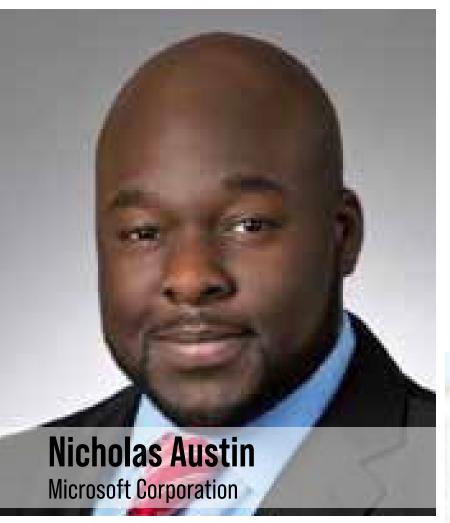
# HOT LIST



# YOUNG ATTORNEY OF THE YEAR

Lawyers

Color

# 2022











## Hollingsworth LD Congratulates Shannon Proctor

Firm associate Shannon Proctor is named to the 2022 Lawyers of Color Annual Hot List, recognizing her dedicated work in complex litigation for both our corporate clients and pro bono clients. Hollingsworth LLP is proud to be part of Lawyers of Color Foundation's mission to promote and sustain diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. We embrace and value the diversity of our workforce and are committed to fostering a culture where differences are welcomed, celebrated, and appreciated, and which positively impact our clients, our business, and our firm.

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# CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER

Davis Wright Tremaine celebrates our friend and colleague, Danielle Kim, for being recognized in the Lawyers of Color's Annual Hot List!





Lawyers of Color released our first Hot List in 2013. Since then, it has been a tremendous joy to recognize junior- and mid-level attorneys who exemplify integrity, high achievement, leadership, and a passion for diversity.

Nick Austin, our Young Lawyer of the Year and the recipient of our inaugural Phoenix Award, was among our first group of honorees. Lawyers of Color and Nick have grown up together. Judging by Nick's stellar career, the legal profession is in capable hands. Lawyers of Color looks forward to celebrating their accomplishments in our second decade.

Yolanda Young President and Executive Director Lawyers of Color

- Christopher Nelson
- Gabriela Martinez
- Kaitlyn Williamson
- -Yolanda Young

Lawyers of Color is a 501(c)(3) devoted to promoting diversity in the legal profession and advancing democracy and equality in marginalized communities. We celebrate attorneys of color and conduct research and studies regarding the intersection of the legal profession and social justice.







Congratulations to our friends and colleagues, Vincent Fuller II and Renee E. Turner and all of the honorees named to Lawyers of Color's Annual Hot List

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### P DAY PITNEY LLP



Congratulations to our colleague **Daniel Pierre** Selected for Inclusion on the 2022 Lawyers of Color Hot List

#### Each voice adds strength and texture to the picture.

At Day Pitney, we seek out diversity as an inexhaustible source of fresh ideas, innovative strategies and new approaches.

Day Pitney appreciates the way the distinctive backgrounds and unique experiences of our attorneys and staff add depth and perspective to all we do, including being change agents for social justice and equity.



#### **Lawyers of Color thanks our sponsors:**

- Chapman and Cutler LLP
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- Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP
- Haynes and Boone, LLP
- Hollingsworth LLP
- Loeb & Loeb LLP
- Sandberg Phoenix & Von Gontard

Representation matters.

We congratulate all of the outstanding attorneys on the Lawyers of Color's 2022 Hot List.

We are especially proud of our own **Jenny Lee Kawamura**, an associate in our Banking and Financial Services Department, for her commitment and contributions to advancing diversity and inclusion at Chapman.



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# Congratulations to our associate **Nabeela Hanif** on her recognition in Lawyers of Color's 2022 Hot List.

We applaud your extraordinary professional achievements, dedication to the firm and your clients, and unwavering commitment to serve as an advocate for diversity, equity and inclusion in the legal community and beyond.





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#### **Lawyers of Color - Editorial Calendar (Updated)**

| Name   | Summary  | Submission<br>and/or<br>Nomination<br>Open Date | Nomination<br>Close Date       | Bio/Photo/<br>Ad Copy<br>Submission<br>Deadline | Publication<br>Date   |
|--|--|---|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Diversity<br>Issue (Legal<br>Profession)       | Honoring diversity professionals and diversity committee chairs.   | December 20,<br>2022                            | Comprehensive<br>No Nomination | January 11,<br>2023                             | January 25, 2023      |
| Power<br>Issue                                 | Honoring the most influential minority attorneys, including general counsel, law firm managing partners and executive committee members, and law school deans. | December 20,<br>2022                            | Comprehensive<br>No Nomination | January 25,<br>2023                             | February 28,<br>2023  |
| Black Guide<br>to Law<br>Schools               | Ranking the top National law schools for Black students.   | January 3,<br>2023                              | Comprehensive<br>No Nomination | February 8,<br>2023                             | March 20, 2023        |
| Judicial<br>Issue                              | Judicial Issue<br>A comprehensive directory of BIPOC<br>federal and state judges and law clerks.   | January 9,<br>2023                              | Comprehensive<br>No Nomination | February 20,<br>2023                            | April 3, 2023         |
| Diversity<br>Issue (Law<br>Schools)            | A comprehensive directory of law school diversity officers. Also honoring BIPOC law professors.  | January 9,<br>2023                              | February 6,<br>2023            | March 6, 2023                                   | April 10, 2023        |
| Wonderful<br>Women                             | Honoring prominent women in the legal profession.  | February 6,<br>2023                             | March 6, 2023                  | March 28,<br>2023                               | May 9, 2023           |
| Law Firm<br>Leaders                            | Honoring minority law firm attorneys who are managing partners, executive committee members, and practice group chairs.  | March 7, 2023                                   | April 7, 2023                  | May 2, 2023                                     | June 13, 2023         |
| Hot List                                       | Honoring junior- and mid-level attorneys.  | April 10, 2023                                  | May 10, 2023                   | June 5, 2023                                    | July 17, 2023         |
| Black Guide<br>to Law<br>Firms                 | Reporting the year over year Black attorney percentages for each of the 500 largest law firms and consequential boutique law firms.                            | May 15, 2023                                    | Comprehensive<br>No Nomination | June 26, 2023                                   | August 1, 2023        |
| Black Cau-<br>cus Issue                        | Honoring the top Capitol Hill staffers, lobbyists, and influencers.  | June 12, 2023                                   | July 12, 2023                  | August 7, 2023                                  | September 18,<br>2023 |
| Hispanic<br>Issue                              | Honoring prominent Hispanic legal professionals.   | July 2, 2023                                    | August 2, 2023                 | August 28,<br>2023                              | October 3, 2023       |
| Nation's<br>Best                               | Honoring law firm and in-house counsel senior level attorneys.   | August 3, 2023                                  | September 4,<br>2023           | October 2,<br>2023                              | November 6,<br>2023   |
| Nonprofit/<br>Public In-<br>terest/Pro<br>Bono | Honoring public interest BIPOC attorneys.  | September 4,<br>2023                            | October 4, 2023                | October 30,<br>2021                             | December 13,<br>2023  |



Congratulations to attorney
Jasmine Chen on being named to
the Hot List.

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The choice of a lawyer is an important decision and should not be based solely on advertising.

## Lawyers

## Color

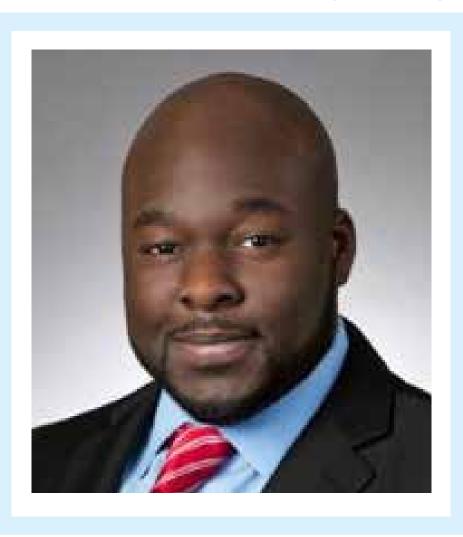
## **Lawyers of Color Is Turning 10!!**

Help us celebrate by supporting one of our diversity initiatives. Contact Gabriela Martinez at gabriela@lawyersofcolor.org for more information.

#### LAWYERS OF COLOR DIVERSITY INITIATIVES

| Minority Judicial<br>Clerkship Project         | Provide workshops and resources for minorities seeking judicial clerkships. Publish a directory of state and federal minority judges. Survey former judicial law clerks on advice for attaining a judicial clerkship. Match judicial law clerk candidates with mentors who are former law clerks. |
|--|---|
| Board Diversity Apprentice Project (BDAP)      | Provide nonprofit training workshops to lawyers of color then match them with nonprofit boards.   |
| Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Fellowships | Provide DEI training, mentors, and a certificate program to lawyers of color to prepare them to be DEI professionals.   |
| Justice Reporter Fellows                       | Train and fund social justice reporters to write stories at the intersection of law and justice.  |

Ticholas "Nick" Austin is Lawyers of Color's Young Attorney of the Year and the recipient of our inaugural Phoenix Award, which announces his ascension from the Hot List due to his tremendous career accomplishments and continued work in the service of diversity.



Nicholas "Nick" Austin has a blazing career. He currently serves as principal corporate counsel at Microsoft, Inc. where he focuses on cloud technology transactions and other strategic initiatives. Nick previously worked at Wells Fargo Bank as vice president and senior counsel in the Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A), Venture Capital (VC) and Strategic Transactions Group. While at Wells Fargo, Nick served as a diversity leader for the bank. Prior to Wells Fargo, Nick worked as M&A and VC Counsel at Caterpillar, where he advised senior company executives on legal matters pertaining to M&A and Caterpillar's VC and joint venture projects and as an associate at Foley & Lardner, LLP, Nick handled M&A and business transactions.

Nick works tirelessly to advance diversity in the legal profession. In the last year, he has lent his insight to several organizations and programs, including being a panelist at "Promoting Women and Black Americans in Big and Corporate Law" sponsored by the Greater Washington Area Chapter, Women Lawyers Division, National Bar Association (GWAC) and the National HBCU Pre-Law Summit & Law Expo.

In addition to being named to the Hot List numerous times, Nick was named Lawyer of the Year by Washington Bar Association Young Lawyers Division in 2015 and selected for the On The Rise program by the American Bar Association, which also selected him to participate in the ABA's Men of Color Project, which exists to build leaders in the law field, facilitate intergenerational support, and encourage community service and civic engagement amongst men of color in law.

Nick currently serves as the current treasurer of the National Bar Association and chair of the Small Business Section of the National Bar Association. He is also a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

#### **Praise for Austin**

Tt is a privilege to join with Lawyers of Color to congratulate and thank Nick Austin, Esq. on being recognized as the Young Attorney of the Year. Nick is blazing a trail in corporate law that is expanding the pipeline of opportunities for today's and future generations of BIPOC attorneys. Keep rising and representing. Nick! —Rawle Andrews Jr., Esq., president, Bar Association of the District of Columbia

Tick's genuine sense of social responsibility to the Black community and strong commitment to the next generation of Black lawyers are undeniable. Throughout the years, anytime I have called on him to speak or mentor, he is there. His only questions are where and when. No excuses. He has remained arounded and grateful- always going above and beyond to serve - providing advice and encouragement to those who hope to be where he is someday. He has an abundance mindset and wants to see others who look like us succeed. Nick is incredibly deserving of this special honor and recognition. I am proud to call him both colleague and friend." -Evangeline M. Mitchell, Esq., Ed.M., Founder, National HBCU Pre-Law Summit and National Black Pre-Law Conference, Cambridge, Massachusetts

t is not often that one sees a young attorney who represents the future. However, in just a few years in private practice, as inhouse counsel and as a leader of the Bar, Nick Austin's star shines brightly. He is already an inspiring servant leader. There are no limits for Nick." —Benjamin F. Wilson, retired Chairman, Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.

Tick is committed to the legal profession but also to ensuring community impact. He strives for excellence in all he does and also diligently mentors those entering the profession."—Kendra Brown, Vice President, Policy, Mastercard



#### Adetola Ajayi

Cadwalader, Wickersham and Taft LLP Corporate Finance Attorney

J.D., Temple Beasley School of Law, B.A. Villanova University (with Distinction)

detola Ajayi is dedicated to mentorship and service to others. Throughout her legal Acareer, she has mentored several students, ranging from middle school students to current law students. Ms. Ajayi has also created and facilitated several educational initiatives. She is a member of the Girls Inc. Associate Advisory Board, co-chair of the Cadwalader Women's Leadership Initiative (DC office) and an associate representative on Cadwalader's Firm Committee.

#### Aditi Kulkarni-Knight

Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP Associate





#### **Adrian Acosta**

Dickinson Wright PLLC

Associate Attorney

J.D., University of California-Berkeley, M.A. University of Texas at El Paso, B.A. University of Texas at El Paso (summa cum laude with highest honors)

drian is an aggressive advocate with an ability to distill complex issues before a Hjudge and potential juries. Adrian works on all aspects of commercial litigation, with a specialty in employment law issues. Adrian is licensed in Texas, New Mexico, and Michigan. Adrian has been involved with various organizations that promote diversity, including the Berkeley Law La Raza Organization, Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, and Council for Legal Education Opportunity.

#### **Ajay Prabhat**

Schulte Roth & Zabe

J.D., Georgetown University Law Center, B.A., Johns Hopkins University



Ajay Prabhat is an associate in SRZ's Litigation Group. He engages in a broad civ-il litigation practice, including life settlements, contractual disputes and family law. Prior to joining SRZ, Ajay interned for the SEC's Division of Enforcement and the U.S. Department of Justice's Constitutional and Specialized Tort Litigation Section. At Georgetown, he served as president of the South Asian Law Student Association and was an executive editor of the Journal of Law & Public Policy.



Shipman & Goodwin, LLP

J.D., University of Connecticut School of Law, B.S., University of Michigan (cum laude)

Ifredo Fernández leads Shipman's International Trade Practice, is a member of the Afirm's national Environmental Practice, serves as chair of the firm's Manufacturing Team and its DEI Committee. He advises manufacturing, technology, education and real estate organizations with a focus on environmental and international trade matters. He is a board member and past president of the Connecticut Hispanic Bar Association. Before joining Shipman, Alfredo worked as an aerospace engineer for a leading aircraft manufacturer.



#### **Allison Smith Newsome**

Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP

Associate Attorney

J.D., Case Western Reserve University School of Law, B.A. Vanderbilt University



Ilison teaches Advanced Legal Writing as an Adjunct Professor at CWRU School of ALaw, sits as a Magistrate for the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court Diversion Division, and serves on several boards- National Health Law Program Board of Ambassadors, Board of Directors for Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, OhioGuidestone, and the Anti-Defamation League, and Salvation Army-Cleveland Associate Board. Allison serves as a Vice Chair of Publications for the American Health Law Association and is a published author.



#### Alvina W. Hou

Gilead Sciences, Inc.
Senior Counsel, Litigation & Investigations
J.D., University of California, Berkeley School of Law, B.A.,
University of California, Davis (honors)

A Ivina Hou has broad responsibility in managing litigation and investigation matters, including products liability, commercial, and government investigations. She also provides litigation counseling to the business units. Prior to joining Gilead, Alvina was an attorney at Winston & Strawn LLP in San Francisco where her practice focused on complex commercial litigation and white collar defense matters. Alvina is a member of the Asian American Bar Association and serves as a mentor for first generation law students at UC Berkeley.

#### **Amit B. Patel**

Jenner & Block LLP
Associate

J.D., Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law (cum laude), B.S., Cornell University College of Engineering



A mit specializes in disputes where complex technical concepts and intellectual property are at the core. Clients ranging from consumer electronics manufacturers to international law firms rely on Amit's experience and expertise to navigate through a variety of legal issues, whether they involve alleged infringement of hardware or software patents, class actions alleging violation of privacy laws, suspected theft of confidential business information, or allegations of professional negligence and misconduct.

#### Ana Paula Velarde Leycegui

Ropes & Gray LLP

J.D., Northeastern University School of Law, B.A., University of California. Santa Barbara

Ana is a member of the firm's Private Capital Transactions group and concentrates her practice in a wide range of private equity matters. Ana currently serves as an appointed member of the Hispanic National Bar Association's Latina Commission and served as the national treasurer of the Hispanic National Bar Association's Law Student Division while in law school. During law school, Ana law clerked at a litigation firm and at an international law firm and was a legal intern for a Cambridge-based non-profit organization. Born and raised in Mexico.

#### **Angel Nwachukwu**

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J.D., Columbia Law School, B.S., Duke University



Angel Nwachukwu works with emerging growth companies on a variety of transactional matters, and particularly focuses on companies in tech, media or entertainment sectors. Angel is a member of the Black Entertainment Sports Lawyers Association, Washington Area Lawyers for the Arts, and the American Bar Association. Angel also maintains an active pro bono practice where she advises on corporate governance matters for organizations that serve disenfranchised Black communities.

#### **Anthony Onuoha**

**Groom Law Group, Chartered**Associate

J.D., William & Mary, M.B.A, William & Mary, B.A., University of Virginia

Anthony advises pension plans, plan sponsors, investment funds, and fund managers on ERISA-specific concerns arising in connection with plan investments and investment products across various asset classes, particularly private equity. Anthony has been selected to State Farm's 2020-2021 Rising Star Academy, an exclusive program recognizing select diverse outside counsel for their leadership and business acumen. Anthony serves as the Vice Chair of the American Bar Association Subcommittee on Fiduciary Responsibilities and Plan Investments.



#### Aporajita (Appy) Ali

Cooley LLP

J.D., University of Pennsylvania, B.S. University of Miami (summa



Appy focuses her practice on general corporate and securities matters, including representing issuers and underwriters in a range of capital markets transactions, public offerings and venture capital and private financings. Appy also has experience counseling companies regarding SEC reporting obligations, corporate governance and other securities law and compliance issues.

#### **Aruna Chittiappa**

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epresent clients in the financial services, technology, communications, media, manufacturing, transportation, and real estate industries in all phases of federal and multistate and local tax controversy (audits and administrative trial proceedings) and state court litigation (trial and appeals). Advise clients on multistate planning, consulting and compliance matters for corporate income, franchise, gross receipts. and sales tax purposes. Advise on tax policy issues including preparing comments on proposed tax legislation and regulations.

#### **Ashlee Germnay**

Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath



ety of transactions in industries including transportation and logistics.



#### Ashleigh M. Johnson

Nexsen Pruet, PLLC

J.D., Washington and Lee University School of Law, B.S., Wake Forest University

shleigh is a corporate attorney with Nexsen Pruet and supports corporate clients in transactional matters including mergers & acquisitions, commercial real estate, corporate governance, compliance, and structure and formation. She advises in-house counsel on corporate transactions and litigation matters. Listed in Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch in Corporate Governance and Compliance Law, Corporate Law, & Mergers and Acquisitions Law, 2023"



#### **Ashley A. Smith**

Godfrey & Kahn, S.C.

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shley Smith is an associate in the Milwaukee office and a member of both the Corporate Practice Group and Startups and Venture Capital Team. Ashley's practice focuses on various aspects of corporate law, including mergers and acquisitions, commercial financing, corporate governance and general corporate matters representing businesses in a variety of industries. Ashley enjoys helping early-stage companies and founders navigate the common pitfalls of entrepreneurship. As a member of the Startups and Venture Capital Team,



Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

J.D., Howard University School of Law (cum laude), M.A., Wake Forest University, B.A., Wake Forest University

shlvann is an associate in Sullivan & Cromwell's Mergers & Acquisitions Group. A She advises clients on mergers and acquisition transactions and corporate governance matters across a range of industries, and regularly contributes to thought leadership in these spaces. Ashlyann is deeply dedicated to diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives at S&C. She is a member of S&C's Diversity Committee and Women's Initiative Committee, and a co-chair of S&C's Network of Black and Latinx Lawyers.



#### Berlinie M. St-Fort

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perlinie St-Fort focuses her practice on professional liability, and general liability defense. She represents a wide range of professionals in accusations of errors and omissions including lawyers, insurance and real estate agents, brokers and accountants. Ms. St-Fort manages professional liability cases at all stages of litigation, under a variety of claims matters. She undertakes an early assessment and develops a solid defense strategy to protect her clients from exposure. Prior to joining KDV, Ms. St-Fort worked for Florida and California.

#### **Brianna D. Gaddy**

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J.D., American University Washington College of Law (honors), BA., The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

prianna represents employers and businesses in a range of labor and employment matters, including claims of discrimination and harassment, breach of contract, wage and hour, and wrongful discharge. She also has advised employers on issues related to Title VII accommodations and compliance obligations for educational institutions. Prior to joining Miles & Stockbridge, Brianna served as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Jeannie J. Hong of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City.



#### **Brianna Lockridge**

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J.D., Saint Louis University School of Law, B.A., The Ohio State University (cum laude)



rianna Lockridge works on behalf of business clients from a variety of industries to assist in all phases of litigation, including research and fact investigation, drafting, and deposition and trial preparation. She represents clients in multiple industries including energy, health care, and manufacturing. During law school, she completed an externship focused on death penalty cases, an experience that gave her additional insight into the appeals process and court system.

#### **Brianna Powell**

Bass Berry & Sims

J.D., University of Tennessee College of Law (summa cum laude Order of the Coif), B.S., Loyola University, New Orleans (summa cum laude)

Prianna provides healthcare regulatory counsel. She has dedicated hundreds of hours to diversity initiatives and pro bono services. During law school, Brianna received accolades including Outstanding Graduate, Chancellor's Citation for Extraordinary Professional Promise, and Award for Excellence in Advocacy. In private practice, she led her firm's Pro Bono Adoption Project and served on the AHLA Young Professionals Council and Nashville's Young Leaders Council. Brianna was also recognized by Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch - Health Care.



#### **Brittany Elias Kandela**

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rittany Elias Kandela focuses her practice on trademark portfolio and conflict Dmanagement and advises on issues relating to complex domestic and international trademark clearance and prosecution, foreign and domestic disputes, brand protection and foreign litigation matters. She also counsels clients on a wide range of domestic and international enforcement issues. Prior to becoming an attorney, Ms. Kandela was founder and president of Museum of the Souls (Museo de las Almas) in Los Angeles where she successfully cultivated relationships with sponsors, patrons, publicists, media representatives.

#### **Candice N. Jones**

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J.D., Howard University School of Law (cum laude), M.A., Liberty University, B.S., Charleston Southern University (cum laude)

andice is a corporate associate and a member of the Mergers & Acquisitions Group. Candice received her J.D. cum laude from Howard University School of Law in 2021, where she was a senior staff editor of the Howard Human & Civil Rights Law Review and a student attorney in the Investor Justice & Education Clinic. She received a M.A. from Liberty University in 2016 and a B.S. cum laude from Charleston Southern University in 2014. Candice is the author of "A Broken Pattern: A Look at the Flawed Risk and Needs Assessment Tool of the First Step Act," 5 How. Hum. & Civ.



#### **Candise Caylao**

**Dentons Bingham Greenebaum LLP** 

J.D., University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law (magna cu laude); B.S., University of Louisville

ouisville Black Lawvers Assoc., 20 People to Know in Law, Louisville Business First May 2020; Louisville Bar Assoc.; Kentucky Bar Assoc.; YPAL Member



#### **Casselle Smith**

Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders LLP

J.D., Harvard Law School, B.A., Howard University (magna cum

asselle represents companies in sensitive, high-stakes internal and regulatory Uinvestigations and enforcement matters across a broad spectrum of commercial enterprises and industries - including financial services, energy, and health sciences. These matters often involve allegations of corporate malfeasance, professional misconduct, market manipulation, compliance and operational failures, and violation of the federal securities laws. Casselle offers strategic direction to help clients anticipate and mitigate regulatory exposure, develop remediation plans, and strengthen their compliance programs.

#### **Chloe Bootstaylor**

Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll

J.D., Columbia Law School (Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar); B.A.

hloe Bootstaylor is an Associate at Cohen Milstein and a member of the firm's Pub-Ulic Client practice group. Ms. Bootstaylor's practice focuses on the representation of state Attorneys General and other public-sector clients in investigations and lawsuits involving false claims and fraudulent and deceptive trade practices. Prior to joining Cohen Milstein, Ms. Bootstaylor was a law clerk for the Honorable Richard F. Boulware, II of the U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada. Before her clerkship, Ms. Bootstaylor was an associate at Skadden, Arps. Slate, Meagher & Flom where she focused on securities and commercial litigation.



#### **Ciera Marie Colon**

Jones Day Associate Attorney

J.D., Cleveland Marshall College of Law (cum laude), B.A. Youngstown State University

🔼 iera Colon is an eighth year associate in Jones Day's Real Estate practice group Uand handles sale-leaseback transactions, single and multisite acquisitions and dispositions, financing and refinancing, and commercial leasing and subleasing. Ciera has been recognized by Best Lawyers "Ones to Watch." In 2022, Ciera was named by Cleveland Magazine - Cleveland 500 as one of Cleveland's "Leaders, Doers, Visionaries & Idea Generators Who Help Shape the City". In 2019, Ciera was awarded the Outstanding Alumni Spotlight Award by the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Black.



#### **Cristina Henriquez**

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J.D., University of California, Berkeley, School of Law; B.A., University of California, Berkeley (Cum Laude) (Highest Honors Political Science and High Honors Legal Studies

ristina represents clients in high stakes, complex commercial litigation at the trial lue and appellate level in state and federal courts. Her practice focuses on class action defense; she has successfully defended more than thirty class actions, including cases brought under the right of publicity, warranties, the TCPA, and consumer protection statutes. Cristina externed for Judge Edward M. Chen on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California and interned at the ACLU.



#### **Daisy Bao**

Norris McLaughlin P.A.

J.D. University of Minnesota Law School; B.A. Xiamen University

aisy Bao is an associate focusing on Merger & Acquisition, Emerging Companies and Fund Formation work. She has experience in capital markets, working with registration statements, private placement memorandums and purchase agreements supporting offerings. She also has counseled public companies and their employees on Exchange Act compliance and regularly conducts in-depth research and due diligence on behalf of her clients to ensure compliance with regulatory bodies.



#### Daniel Ávila II

Reed Smith LLP

LL.M., Queen Mary, University of London (honors), J.D., University of Houston Law Center (cum laude), B.B.A., Finance, University of North Texas (NT 40)

aniel currently heads pro bono for the Houston office and is the vice chair/chairaniel currently neads pro bond for the necessary series of the Houston Bar Association. Daniel is also the Communications Officer for the Americas Initiative of the Institute for Transnational Arbitration. In undergrad, Daniel was inducted into the NT 40, recognizing the top 40 leaders on campus. In law school, Daniel was the 2016 Deborah J. Broyles Diverse Scholar and the 2016 TYLA Diversity Scholarship Recipient.





#### **Daniel Pierre**

DAY PITNEY LLP

J.D., Rutgers University School of Law,

B.A., Seton Hall University

an Pierre has experience representing management in employment counseling and traditional labor matters. He also provides legal counsel and strategic advice to entrepreneurs seeking licensure in New Jersey's adult-use cannabis marketplace. Dan's professional affiliations include serving as a Trustee for the Rutgers Law School Newark Alumni Association. He is also a 2021 Lead New Jersev Fellow and a member of the Garden State Bar Association and National Association of Black Cannabis Lawyers.

#### **Danielle Kim**

Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

J.D., Seattle University School of Law, B.A. Seattle University. anielle Kim counsels and defends employers in matters related to wage-and-hour, discrimination, and retaliation claims. Danielle is experienced with conducting depositions of plaintiffs and other key witnesses, defends client depositions, conducts workplace investigations, and drafts evaluations on witness testimony. She is well-versed in a variety of complex civil litigation matters, with respect to construction defect, professional liability, and commercial litigation. She serves as a board member of the Washington Bus and is an active member of the Asian Bar Association



#### David H. Han

McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvanev & Carpenter, LLP

Associate

J.D. Rutgers Law School - Newark, B.S. Stony Brook University

avid H. Han represents and counsels employers in all aspects of labor and employment law in the corporate, higher education, government, and pharmaceutical industries. David previously served as the law clerk for the Honorable Joan Bedrin Murray, J.T.C. in the Tax Court of New Jersey. David is a member of the Sidney Reitman Inn of Court, the Korean American Lawyers Association of Greater New York, and the Asian Pacific Americans Lawyers Association of New Jersey.



of Washington.

J.D., Washington and Lee, B.A., University of Charleston

avid T. Long, Jr.'s practice focuses on various financial litigation and compliance matters. David represents financial institutions and companies in various industries on issues related to contract disputes, fraud, bankruptcy, and federal and state consumer protection statutes. David also has extensive experience representing and advising multinational corporations to ensure compliance with state and federal regulations. Outside of work, David places a high value on his pro bono practice. David has worked closely with the Helping Up Mission in Baltimore, assisting residents with legal aid matters such as criminal expungements and post-conviction relief.



#### Dawn M. Campbell

**Butler Snow LLP** 

J.D., University of Memphis, Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law (cum laude), B.A., University of Memphis (magna cum laude)

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eVaughn represents clients in connection with significant corporate transactions including mergers, acquisitions, private equity financing, and business start-ups. DeVaughn leverages his background in business consulting to provide strategic yet practical advice. While in law school, DeVaughn was President of the UGA Law Black Law Students Association and a member of the National Board of the National Black Law Students Association. He was a Summer Clerk to former Justice Harold Melton on the Georgia Supreme Court.

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hruva Krishna is a corporate associate in Winston & Strawn's Los Angeles office. He has assisted in a broad range of corporate transactions, and has focused on supporting clients with financial services, fund formation, and investment management matters. He has a passion for the intersection of entertainment, technology, and corporate transactions and is an avid writer on these topics. Being an active musician for over a decade, Dhruva continues to write and perform original music.



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Dionna is a labor & employment lawyer with over 13 years' experience. She began her career as a law clerk for The Honorable Vanessa D. Gilmore, U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas. Dionna subsequently worked as a Labor & Employment lawyer at Jones Day and the City of Orlando. Dionna is also active in her community. She graduated from the Black Boardroom Leadership Institute and serves on Orange County's Minority/Women Business Enterprises' Advisory Committee.



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Divina focuses her practice on energy law, specifically transmission cost allocation, project interconnection, permitting, compliance, and ratemaking issues. She has experience with the Federal Power Act, Natural Gas Act, and other processes regulated under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. While at law school, Divina was Managing Editor of the George Washington University Journal of Energy and Environmental Law. She is a member of the Energy Bar Association. In her spare time, Divina enjoys rock climbing.



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mma Pachon is an associate attorney in Blank Rome LLP's Philadelphia office, where she is a member of the Corporate, M6A and Securities practice group. She helps advise multinational companies and privately held businesses on a range of corporate transactional matters, including mergers and acquisitions and securities. Ms. Pachon works hard to provide helpful and excellent legal services and solutions every day. Ms. Pachon is involved in the Hispanic Bar Association of Pennsylvania and enjoys being involved in the Philadelphia Latinx community as a volunteer for Puente.

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abiola concentrates her practice on structuring and negotiating business transactions and has represented emerging companies and investors throughout the corporate life cycle across a number of industries. She regularly advises investors and companies on a variety of matters, including company formations, mergers and acquisitions, venture capital financings and corporate governance. In 2022, Fabiola was selected by Chambers USA guide as an "Associate to Watch" in the area of Startups & Emerging Companies.

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race is a member of Mayer Brown's Financial Services Regulatory & Enforcement group. She concentrates her practice on representing financial institutions that offer a variety of consumer financial products and services. Her recent work includes advising companies on complex state licensing requirements and assisting in regulatory due diligence reviews in connection with investments, acquisitions, and other transactions. Grace is also a co-chair of the Asian-American Pacific Islander Affinity Group of the Washington DC office.



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Gracie Garcia handles general business disputes, breach of contract claims, and business tort actions involving negligence, fraud, and breach of fiduciary duty. Prior to Jackson Walker, Gracie served as a law clerk for the Honorable Rebeca Martinez at the Fourth Court of Appeals in San Antonio and also interned for the Texas Attorney General in Fort Worth. She has been named a "Texas Rising Star" in 2021 and 2022.



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J.D., UC Hastings College of the Law, B.A. Univeristy of California,

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#### **Janelle Thompson**

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#### **Jasmine Chen**

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asmine Chen is currently senior associate attorney at Sandberg Phoenix. Previ-Jously, Jasmine was director of estate planning and probate at Donner Applewhite, Attorneys at Law. Jasmine has also been an associate attorney at Riddle Law Group and office manager at U City Urgent Care LLC.





#### **Jasmine Little**

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asmine Little advises clients in government investigations and white-collar criminal defense matters, representing clients in civil litigation and class actions. Prior to private practice, she gained substantial litigation experience as an attorney in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps, defending service members accused of military crimes and prosecuting special victims crimes. Jasmine was recently named to the 2022 National Black Lawyers Top 40 Under 40 for North Carolina.

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Jaya Bajaj represents employers in single-plaintiff, class, and representative actions with a focus on the technology and consumer products industries. She litigates disputes regarding discrimination, harassment, retaliatory discharge, and wage and hour law in federal and state courts, before administration agencies, and before arbitrators. Jaya also counsels clients on a wide range of employment matters, including on developing employment policies, conducting investigations, overseeing leaves of absence and accommodations, and managing workplace disputes.



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Jaycee Booth represents management in employment related matters such as harassment and discrimination claims under federal and state law, negligent hiring, supervision and retention, and retaliatory discharge. Jaycee also practices business immigration, including I-9 compliance and drafting employer-sponsored non-immigrant and immigrant petitions. As a board member of the Oklahoma City Young Lawyers Division, member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, and the Palomar: OKC Family Justice Center Subcommittee, she is active in the community.

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Jeff litigates business disputes, products liability, mass torts, construction, and general liability matters. He represents a wide range of clients, including insurers, product manufacturers, suppliers, property owners, contractors, healthcare businesses and individual proprietors. By understanding his clients' unique challenges, Jeff develops and executes legal strategies to obtain summary dismissals of lawsuits, allocation of risks to third parties and favorable resolutions of contentious disputes. Jeff is a member of the Asian-American Bar Association of New York.



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odi-Ann represents clients from a wide range of industries and assists them with protecting and enforcing their intellectual property rights. She concentrates her practice on copyright and trademark counseling and strategic management of multi-national trademark portfolios, including procurement, maintenance, and licensing, as well as prosecuting and defending intellectual property litigation involving trademarks, patents, and copyrights.



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ordan is a corporate attorney in the Miami office of Cozen O'Connor, where he fo-Jcuses on mergers and acquisitions and emerging business matters. A Leadership Miami alumnus and founder of a pro bono project which provided free legal services to hundreds of local business owners, Jordan has applied his skills in the public interest. A Native New Yorker, Jordan has spent the last five years making South Florida his home with his family.

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ordan is a litigator who has experience assisting in a variety of complex commercial litigation matters. However, much of her practice focusses on labor and employment law as well ESG (Environment, Social, and Governance). While in law school, Jordan served as the Student Trustee for the University of Miami Board of Trustees as well as the Student Bar Association President. She also delivered the commencement address for her 2021 graduating class.

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ordan Thompson counsels creative agencies and production companies in advertis-Jing, intellectual property (IP) and branded content-related matters. She plays a key role in the development, production and distribution of original content and the use of third-party IP. Before she joined Davis+Gilbert, Jordan worked as an in-house attorney at JPMorgan Chase, where she gained valuable experience handling trademark, copyright and rights of publicity matters in the IP and marketing/sports/entertainment departments. That experience helped shape her understanding of client needs and her solutions-driven approach to addressing legal and practical considerations.

#### **Josie Wall**

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osie Wall is an Atlanta native with a passion for her city and its people. She focuses her practice in mergers and acquisitions, commercial contracts and corporate governance. Ms. Wall has experience counseling domestic and international businesses in the technology, healthcare, distribution and manufacturing industries. In law school, she served as president of the Student Bar Association, vice president of the Immigration Law Society, and secretary of the Asian American Student Law Association.

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loyce is a dedicated and compassionate employment defense attorney focused on counseling and advising employers on a broad range of issues in the workplace, including discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and wrongful termination. She enjoys working directly with clients, approaching each issue with the high level of personal attention that each matter deserves and a solution-driven approach. Outside of work, Joyce is an avid sports fan, loves to remain active with her pets, and read psychological thrillers.



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udy represents municipal issuers, underwriters and commercial banks as bond counsel, disclosure counsel and special counsel in the issuance of tax-exempt and taxable bond financings. She has represented both public and private sector clients in secured project finance and public-private partnership transactions. She is a member of the State Bar of California and Texas, and the National Association of Bond Lawyers. She is a native Korean speaker and speaks conversational Spanish.





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ules Carter concentrates on financial regulatory compliance issues, helping clients Inavigate complex regulatory environments and pursue business strategies that balance innovation with risk-awareness. Her practice involves advising a range of financial services providers, including globally systemic, regional, and community banks, as well as fintech companies, money services businesses, and brokerage firms. She is particularly interested in anti-money laundering compliance issues, as well as the emerging Web3/digital assets space.

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BS, MBA, Florida State University; JD, Emory Law /adale was born and raised in sunny South Florida (Ft. Lauderdale) and her legal Apractice is focused on providing counsel and representation to management clients in issues related to employment and labor law. During her 3 years of law school, Kadale served as a legal intern with The Coca-Cola Company which afforded her the opportunity to research assorted legal issues for the company and deepened her understanding of the day-to-day challenges in-house legal departments face. She also served as intern with the Google Legal Scholars Program. Now, Kadale is a practicing



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endra Cobb defends clients in complex product liability, premises liability and toxic tort litigation. She also represents automotive manufacturers in discovery matters by preparing nationally coordinated discovery and eDiscovery. Kendra has experience advising and investigating dissolved companies in receivership, which included conducting interviews with potential fact witnesses, collecting documents and other information from various sources to assess liability and provide defense strategies.



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hasim Lockhart represents clients in a variety of areas. His practice focuses on entertainment, intellectual property, employment, legal ethics, and professional responsibility. He has substantial commercial litigation experience and has worked on issues involving securities, real estate, insurance, and general commercial contract disputes. Khasim also provides consultation on mentoring in the legal space and is an adjunct professor at Fordham University School of Law where he teaches Peer Mentoring and Leadership.

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/hylil's practice area practice area concentrates on representing clients in transactions across the country that generate federal and state tax credits and a variety of transactions utilizing government incentives. I enjoy the ability to counsel clients through investing in innovative projects focused on collaborating with the community in growing our local communities.



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ecently featured on the Upstate New York SuperLawyers 2022 Rising Stars List, Kristian D. Walker provides legal counsel to hospitals, health care providers, facilities, and organizations in connection with operational, compliance and governance matters. Kristian serves on the Board of Trustees at a local charter school and is a member of the Rochester Black Bar Association and American Health Law Association.



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a member of the firm's General Liability practice defending a broad range of insurance defense cases ranging from automobile accidents, construction litigation, negligent security, and premises liability. I started my career handling Maritime Injury cases against industry giant cruise lines. In 2018, I moved into the defense world and have continued to thrive in defending my clients. Outside of the practice of law, I am an involved member of the Tampa Bay Crisis Center and Women in Action. I am a current member of George Edgecomb Bar Association.



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vssa is an IP attorney whose practice primarily focuses on patent prosecution. with an emphasis on the software arts. Lyssa served as a co-founder of her firm's women's affinity group and a co-chair of the D&I committee. Lyssa is an alumni of the LCLD Pathfinder Program and the DC Bar's John Payton Leadership Academy. She is on the steering committee of the Patent Pathways program and on the IPO Education Foundation's Educate and Enable committee. She is a member of the DC and NY bars. the Greater Washington Area Chapter of the National Bar Association.



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Maraiya is an associate in the firm's Media and Entertainment practice group, where she advises writers, directors, film and television studios, production companies and others on their media and entertainment transactions. Maraiva has experience drafting and negotiating talent agreements, content licensing and distribution agreements, and development agreements for film and television, along with assisting as production counsel on several scripted film projects. She also regularly assists clients with copyright filings, to help protect their intellectual property rights.



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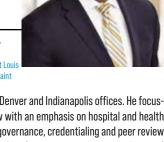
Marlena's practice includes the areas of complex commercial litigation, class actions, automotive litigation and insurance coverage. Additionally, Marlena focuses her practice on claims alleging violations of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. During law school, Marlena was a member of the National Trial Team and served on the Board of the Black Law Students Association. Currently, she coaches her alma mater's BLSA Trial Team. Marlena is committed to social justice and community outreach initiatives.



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#### Michelle Yee

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ajia is a business immigration lawyer dedicated to helping employers mobilize global talent. She is a Fellow of the Connecticut Bar Foundation, Benchmark Litigation Labor and Employment Star, and National Law Review Go-To Thought Leader. Naiia also received the Diversity Initiative Award from the Connecticut Law Tribune. She is actively involved with the American Immigration Lawyers Association and South Asian, Muslim, and Women's affinity groups, serving in leadership.



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alani Gordon focuses her practice on employment, Title IX, and business litigation. Nalani is passionate about promoting diversity and inclusion. She devotes her efforts to mentoring youth in her community at local schools and in her church. Nalani also coordinates various diversity initiatives as a member of her firm's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. She is also an active member of her local bar association's diversity committee and various voluntary bar organizations.



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Naomi Gulama primarily practices Labor and Employment Law as well as Premises Liability and General Litigation.While at Rutgers Law, she assisted in representing low-income parents of students with disabilities in the Education and Health Law Clinic. Additionally, she worked several internships, including interning for the Honorable Arthur J. Batista J.S.C., and for Bristol-Myers Squibb in their employment law department. She also interned for the EEOC in their New York Office.



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Vicole focuses on assisting clients with thoughtfulness while effectively navigating the most difficult times in their lives. She has experience in matters involving divorce, custody and placement, child support, maintenance, and paternity. Nicole also deals with quardianships, including petitions for quardianship of minors and incompetent adults and she has experience serving as a Guardian ad Litem in Dane County Family Court. She also has experience as a section coordinator for the State Bar of Wisconsin.



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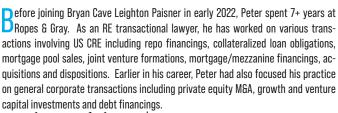
mari manages complex commercial matters across several JPMorgan lines of business, including "bet-the-company" class actions. He also handles litigation for JPMorgan's Global Real Estate Group. Before joining JPMorgan, Omari was a senior associate in the New York office of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, focusing on antitrust, securities and M&A litigation. He has received several pro bono and diversity awards, and sits on the Board of the National Center for Access to Justice.

mar Bareentto demonstrates an incomparable spirit of service to his litigation and government affairs practice, and the broader legal landscape. This year, Omar was selected as a Fellow for the Council of Urban Professionals in New York, and he was elected President of the Rutgers Law School Alumni Association. Omar is a founding and continuing member of "The Collective," a professional group of African American male attorneys who mentor attorneys of color.

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Prathyusha serves on the AAPI Diversity Council for the Atlanta Hawks and as Vice President of Communications for the National Association of Asian American Professionals (NAAAP Atlanta). Additionally, Prathyusha leads the Nominations Committee for the Georgia Asian Pacific American Bar Association (GAPABA). In 2023, Prathyusha will serve on the Racial Justice Task Force of the South Asian Bar Association of North American (SABA-NA).Previously, Prathyusha served as a Law Clerk for the Honorable Miguel A. Torres at the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas.



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Preeta is a technology transactions and MGA attorney who advises startup clients on intellectual property and commercial matters as well as complex commercial transactions.

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reetha Suresh Rini represents clients in complex business litigation and appeals. She has wide-ranging experience, including contract disputes and business torts involving allegations of fraud, copyright and trademark infringement cases, First Amendment violations, and unfair and deceptive trade practice claims. Preetha has advised clients in various stages of litigation, including fact investigation, discovery, motions practice and appeals. Preetha also owns her own art business, Prints By Preetha.

# Priscilla Bonsu

Becker & Poliakoff

Corporate Attorney

1. State Exam, University of Heidelberg, J.D., Emory University, LL.M., University of California-Berkeley

priscilla Bonsu is an associate attorney in Becker's Corporate Practice Group in the New York office. She focuses on corporate, securities, mergers and acquisitions and a broad range of business transactions. She advises both domestic and global companies seeking to expand operations internationally by providing strategic legal solutions. She is a member of the American Bar Association - International Law Section (International M&A & Joint Venture Committee, International Private Equity & Venture Capital Committee) and a member of the New York City Bar Associationon.

# Queen O. Ndukwe

Offit Kurman

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University, LL.M. Nigerian Law School, Abuja, Nigeria, LL.B. University of Lagos, Akoka, Lagos, Nigeria, LL.B.

ueen O. Ndukwe is an associate in the firm's commercial litigation practice group. igcupHer practice focuses on dispute resolution and complex commercial litigation, where she represents a diverse range of businesses in various stages of litigation in both federal and state courts. Queen served as the Assistant Law Clerk to Hon. Sharon A.M. Aarons, Associate Justice of the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department. Queen also previously worked in Nigeria, where she represented banks and other financial institutions.



# R. Sarah Capungan

**Barclay Damon LLP** 

B.S., Boston University, J.D. Boston College Law School

Carah concentrates her practice on advising on and representing clients in both ocommercial litigation and labor and employment matters. She assists clients in all aspects of litigation. She has gained experience through multiple legal internships and clerking for the honorable judges of the Connecticut Superior Court. Sarah graduated from law school as a Public Interest Designation Fellow and received a Pro Bono Excellence Distinction. Prior to her legal career, Sarah completed a year of service with AmeriCorps VISTA at a college access nonprofit in Chicago.



# Rachelle D. Collins

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J.D., University of Oregon School of Law, B.A., University of



s a member of the firm's general litigation group, Rachelle represents clients in a A variety of complex matters including commercial, property, and appellate litigation. Rachelle serves as a board member for the Oregon Filipino American Lawyers Association and a member of the Pro Bono Committee for the Multnomah Bar Association Young Lawyers Section. As a law student, Rachelle was selected as a Fellow for the inaugural class of the Multnomah Bar Association Fellows Program.



### **Rahil Rather**

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y real estate practice involves commercial acquisitions, dispositions and leasing, focusing in the areas of industrial development, healthcare and homebuilding. I do my best to provide my clients with an all-encompassing perspective of their real estate matters. I work closely with my clients to develop a deep understanding of their business goals, enabling me to anticipate their needs and provide them with essential support in achieving their goals.

# Rahul Sajnani

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B.A., University of California, San Diego

Pahul's practice focuses primarily on mergers and acquisitions. Rahul advises clients in a variety of industries, including in the sports, entertainment, and technology sectors. In addition to his M&A practice, Rahul advises clients on day-to-day general corporate matters and serves as outside general counsel to companies. Rahul also has experience in representing clients in connection with film and television agreements covering all facets of development and production including option agreements, production agreements, and talent agreements.



# Ralph Culpepper III

Parker Poe

J.D., University of Pennsylvania Law School; B.A. Georgia State University Honors College (magna cum laude)

palph Culpepper primarily focuses his practice in education law and employment litigation. He litigates at all levels, from state and federal trial courts to the appellate courts. Prior to practicing law, Ralph had the honor and privilege of clerking for the Honorable J. Michelle Childs in The United States District Court for the District of South Carolina. During his clerkship, he served as the judge's right hand, managing trials and drafting proposed opinions resolving a variety of legal issues including constitutional issues, employment matters, product liability actions, tort cases.

### Randi M. Adkins-Warren

Aflac

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andi provides strategic counsel to Aflac Inc. and its affiliates, while managing the Intellectual Property portfolio. Randi spearheaded the creation of the Diversity Continuing Legal Education (CLE) series to and created a pipeline program for Mercer Law students to serve as externs at Aflac. Randi continues to be a servant leader as a member of the Board of Directors for United Way Chattahoochee Valley, the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (GABWA), the Marietta Roswell Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and the State Bar of Georgia's Committee to Promote Inclusion in the Profession.



# **Reco Charity**

Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP Associate

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A senior associate within the firms Sustainability & ESG Advisory group and former, yet still interconnected, member of the Corporate Department and Merger & Acquisitions practice. Reco focuses his practice on advising clients on ESG strategy, integration, disclosure and governance; mergers and acquisitions; corporate governance; sustainability-linked financings; and general corporate matters. He provides strategic counsel to global private equity firms and companies across a variety of industries, including manufacturing, technology, banking and others.

# Reena Jain

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Special Counse

J.D., Columbia University, B.S., Michigan State University (honors), B.A., Michigan State University (honors)

Peena focuses her practice on business, entertainment and media, and intellectual property litigation, representing a broad range of clients, including award-winning musicians, social media influencers, fashion retailers, and cannabis and spirits companies. She is a member of the NYSBA Committee on Media Law and the South Asian Bar Association of New York. She was named a Rising Star by Super Lawyers for 2020 to 2022 and One to Watch by Best Lawyers for 2023.



### **Reginald L Streater**

Berger Montague PC

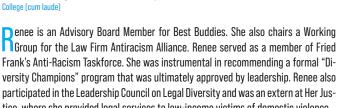
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eginald L. Streater is a member of the Firm's Employment & Unpaid Wages, Anti-Trust (No-Poach), and Consumer Protection practice groups. In the Employment & Unpaid Wages practice group, Mr. Streater focuses on discrimination and wage and hour class and collective actions arising under state and federal law. Mr. Streater has been recognized as one of Philadelphia's Most Influential African American Leader by The Philadelphia Tribune. He is also a Board Member/Director to the Board of Education of the School District of Philadelphia.



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enee Henson's impressive early career as a business litigation attorney includes representing clients engaged in complex patent, trademark and copyright infringement matters. Renee recently second chaired a \$30 million products liability action and obtained a full defense verdict in her client's favor, and has served as lead associate on a multimillion dollar patent-related legal malpractice lawsuit. Renee serves on the Missouri Bar Special Committee on Lawyers of Color and mentors attorneys of color across Missouri.

### **Renel Datulma**

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nenel Datulma focuses his practice on employment, labor, data privacy, and intellectual property law. Renel is a recipient of the 2022 National Black Lawyers Top 40 Under 40 in PA award. He is a member of the Allegheny County Bar Association (ACBA) and Council for the Homer S. Brown Division of the ACBA. Renel is also a member of the ABA and the Pennsylvania Bar Association.



### **Richard Ochran**

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ichard is an associate in the Nelson Mullins Washington, DC office. He focuses his practice on complex commercial litigation and products liability defense. He has experience representing clients in a wide range of commercial matters including contract disputes, business torts, consumer protection matters, manufacturing defect and asbestos litigation. Richard was born in Salisbury, Maryland and raised in Toronto, Ontario (Canada). He actively gives back to his communities through pro bono matters and youth/young adult mentorship programs.

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# Rodreguez (Rod) Cortez Watson

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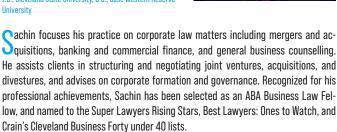
odreguez is an associate attorney with Hall Booth Smith, P.C. He is a litigator and a significant portion of his current practice involves defending healthcare practitioners and entities. In addition, prior to joining his current firm, his practice involved defending individuals charged with criminal offenses in state and federal courts in Tennessee. Rodreguez's knowledge and experience litigating criminal matters has aided him in successfully defending individuals and business entities in civil matters involving alleged criminal acts. Although he has only practiced for five years.



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# Sacred B. Huff

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acred B. Huff is a fierce advocate for workers' rights and economic justice. In her law practice, Sacred primarily represents employees in employment discrimination suits including race discrimination, race-based hair discrimination, gender discrimination, and discrimination against people with disabilities. Sacred is a member of the National Employment Lawyers Association and the Metropolitan Washington Employment Lawyers Association. In her leisure time, Sacred enjoys writing fictional stories, traveling, boxing, and playing basketball.



# Sally Li

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am a retail strategic partner with solid regulatory, food and product law experience. I have worked in international legal consulting firm, multinational companies and Fortune 50 corporation. I am fluent in both English and Mandarin.



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amantha advises clients on domestic and cross-border corporate matters, including mergers and acquisitions, venture financings, and corporate governance. She represents publicly and privately held companies, entrepreneurs, and venture capital and private equity investors in a variety of industries, including consumer products, e-commerce, and financial services. Samantha has an active role in pro bono efforts, including working on the California Small Enterprise Task Force. She currently serves as Chair of her office's Latinx Affinity Group.

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anaa Bayyari is an Associate in the Firm's Government Investigations & White Collar practice. Sanaa represents clients through all stages of government investigations and white collar matters, including internal investigations, regulatory enforcement defense and compliance counseling. During her tenure, Sanaa worked in the Firm's Dubai office, focusing on regional matters, During law school, Sanaa interned at the Securities & Exchange Commission, FCPA Unit and Office of International Affairs, as well as state and federal courts.

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ean Jefferson is experienced in all areas of entertainment and media, representing inanciers, production companies, producers, documentary filmmakers, directors, athletes, writers and independent distributors. Diverse Representation includes Mr. Jefferson in their "Ten to Watch in 2022" list as a standout attorney in the entertainment industry. Variety included Mr. Jefferson in its 2021 Legal Impact Report. Mr. Jefferson is recognized in the 2021, 2022, and 2023 editions of Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch for Entertainment and Sports law.

# **Sean Spence**

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ean advises asset managers and institutional investors across the globe in onnection with private equity fund formations, including buyout, energy and infrastructure, real estate, credit and emerging markets funds. Sean has received several awards for his contributions to diversity and inclusion initiatives, including the National Bar Association's Top 40 Under 40. Sean serves chair of Proskauer's Black Lawyer Affinity Group and is a former member of the Firm's Hiring and Summer **Program Committees** 

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eantyel Hardy's practice focuses on complex commercial litigation and government investigations. Previously, Seantyel spent two years clerking for Judge Kathleen M. Williams in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida. Seantyel's active pro bono practice mainly focuses on intellectual disability in capital cases, as a continuation of the clinical work she did in law school. She has been recognized as a "Litigator of the Week Runner-Up" by The American Lawyer.

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enayt Rahwa is a business lawyer based in Foley's Washington, DC office. She works extensively with clients in the energy industry, counseling developers and investors in the acquisition, sale, and financing of renewable energy facilities. Senayt is a member of the Foley's Finance & Financial Institutions Practice and Energy Industry Team, and has significant experience advising on legal issues regarding the development, construction, financing, and ownership of energy projects

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erena is an associate in Orrick's London office and a member of the Technology Companies Group. Her practice focuses on technology companies of all sizes, helping them on general incorporation matters, day-to-day corporate governance, and venture capital financings. Serena also represents investors and venture capital firms in their investments in early and high-growth technology companies.



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### **Shanellah Verna Harris**

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Shanellah Verna Harris is a member of the firm's Commercial Real Estate Development and Finance practice focusing primarily on acquisition, disposition, financing and management transactions within the hospitality, office, industrial, and multifamily sectors. Prior to joining MMM, her experience centered on housing development and finance transactions on behalf of public housing authorities, developers, and commercial lenders. Shanellah has been recognized among Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America.



### **Shannon N. Proctor**

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Shantel is an associate in the Los Angeles office of Venable LLP. Shantel represents companies and individuals in a variety of matters involving labor and employment, entertainment, general commercial disputes, and shareholder disputes. During law school, Shantel served as a judicial extern for the Honorable George H. Wu of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. She was also a member of the Poverty and Housing Law Clinic at the University of Chicago, where she represented indigent clients in eviction and housing subsidy termination cases.



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Sharae' Williams is an associate in Dickinson Wright's Ann Arbor, MI office. Her primary areas of practice include areas of complex business litigation, employment litigation, and intellectual property. Namely, her experience revolves around trademark prosecution, intellectual property litigation, employment and business litigation, and business matters. Sharae' has been named to the National Black Lawyers Top 40 Under 40 Black Lawyers in Michigan list, and the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity Pathfinders 2022 Class.

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# **Shawn A. Hendricks**

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Shawn Hendricks is an investment management lawyer focusing on counseling investment companies (including mutual funds, closed-end funds, and exchange-traded funds) and their boards, private funds, and investment advisers in connection with various regulatory, compliance and transactional issues. Shawn assists investment management clients in all aspects of legal representation, including drafting and reviewing regulatory filings and offering documents; researching and interpreting various securities and corporate law issues.



# **Shaziah Singh**

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haziah Singh focuses her practice on representing family offices, private equity ofirms and their portfolio companies, established public companies, and other clients in U.S. and cross-border transactions. She has experience in equity financings, mergers and acquisitions, debt transactions, securities compliance and other strategic transactions in a variety of industries, including manufacturing, wealth management, professional services, and food, beverage and agribusiness. Shaziah also advises clients on general corporate matters, commercial agreements.

# **Sheaniva Murray**

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heaniva Murray is an associate in Bass Berry & Sims Washington DC, office, where she focuses her practice on representing clients in response to claims brought under various federal and state regulations. She regularly counsels healthcare companies on fraud and abuse matters related to alleged violations under the False Claims Act, Anti-Kickback Statute, the Stark Law and Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement rules. Prior to joining Bass, Sheaniva was a legal fellow in the Office of General Counsel at Inova Health System.



# Sherita S. Glover

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herita Glover is an Associate in the firm's Professional Liability Practice Group. She oconcentrates her practice in the areas of medical malpractice defense, nursing home and long-term care liability, and corporate compliance. She is also a part of the firm's Dedicated Medicare Compliance Group. She strives to serve her clients by delivering cost-efficient results without sacrificing quality or efficacy. Sherita enjoys volunteering in her community and is passionate about empowering underprivileged youth. She actively seeks opportunities to give back to the community and values equal access to education and opportunity.



# **Shirley Diaz**

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hirley Diaz assists clients in navigating Securities and Exchange Commission inquiries. She has represented companies in the energy, media, and packaging industries. Ms. Diaz is committed to pro bono. She has been listed in the DC Bar Pro Bono High Honor Roll every year since her admission to the bar. Ms. Diaz is the President-Elect of the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia and a member of the DC Bar's DEIA Task Force.



# Shraddha Deshpande

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hraddha Deshpande is an associate in the Firm's Intellectual Property Practice Group. Shraddha has a background in microbiology. Shraddha helps prosecuting patents with a focus on biotechnology and medical devices. Prior to joining Brown Rudnick, Shraddha was a paralegal at Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP, where she worked on patent and trademark prosecution matters. She also completed internships related to intellectual property prosecution and patent analytics.



# **Stephany Reaves**

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tephany Reaves focuses her practice on civil litigation and trials in a wide range of industries. She also maintains an active pro bono practice representing indigent clients. Prior to joining MTO, Ms. Reaves served as a Public Defender Service Staff Attorney and Supervising Attorney in the District of Columbia Superior Court where she represented clients facing felony charges. After law school, she clerked on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.



# **Taylor Wood**

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aylor's practice focuses primarily on commercial real estate transactions, including purchases and sales, leasing, and real estate finance. Additionally, Taylor has experience in zoning, land use, and entitlements. Taylor also lends her time to Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas, counseling low-income clients on various real estate matters. In her spare time, Taylor enjoys traveling, cheering on the Texas Longhorns and the Dallas Cowboys, and spending time with her family and friends.



### Teirra M. Everette

**Dominion Energy** Senior Counsel

J.D., CSU College of Law (cum laude), B.A., Ohio University



eirra practices in the State Regulatory group, where she handles a variety of complex regulatory matters. She also handles data privacy compliance and unregulated affiliate issues. During law school, she won the distinction of being named Best National Oralist at a moot court competition. Outside her practice, Teirra serves as an advocate to special needs children and their families through her pro bono service in the Commonwealth of Virginia. She also serves as the VP of Programs for AABE Virginia and is a 2021 LCLD Fellow. In 2021 she was named Outstanding In-House Counsel by the ACC-NCR Region.



# Teresa Akkara

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J.D., University of Pennsylvania Law School (cum laude); B.A. The College of New Jersey (summa cum laude)

reresa Akkara helps clients navigate complex commercial issues at the trial and appellate levels. She brings valuable hands-on experience and strategic perspective to her cases, having assisted on matters before the U.S. Supreme Court as well as the Third, Fourth, and Seventh Circuit Courts of Appeal. Teresa also co-chairs The Colorado Pledge to Diversity's 1L Program and serves on the board of the South Asian Bar Association of Colorado.



# **Tiange Chen**

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B.A. with honors, Political Science & Journalism, Penn State

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iange (Tim) Chen is a member of the Robinson+Cole's Business Transactions Group and its Capital Markets + Securities team, where he advises issuers, underwriters and investors on a variety of securities offering, disclosure, and compliance matters. At the firm, his practice also includes SPAC IPOs and de-SPAC transactions. He is a member of the firm's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee.



# **Tina Lapsia**

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ina's practice involves handling discovery and discovery disputes, conducting witness interviews, drafting and arguing pleadings and motions, and all aspects of case management across numerous industries. This summer, she participated in the New York City Bar's Associate Leadership Institute LITE program. Earlier in her career, she interned for the White House's Domestic Policy Council- Office of Urban Affairs, Justice and Opportunity. In her free time, she is a writer and editor for Brown Girl Magazine.



# **Toni Jennings Hodge**

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oni Jennings Hodge is an associate in the employee benefits and compensation practice at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, where she focuses on the representation of private and public high technology and growth companies. Prior to joining WSGR, Toni was a member of Ernst and Young LLP's transaction tax advisory practice group in Tysons, Virginia. During law school, she was a participant of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's Student Honors Program where she worked closely with the Investor Advocate in Washington, D.C.



### **Toni Suh**

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s. Suh is in the Real Estate practice of Paul Hastings and is based in the firm's Washington, D.C., office. Her practice focuses on commercial real estate transactions, including acquisition, disposition, joint venture, financing, development and leasing. Ms. Suh represents real estate private equity funds, investors, developers, and corporations on a broad spectrum of commercial, residential, and mixed-use projects in connection with office buildings, hotels, condominiums, retail properties, and multi-family housing.

# **Travonte Warren**

The Procter & Gamble Company

Senior Manager & Senior Counsel North American Feminine & Family Care

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peginning his career - in-house at the Procter & Gamble Company - Mr. Warren start-Ded practicing in the Global Health, Safety, & Environmental legal group counseling a multinational Product Supply organization on matters related to environmental protection and occupational safety and heath regulation and compliance. He then transitioned into his current role providing 360-degree legal support for the company's North American Feminine & Family Care businesses. During his time at Procter & Gamble, he has been actively involved in.



# **Trina Kwon**

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rina Kwon represents clients in the technology and communications industry before the Federal Communications Commission and State Public Utility Commissions on matters such as domestic and international licensing, regulatory compliance with regard to corporate transactions, and rulemaking proceedings. Trina's clients include domestic and international telecommunications carriers, technology companies, and media companies, as well as financial institutions, private equity firms and venture capital funds with respect to investments in the telecommunications.



# **Turquoise Early**

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urquoise assists clients with respect to data beaches, cybersecurity and compliance with both domestic and international privacy laws. Turquoise is a Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP/US), credentialed by the International Association of Privacy Professionals. She advises clients in-depth on matters relating to U.S. federal and state privacy statutes and is well-versed in privacy regulations and obligations relating to the GLBA, HIPAA, CCPA and the EU's GDPR. Turquoise specializes in drafting privacy policies and assisting clients in responding to cybersecurity incidents.



# Valerie J. Ramos

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Valerie Ramos' practice includes SEC enforcement defense, where she represents clients in the digital asset space, and cross-border complex commercial litigation focusing on Latin America. Valerie is an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law Center. She teaches three practical course on civil discovery, cross-border litigation, and privilege. Valerie serves as a mentor through Berkeley Law's Alumni Mentoring Program and the Hispanic Bar Association. Valerie is also barred in California and the District of Columbia.

# **Vincent Fuller II**

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lincent Fuller II counsels public and private companies and financial sponsors Vacross a range of sectors in mergers, equity and asset acquisitions and divestitures, joint ventures, and other corporate and governance matters. Institutional investors also rely on Vincent's counsel on acquisitions and divestitures of interests in private equity and hedge fund managers. Vincent was named a 2021 Leadership Counsel on Legal Diversity (LCLD) Pathfinder, which further enhances the program's participants' leadership skills and professional relationships.





# Winzell Steele Jr., Esquire

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Winzell is a NY-based investment management attorney focused on hedge funds and private equity funds. Before becoming an attorney, Winzell was a deal-side private equity associate at the HiGro Group, a NY-based multi-strategy private equity firm, where he facilitated lower middle market leveraged buyout transactions and launched a \$200mm SPAC focused on Social-Forward companies. Before HiGro. Winzell co-founded Harlem Capital, a \$175m AUM early-stage venture capital firm which invests in women and diverse founders.

# **Woroma Ejiowhor**

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Woroma Ejiowhor specializes in corporate healthcare licensing, healthcare regulatory compliance, pharmacy benefit manager law, and specialty pharmacy law. She has played an instrumental role in helping keep Centene Corporation, a Fortune 50 company, and one of the top healthcare companies in the country, in compliance with complex federal and state regulatory requirements. She is an active member of the Young Lawyers Division of the Florida Bar and the University of Florida Association of Black Alumni.



# **Xavier E. Prather**

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Vavier E. Prather is an attorney in Reinhart's Employee Benefits Practice in the Afirm's Milwaukee office. He works with Taft-Hartley multiemployer, corporate and government pension benefit plan sponsors on a variety of legal issues, including fiduciary, investment, governance, cybersecurity compliance and data-privacy-related matters. During law school, Xavier received his certification in Sports Law from the National Sports Law Institute, served as the Articles Editor of the Marguette Sports Law Review and received the Law Student Jon Allen Pace Setter Award from the Milwaukee Justice Center in honor of his pro bono work in the Milwaukee community.



### Yanet Y. Cordero

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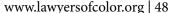
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7 oe Russell is an associate in the Employment Law Practice Group at Orrick's Los mlueAngeles Office. Zoe works on diverse employment litigation matters. She is also active in pro bono matters, including recently securing asylum for her client. While in law school, she served as the Co-Chair for the Black Law Students Association and the Director of Affordable Housing for the UCLA Graduate Students Association.















