

Practice Area Night Attorney Biographies

BANKRUPTCY TABLE

Matthew Dunn, '15

Cole Schotz, PC

Matthew Dunn is an associate in the Bankruptcy and Restructuring Group, focusing his practice on creditor rights, bankruptcy, and commercial litigation. Mr. Dunn represents lenders, financial institutions, secured and unsecured creditors as well as bankruptcy trustees in both state and federal court proceedings. Mr. Dunn also assists in the representation of trustees in bankruptcy proceedings, including litigation involving avoidance and recovery of fraudulent conveyances and preferential transfers, claim objections and asset recovery. After law school, Mr. Dunn served as a law clerk for the Honorable Joseph L. Yannotti, P.J.A.D., for the Superior Court of New Jersey, Appellate Division. While in law school, Mr. Dunn served as a judicial intern for the Honorable Esther Salas, U.S.D.J. Mr. Dunn holds a J.D., *cum laude*, from Rutgers University School of Law – Newark, where he was a Senior Editor of the Rutgers Law Review, and a B.A., *cum laude*, from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ.

Danielle Weslock '09

McCarter & English, LLP

Associate, Commercial Litigation – Debtor/Creditor

Ms. Weslock has experience with residential and commercial mortgage foreclosures, where she represents banks and other financial institutions and lenders before state and federal courts in New Jersey and New York. In addition, Ms. Weslock has experience with breach-of-contract actions based on promissory notes and guarantees, the collection of book accounts, and various real-estate transactions, including condemnations. Ms. Weslock has also negotiated and documented loan modifications and forbearance agreements and regularly advises clients on these commercial-litigation issues. Ms. Weslock graduated from Rutgers University School of Law, *cum laude*, and is a member of the Order of the Coif. She was the Managing Editor of the *Women's Rights Law Reporter*. She remains active at the school by judging oral arguments of first year students.

CIVIL RIGHTS TABLE

Tess Borden

ACLU – NJ

Tess Borden is a Staff Attorney at the ACLU-NJ, where she works on a range of civil rights and civil liberties issues. Prior to joining the ACLU-NJ, Tess was the Aryeh Neier Fellow at the National ACLU and Human Rights Watch (HRW). She is author of the 196-page ACLU/HRW report "[Every 25 Seconds: The Human Toll of Criminalizing Drug Use in the United States](#)." Tess has also worked for the United Nations Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague, Netherlands, and HRW's West Africa Division in Dakar, Senegal, as well as spending time before law school as an immigration paralegal. Tess received her bachelor's degree from Yale College, where she majored in French, and her law degree from Harvard Law School, where she was a member of the International Human Rights Clinic and an editor of the Harvard Human Rights Journal. She clerked for the Honorable George A. O'Toole, Jr. of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

Ames Grewart

Senior Counsel and John L. Neu Justice Counsel

The Brennan Center for Justice

Ames Grewart is senior counsel and John L. Neu Justice Counsel in the Brennan Center's Justice Program. He leads the program's quantitative research team, focusing on trends in crime and policing and the collateral costs of mass incarceration. Additionally, he advocates for criminal justice reform policies at the federal level. Previously, Grewart served as an assistant district attorney in the Appeals Bureau of the Nassau County District Attorney's Office, where he reviewed and litigated claims of actual innocence in addition to his appellate work. Before entering public service, he was an associate at Mayer Brown LLP, where he represented criminal defendants pro bono in post-conviction litigation.

Brooke Lewis '17

New Jersey Institute for Social Justice

Trustee Social Justice Legal Advocacy Fellow

Throughout law school, Brooke gained significant experience working in public interest law, with a particular focus on areas related to criminal justice. As a certified legal intern at the Rutgers Children's Justice Clinic, she represented New Jersey children facing delinquency charges in Camden's juvenile court and provided post-disposition representation to youth at several of New Jersey's secure facilities. In addition to working as a legal intern at the New Jersey Office of the Public Defender and in the Capital Habeas Unit of the Federal Community Defender Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. As a graduate of the Rutgers B.A./J.D. Dual-Degree Program, Brooke received a B.A. in Political Science Summa Cum Laude from Rutgers University—Camden, and a J.D. and Certificate in Criminal Law & Procedure Cum Laude from Rutgers Law School. Following graduation, Brooke served as a law clerk in the Appellate Division of the Superior Court of New Jersey.

CLASS ACTION LAW TABLE

Naomi Barrowclough, '10

Lowenstein Sandler, LLP

Corporate clients of all sizes turn to Naomi for strategic representation in a wide variety of matters, including business disputes, class actions, appellate litigation, franchise litigation, and consumer fraud claims. She works closely with her clients in all phases of the litigation process—from motion practice to discovery, deposition, and trial—ensuring that they receive the right legal guidance to successfully resolve their disputes. Naomi has considerable experience in defending cases brought pursuant to the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) and has counseled clients on how to avoid becoming targets of TCPA class actions. Active in pro bono work, Naomi has represented individuals and nonprofits in breach of contract disputes, deportation proceedings, criminal defense matters, alleged violations of international law, and disability appeals to the Veterans Administration.

Craig Dashiell, '10

Lowenstein Sandler, LLP

Craig represents individuals and businesses in the resolution of a wide variety of commercial disputes. His litigation experience ranges from class actions, breach of contract disputes, and business divorce to estate litigation and intellectual property claims with millions of dollars at stake. Having participated in complex litigation at both the state and federal level, Craig remains focused on achieving clients' business objectives and favorably resolving their lawsuits, be it in the courts or through alternate dispute resolution. His work ethic and dedication to those he serves is manifest in his ability to develop persuasive arguments that reflect each client's tolerance for risk. His consistently excellent work makes him a valuable member of the client team. Craig is also dedicated to community service. Active in the firm's pro bono program, he has successfully obtained asylum for clients from Honduras and Syria, advocated for detainees in the penal system, and advised charter schools on their internal practices.

CORPORATE LAW TABLE

Alex Perez

Rutgers University, Office of the General Counsel

Alex Perez focuses his practice on athletics, international programs, immigration and student affairs. Mr. Perez started his legal career as an associate in the general practice group at Sullivan & Cromwell, LLP in New York City, where he focused on securities, corporate governance, and general transactional matters.

Mr. Perez received a B.A. from Columbia University and a J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law, where he was an articles editor of the *Journal of Technology and Intellectual Property*.

Clem G. Turner

Chiesa Shahinian & Giantomasi

Clem G. Turner is a member of the firm's Corporate & Securities Group and he heads their Alternative Capital Practice. He brings more than 20 years of experience advising clients at all stages of corporate development, representing newly formed and emerging companies, middle market growth companies and large public corporations from a broad range of industries – including technology, financial services, hospitality, real estate, manufacturing, health care, new media, software development, e-commerce and entertainment. Clem counsels clients on a broad range of corporate and securities law matters, such as early-stage and venture capital financing, private and public equity, mergers and acquisitions, and real estate funds. In addition to broad transactional experience, serving as General Counsel and Head of Business Affairs for two emerging companies honed

his ability to provide practical, value-oriented advice that is tailored to best achieve management's end goals. Clem has been selected several times as one of *EB-5 Investors Magazine's* "Top 15 Corporate EB-5 Attorneys." He is a sought-after commentator on the EB-5 program, and has been cited by *NPR's Marketplace*, *The Real Deal Magazine*, *Real Estate Weekly*, *BISNOW* and *South China Morning Post*. Additionally, Clem has published several articles related to EB-5 and Crowd Financing, and routinely lectures at EB-5, Crowd Financing and Qualified Opportunity Zone events and conferences throughout the U.S. and overseas.

CRIMINAL LAW TABLE

Julianne Bollettieri

Essex County Prosecutor's Office

Julianne Bollettieri is an Assistant Prosecutor for Essex County, New Jersey. She graduated Cum Laude from Rutgers University with a Dual Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and Criminal Justice, with a minor in National Security, Intelligence and Counterterrorism. Prior to law school she helped create a lighting project to relight crime ridden areas within the city of Camden, New Jersey. Further, she interned with the Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness and the Attorney General's Office in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Julianne graduated Cum Laude with her Juris Doctor from American University in Washington D.C. During law school, Julianne became a Dean's Fellow for the Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project, wherein she taught high school students criminal and constitutional law. She further served on the National Security Law Brief, Historical Mock Trial Society and the Criminal Law Society Executive Board. Julianne had the opportunity to intern for two New Jersey County Prosecutor's Offices and for the Office of Inspector General wherein she drafted cell wire technology and body camera policies for Prince George's County, Maryland. Upon graduation from law school, Julianne became co-editor of a new edition of "Proving Federal Crimes" and was a Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable Richard C. Wischusen.

Dillon McGuire, '16

Pashman Stein Walder Hayden

Dillon McGuire is an associate in the Firm's Criminal Defense and Governmental and Internal Investigations practice. Dillon earned his J.D., *magna cum laude*, from Rutgers Law School, and was inducted into the Order of the Coif. While attending Rutgers Law School, Dillon was selected for a coveted fellowship with the Eagleton Institute of Politics and worked as a legislative aide in the non-partisan Office of Legislative Services. In that role, Dillon drafted bills and sponsor statements for members of the New Jersey Senate and General Assembly, and worked closely with staff attorneys to research constitutional issues in connection with pending legislation. Following law school, Dillon served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Margaret M. Foti, P.J.Cr. – the presiding criminal judge in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Bergen Vicinage. Thereafter, Dillon clerked for the Honorable Robert J. Gilson, J.A.D., in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Appellate Division. Dillon's legislative experience provides him with a unique understanding of our laws and the challenges that come with reading and interpreting statutes. Likewise, Dillon's experience as a judicial law clerk has given him an in-depth understanding of the most effective litigation strategies and best practices at both the trial and appellate levels.

Ahmad Rasool, '09

Essex County Prosecutor's Office

Mr. Rasool began his career in the Essex County Prosecutor's Office. During his tenure with the office, he has tried numerous jury and bench trials and has worked with units including the Municipal, Appellate, and Homicide Units. In addition to his trial experience, he has also worked on direct appeals, post-conviction relief, and municipal appeals. In August, 2016, he was appointed by Mayor Ras Baraka appointed him to the position of Chief Municipal Prosecutor for the City of Newark. As the Chief Municipal Prosecutor, he supervised the daily operation of the largest Municipal Prosecutor's Office in the state. In December, 2018 he became part of the Executive Staff of the newly appointed Essex County Prosecutor Theodore Stevens. In addition to his work as a prosecutor, Mr. Rasool is active in both the legal and local communities including being selected as part of the New Jersey Bar Association's 2015 Leadership Academy Inaugural Class and being one of 20 attorneys selected by the New Jersey Attorney General for his workgroup focused on clarifying the scope of prosecutorial discretion in marijuana related cases.

Rochelle Watson

New Jersey Office of the Public Defender

Rochelle Watson is a Managing Attorney in the Appellate Section of the New Jersey Office of the Public Defender. Before joining the Appellate Section in 2010, Rochelle graduated from the University of Maryland School of Law and clerked for the Honorable Susan L. Reisner on the New Jersey Superior Court, Appellate Division.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW TABLE

Michael Naughton

Chiesa Shahinian & Giantomasi PC

Michael J. Naughton is a member of the firm's Environmental Group. A seasoned environmental litigator with 30 years of experience, he focuses primarily on environmental and energy issues, including regulatory compliance. Michael also regularly advises on real estate transactions, providing environmental counseling to owners, buyers, landlords and tenants in the sale and leasing of commercial property. Michael also advises clients in Brownfield cleanups and redevelopment of contaminated properties. This facet of his practice focuses on matters of due diligence and contractual allocation of environmental risks in transactions. This includes disclosure laws and obligations regarding environmental conditions on real property, securing environmental insurance products to protect clients against cleanup cost overruns and pollution legal liability, and permit requirements under state and federal regulatory laws.

John Soltesz

Chiesa Shahinian & Giantomasi PC

John Soltesz represents clients in a wide range of environmental matters, including those related to cost-recovery actions in state and federal court, regulatory compliance, and complex transactional and development issues. His litigation experience spans the representation of both public and private corporations in cost recovery actions brought pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the New Jersey Spill Compensation and Control Act (Spill Act), and matters seeking compensation for Natural Resource Damages. With respect to regulatory compliance, John regularly assists individuals and corporations on matters relating to ongoing site remediation, post-remediation monitoring requirements, and oversight of the implementation of corrective measures following alleged violations of various state and federal environmental statutes and regulations, including the New Jersey Site Remediation Reform Act (SRRA), the Industrial Site Recovery Act (ISRA), the Occupational Safety and Health Act, and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

FAMILY LAW TABLE

Farida Rajwani

New Jersey Office of the Public Defender, Office of Parental Representation

Farida Rajwani attended Washington College of Law at American University in Washington DC, where she obtained her JD. Thereafter, she was a law clerk for the Honorable Alvin Weiss, the Assignment Judge in Essex County Superior Court in New Jersey. Ms. Rajwani began her career in child welfare law by becoming a Staff Attorney at the Legal Aid Society in NYC where she practiced as a law guardian for several years, representing children in child abuse and neglect cases, termination of parental rights cases, Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS) cases, and delinquency cases. She went on to serve as a Court Attorney for the Honorable Susan Larabee, a NYC Family Court Judge in Manhattan Family Court, focusing on delinquency cases, adoption matters, and child support litigation. Ms. Rajwani has been with the Office of Parental Representation in the NJ Public Defender's Office since 2011, where she advocates for parents in child welfare cases, including child abuse and neglect cases and termination of parental rights matters. In June 2018, Ms. Rajwani was recognized at the Legal Services of New Jersey Family Unification Day for her extraordinary passion, dedication, and effort in helping to make families whole again. In June 2019, Ms. Rajwani was honored as the Attorney of the Month by the NJ Public Defender's Office for her successful defense of a mother in a child abuse case that involved complex unexplained injuries to an infant and testimony by multiple medical experts

Sarah Sedlack

Snyder Sarno D'Aniello Maceri & da Costa LLC

Sarah Sedlack joined the firm in September 2018. She earned her Juris Doctor degree from Rutgers Law School - Newark in 2017, and completed a judicial clerkship for the Honorable Mark T. Janeczko, J.S.C., in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Bergen County, Family Part. During her clerkship, Sarah handled matrimonial matters, involving issues pertaining to custody, equitable distribution, child support, alimony, and domestic violence. Sarah was certified by the New Jersey Administrative Offices of the Courts as a court mediator and she conducted mediations in small claims, landlord-tenant and dissolution matters during her clerkship. While attending law school, Sarah was Senior Notes Editor for the Women's Rights Law Journal. Additionally, she participated in the Rutgers Law School Child Advocacy Clinic, where she handled child abuse and neglect cases involving the Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCPP). Sarah is admitted to the New Jersey State Bar and is a member of the New Jersey State Bar Association. Sarah attended undergraduate school at the College of William and Mary, where she received a Bachelor's degree in Government and History.

HEALTH LAW TABLE

Shannon Carroll

Brach Eichler, LLC

Shannon Carroll's practice focuses on health care litigation, complex commercial litigation, compliance, and health care fraud. She has experience in all aspects of litigation from the client intake process through trial. Shannon represents doctors and other health care providers in civil and administrative actions involving fraud allegations, reimbursement issues, and contract disputes. She has also successfully represented health care clients in disputes involving restrictive covenants, shareholder oppression, and unfair competition. Additionally, Shannon represents individuals and institutional clients in special, limited, and full guardianship proceedings. In fact, she has been appointed by the court to represent incapacitated and alleged incapacitated individuals on numerous occasions. Prior to joining Brach Eichler, she served as the Public Defender for the Borough of River Edge. Previously, Shannon served as the law clerk for the Hon. Peter E. Doyne, A.J.S.C. While in law school, she interned for the Hon. Joseph S. Conte, J.S.C. and served as a graduate assistant for the Summer Institute for Pre-Legal Studies. Shannon has been named to the New Jersey Super Lawyers Rising Star list every year from 2013 to 2019.

Joseph Gorrell, '75

Brach Eichler, LLC

Joseph Gorrell has over 35 years of experience counseling hospitals, medical staffs, nursing homes, and individual practitioners on a broad scope of issues ranging from defense of licensure prosecutions and insurance fraud cases to practice acquisitions and other physician transactions. He has successfully represented numerous physicians before the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners and New York's Office of Professional Conduct, defending claims, avoiding disciplinary actions, and achieving favorable settlements. Known for his deep experience in transactional and litigation work, Joseph provides legal advice to hospital medical staffs on a variety of subjects and supervises individual physicians and physician practice groups that are contracting with hospitals, managed care companies, and other physicians. Joseph also counsels physicians who are establishing their own medical practices or becoming members of others. Named for the last several years as a Leader in the Field by noted ranking company Chambers USA, Joseph is described as a "preeminent figure in the health care industry." According to Chambers, Joseph is noted for his "skillful and high-profile representation of physicians" and peers highlight him as a "superb lawyer" who is particularly adept at representing physicians in front of the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW TABLE

Geri Albin

Saiber LLC

Geri Albin concentrates her practice in business litigation and labor and employment law with an emphasis on breach of contract, wrongful termination and other workplace statutory litigation. She also focuses on intellectual property, antitrust and trade regulation. Geri handles matters in New Jersey and New York State and federal courts. Geri also has experience in handling environmental matters, providing counsel for due diligence, permitting and compliance. She also represents clients in governmental and private environmental cost recovery and penalty actions brought under federal and state environmental laws. In addition, Geri is experienced in the area of school law. She has represented independent and charter schools in a variety of litigation and counseling matters, including defense of discrimination claims, drafting handbook policies, and counseling clients on matters related to board governance, staff evaluations and student discipline. Geri also dedicates a portion of her practice to representing clients pro bono through Habitat for Humanity and Newark Reentry Legal Services, a Volunteer Lawyers for Justice program designed to assist individuals with criminal records in resolving various legal matters in order to facilitate community reintegration.

Melanie Chernoff, '18

Lerner David, LP

Melanie Chernoff uses her B.S. degree in physics to counsel clients across many disciplines from toy cars to interleaved data schemas. Her practice focuses on claim analysis, freedom to operate opinions, and patent prosecution and litigation support in the areas of legal research, discovery, and technical analysis. It was during her time teaching high school physics that Melanie learned to break down complex scientific ideas, such as Lorentz transformations, into easy to understand concepts. Her passion for simply explaining complex matters paved the way for her to become a patent attorney. Melanie uses her teaching experience to synthesize effective explanations of technical and legal concepts in an easy-to-understand manner. This facilitates communication with judges, adversaries, and clients. During law school Melanie was a research

assistant in the Intellectual Property Law Clinic at Rutgers Law School. Melanie advised law clinic clients in many areas of intellectual property as exemplified by undertaking trademark and patentability searches, writing trademark and patent opinion letters, and drafting patent applications. Melanie was a Managing Editor for the Computer and Technology Law Journal, in which she published “One-To-One Or Slim To None: New Jersey’s Chances Of Affording A One-To-One Educational Initiative.” Her role as Managing Editor had led her to appreciate the finer details, ensuring that the final product is in its best form possible before submitting it. She was also President of the Intellectual Property Law Society.

LABOR & EMPLOYMENT TABLE

David Cohen

Rutgers Office of the Senior Vice President & General Counsel

David Cohen advises University offices in labor and employment matters and litigation, including collective negotiations with its labor unions and the administration of the University’s collective negotiations agreements. Following law school, Mr. Cohen served as a law clerk to the Honorable William W. Wenner on the Maryland Court of Special Appeals. He began practicing labor and employment law in Baltimore, Maryland and then was an associate (1994-2002) and partner (2002-2004) at Carpenter, Bennett & Morrissey in Newark, New Jersey. Mr. Cohen then was a partner at Saiber LLC from 2004 to 2010. At both firms, he specialized in representing public and private sector employers in all areas of labor and employment law.

Damilola Fasehun

Saiber, LLC

Damilola Fasehun represents management in employment and labor law, including matters before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights. Ms. Fasehun also provides employment counseling and legal advice on workplace issues, such as discrimination, hiring, firing, harassment and retaliation.

Michael Grohs, ‘04

Saiber, LLC

Michael Grohs concentrates his practice in the litigation of business disputes in state and federal courts. Michael has experience representing corporate clients and individuals in a wide variety of commercial disputes and also general litigation matters in New Jersey and New York courts. Michael also handles employment and transactional matters for his clients. He often counsels corporate clients in matters arising in the workplace, including the hiring and firing of employees, claims of discrimination, internal investigations, company policies and employee handbooks, enforcement of confidentiality and other post-employment restrictive covenants. Michael also has considerable experience in eDiscovery, including the use of technology assisted review tools and other computer forensics services.

Jenna Rottenberg ‘09

Rutgers Office of the Senior Vice President & General Counsel

Jenna A. Rottenberg concentrates her practice in the areas of labor and employment law. She handles matters before the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), the New Jersey Division of Civil Rights (DCR), U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), and the Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC). She regularly counsels University officials on labor and employment issues and represents the University in labor arbitration proceedings. Prior to joining Rutgers, Ms. Rottenberg was a partner at Florio Perrucci Steinhardt & Fader, LLC in the Education Law Group. Ms. Rottenberg provided representation to boards of education throughout the State, including representing clients in collective negotiations, Federal and State proceedings, and before administrative tribunals. She also provided legal guidance and representation to private employers, public housing authorities, and municipalities.

LITIGATION TABLE

Mitch Levine

Rutgers Office of the Senior Vice President & General Counsel

Mitchell Levine handles and oversees labor and employment matters for the various units and entities at Rutgers, including, but not limited to, New Jersey Medical School, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, School of Dental Medicine, School of Health Related Professions, School of Nursing, School of Public Health, University Behavioral Health Care, and University Correctional Health Care.

Schawn Paul Rotella, '16

Littleton Park Joyce Ughetta & Kelly LLP

Schawn Paul Rotella works in the following practice areas: Product Liability Defense, Environmental & Toxic Tort Litigation, Construction Litigation, Insurance Coverage Litigation, Commercial Litigation, Litigation Avoidance, Cost-Control & Mitigation, Labor & Employment Law, Appellate Practice

John Scalzo, '01

Reed Smith, LLP

John is a Partner in the firm's Business and Finance Department, Litigation Financial Services (FIG). He has extensive experience representing financial institutions, aerospace and defense companies, agribusinesses, and manufacturers in complex commercial litigation and arbitration, with an emphasis on breach of contract claims, business torts, shareholder disputes, and avoidance claims. John's experience also includes a clerkship for the Honorable Legrome D. Davis, U.S. District Court Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and a seven-month secondment to the legal department of NBC Universal, Inc.

REAL ESTATE TABLE

Stacy Goldstein, '06

Riemer & Braunstein LLP

Stacy practices in the firm's real estate finance group, representing financial institutions and other institutional clients in connection with single-lender and syndicated, multi-lender construction, mezzanine and permanent financing projects on a local and national basis across a variety of asset classes, including office buildings, hotels, multi-family projects and retail centers.

Jay Suarez, '15

Fox Rothschild LLP

Jay regularly advises clients on the acquisition, disposition, leasing, and financing of commercial real estate and on the structuring of joint ventures for investment in commercial real estate. Jay has represented various public and private real estate investors and developers on complex transactions.

TAX LAW TABLE

Frank Caratzola, '16

KPMG

Senior Associate, International Tax

Stephen Daniels

KPMG

Senior Associate, International Tax