

Alumni News

SPRING 2022

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Eric Tirschwell
Executive Director and Chief Litigation Counsel, Everytown for Gun Safety

Joshua Little
General Counsel and Managing Director, Innovatus Capital Partners LLC

Jennifer Rochon
General Counsel, Girl Scouts of the USA

Lynda Daniel
Senior Risk Advisor, McKinsey & Co.

Melissa Prober
General Counsel, The Jed Foundation

Michael Sternhell
Director, Burford Capital

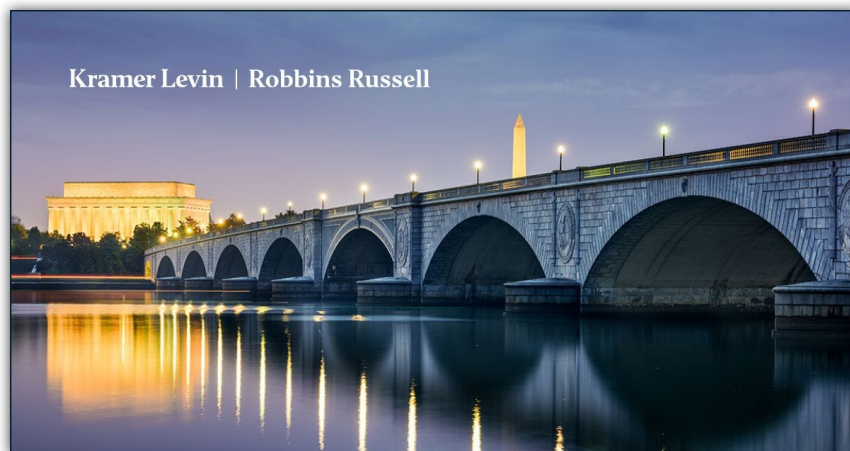
Pamela Swidler
Head of USC and International, Legal, WeWork

Cindy Arnold
Matthew Dunn
Shannon Hedvat
Dani James
Thomas Janover
Ann Kalodis

Arielle Warshall Katz
Darren LaVerne
Jennifer Manton
Izabel McDonald
Jamie Porco

Rachel Roth
Lauren Tapper
Elise Wagner
Andrew Ward
Ernest Wechsler

Kramer Levin Adds Elite Litigation Boutique Robbins Russell



Kramer Levin is pleased to announce that Washington, DC, litigation boutique Robbins, Russell, Englert, Orseck & Untereiner LLP joined Kramer Levin on April 1. The combination establishes a new Kramer Levin office in Washington, DC, and forms one of the nation's most lauded and experienced teams of trial and appellate lawyers capable of leading the full range of "bet the company" cases and high-profile trials.



Since its founding in 2001, Robbins Russell has staked out a national reputation for handling the biggest litigation challenges in trial courts, appellate courts, bankruptcy courts and the U.S. Supreme Court. The firm's lawyers have an impressive track record, having tried to verdict dozens of jury trials and arguing frequently in the U.S. Supreme Court.

The combination helps Kramer Levin grow its existing Washington, DC, practice representing clients facing congressional investigations and matters before the Department of Justice, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and other federal agencies. In addition, it connects Robbins Russell's preeminent bankruptcy litigators with Kramer Levin's renowned bankruptcy practice. The move also creates strong synergies in the financial services, professional services and health care sectors, as well as in white collar and appellate matters.

Kramer Levin's new Washington, DC, office will be known as Kramer Levin Robbins Russell and is located at 2000 K Street NW.

Read the [American Lawyer](#) article about the combination.

Remembering Michael T. Sillerman and Neil R. Tucker



We remember our colleague and friend **Michael T. Sillerman**, who passed away on Sept. 25, 2021. He was 75.

Michael joined the Land Use practice at Kramer Levin in 2002, having previously been a partner at Rosenman & Colin and before that the executive assistant to former City Council

President Carol Bellamy. As co-chair of Kramer Levin's Land Use department, Michael was one of the most respected voices in New York City land use and real estate, and his counsel was sought on numerous high-profile projects. He retired from Kramer Levin in December 2020 after a legal career spanning four decades. Read about [Michael's legacy](#).



It is with profound sorrow and a deep sense of loss that we mourn the passing of our dear friend and colleague **Neil R. Tucker** on May 10, 2022, at the too-young age of 66.

Neil joined the Real Estate practice at Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel in 1998, having previously been a partner

at Pillsbury Madison & Sutro. He was among the most highly respected real estate lawyers in New York City, representing institutional investors, real estate developers, tenants, hedge funds and private equity funds in real estate purchases and sales, financings, joint ventures, restructurings, leases, and development in New York and nationwide. He retired from Kramer Levin in December 2020 after a legal career spanning four decades. Read about [Neil's legacy](#).

Congratulations to Our New Partners, Counsel and Special Counsel

All the promotions were effective Jan. 1.



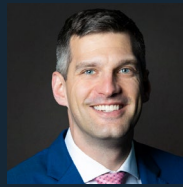
David E. Blabey Jr.



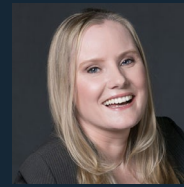
Clémentine de Guillebon



Daniel Michaelson



Seth R. Niedermayer



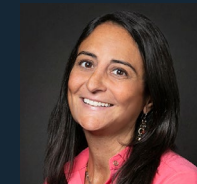
Darina F. Delappe



Lancelot Montmeterme



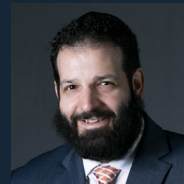
Jennifer R. Sharret



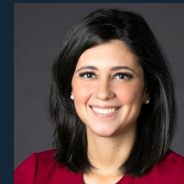
Jennifer Raiola Danzo



Jeffrey H Taub



M. Mendel Trapedo



Eleni Zantias

Kramer Levin is pleased to announce the elections of David E. Blabey Jr., Clémentine de Guillebon, Daniel Michaelson and Seth R. Niedermayer to partner positions in the firm, as well as the promotions of Darina F. Delappe, Lancelot Montmeterme and Jennifer R. Sharret to counsel and the promotions of Jennifer Raiola Danzo, Jeffrey H Taub, M. Mendel Trapedo and Eleni Zantias to special counsel.

Mark Ramsey and Daniel Zimmerman Join Kramer Levin as Partners in the Corporate Department



Mark Ramsey has structured and negotiated complex syndicated, club and direct lending financing transactions on behalf of both borrowers and lenders, with a focus on leveraged buyouts, in- and out-of-court restructurings, dividend recapitalizations, asset-based loans, and other corporate financing transactions. Mark's client base

includes private equity funds and their portfolio companies, public and private operating companies, commercial and investment banks, direct lenders, and other financial institutions.



Daniel Zimmerman advises companies, private equity funds and other investors on securities regulation matters, mergers and acquisitions, tender and exchange offers, securities offerings, corporate finance, corporate governance, and restructurings. He represents public and private buyers and sellers in a variety

of negotiated and contested domestic and cross-border acquisitions, securities offerings, restructurings, and other financings.

Alumnus Jennifer Rochon Nomination to SDNY Confirmed by US Senate



The U.S. Senate confirmed Kramer Levin alumnus **Jennifer Rochon's** nomination by President Joe Biden to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. The first-ever general counsel for the Girl Scouts of the USA, Jennifer began her career at Kramer Levin as a summer associate in 1997 and worked in the Litigation practice from 2000 through 2013. Jennifer was a Litigation partner and also served as chair of the firm's Women's Initiative Committee. Prior to joining Kramer Levin, she clerked for the Honorable Maryanne Trump Barry on the 3rd Circuit Court of Appeals.

Congratulations to Jennifer!

US Senate Confirms Sean Coffey as General Counsel of the US Navy

On Feb. 9, the U.S. Senate confirmed **John P. "Sean" Coffey**, chair of the Complex Litigation group, as general counsel of the Department of the Navy. Sean, a retired Navy captain and former federal prosecutor, was nominated as general counsel by President Joe Biden in August 2021. Read about Sean's [appointment](#).

Congratulations to Sean!



Reminders

Follow Us



Alumni LinkedIn Group

It's the official [alumni network](#) for former Kramer Levin lawyers and staff to stay in touch with the firm, to connect with each other and to learn about professional development opportunities.



Be Well@KL Initiatives

Be Well@KL is a program designed to support the well-being (physical, emotional and financial) of our employees and their families. As part of the firm's ongoing commitment to raising awareness of and offering tools for overall wellness and mental health, the firm hosts regular programs focused on these areas. [Read more](#) about some of our recent programs.

Nada Llewellyn Joins Kramer Levin as Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer

We welcome **Nada Llewellyn** as the firm's **chief diversity and inclusion officer**.

Nada will advise senior leadership on a wide range of strategic initiatives related to diversity, equity and inclusion. She joins Kramer Levin after serving as chief diversity officer, associate vice president for human resources and deputy general counsel for St. John's University, where she oversaw the university's diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives and the human resources department. Nada was a member of the President's Advisory Council and presented on matters related to diversity and inclusion to the board of trustees and board of governors. Prior to joining St. John's University, she practiced law at an Am Law 100 firm.

Learn more about Nada in her interview with [Law360](#).



Racial Justice Initiative (RJI)

This important initiative, which was inspired by our Diversity Committee and Affinity Group members and is led by our Pro Bono Committee, pursues pro bono opportunities focused on racial injustice and inequality, including criminal justice reform, which has been a long-standing focus of our pro bono work. We remain committed to supporting actions that can effect real change. More than 120 volunteers, staff and lawyers are engaged, working on a variety of projects. Read about some of our [projects](#).

In keeping with our commitment to diversity and inclusion, Kramer Levin offers a **Racial Justice Initiative Scholars (RJI Scholars)** program for 1L law students at select New York City law schools. As part of the firm's RJI, Kramer Levin's RJI Scholars participate in monthly clinics focused on combating racial injustice and inequality. The RJI clinics help RJI Scholars jump-start their legal careers by exposing them to the practice of law in a real-world setting where they are supervised and supported by practicing lawyers.

In Case You Missed It:

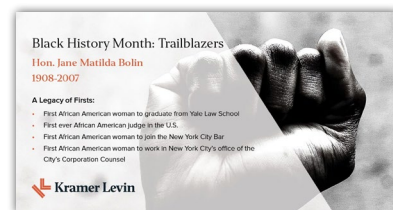
Savoy Article

Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer **Nada Llewellyn** authored a *Savoy* article titled "**Kramer Levin: The Racial Justice Imperative**" on Feb. 18, 2022. The article discusses Kramer Levin's Racial Justice Initiative, which was established to maximize the firm's ability to address racial justice issues.



Black History Month

In honor of Black History Month, we highlighted trailblazers in the legal field from the Honorable Jane Matilda Bolin to Barbara Jordan. Read about them via the links below:



[Hon. Jane Matilda Bolin](#), [Macon Bolling Allen](#), [Fred Gray](#) and [Barbara Jordan](#)

Women's History Month

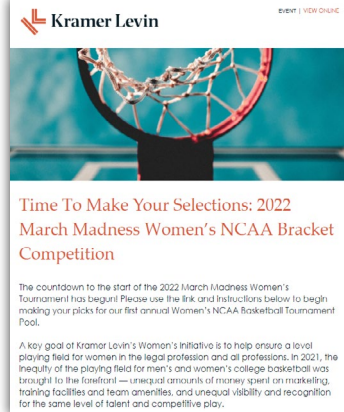
At Kramer Levin, we believe in leveling the playing field for women across all professions. In 2021, the inequity of the playing field for men's and women's college basketball was brought to the forefront — unequal dollars spent on marketing, training facilities and team amenities as well as unequal visibility and recognition for the same level of talent and competitive play.

As part of our celebration of Women's History Month and in conjunction with our Women's Initiative, we hosted our first annual Women's NCAA basketball tournament pool, with monetary donations totaling \$10,000 made to equity-focused charities selected by the winning participants.

Congratulations to all the winners, including our alum **Marc Schwartz**, Principal, Taconic Capital who took first place!

List of charities:

- Champion Women
- The Coalition of Women's Initiatives in Law
- DREAM
- Girls on the Run
- GiftTrek
- Her Justice
- LEAP
- National Association of Women Lawyers
- National Women's Law Center
- New York Women's Bar Association
- Play It Forward Sport
- Women's Sports Foundation



Podcast: Conversations With Women in IP



We launched our first podcast! Hosted by Intellectual Property partner **Irena Royzman**, Conversations With Women in IP features thought-provoking conversations with some of the preeminent women in intellectual property today.

Welcoming guests including notable judges and leaders in law and business, Irena brings into focus not only their most memorable cases and career highlights and transitions but also their personal stories.

Listen to the [first four episodes](#) (featuring judges Shira Scheindlin and Sue L. Robinson, Professor Molly Shaffer Van Houweling and Dr. Barbara Ruskin) and sign up for [notifications](#) when new episodes post!



Happy Anniversary!

Silicon Valley Office Celebrates Its 10th Anniversary



Opened on Sept. 19, 2011, with the arrival of Silicon Valley office managing partner **Paul J. Andre** and partner **Lisa Kobialka**, our Silicon Valley office is dedicated

to intellectual property matters, primarily patent litigation in the technology and life sciences sectors. The office has



experienced rapid growth since its inception. Its partner ranks have tripled through the elevation of four associates to partner: **James Hannah**, **Kristopher Kastens**, **Hannah Lee** and **Michael Lee**. Its head count has increased from two lawyers to 26 lawyers and patent agents.

Keep Us Updated!

We would love to celebrate your milestones — from honors and accolades to new jobs and promotions to engagements and weddings to baby news! If you would like your news to be included in an upcoming issue, please send your updates to alumni@kramerlevin.com.

Golden Anniversaries



Harold P. Weinberger

After graduating from law school, training for the Army Reserves at Ft. Knox and working as a summer associate at Cravath (sharing an office with then-junior associate David Boies), Harold Weinberger was clerking for a judge on the 2nd Circuit when he found himself at a dinner with a litigation lawyer named Bob Heller. “Bob told me about this little firm in midtown, which was heavily oriented to litigation,” Harold recalls. Dreading the prospect of joining Cravath and committing to years of doc review in a warehouse in service of the mammoth IBM case Cravath was working on, Harold went for an interview at what was then called Nickerson, Kramer, Lowenstein, Nessen & Kamin.

“In retrospect, it was a risky move, given what I now know about the economics of the firm at that time,” says Harold. “When I joined, the firm was three years old, and there were 27 lawyers here. It was a risk, but it paid off.” Harold celebrated 50 years at the firm on Sept. 13, 2021.



Anita Rosenblum

In 1971, after moving back home to New York following a short stint in Florida, Anita Rosenblum got her start at Kramer Levin through a lawyer she’d worked for at Proskauer. When that lawyer left the firm two years later, she found an opening at another company in the building. Shortly thereafter, she ran into the Kramer Levin secretarial coordinator in the elevator, who put her hands together and said, “Please come back and work for Michael Korotkin.” This firm felt like a family to her, and an excellent place to learn and grow, so she immediately said yes. Anita celebrated 50 years at the firm on Nov. 15, 2021.

Recent Awards and Recognitions

For a complete look at all awards and recognitions, please visit our [website!](#)



We are proud to have received, along with Deloitte, the **2022 City Bar Justice Center Award** for exemplary leadership in pro bono and community service, especially in connection with our work with the CBJC's Veterans Assistance Project. We are honored to share this award with Deloitte.



Chambers Global 2022 recognizes Kramer Levin Lawyers and Practices



Kramer Levin's Intellectual Property Practice named one of Law360's Practice Groups of the Year for 2021



Kramer Levin Earns Top Score on HRC's 2022 Corporate Equality Index



Jay Neveloff named to *City & State's* 2022 Real Estate Power 100



Amy Caton named to *Turnarounds & Workouts' List of Outstanding Restructuring Lawyers* for the fourth time



Shannon Hedvat named to the 2021 List of Top 50 Women in PTAB Trials



Valerie Campbell named to *Crain's* 2022 Notable Women in Law List



Tzvi Rokeach honored at the 10th Annual Champions of Jewish Values International Awards Gala



Patrick Sullivan named to *City & State's* 2021 Economic Development Power 75



Barry H. Berke received the Judge Simon H. Rifkind Award from the Jewish Theological Seminary, presented March 29, at the Judge Simon H. Rifkind Awards ceremony



Sheila Pozon named a Power Lawyer, one of Schnepps Media's Power Professionals for 2022



Christopher Auguste and Dani James named to *Savoy* magazine's 2022 List of Most Influential Black Lawyers



Jamie Kocis, Howard Spilko named to *Lawdragon 500's* list of Leading Dealmakers for 2022



Kenneth H. Eckstein, Douglas Mannal, Thomas Moers Mayer, and Adam C. Rogoff named to *Lawdragon 500* 2022 Leading U.S. Bankruptcy and Restructuring Lawyers List



2022 *Lawdragon 500* recognizes Amy Caton, Dani James, Jamie Kocis and Barry Berke

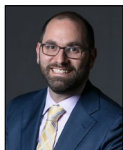
Recent Awards and Recognitions (cont.)



Barry H. Berke, Jeffrey L. Braun, Gary P. Naftalis and Terrence L. Shen named to *City & State's* 2022 Law Power 100



Matthew S. Dunn, Marissa J. Holob, Eliza A. Kaiser, Mark D. Koestler and Kevin B. Leblang named to the Lawdragon 500 Leading U.S. Corporate Employment Lawyers List for 2021



Jason M. Moff received LeGal's 2022 Community Excellence Award and was one of the honorees at the 2021 President's Pro Bono Service Awards