete matters, wage/hour and discrimination class actions, and Sarbanes-Oxley and other whistleblower protection claims
David E. Schwartz Partner	Skadden	New York	Cornell	23	Represents clients before state and federal administrative agencies and courts, as well as in arbitration proceedings



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Jonathan A. Segal Partner, Employment, Labor, Benefits and Immigration Practice Group; Managing Principal, Duane Morris Institute	Duane Morris	Philadelphia	University of Pennsylvania	32	Wage/hour compliance; diversity and inclusion programs; gender pay gap assessments; systemic approaches to prevent and remedy harassment; rapid-response plans to union activity; and noncompetes and other business protection agreements
Samuel S. Shaulson Partner	Morgan Lewis	New York	University of Pennsylvania	24	Represents clients in more than 75 class and collective actions, including matters involving Title VII, ADA and FLSA
Patrick W. Shea Global Chair, Employment Law Department	Paul Hastings	New York	Yale	36	Employment litigation and counseling, including employment discrimination, wage/hour and employee-benefit class actions
Dawn Siler-Nixon Partner	FordHarrison	Tampa, Fla.	University of North Carolina	24	Partners with clients to guide and direct employment decisions to avoid litigation and defend when necessary
Grace E. Speights Chair, Labor and Employment	Morgan Lewis	Washington	George Washington University	35	Employment litigation and counseling, with a focus on employment-discrimination class-action litigation and crisis management
Jonathan Stoler Partner; Co-Practice Group Leader, Labor and Employment Practice	Sheppard Mullin	New York	Brooklyn	22	Advises on a wide range of labor and employment matters, including the defense of single-plaintiff and class-action discrimination, and wrongful discharge and wage/hour claims
Steven W. Suflas Managing Partner, Denver Offices	Ballard Spahr	Denver	University of North Carolina	41	All areas of employment law, including traditional labor law, counseling and litigation
Jonathan L. Sulds Shareholder; Co-Chair, Global Labor and Employment Practice	Greenberg Traurig	New York	Harvard	43	Collective bargaining and traditional labor relations, ERISA litigation, wage/hour matters, discrimination complaints, restrictive covenant, duty of loyalty and trade-secret litigation, Dodd Frank and SOX
Nigel F. Telman Partner; Employment Practice Leader, Chicago; Co-Head, Employment Litigation and Arbitration Group	Proskauer	Chicago	Boston University	24	Single-plaintiff and class- and collective-action litigation, including discrimination and wage/hour, noncompete/trade-secret, and employment counseling and training
Joseph E. Tilson Chair, Labor and Employment	Cozen O'Connor	Chicago	University of Michigan	38	Labor and employment litigation and counseling, including large wage/hour class-action cases
Joseph J. Torres Partner	Winston & Strawn	Chicago	University of Illinois	27	Labor, employment and ERISA litigation before state and federal trial courts, appellate courts and administrative agencies
Julie Totten Partner in Charge, Sacramento Office	Orrick	Sacramento, Calif.	University of San Diego	24	Represents employers in complex cases, including wage/hour class and collective actions, EEO claims, and claims involving breach of contract and wrongful termination
Jeff Weintraub Regional Managing Partner, Memphis	Fisher Phillips	Memphis, Tenn.	University of Memphis	36	Employment-harassment/discrimination and retaliatory discharge lawsuits alleging violations of public policies and statutes, such as the False Claims Act
A. Martin Wickliff Jr. Member	Cozen O'Connor	Houston	Texas Southern University	44	Labor and employment trials and appeals, NLRA, trade secrets, noncompetes, FLSA and class actions
Robert M. Wolff Shareholder; Co-Chair, Healthcare Practice Group	Littler	Cleveland	University of Illinois	37	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	43	Traditional labor law, 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
Nicholas Anastasopoulos Partner	Mirick O'Connell	Westborough, Mass.	New England School of Law	21	Traditional private- and public-sector labor law, litigation of employment disputes, and counseling on labor, employment and human resource matters
M.J. Asensio , Partner	BakerHostetler	Columbus, Ohio	Indiana University	32	Employment and labor relations
Robert P. Brooks , Managing Partner; Chair, Labor and Employment Law Group	AP&S	Providence, R.I.	Suffolk University	30	Labor relations and employment law in the public and private sectors
Howard E. Cole Partner	Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie	Las Vegas	UCLA	38	Employment and labor
Louis P. DiLorenzo Managing Member, New York Office	Bond	New York	SUNY Buffalo	41	Labor and employment law, especially collective bargaining, workplace investigations and NLRB proceedings
Angelo J. Genova Co-Founder; Firm Chairman and Partner	Genova Burns	Newark, N.J.	Rutgers	39	Traditional labor law and collective bargaining, employment-litigation defense and counseling
Cliff Godiner Partner	Thompson Coburn	St. Louis	University of Michigan	31	Represents management in litigation and other employment and labor matters, including matters under the Railway Labor Act and the NLRA
J. Gregory Grisham Partner	FordHarrison	Nashville, Tenn.	University of Memphis	28	Counsels and represents employers in all aspects of workplace law, defense of administrative charges, employment lawsuits and arbitration demands, including federal and state law claims alleging discrimination, harassment and retaliation
Steven Gutierrez Partner	Holland & Hart	Denver	University of Denver	24	Employment litigation and counseling, traditional labor, misconduct and workplace-violence investigations, and trade-secret/noncompete claims
Michael J. Lebowich , Partner; Co-Head, Labor-Management Relations Group	Proskauer	New York	Harvard Law School	20	Represents and counsels employers on a wide range of labor and employment matters, with a particular interest in the field of traditional labor law
Terence P. McCourt , Boston Managing Shareholder; Chairman, Labor and Employment Practice	Greenberg Traurig	Boston	Catholic University of America	35	Represents a broad range of organizations in all facets of management-side labor and employment law
Steven R. McCown , Chair, Workplace Safety and Health (OSHA & MSHA) Practice Group	Littler	Austin, Texas	Southern Methodist University	42	Complex employment litigation and proceedings under OSHA
Neal D. Mollen Partner	Paul Hastings	Washington	University of Richmond	32	Labor and employment-law matters, with particular emphasis on complex and appellate litigation, and traditional labor-law matters, including under the Railway Labor Act
Stuart Newman Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	Atlanta	Albany Law School	43	Focus on traditional labor-relations matters, managing employment litigation, preventive counseling and management training in labor and employment-law subjects
Theodore R. Opperwall Member	Kienbaum Opperwall Hardy & Pelton	Birmingham, Mich.	University of Michigan	38	Labor arbitrations, NLRB proceedings, union avoidance, collective bargaining, injunctions, noncompetes and WARN
Bernard M. Plum , Partner	Proskauer	New York	Columbia	38	Collective bargaining, arbitration and strategic planning
Robert Siegel , Partner	O'Melveny	Los Angeles	University of Michigan	43	Labor negotiations, arbitrations, and litigation under the Railway Labor Act and other laws
Richard F. Vitarelli , Principal	Jackson Lewis	Hartford, Conn.	Suffolk University	23	Represents clients in NLRA and Railway Labor Act matters as well as employment-law matters
Stanley Weiner Partner	Jones Day	Cleveland	Marquette University	39	Complex labor and employment matters, union-management relations, NLRB proceedings, collective-bargaining negotiations, union-corporate campaigns, and labor-arbitration proceedings and litigation
Anna Wermuth Vice Chair, Labor and Employment	Cozen O'Connor	Chicago	Loyola	18	Represents management in labor and employment litigation before state and federal courts and administrative agencies such as the EEOC, DOL and the NLRB



The Nation's Most Powerful Employment Attorneys – Immigration

Name/Title	Law Firm	City	Law School	Years in Practice	Practice Specialty
Daryl Buffenstein Partner	Fragomen	Atlanta	University of Rhodesia	39	Corporate immigration, including strategic planning, legislative and regulatory assistance, DOL and DHS, and immigration compliance; foreign-national recruitment and retention
Bo Cooper , Partner; Leader, Government Strategies and Compliance Group	Fragomen	Washington	Tulane University	30	Legislative and administrative representation, strategic-immigration counseling, compliance planning and responses to government audits
Matthew S. Dunn Partner	Kramer Levin	New York	Brooklyn	23	Provides guidance to leading U.S. and int'l companies and nonprofits in the hiring, transfer and retention of foreign national professionals, executives and managers coming to the U. S.
Josie Gonzalez , Partner	SGG Immigration	Los Angeles	UC Berkeley	42	Represents employers in all aspects of immigration law
Carl W. Hampe Partner	Fragomen	Washington	Georgetown	26	Litigation of immigration disputes before the administrative agencies and in the federal courts; and defense against immigration-enforcement actions and advice on regulatory and legislative policy proposals
H. Ronald Klasko Founding Member and Managing Partner	Klasko Immigration Law Partners	Philadelphia	University of Pennsylvania	43	Immigration counseling for investors, entrepreneurs, multinational corporations, small companies, universities and hospitals, with a particular focus on working with developers and investors in the EB-5 process
Mark D. Koestler Partner; Co-Chair, Business Immigration Group	Kramer Levin	New York	Brooklyn	26	Provides guidance to leading U.S. and int'l companies and nonprofits in the hiring, transfer and retention of foreign national professionals, executives and managers coming to the U. S.
Ira J. Kurzban Chair, Immigration Department	Kurzban Kurzban Weinger Tetzeli and Pratt	Miami	UC Berkeley	41	Immigration and nationality law and litigation
Deborah J. Notkin , Partner	Barst Mukamal & Kleiner	New York	New York Law School	30	Immigration law
Julie Pearl CEO	Pearl Law Group	San Francisco	UC Hastings	29	Business immigration, representing entrepreneurs and employers globally with immigration needs such as visas, work permits, permanent residence, compliance assessment and program/policy development
Eleanor Pelta , Partner	Morgan Lewis	Washington	Harvard	31	Assists corporate clients in a variety of industries with the international transfer of key personnel
Thomas K. Ragland Member	Clark Hill	Washington	Boston College	28	Litigation before the federal courts, immigration courts and the Board of Immigration Appeals, as well as representation of clients before the Department of Homeland Security and U.S. consulates abroad
Laura Foote Reiff , Northern Va. Co-Managing Shareholder; Co-Chair, Business Immigration and Compliance Practice	Greenberg Traurig	Washington	George Washington University	28	Business-immigration laws and regulations affecting U.S. and foreign companies, employment compliance and legislative issues
Theodore Ruthizer Partner; Co-Chair, Business Immigration Group	Kramer Levin	New York	Columbia	45	Provides guidance to leading U.S. and int'l companies and nonprofits in the hiring, transfer and retention of foreign national professionals, executives and managers coming to the U. S.
Denyse Sabagh Partner; Head, Immigration Practice Group	Duane Morris	Washington	George Mason University	40	Immigration and nationality law and litigation
Suzanne B. Seltzer Principal	The Seltzer Firm	New York	Georgetown	24	Representation of universities, hospitals, and research institutions and their medical and research personnel in immigration matters, and extensive experience with petitions for extraordinary ability
William A. Stock Founding Member	Klasko Immigration Law Partners	Philadelphia	University of Minnesota	24	U.S. immigration for corporations, universities, hospitals and start-ups; and defense in immigration-related labor enforcement
Marc L. Van Der Hout Founding Partner	Van Der Hout, Brigagliano & Nightingale	San Francisco	Golden Gate University	40	Immigration and nationality law
Bernard Wolfsdorf Managing Partner	Wolfsdorf Rosenthal	Santa Monica, Calif.	Suffolk University Law School	34	Global corporate immigration, emphasizing compliance for businesses and visas for universities, artists/entertainers and investors
Scott W. Wright Partner; Group Leader, Labor and Employment	Faegre Baker Daniels	Minneapolis	University of Minnesota	29	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
Tristan Brown Partner	Simpson Thacher	Palo Alto, Calif.	Georgetown	21	Advises private-equity funds and public companies on executive compensation and employee-benefits issues arising in mergers, takeovers, sales, spin-offs, IPOs and other transactions
Steven G. Eckhaus , Chair, N.Y. Employee Benefits, Compensation, Labor and Employment Group	McDermott	New York	Cornell	41	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	33	Advises public and private companies, private-equity funds and boards of directors on compensation and benefits
Robert C. Fleder , Partner; Chair, Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation	Paul, Weiss	New York	Columbia	44	ERISA, employee benefits and executive compensation, including in connection with M&A transactions
Gary M. Ford Principal	Groom	Washington	Boston University	38	Plan funding and restructuring, litigation, policy and legislation
Thomas S. Gigot Principal	Groom	Washington	Georgetown	33	ERISA litigation, especially plan funding and restructuring
Paul M. Hamburger , Partner; Co-Chair, Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation Group	Proskauer	Washington	University of Michigan	34	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	19	Advises clients and compensation committees in all aspects of executive compensation and benefits
D. Ward Kallstrom Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	San Francisco	Duke	40	Employee-benefits fiduciary advice, claims and litigation; healthcare provider reimbursement; and compliance counseling for multiemployer plans
David N. Levine Principal	Groom	Washington	University of Pennsylvania	20	Advises plan sponsors, advisors and other service providers on a wide range of employee-benefits matters, from retirement and executive compensation to health and welfare plan matters
Robert Newman Partner	Covington	Washington	New York University	21	Advises clients on all areas of employee benefits and executive compensation; provides advice regarding plan design, corporate transactions and ERISA litigation
Kevin P. O'Brien Partner	Ivins, Phillips & Barker	Washington	Georgetown	41	Employee benefits, including executive compensation, qualified plans, welfare plans, ERISA fiduciary matters; represents clients before the DOL, IRS and PBGC
Paul J. Ondrasik Jr. , Partner; Chair, ERISA, Labor and Employment Group	Stephoe	Washington	University of Virginia	42	ERISA litigation, focusing on defense of complex fiduciary and investment-related claims and class actions
Nicholas J. Pappas Partner	Weil	New York	Rutgers	30	Defends ERISA class actions challenging the administration of healthcare-benefit plans, 401(k) plans and defined-benefit plans
Andrea S. Rattner Partner	Proskauer	New York	Cardozo	31	Employee benefits and executive compensation
Myron D. Rumeld , Partner; Co-Chair, Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation Group	Proskauer	New York	Columbia	34	Employee benefits and ERISA litigation
Howard Shapiro Partner	Proskauer	New Orleans	Loyola	38	ERISA litigation representing defendants
Richard C. Shea , Chair, Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation Practice	Covington	Washington	University of Virginia	34	Employee-benefits law and policy; focuses on guiding clients successfully through high-stakes legislative, rulemaking, litigation, audit, benefit design and transactional challenges
Charles R. Smith Partner	K&L Gates	Pittsburgh	University of Pittsburgh	43	Transactions involving ESOPs, fiduciary aspects of employee-benefit plans and defined-benefit pension-plan de-risking
René E. Thorne Principal; Office Litigation Manager, New Orleans	Jackson Lewis	New Orleans	Loyola	24	Employee-benefits litigation on behalf of employers, fiduciaries, plans and service providers



The Nation's Most Powerful Employment Attorneys—Hall of Fame 2017 Inductees

The 15 attorneys listed below are this year's inductees to the Most Powerful Employment Attorneys' Hall of Fame. Up to 15 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*™ and on Lawdragon's website. 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
Fred W. Alvarez Of Counsel	Jones Day	Palo Alto, Calif.	Stanford	42	Defends employers in claims brought by private and governmental parties and by former senior executives
Ned H. Bassen , Chair, Employment and Unfair Competition Department	Hughes Hubbard	New York	Cornell	44	Ranges from litigating on behalf of and counseling defense contractors and financial institutions to individuals accused of wrongdoing
Greg Braden Partner; Co-Chair, ERISA Litigation	Morgan Lewis	Washington	Wisconsin	35	ERISA litigation and has served as lead defense counsel in virtually every type of ERISA Title I class action claim
Lawrence C. DiNardo Partner	Jones Day	Chicago	Notre Dame	43	Employment and labor law, with particular emphasis on employment-discrimination litigation and FLSA/wage/hour cases
Brian S. Greig Of Counsel, Retired Partner	Norton Rose Fulbright	Austin, Texas	University of Texas	42	Focuses in the employment and labor-law area representing management
Ellen C. Kearns Managing Partner, Boston Office	Constangy	Boston	Boston College	41	Represents management in a full range of traditional labor and employment issues
John B. Langel Retired Partner	Ballard Spahr	Philadelphia	Temple	43	Specialized in labor and employment matters
John B. Lewis Partner	BakerHostetler	Cleveland	University of Missouri	45	Complex employment, labor and regulatory disputes, including the defense and oversight of class-action litigation
Michael J. Lotito Shareholder; Co-Chair, Workplace Policy Institute	Littler	San Francisco	Villanova	43	Provides counsel to companies and trade associations regarding workplace policy initiatives at the federal and state levels
Michael D. Patrick Retired Partner	Fragomen	New York	Hofstra	39	Specialized in corporate and sophisticated business immigration
Lawrence J. Rosenfeld Senior Counsel	Squire Patton Boggs	Phoenix	Yale	42	Employment law, litigation, health law and administrative law
W.V. Bernie Siebert Member	Sherman & Howard	Denver	University of Nebraska	45	Traditional labor law in union elections, collective bargaining and handling unfair labor practice charges
Richard J. Simmons Partner	Sheppard Mullin	Los Angeles	UC Berkeley	41	Represents employers in various labor-relations matters involving state and federal wage/hour laws, wrongful discharge and employment discrimination
Allan H. Weitzman , Partner; Chair, Labor and Employment Team, Boca Raton Office	Proskauer	Boca Raton, Fla.	Cornell	44	Litigates employment-law disputes in state and federal courts at the trial and appellate levels
M. Kirby C. Wilcox Senior Counsel	Paul Hastings	San Francisco	UC Hastings	40	Employment litigation and counseling for corporations



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Name/Title	Law Firm	City	Law School	Years in Practice	Practice Specialty
Eric Amdursky , Partner, Managing Partner, Silicon Valley Office	O'Melveny	Menlo Park, Calif.	Loyola	22	Employment litigation and counseling
John M. Bagyi Member	Bond	Albany, N.Y.	Albany Law School	21	Litigation-prevention counseling, wage/hour compliance, workplace investigations, executive employment agreements, restrictive covenants and training of HR professionals, executives and supervisory personnel
Reginald W. Belcher Shareholder	Turner Padgett	Columbia, S.C.	University of South Carolina	21	Defends businesses and employers in state and federal courts and before governmental agencies
Colleen L. Caden Partner; Chair, Immigration Group	Pryor Cashman	New York	Brooklyn	18	Compliance with DOL and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services regulations, representing clients in pharmaceutical, media, consumer products, arts and other industries
Meredith "Merry" Campbell Partner	Shulman Rogers	Potomac, Md.	Harvard	16	Employment law, including equal-employment litigation, wage/hour litigation, the protection of confidential and proprietary business information, executive compensation and enforcement of restrictive covenants
Jesse A. Cripps Partner	Gibson Dunn	Los Angeles	Pepperdine	15	Labor and employment matters under federal and state law, specializing in the defense of high-risk, complex and class-action employment litigation
Neil H. Dishman Principal	Jackson Lewis	Chicago	University of Michigan	14	Counsel and defense on a wide spectrum of issues, including race, sex, age, religion, national origin, disability and sexual-orientation discrimination, and sexual harassment
Edward J. Easterly Member	Norris McLaughlin & Marcus	Allentown, Pa.	Villanova	11	Represents clients in matters related to the ADA, ADEA, FLSA, FMLA, and Pennsylvania Labor Relations Act and Pennsylvania Human Relations Act
Adam S. Forman Member	Epstein Becker Green	Southfield, Mich.	Syracuse University	21	Employment litigation, training and preventive advice, with deep knowledge on issues related to technology in the workplace, such as social media, Internet and privacy issues
Avi Friedman Partner	Wolfsdorf Rosenthal	Santa Monica, Calif.	Loyola	21	U.S. corporate immigration, including immigrant and non-immigrant visas for universities, artists/entertainers, physicians, investors and multinational corporate managers/employees
Robert F. Friedman , Shareholder; Co-Chair, ADR Practice Group	Littler	Dallas	Southern Methodist University	19	Litigation and administrative matters brought by employees and government agencies
Jeremy Fudge Managing Partner	BAL	Dallas	University of Texas	17	Worldwide immigration services representing clients in a variety of industries, including the energy, technology, telecommunications, and engineering and construction
Jeremy J. Glenn Shareholder	Cozen O'Connor	Chicago	University of Iowa	20	Represents large employers in federal and state courts for individual and class discrimination litigation, wage/hour class-action cases, union avoidance, collective bargaining, wrongful-termination litigation and general employment advice
Malcolm A. Heinicke Partner	Munger Tolles	San Francisco	Stanford	20	Employment and complex commercial litigation, particularly in class and collective actions, and employee-mobility matters
Matthew G. Holt Shareholder	Hurwitz Holt	San Diego	California Western	10	Represents clients in immigration court and on appeal with regard to asylum, bond eligibility, cancellation of removal, and adjustment of status
Julia E. Judith Special Counsel	Pillsbury	Washington	Harvard	21	Advises on all facets of the employment relationship and on nonprofit governance, and provides counseling to private-sector employers, nonprofit organizations and government contractors
Kate Kalmykov Shareholder	Greenberg Traurig	Florham Park, N.J.	American University	22	Represents clients in a wide range of employment-based immigrant and non-immigrant visa matters including students, trainees, professionals, managers and executives, and artists and entertainers
Matthew C. Kane , Partner; Labor and Employment Practice Group Leader, LA	McGuireWoods	Los Angeles	Pepperdine	23	Defense of employment-related claims and wage/hour class actions and collective actions, litigation of misappropriation of trade secrets and noncompete agreement claims, and management-side traditional labor-law issues
Sameer Khedekar Partner	Pearl Law Group	San Francisco	Santa Clara University	14	Business immigration, representing entrepreneurs and employers globally with immigration needs, including visas, work permits, permanent residence, compliance assessment and program/policy development
Fermin H. Llaguno Shareholder	Littler	Irvine, Calif.	USC	21	Class- and collective-action avoidance and defense; employment counseling, training and litigation; and wage/hour compliance
Michele L. Maryott Partner	Gibson Dunn	Irvine, Calif.	Pepperdine	20	Business litigation, with particular emphasis on employment litigation, class actions and complex commercial disputes
Lynden Melmed Partner	BAL	Washington	University of Virginia	19	Brings experience in legislative and executive branch to immigration advice
Kevin Miner Partner	Fragomen	Atlanta	William and Mary	22	Represents U.S. employers on business-immigration processes for high-skilled workers, including a particular focus on compliance and shaping immigration policy
Cindy Schmitt Minniti , Partner; Office Managing Partner, New York	Reed Smith	New York	St. John's University	18	Represents management exclusively in labor and employment law
Ian H. Morrison Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	Chicago	Washington University	22	Represents employers, plan sponsors, employee-benefit plans and fiduciaries in a broad range of ERISA and employee-benefits litigation
Christy Nguyen Partner	Pearl Law Group	San Francisco	UC Hastings	17	Represents companies in the movement of foreign talent in and out of the United States, and ensures companies remain compliant with all immigration laws
Kristen A. Page , Managing Partner, General Litigation and Business Services	Shook	Kansas City, Mo.	University of Missouri at Kansas City	16	Represents corporate employers in federal and state court in business and employment matters
Jessica Perry Partner	Orrick	Menlo Park, Calif.	Santa Clara University	17	Defends employers against discrimination, harassment and retaliation allegations, as well as class and collective actions involving overtime, meal and rest breaks, unpaid wages and PTO/vacation
Sarah K. Peterson Principal Attorney	SPS Immigration	Minneapolis	University of Minnesota	11	Employment-based immigration law, with a focus on international medical graduates, academics and the high-tech industry
Carolyn D. Richmond Partner	Fox Rothschild	New York	New York Law School	22	Represents and counsels employers in the hospitality industry, specifically restaurants, hotels, caterers, night clubs, lounges and fitness centers
John C. Romeo Director, Employment and Labor Law	Gibbons	Philadelphia	Western New England	22	Employment litigation, class action
Seth J. Safra Partner	Proskauer	Washington	Duke	16	Employee benefits and executive compensation, including the design, implementation and administration of retirement, health and equity plans; advises on disputes over benefits and fiduciary responsibility
Salvador P. Simao Partner	FordHarrison	Berkeley Heights, N.J.	Rutgers	20	Representation of companies in employment-law matters with a specialization in wage/hour litigation and compliance
Brian Sinclair Partner	Rutan & Tucker	Costa Mesa, Calif.	UC Davis	22	Represents clients in federal and state court, including individual and class actions
Grant Sovern , Partner; Chair, National Immigration Practice	Quarles & Brady	Madison, Wis.	University of Michigan	21	Employment immigration for employers and employees
Susan A.P. Woodhouse Principal	Littler	San Francisco	Santa Clara University	21	Oversees firm's knowledge-driven employment-law technology solutions for clients and firm attorneys
Todd D. Wozniak , Shareholder; Co-Chair, ERISA Litigation Team	Greenberg Traurig	Atlanta	University of Michigan	23	Defends companies and public institutions nationwide in complex labor, employment and ERISA litigation, and enforcement actions
Denise Wheeler Wright Managing Partner, Ft. Myers Office	FordHarrison	Fort Myers, Fla.	Stetson University	23	Employment litigation and advice to employers regarding contracts, discipline and other employment transactions
Becki L. Young Co-Founder	Hammond Young	Silver Spring, Md.	Georgetown	18	Represents hotels and restaurants, facilitated the sponsorship of foreign professionals, trainees, interns and individuals of "extraordinary ability," and provides immigration-law advice to clients in a broad range of industries
Joshua Zuckerberg Partner	Pryor Cashman	New York	Brooklyn	20	Represents and counsels employers on all matters affecting the workplace, including discrimination, harassment and disability claims