



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 30, honors those now considered legends in the field, and the Top 40 Up-and-Comers on page 31 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	37	Trial representation and advice on full range of employment issues, including class and individual cases
Rory Judd Albert Partner	Proskauer	New York	Columbia	39	Employee benefits, executive compensation and ERISA litigation
Rosemary Alito Co-Chair, Global Labor, Employment and Workplace Safety Practice	K&L Gates	Newark, N.J.	Rutgers	38	Employment litigation
Lorie E. Almon Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	New York	University of Virginia	22	Complex employment litigation
Fred W. Alvarez Partner, Labor and Employment Practice	Jones Day	Palo Alto, Calif.	Stanford	41	Employment class-action and executive-level claims defense, governmental and internal investigations, consent-decree monitoring/compliance
Michael L. Banks Partner	Morgan Lewis	Philadelphia	Columbia	35	Employment litigation
Paula A. Barran Partner	Barran Liebman	Portland, Ore.	York University	37	Employment-law litigation and advice, higher-education law and appellate law
Ned H. Bassen Chair, Labor and Employment Department	Hughes Hubbard	New York	Cornell	43	Labor and employment law, including litigation, defamation, unfair competition, trade-secret litigation, government-contract litigation and debarment proceedings
Mark W. Batten Partner; Co-Head, Class and Collective Actions Group	Proskauer	Boston	Harvard	28	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	33	Labor and employment litigation, arbitration and counseling
Scott C. Beightol Partner; Member of Firm's Management Committee	Michael Best	Milwaukee	University of Wisconsin	28	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	34	Labor and employment
Elise M. Bloom Member, Executive Committee; Co-Chair, Class Actions	Proskauer	New York	Emory	34	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	26	Class-action, wrongful-termination and trade-secret litigation
Paul W. Cane Jr. Partner, Employment Department	Paul Hastings	San Francisco	UC Berkeley	37	Employment litigation, appellate
Mark Casciari Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	Chicago	Boston College	37	Represents employers, plan sponsors, plans, plan administrators, fiduciaries and independent fiduciaries
Charles S. Caulkins Partner	Fisher & Phillips	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.	Creighton	40	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	24	Labor and employment litigation
Vincent A. Cino Chairman	Jackson Lewis	Morristown, N.J.	Rutgers	37	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	22	Employment law, including trials, class actions, arbitration, mediation and collective bargaining
Joseph T. Clees Shareholder	Ogletree Deakins	Phoenix	Villanova	32	Employment litigation and counseling, training and executive coaching, compliance strategies and litigation avoidance, and tribal law
William L. Cole Partner	MSK	Los Angeles	Stanford	39	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	35	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	38	Represents companies in high-stakes employment cases
Harriet E. Cooperman Co-Chair, Labor, Employment and Employee Benefits	Saul Ewing	Baltimore	University of Maryland	38	Labor, employment and employee benefits
Joseph J. Costello Practice Leader, Labor and Employment	Morgan Lewis	Philadelphia	Stanford	31	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	37	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	29	Labor and employment
Mike Delikat Chair, Global Employment Law	Orrick	New York	Harvard	39	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	42	Labor and employment
Dennis P. Duffy Partner	BakerHostetler	Houston	University of Virginia	34	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	16	Labor and employment law
Kim F. Ebert Shareholder	Ogletree Deakins	Indianapolis	Indiana University	40	Defends interests of employers in full range of labor and employment matters



The Nation's Most Powerful Employment Attorneys—Top 100

Name/Title	Law Firm	City	Law School	Years in Practice	Practice Specialty
Juan C. Enjamio Labor and Employment Head, Miami; Managing Partner, Miami Office	Hunton & Williams	Miami	University of Miami	30	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	23	National complex litigator handling class and collective actions in any employment area
Debra J. Fischman Partner	Sher Garner	New Orleans	Tulane University	38	Defends employers, including schools and other governmental agencies and bodies in employment matters
Mark J. Foley Partner	Drinker Biddle	Philadelphia	Villanova	29	Collective bargaining and traditional labor litigation and counseling, employment discrimination, wage/hour and other employment litigation
Gary D. Friedman Partner	Weil	New York	Georgetown	27	Class actions, high-level counseling and other complex discrimination, wage/hour and trade-secret litigation and arbitrations
John P. Furfaro Partner; Chair, Labor and Employment Law Group	Skadden	New York	St. John's University	36	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	24	Class-action wage/hour and discrimination defense, complex employment litigation and trade-secret enforcement
Brian S. Greig Of Counsel	Norton Rose Fulbright	Austin, Texas	University of Texas	41	Trade-secret and noncompete issues, complex litigation and union-related cases
Elizabeth P. Hardy Member	Kienbaum Opperwall Hardy & Pelton	Birmingham, Mich.	Wayne State University	32	Employment litigation, appellate
Gerald T. Hathaway Partner	Drinker Biddle	New York	University of Pittsburgh	37	Labor due diligence on deals and guidance on massive layoffs, complex litigation
Lynne C. Hermle Partner	Orrick	Menlo Park, Calif.	UC Hastings	35	Complex employment litigation, with special focus on EEO and wage class actions and jury trials
Patrick H. Hicks Shareholder	Littler	Las Vegas	UC Hastings	29	Employment litigation
Stephen J. Hirschfeld Founding Partner and Co-Managing Partner	Hirschfeld Kraemer	San Francisco	George Washington University	34	Employment litigation, counseling, union organizing, collective bargaining, labor arbitrations, misconduct investigations and cross-border employment law
Robert W. Horton Member	Bass, Berry & Sims	Nashville, Tenn.	University of Tennessee	25	Advice and litigation of employment-related issues
Jerry M. Hunter Partner	Bryan Cave	St. Louis	Washington University in St. Louis	39	Employment-discrimination litigation and counseling, complex labor-relations issues and strategy, preventive labor relations
Maurice G. Jenkins Principal	Jackson Lewis	Southfield, Mich.	Michigan State University	35	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	42	Labor and employment litigation and counseling
Ellen C. Kearns Partner	Constangy	Boston	Boston College	40	Labor and employment, including wage/hour law
Jennifer P. Keller President and COO	Baker Donelson	Johnson City, Tenn.	University of Tennessee	20	Employment-discrimination litigation, litigation-prevention counseling, and management and employee training
Tracey A. Kennedy Partner	Sheppard Mullin	Los Angeles	University of Texas	27	Employment litigation on behalf of employers and management
F. Curt Kirschner Jr. Partner	Jones Day	San Francisco	University of Michigan	31	Strategic labor relations and employment advice
Jeffrey S. Klein Chair, National Employment Practice	Weil	New York	Columbia	35	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	32	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	38	Employment and personnel issues
Matthew W. Lampe Partner	Jones Day	New York	Cornell	27	Class-action and other complex litigation
John B. Langel Partner	Ballard Spahr	Philadelphia	Temple	42	Labor and employment matters
Kevin B. Leblang Chair, Employment Law Department	Kramer Levin	New York	Fordham	32	Employment advisory matters, negotiations and litigation
Adam Levin Partner	MSK	Los Angeles	University of San Diego	25	Employment discrimination, wrongful termination, trade secret/unfair competition
John B. Lewis Past National Chair; Member, Employment Class Action Team	BakerHostetler	Cleveland	University of Missouri	44	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	22	Complex employment litigation, workplace-regulatory investigations and enforcement litigation, and strategic labor advice
Joseph C. Liburt Partner	Orrick	Menlo Park, Calif.	UC Berkeley	25	Extensive litigation experience defending claims of discrimination, harassment, retaliation and numerous class actions
Donald R. Livingston Partner	Akin Gump	Washington	University of Georgia	39	Employment litigation and government investigations, with emphasis on complex cases and class actions
Alison B. Marshall Partner	Jones Day	Washington	University of Pennsylvania	32	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	39	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	32	Civil rights, employment relations, traditional union management and complex employment litigation



The Nation's Most Powerful Employment Attorneys—Top 100

Name/Title	Law Firm	City	Law School	Years in Practice	Practice Specialty
Marko J. Mrkonich Shareholder	Littler	Minneapolis	Harvard	36	Labor and employment law, and firm management
Daniel L. Nash Partner	Akin Gump	Washington	UC Hastings	33	Complex labor and employment litigation and strategic counseling
Michael Patrick O'Brien Shareholder; Former Chair, Litigation Department; Leader, Employment and Labor Law Practice Group	Jones Waldo	Salt Lake City	University of Utah	30	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	33	Employment-practices litigation
Anthony J. Oncidi Chair, Labor and Employment Group, Los Angeles	Proskauer	Los Angeles	University of Chicago	32	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	36	Labor and employment-law matters, including discrimination, reduction in force and wage/hour claims
Laura R. Petroff Partner	Winston & Strawn	Los Angeles	Vanderbilt	36	Labor and employment litigation and counseling, including litigation and preventive counseling and guidance
Charles M. Poplstein Partner	Thompson Coburn	St. Louis	University of Toledo	36	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	36	Labor and employment, with an emphasis on appellate litigation
Colleen M. Regan Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	Los Angeles	Loyola	31	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	32	Employment and ERISA advice and litigation; class actions
Theodore O. Rogers Jr. Partner	Sullivan & Cromwell	New York	Harvard	37	Employment litigation and counseling, including restrictive-covenant, discrimination, wage/hour, retaliation and labor issues
Lawrence J. Rosenfeld Partner	Squire Patton Boggs	Phoenix	Yale	41	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	30	Represents retailers, hotels and other management clients in state and federal courts and before governmental agencies
Paul Salvatore Partner	Proskauer	New York	Cornell	32	Collective bargaining and labor-management relations, employment law, and litigation and counseling
Terry E. Sanchez Partner	Munger Tolles	Los Angeles	Stanford	35	Employment litigation defense, class action



The Nation's Most Powerful Employment Attorneys—Top 100

Name/Title	Law Firm	City	Law School	Years in Practice	Practice Specialty
Eugene Scalia Co-Chair of the Firm's Labor and Employment Practice Group	Gibson Dunn	Washington	University of Chicago	26	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	31	Wage/hour compliance and action plans; gender-equality assessments and implementation plans; social-media policies and initiatives; union-avoidance-rapid-response plans; training of HR professionals, executives and judges on myriad employment issues
Samuel S. Shaulson Co-Chair, Labor and Employment Practice's Financial Services Group	Morgan Lewis	New York	University of Pennsylvania	23	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 Global Chair, Employment Law Department	Paul Hastings	New York	Yale	35	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	23	Partners with clients to guide and direct employment decisions to avoid litigation and defend when necessary
Richard J. Simmons Partner	Sheppard Mullin	Los Angeles	UC Berkeley	40	Labor-relations matters involving state and federal wage/hour laws, wrongful discharge, employment discrimination, employee discipline and termination
Grace E. Speights Co-Managing Partner, Washington Office	Morgan Lewis	Washington	George Washington University	34	Employment litigation and counseling, with a focus on employment-discrimination class-action litigation and crisis management
Steven W. Sufas Managing Partner, Denver Office	Ballard Spahr	Cherry Hill, N.J.	University of North Carolina	40	All areas of employment law, including traditional labor law, counseling and litigation
Nigel F. Telman Partner; Employment Practice Leader, Chicago; Co-Head, Employment Litigation and Arbitration Group	Proskauer	Chicago	Boston University	23	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	37	Labor and employment litigation and counseling, including large wage/hour class-action cases
Joseph J. Torres Partner	Winston & Strawn	Chicago	University of Illinois	26	Labor, employment and ERISA litigation before state and federal trial courts, appellate courts and administrative agencies
Allan H. Weitzman Partner	Proskauer	Boca Raton, Fla.	Cornell	43	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 So. University	43	Labor and employment trials and appeals, NLRA, trade secrets, noncompetes, FLSA and class actions
M. Kirby C. Wilcox Partner, Employment Law Department	Paul Hastings	San Francisco	UC Hastings	39	Employment litigation and corporate counseling
Robert M. Wolff Shareholder; Co-Chair, Healthcare Practice Group	Little	Cleveland	University of Illinois	36	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	42	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	31	Employment and labor relations
Robert P. Brooks Managing Partner	Adler Pollock & Sheehan	Providence, R.I.	Suffolk University	29	Labor relations and employment law in the public and private sectors
Howard E. Cole Partner	Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie	Las Vegas	UCLA	37	Employment and labor
Louis P. DiLorenzo Managing Member, New York Office	Bond	New York	University at Buffalo	40	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	38	Traditional labor law and collective bargaining, employment-litigation defense and counseling
Clifford A. Godiner , Partner	Thompson Coburn	St. Louis	U. of Michigan	30	Represents management in litigation and other employment and labor matters
Steven M. Gutierrez Partner	Holland & Hart	Greenwood Village, Colo.	University of Denver	23	Employment litigation and counseling, traditional labor, misconduct and workplace-violence investigations, and trade-secret/noncompete claims
Michael J. Lebowich Partner	Proskauer	New York	Harvard Law School	19	Represents and counsels employers on a wide range of labor and employment matters, with a particular interest in the field of traditional labor law
Michael J. Lotito , Shareholder; Co-Chair, Littler's Workplace Policy Institute	Littler	San Francisco	Villanova	42	Labor relations and workplace policy matters
Terence P. McCourt Boston Managing Shareholder; Chairman, Labor and Employment Practice	Greenberg Traurig	Boston	Catholic U. of America	34	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	So. Methodist University	41	Complex employment litigation and proceedings under OSHA
Neal D. Mollen Partner	Paul Hastings	Washington	University of Richmond	31	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.	U. of Michigan	37	Labor arbitrations, NLRB proceedings, union avoidance, collective bargaining, injunctions, noncompetes and WARN
Bernard M. Plum Partner	Proskauer	New York	Columbia	37	Collective bargaining, arbitration and strategic planning
W.V. Bernie Siebert Member	Sherman & Howard	Denver	University of Nebraska	44	Labor and employment matters
Robert Siegel , Partner	O'Melveny	Los Angeles	U. of Michigan	42	Labor negotiations, arbitrations, and litigation under the Railway Labor Act and other laws
Jonathan L. Sulds , Shareholder; Co-Chair, Global Labor and Emp., Global Human Cap. Solutions; Global Labor and Emp. Litigation; ERISA	Greenberg Traurig	New York	Harvard Law School	42	Collective bargaining and traditional labor relations, Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) litigation, wage/hour matters, discrimination complaints, restrictive covenant, duty of loyalty and trade-secret litigation, Dodd Frank, Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX) and other whistleblower matters, global and domestic executive-employment arrangements, and corporate campaigns
Richard F. Vitarelli Principal	Jackson Lewis	Hartford, Conn.	Suffolk University	22	Represents clients in NLRA and Railway Labor Act matters as well as employment-law matters
Stanley Weiner Partner	Jones Day	Cleveland	Marquette University	38	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
Jeff Weintraub Regional Managing Partner	Fisher & Phillips	Memphis, Tenn.	University of Memphis	35	Employment-harassment/discrimination and retaliatory discharge lawsuits alleging violations of public policies and statutes, such as the False Claims Act; EEOC charges; wage/hour cases; labor cases and enforcement of noncompetes in all federal and state courts and agencies; various Courts of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court



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	38	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	29	Legislative and administrative representation, strategic-immigration counseling, compliance planning and responses to government audits
Matthew S. Dunn Partner	Kramer Levin	New York	Brooklyn	22	Corporate-immigration counsel to domestic and international companies
Carl W. Hampe Partner	Fragomen	Washington	Georgetown	25	Litigation of immigration disputes before the administrative agencies and in the federal courts, defense against immigration-enforcement actions, advice on regulatory and legislative policy proposals, and representation of individuals in complex immigration cases
H. Ronald Klasko Founding Member and Managing Partner	Klasko Immigration Law Partners	Philadelphia	University of Pennsylvania	42	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	25	Business immigration with an emphasis on the advertising/PR, entertainment and financial-services industries
Ira J. Kurzban Chair, Immigration Department	Kurzban Kurzban Weinger Tetzeli and Pratt	Miami	UC Berkeley	40	Immigration and nationality law and litigation
Deborah J. Notkin Partner	Barst Mukamal & Kleiner	New York	New York Law School	29	Immigration law
Michael D. Patrick Partner	Fragomen	New York	Hofstra	38	Corporate and sophisticated business immigration, with emphasis on I-9, PERM and visa-application compliance
Julie Pearl CEO	Pearl Law Group	San Francisco	UC Hastings	28	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	30	Assists corporate clients in a variety of industries with the international transfer of key personnel
Thomas K. Ragland Member	Clark Hill	Washington	Boston College	27	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; Co-Chair, Global Human Capital Solutions	Greenberg Traurig	Washington	George Washington University	27	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	44	All aspects of employment-based immigration law for leading international companies, including employer sanctions, compliance issues and counseling on immigration aspects of corporate restructuring
Denyse Sabagh Partner; Head, Immigration Practice Group	Duane Morris	Washington	George Mason University	39	Immigration and nationality law and litigation
Suzanne B. Seltzer Principal	The Seltzer Firm	New York	Georgetown	23	Representation of universities, hospitals, research institutions, and their medical and research personnel in immigration matters; extensive experience with petitions for extraordinary ability, outstanding researchers/professors, national interest waivers and complex J-1 waivers
William A. Stock Founding Member	Klasko Immigration Law Partners	Philadelphia	University of Minnesota	23	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	39	Immigration and nationality law
Bernard Wolfsdorf Managing Partner	Wolfsdorf	Santa Monica, Calif.	Suffolk U. Law School	33	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	28	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
Gregory C. Braden Counsel	Morgan Lewis	Washington	University of Wisconsin	34	Complex class-action ERISA litigation involving fiduciary, benefits and tax claims
Steven G. Eckhaus Chair, Exec.Comp. and Employee Benefits	Cadwalader	New York	Cornell	40	Executive employment, compensation and employment law in the financial-services industry
Stephen W. Fackler , Partner; Co-Chair, Exec. Comp. and Employee Benefits	Gibson Dunn	Palo Alto, Calif.	Stanford	32	Advises public and private companies, private-equity funds and boards of directors on compensation and benefits
Robert C. Fleder Partner; Chair, Employee Benefits and Exec.Comp.	Paul, Weiss	New York	Columbia	43	ERISA, employee benefits and executive compensation, including in connection with M&A transactions
Gary M. Ford , Principal	Groom	Washington	Boston U.	37	Plan funding and restructuring, litigation, policy and legislation
Thomas S. Gigot Retired Principal/ Consulting Attorney	Groom	Washington	Georgetown	32	ERISA litigation, especially plan funding and restructuring
Paul M. Hamburger , Partner; Co-Chair, Employee Benefits and Exec. Comp. Group	Proskauer	Washington	University of Michigan	33	Employee-benefit-plan compliance (tax and ERISA) for retirement plans, executive compensation, health plans and other benefits
Eric W. Hilfers Partner; Head, Exec.Comp. and Benefits	Cravath	New York	University of Chicago	18	Advises clients and compensation committees in all aspects of executive compensation and benefits
D. Ward Kallstrom Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	San Francisco	Duke	39	Employee-benefits fiduciary advice, claims and litigation on compliance counseling for multi-employer plans
John F. McGuinness Principal; Head, Exec.Comp. Group	Groom	Washington	William and Mary	22	Executive-compensation arrangements for public and private companies
Robert Newman Partner	Covington	Washington	New York University	20	Advises clients ranging from nonprofits to some of the nation's largest employers on all areas of employee benefits and executive compensation; provides advice regarding plan design, corporate transactions, ERISA litigation and public policy affecting employee benefits
Kevin P. O'Brien Partner	Ivins, Phillips & Barker	Washington	Georgetown	40	Employee benefits, including executive compensation, qualified plans, welfare plans and ERISA fiduciary matters; represents clients before the Labor Department, the IRS and the PBGC; recent work has involved pension de-risking, benefit aspects of corporate spin-offs, advising plan fiduciaries regarding company stock in 401(k) plans, innovative plan-funding strategies involving in-kind contributions, and IRS-controversy work involving employee-independent status
Paul J. Ondrasik Jr. , Partner	Steptoe	Washington	U. of Virginia	41	ERISA litigation, focusing on defense of complex fiduciary and investment-related claims and class actions
Nicholas J. Pappas Partner	Weil	New York	Rutgers	29	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	30	Employee benefits and executive compensation
Myron D. Rumeld Partner	Proskauer	New York	Columbia	33	Employee benefits and ERISA litigation
Howard Shapiro , Partner	Proskauer	New Orleans	Loyola	37	ERISA litigation
Richard C. Shea Chair, Employee Benefits and Exec. Comp. Practice	Covington	Washington	University of Virginia	33	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	42	Transactions involving ESOPs, fiduciary aspects of employee-benefit plans and defined-benefit pension-plan de-risking
René E. Thorne Managing Principal, New Orleans Office	Jackson Lewis	New Orleans	Loyola	23	Employee-benefits litigation on behalf of employers, fiduciaries, plans and service providers



The Nation's Most Powerful Employment Attorneys— Hall of Fame 2016 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/283iMcV> and on Lawdragon's website at <http://bit.ly/1Y2Elpu>. 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
Brian Clemow Partner	Shipman & Goodwin	Hartford, Conn.	University of Pennsylvania	47	Labor relations, personnel problems and other employment-law matters for public and private employers
W. Melvin Haas III Partner	Constangy	Macon, Ga.	University of Alabama	45	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	49	Strategic labor planning, union-organizing campaigns, collective-bargaining and strike-prevention counseling
Charles C. Jackson Senior Counsel	Morgan Lewis	Chicago	Northwestern	39	Represents plan sponsors, employers, service providers and insurers in complex employee-benefits (ERISA and church plan) litigation, particularly class actions
Thomas G. Kienbaum Member	Kienbaum Opperwall Hardy & Pelton	Birmingham, Mich.	Wayne State University	48	Employment class action, labor disputes
Thomas Y. Mandler Capital Partner	Hinshaw	Chicago	University of Illinois	45	Traditional labor law, including collective bargaining, arbitration, NLRB proceedings and employment-law counselling
Armin J. Moeller Jr. Partner	Balch & Bingham	Jackson, Miss.	Louisiana State University	44	Labor and employment
Angelo A. Paparelli Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	Los Angeles	Wayne State University	40	Immigration, including permanent residence and citizenship; visas for executives, managers, scientists, scholars, investigators, professionals, students and visitors; PERM labor certifications; employment-based immigrant visa petitions; global visas and consular practice; legislative advocacy and immigration messaging; federal court litigation under the Administrative Procedures Act; waivers, white-collar immigration and asylum
James R. Redeker Partner	Duane Morris	Philadelphia	University of Pennsylvania	48	Union prevention, collective bargaining, unfair-labor-practice proceedings, arbitrations, counseling, succession planning and employee-discipline systems
Jeremy Sherman Retired Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	Chicago	George Washington University	40	Specialized in labor-relations counseling, arbitrations and labor-union negotiations



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

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	21	Employment litigation and counseling
John M. Bagyi Member	Bond	Albany, N.Y.	Albany Law School	20	Counseling and representation of management in labor and employment matters
Reginald W. Belcher Shareholder	Turner Padgett	Columbia, S.C.	University of South Carolina	20	Defends businesses and employers in state and federal courts and before governmental agencies
Sarah E. Bouchard Partner	Morgan Lewis	Philadelphia	Villanova	21	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	20	Advises private-equity funds and publicly held corporations on executive compensation and employee-benefits issues arising from corporate transactions
Colleen L. Caden , Partner; Chair, Immigration Group; Member of Firm's Executive Committee	Pryor Cashman	New York	Brooklyn	17	Compliance with U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services regulations representing clients in pharmaceutical, media, consumer products, arts and entertainment, food and beverage industries, and professional sports
Meredith "Merry" Campbell Partner	Shulman Rogers	Potomac, Md.	Harvard	15	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	13	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	22	Complex employment-litigation matters, including discrimination, harassment and retaliation claims; FLSA and state wage/hour actions; breach of employment contract; and noncompete-agreement claims
Neil H. Dishman Principal	Jackson Lewis	Chicago	University of Michigan	13	Counsel and defense on a wide spectrum of issues, including race, sex, age, religion, national origin, disability and sexual-orientation discrimination, sexual harassment, retaliatory discharge, Family and Medical Leave, and wage/hour compliance
Adam S. Forman Member	Epstein Becker Green	Southfield, Mich.	Syracuse University	20	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	Santa Monica, Calif.	Loyola	20	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	Little	Dallas	So. Methodist University	18	Litigation and administrative matters brought by employees and government agencies
Jeremy Fudge Managing Partner	Bery Appleman & Leiden	Dallas	University of Texas	16	Worldwide immigration services representing clients in a variety of industries, including the energy, technology, telecommunications, and engineering and construction industries
Malcolm A. Heinicke Partner	Munger Tolles	San Francisco	Stanford	19	Employment litigation, employee-mobility matters
Matthew G. Holt Shareholder	Hurwitz Holt	San Diego	California Western	9	Represents the firm's clients in immigration court and on appeal with regard to asylum, bond eligibility and cancellation of removal and adjustment of status
Matthew C. Kane , Partner; Labor and Employment Practice Group Leader, LA	McGuireWoods	Los Angeles	Pepperdine	22	Defense of employment-related claims and wage/hour class and collective actions, litigation of misappropriation of trade secrets and noncompete agreement claims, and management-side traditional labor-law issues; represents clients in the financial services, transportation, food and beverage manufacturing and distribution, healthcare, hospitality, telecommunications and retail-sales industries
Sameer Khedekar Partner	Pearl Law Group	San Francisco	Santa Clara University	13	Business immigration, representing entrepreneurs and employers globally with immigration needs, including visas, work permits, permanent residence, compliance assessment and program/policy development
David N. Levine Principal	Groom	Washington	University of Pennsylvania	19	Employee benefits, executive compensation and retirement planning
Fermin H. Llaguno Office Managing Shareholder	Little	Irvine, Calif.	USC	20	Class- and collective-action avoidance and defense; employment counseling, training and litigation; and wage/hour compliance
Lynden Melmed Partner	Bery Appleman & Leiden	Washington	University of Virginia	18	Brings experience in legislative and executive branch to immigration advice
Kevin Miner Partner	Fragomen	Atlanta	William and Mary	21	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; Deputy Office Managing Partner, New York	Reed Smith	New York	St. John's University	17	Represents management exclusively in labor and employment law
Ian H. Morrison Partner	Seyfarth Shaw	Chicago	Washington University	21	Represents employers, employee-benefit plans and fiduciaries in a broad range of employment and employee-benefits litigation
Christy Nguyen Partner	Pearl Law Group	San Francisco	UC Hastings	16	Immigration
Kristen A. Page Partner	Shook	Kansas City, Mo.	U. of Missouri at Kansas City	15	Represents corporate employers in federal and state court in business and employment matters
Jessica R. Perry Partner	Orrick	Menlo Park, Calif.	Santa Clara University	16	Defends class and collective actions involving overtime, minimum wage, vacation and other benefits
John C. Romeo Director	Gibbons	Philadelphia	Western New England	21	Employment litigation, class action
Seth J. Safra Partner	Covington	Washington	Duke	15	Employee benefits and executive compensation, including the design, implementation and administration of retirement plans
David E. Schwartz , Partner	Skadden	New York	Cornell	22	Advises clients on full range of employment-related issues, including litigation and arbitration
Jason C. Schwartz , Partner	Gibson Dunn	Washington	Georgetown	18	Labor and employment litigation
Brian Sinclair Partner	Rutan & Tucker	Costa Mesa, Calif.	UC Davis	21	Represents clients in federal and state court, including individual and class actions
Grant Sovern Partner	Quarles & Brady	Madison, Wis.	University of Michigan	20	Employment immigration for employers and employees
Sarah K. Peterson Stensrud Principal Attorney	SPS Immigration	Minneapolis	University of Minnesota	10	Employment-based immigration law, with a focus on international medical graduates, academics and the high-tech industry
Jonathan Stoler , Partner; Co-Chair, Global Labor and Employment	Sheppard Mullin	New York	Brooklyn	21	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	23	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	22	Employment litigation and advice to employers regarding contracts, discipline and other employment transactions
Susan A.P. Woodhouse Principal	Little	San Francisco	Santa Clara University	20	Oversees firm's knowledge-driven employment-law technology solutions for clients and firm attorneys
Todd D. Wozniak Shareholder	Greenberg Traurig	Atlanta	University of Michigan	22	Defends companies and public institutions nationwide in complex labor, employment and ERISA litigation, and enforcement actions
Joshua Zuckerberg Partner	Pryor Cashman	New York	Brooklyn	19	Represents and counsels employers on all matters affecting the workplace, including discrimination, harassment and disability claims