

PROFILE: Jane Appleby

## A different route to a fulfilling career

The shortest distance between two points, as we all know, is a straight line. But it is rarely the most interesting. Jane E. Appleby is senior counsel at Aurora Health Care in Milwaukee, the type of job she had in mind when she was first accepted to law school 20 years ago. But her journey to get there was a bit circuitous.

Appleby grew up in Salt Lake City, Utah, and after earning an undergraduate degree in philosophy with an emphasis on ethics, she intended to go to the University of Utah Law School in 1991. Instead, she said, “I gave birth to twin daughters Molly and Kate, on my own birthday.” She delayed law school in order to raise her daughters. The family relocated to Wisconsin for a career move of her then-husband when the girls were four years old.

She applied to Marquette Law School’s part-time program in 1999 because it offered her the opportunity to homeschool her daughters during the day and attend class in the evening. “It was a challenging but exhilarating time,” she said. On a few occasions when childcare was an issue, her young daughters joined her at the Law School, sitting outside the room while she attended class. “They have fond memories of the wonderful treatment they received from professors, staff, and students alike,” said Appleby.

After graduating in 2004, Appleby began her career at Halling & Cayo, defending attorneys in disciplinary matters brought by the Office of Lawyer Regulation. In 2006, she moved to Quarles & Brady, where she practiced commercial litigation, developing a focus on healthcare-related litigation. She joined Aurora Health Care as senior counsel this year.



**Marquette law degree:** 2004

**Employment:** Senior Counsel, Aurora Health Care, Milwaukee.

**Family:** Twin daughters, Molly and Kate, 20.

“At Aurora, I am involved in all things litigation-related, including overseeing outside counsel handling such things as labor and employment cases, medical-malpractice claims, subrogation claims and collection actions brought on behalf of Aurora, worker’s compensation cases, and breach of contract claims,” Appleby said. Additionally, she provides counsel to Aurora’s caregivers on responses to third-party subpoenas, medical-staff disciplinary proceedings, and professional ethics. Aurora is the state’s largest private employer with more than 40,000 employees.

It is a broad and intense set of responsibilities, but Appleby has found an effective way to deal with the stress. “I have an overactive conscience,” she said, “and have always found it challenging to let go of my work at the end of the day. But yoga and meditation have helped me with that.”

A 16-year resident of Shorewood, she is an avid amateur naturalist and serious dog-lover. She enjoys cycling and whitewater rafting, and is a live-music enthusiast.

Appleby is also dedicated to the Law School. She is serving her second term on the alumni board, enjoys mentoring law students, and welcomes opportunities to speak at the Law School. She recently obtained Aurora’s approval to create a legal clerkship; the first student started this summer.

Appleby also is serving a second term on the State Bar’s Professional Ethics Committee and is the vice chair this year. She supports the work being done at Centro Legal and continues to work on pro bono matters as opportunities arise. “My first teacher at Marquette was Dean Howard Eisenberg, and his passion for access to justice (which I share) was immediately evident,” she said. “When I began at Marquette Law School, I felt as though I had landed exactly in the place that I needed to be.” ■

## 1966

**James R. Scott**, Madison, has been nominated and confirmed as a commissioner of the Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission and designated as WERC chair.

## 1969

**Frank J. Schiro**, Milwaukee, is the incoming president of the National Italian American Bar Association.

## 1972

**Jon G. Mason** has been appointed court commissioner for criminal intake in the Kenosha County Circuit Court.

## 1976



**Mary Pat Ninneman** has been included in the 2011 *Chambers USA*. She is with Quarles & Brady’s Milwaukee office and focuses on labor and employment law.

## 1977

**Steven R. Sorenson** has joined the Oshkosh, Wis., office of Davis & Kuelthau.

## 1978

**William Evenson**, De Pere, Wis., has been elected to the executive committee of Hawkins, Ash, Baptie & Co.

## 1979



**John A. Rothstein** has been included in the 2011 *Chambers USA*. He is with Quarles & Brady’s Milwaukee office and focuses on contract litigation, corporate disputes, product liability, probate, and real-estate matters.

## 1980

**Gary M. Ruesch**, Waukesha, Wis., has joined Buelow Vetter Buikema Olson & Vliet. He is part of the firm’s school-law practice.

## 1981

**Mary Lee Ratzel** has joined Von Briesen & Roper as a shareholder. She is a member of the firm’s healthcare practice group.

## 1982

**Kathleen A. Gray** has been elected to the board of the Waukesha County Community Foundation. She will also serve as the board’s secretary.



**Warren P. Kraft** received the inaugural Brad D. Bailey Assistant City/County Attorney Award from the International Municipal Lawyers Association. He is

assistant city attorney and human-resources director for the City of West Bend and also serves of-counsel to the Murphy-Desmond law firm, Madison.

## 1983

**Carl Ashley**, a judge of the Milwaukee County Circuit Court, was recognized by the State Bar of Wisconsin with its Judge of the Year award in June.

**Thomas P. McElligott** has been included in the 2011 *Chambers USA*. He is with Quarles & Brady’s Milwaukee office and focuses on environmental law.

## 1984

**Robert H. Duffy** has been included in the 2011 *Chambers USA*. He is with Quarles & Brady’s Milwaukee office and focuses on labor and employment law.

**Mary Fons**, Stoughton, Wis., has been recognized by the State Bar of Wisconsin for her lifetime commitment to the public interest. She received the 2011 Dan Tuchscherer Outstanding Public Interest Law Attorney Award at the bar’s Member Recognition and Networking Celebration on June 9 in Wisconsin Dells.





SUGGESTIONS FOR CLASS NOTES may be emailed to [jonathan.leininger@marquette.edu](mailto:jonathan.leininger@marquette.edu) or [christine.wv@marquette.edu](mailto:christine.wv@marquette.edu). We are especially interested in matters that do not recur annually (e.g., “Best Lawyers” lists). Personal matters such as wedding and birth or adoption announcements are welcome. We update postings of class notes weekly on the Law School’s website, [law.marquette.edu](http://law.marquette.edu).

## 1985

**David J. Wambach**, Madison, Wis., has been named the 2011 Prosecutor of the Year by the Wisconsin Association of Homicide Investigators for his successful prosecution of a 30-year-old cold-case murder. The case, featured in an episode of the CBS television series, *48 Hours: Mystery*, also occasioned Wambach’s receiving a Certificate of Achievement from Governor Scott Walker for his “strong commitment to public service and safety.”

## 1986



**Kathryn M. Buono** has been included in the 2011 *Chambers USA*. She is with Quarles & Brady’s Milwaukee office and focuses on corporate law and mergers and acquisitions.

## 1987

**Kevin H. Govern** has been promoted to associate professor of law at the Ave Maria School of Law, Naples, Fla.

## 1989

**Eric J. Goelz**, Hartford, Wis., has joined Matthiesen, Wickert & Lehrer. He focuses on civil-litigation defense.

**Ann Barry Hanneman**, Waukesha, Wis., has joined Simandl & Prentice as a shareholder. She focuses her practice on employer-side employment law.

**Alan C. Olson & Associates** received the 2010 Outstanding Pro Bono Law Firm Participation Award from Legal Action of Wisconsin.

## 1990

**Kristin A. Hess**, Green Bay, Wis., has joined the Department of Natural Resources. She will

provide counsel on real estate, remediation and redevelopment, and Chapter NR 45 property issues as the real-estate specialist for the northeast region of the state.

## 1991

**Matthew W. O’Neil**, Milwaukee, has joined Fox, O’Neil & Shannon. He focuses his practice on commercial litigation and appellate work.

## 1992

**Marilyn M. Carroll**, Brookfield, Wis., has joined Davis & Kuelthau as a shareholder.

## 1994



**Christopher P. Banaszak** has been named chair of the Labor and Employment Practice at Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren, Milwaukee.



**R. L. McNeely** gave a presentation, titled “A Few Counter-Intuitive Facts, Common Misconceptions and Ironies About Intimate Partner Violence, Based on Social Science Research,” at the State Bar of Wisconsin’s Domestic Litigation: Practical and Legal Implications CLE on April 8, 2011.

## 1994

**Othman M. Atta** has been named executive director of the Islamic Society of Milwaukee.

## 1995

**Shawn M. Eichorst** has been named director of athletics at the University of Miami. He previously served as deputy athletic director at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

## 1997

**Debra E. Kuper**, Duluth, Ga., accepted the “Employment Law Team of the Year Award for 2011.” She received the award in June at the fifth annual Global Counsel Awards gala hosted by the International Law Office and the Association of Corporate Counsel in New York. Kuper is vice president, general counsel, and corporate secretary of AGCO.

## 1998

**Bryan M. Becker**, Milwaukee, has joined von Briesen & Roper. He is a shareholder in the banking, bankruptcy, business restructuring, and real estate practice group.

**Ellen Nowak**, Madison, has been appointed to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin. She will serve as one of the agency’s three commissioners.

## 1999



**Jeanette Corbett** has joined First, Albrecht & Blondis, Milwaukee, and focuses on plaintiffs’ personal-injury matters, worker’s compensation, and civil-rights litigation. She was previously a

team captain in the violent crimes unit of the Milwaukee County District Attorney’s Office.

**Kim S. Magyar** has joined the Phoenix, Ariz., office of Farhang & Medcoff as a partner. She focuses her practice on the defense of labor and employment matters, products liability, and commercial litigation.

## Finding and meeting challenges, coast to coast



**Marquette law degree:** 1982

**Employment:** Mundell, Odlum & Haws, LLP, San Bernardino, Calif.

**Family:** Married to Laurie; three adult children: Nick, Jack, and Margaret.

James A. Odlum's life has taken him from one coast to the other, with a stop in between for law school.

He grew up in Hartford, Conn., and earned his bachelor's degree, cum laude, from the University of Connecticut in 1979. Deciding that he wanted some different scenery, he set out to go to law school in a different area of the country. He had friends in Wisconsin and knew all about Al Maguire and basketball, so decided to check out Marquette Law School. "I liked what I saw and was lucky enough that they decided to give me a shot."

During his years at Marquette, Odlum was a University Scholar, a St. Thomas More Scholar, and a member of *Marquette Law Review*. During his third year, he met his wife, Laurie, who was in the M.B.A. program at Marquette. Now married for 28 years, they have three adult children, who all live in California.

After graduating in 1982, Odlum clerked for Judge John Coffey, L'48, of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. He then continued his adventure west. "Life takes funny turns you don't always expect," he said. Odlum was invited to interview at a firm in Los

Angeles. "I didn't have my heart set on moving west, but the Midwest was in the midst of a recession, and I thought there might be better opportunities on the West Coast," he recalled. It didn't hurt that the firm flew him out of Milwaukee on a gray, slushy November day, into sunny Beverly Hills. In 1983, he joined Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, a 1,000-lawyer firm, where he spent seven years in the labor-law department.

In 1990, Odlum and a friend hung out a shingle 60 miles east of Los Angeles in San Bernardino. Twenty-one years later, Mundell, Odlum & Haws is a thriving firm, with 10 lawyers and an equal number of support staff. It serves small and medium-sized companies in labor and employment and business litigation. "I love being my own boss and the security and flexibility that come along with it," Odlum said. "I can't get laid off, don't have to deal with a boss, and I can wear jeans, sneakers, and a golf shirt some days if I want. Also, it's never boring. The practice is challenging, and I always have interesting stories to share."

Odlum is grateful for his years at Marquette Law School. "I have a lot of respect and fond feelings toward the law school. I was taught that being a lawyer—a Marquette lawyer in particular—carries responsibility to conduct myself honestly and ethically. It was woven into who I am," he said.

He remains dedicated to the school and is a member of the Woolsack Society. Watching the Law School's transformations from afar, Odlum is pleased with the national attention the school is getting and with the way it is attracting faculty and students from around the country. ■

## PROFILE: Onnie Smith

## Law, business, community service are all in her genes

Onnie Leach Smith's business acumen may very well be coded into her DNA. She is a direct descendant of a storied Wisconsin business family. Her mother, Mary Leach, was a business owner, and her father, Mowry Smith, is the great-grandson of Elisha D. and Julia Smith. The extended family has owned and operated the Menasha Corporation for nearly 160 years.

Born and raised in Neenah, Wis., Smith expected to go into business. In preparation, she got a degree from the University of the Pacific in California, followed by an M.B.A. from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. She worked in sales and marketing in the corporate world for several years until, at 32, she sought something different. “I was ready for a change, a challenge, and decided to pursue what I had long considered—law school.”

“I really owe a debt of gratitude to Marquette Law School,” said Smith. “They took a chance on me, and I hope they are glad they did. I love being a lawyer.”

Upon graduating from law school in 1990, Smith started at Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren in Milwaukee, where she worked in estate planning for two years. She then moved to a midsized firm in Brookfield before opening her own solo practice in 1994.

She has melded some of her life's passions into a successful and fulfilling law practice in Delafield, where she handles a wide variety of matters involv-



**Marquette law degree:** 1990

**Employment:** Delafield Law Offices, Delafield, Wis.

**Family:** Daughter, Mary, a senior in high school

ing estate planning and juvenile advocacy. Her practice focuses on business succession planning, wills, trusts, powers of attorney, charitable giving, marital-property agreements, probate and trust administration, adoptions, and guardianships. “I find this work very

**Bethany C. McCurdy**, Milwaukee, has been promoted to partner at Gonzalez Saggio & Harlan. She is with the firm's employment group.

**Bradley W. Raaths**, Madison, has been appointed president and managing partner of DeWitt Ross & Stevens. His practice is focused on representing business clients in all manner of complex business transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, private equity offerings and corporate-governance issues.

**Mary T. Wagner's** *Fabulous in Flats*, her third collection of essays, has been published by iUniverse.

## 2000

**Scott Baumbach**, Madison, has been named secretary of the State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. He had been interim secretary since May 2011 and, previously, deputy secretary.

## 2001

**Brad L. F. Hoeschen**, Milwaukee, has joined Chernov Stern & Krings as a shareholder.

**Jennifer Kopp**, Brookfield, Wis., has joined Davis & Kuelthau as a senior associate.

## 2002



**Dillon J. Ambrose** has joined the Milwaukee office of Davis & Kuelthau as a litigation associate.

**John R. Schreiber**, Milwaukee, has been elected shareholder at O'Neil, Cannon,

Hollman, DeJong & Laing. He focuses on banking and creditors' rights.

**Mark P. Tilkens** has been chosen to lead Constangy, Brooks & Smith's recently opened Madison office.

rewarding,” she said, “I enjoy working with families and helping to provide positive resolutions in financial and personal matters.” She shares office space and a paralegal with a friend, and fellow Marquette lawyer, Kimberly Haines, L’90.

“I opened my own practice after I adopted my daughter as a single parent shortly after law school. Having my own practice allows me the flexibility to be very involved in my daughter’s life,” said Smith. Her daughter, Mary, who is now a senior in high school, is named after Smith’s mother, who passed away a few months before Mary was born.

“My mom was a wonderful person. She was independent and a bit of a nontraditionalist for her time. She was supportive of everything I did,” Smith said. To further honor her mother and the ideals she stood for, Smith established the Mary Leach Smith Memorial Scholarship at the Law School, providing funds for women who are attending law school as a second career. Another recent gift she made to the Law School honors a colleague and mentor, the late Michael R. Smith (no relation). Onnie Smith’s parents are also honored with their names on a study room at Eckstein Hall.

Smith’s philanthropic spirit and commitment to service extends beyond the Law School into the community. She serves on the board of the Pregnancy Support Connection in Waukesha, Wis. She also is a past president of the Board of Directors of Betty Brinn Children’s Museum and a former board member of the Kettle Moraine Education Foundation, Gift of Adoption Fund, and the Menasha Corporation Foundation. She also was recently appointed to the board of directors of the Menasha Corporation—continuing a family leadership tradition established by her great-great-grandfather. ■

## 2003

**Kirk Deheck**, Milwaukee, has been promoted to shareholder at Boyle Fredrickson. He focuses his practice on preparation and prosecution of patent and trademark applications.

**Kathleen Healy**, Neenah, Wis., has been promoted to partner at DiRenzo & Bomier. She focuses on family and employment law and civil litigation.

**Eric Lalor**, Milwaukee, has been promoted to shareholder at Boyle Fredrickson. He focuses his practice on strategic intellectual property portfolio development.

## 2004

**Tim Casey** has been appointed senior counsel for Global X-Ray, a part of GE Healthcare.



**Rhyhan J. Lindley** has joined Melli Law, in Madison. He focuses on construction law, business transactions, insurance law, and litigation.

## 2005

**Samuel C. Hall, Jr.**, Milwaukee, has joined Crivello Carlson as an associate with the firm’s litigation team.

**Jessica S. Johnson and Nathan R. Michalski** have opened The Spruce Roost Vacation Rental in Anchorage, Alaska.

**Andrew P. Beilfuss**, Milwaukee, has been elected as a district representative on the State Bar of Wisconsin’s Board of Governors.

## 2006

**Jonathan G. Gonzalez** has joined the Baltimore/Washington office of Offit Kurman. He is an associate with the firm’s employment group.

**Meghan Healy**, Milwaukee, has been promoted to partner at DiRenzo & Bomier. She focuses on family, employment, guardian ad litem, and worker’s compensation matters.

**James J. Wawrzyn**, Milwaukee, has joined von Briesen & Roper. He is part of the business practice group.

## 2007

**Kendra Fisher**, Sturtevant, Wis., has joined the state’s Department of Natural Resources. She will provide counsel on air, hazardous waste, and hazardous substance spill issues as a DNR air management engineer.

**Jeremy Geisel**, Waukesha, Wis., has joined Walden, Schuster & Vaklyes as an associate. He focuses his practice on business and corporate law, real estate, estate planning, and personal-bankruptcy representation.

**Timothy M. Johnson**, Milwaukee, has joined Crivello Carlson as an associate with the firm’s litigation team.

**William E. Keeler III**, Milwaukee, has joined Crivello Carlson as an associate with the firm’s litigation team.

**Joseph F. LaDien** has joined Pitman, Kyle, Sicula & Dentice in its Watertown office. His practice is in personal-injury and general litigation.

**Alyson Rieser Lynch** has joined Stafford Rosenbaum, in Madison, as the firm’s marketing coordinator and law librarian. ▶▶

## Making things better in her corner of the world



Antoinette Robbins has been a go-getter and trailblazer all her life. She was promoted from first to second grade in a matter of weeks and took sixth-grade math in third grade, as she advanced beyond a point where her neighborhood school could further her learning. In fourth grade, she began attending the prestigious Julia Reynolds Masterman Laboratory and Demonstration School in Philadelphia. She studied there through high school and then became the first person in her immediate family to go to college.

Robbins graduated from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, in 1985, where she studied industrial and labor relations, with the intention of going to law school.

But first she went to work to earn money to pay off her undergrad education debt. She worked for a union as assistant to the president and also worked as an office manager for a city councilwoman. After this exposure to the work world and meandering around a sundry of jobs, something didn't feel right. "I realized I wasn't being the best me I could be, and so I decided it was time to apply to law school," she said.

Robbins inquired at Marquette, initially as a courtesy to a friend who was an alum. "I found that it met a lot of my needs, and I realized that I could thrive in the practical legal environment it offered. With the alumni support and Thomas More scholarship, it soon became my first choice for law school," she said.

Robbins arrived in Milwaukee with only a few personal belongings and a lot of determination. "I was very

• **Marquette law degree:** 1990

• **Employment:** Senior Compliance Officer, Delaware Investments, Philadelphia, Pa.

serious about being a student. I was a true consumer of education—I was there to get something, and I was ready to knock on every door until I got it," she recalled.

As a student, she clerked at Previant, Goldberg, Uelmen, Gratz, Miller & Brueggeman and also was an intern with the National Labor Relations Board in Milwaukee. During her first summer home in Philadelphia, she worked in a general-practice firm of the alum who had referred her to Marquette Law School. "I thought I would come out of law school and be an employment lawyer," she said. "I took trial practice, appellate practice, and a smorgasbord of litigation courses, and was on the National Moot Court team."

Robbins said, "Once you learn to think like a lawyer, you can do anything." Upon graduation in 1990, she had three job offers: one at a Milwaukee law firm doing worker's compensation law, another in Chicago in litigation, and a third at the New York Stock Exchange as an enforcement attorney. She accepted the position in New York and began her career as a regulatory litigator.

While at the Exchange, she lived through the horror of the 1993 terror attack at the World Trade Center. "During the evacuation, I had to walk down 44 flights in a smoke-filled stairwell, not knowing exactly what had happened. I thought, 'I'm not ready to go yet. . . . I've never even traveled outside the country.'" Later that year, she traveled to Spain alone—her first trip out of the United States. She has since been to South America, other countries in Europe, and the Caribbean.

After more than five years, Robbins left the stock exchange for a position as a compliance attorney with AXA/Equitable Life in New York. During this time, her father became seriously ill and she found herself commuting frequently between New York and Philadelphia. "My life balance was off and I decided to take a job in the nonprofit sector. I worked briefly for the ACLU in its development office and then resigned after a few months to care for my dad," she explained.

He died in August 2001, and Robbins decided to

take a little time before going back to work in financial services. “His birthday was September 11, just days after his funeral. I woke up that morning thinking—hoping—I could just make it through the day and through my grief,” she recalled. And then the world changed with the attacks on the World Trade Center.

Finding work post-9/11 was difficult. “Not only was the physical site of the financial district in disarray, but the impact of the attacks was felt throughout the industry,” she explained. People’s psyches were impacted, and she was not exempt. “I went into my hole for a while and didn’t care about working much,” she said. In spring 2002, Robbins set out to get back to Wall Street. Over the next several years, she held various jobs in compliance in the Philadelphia area. She attended the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Institute at Wharton, obtained her designation as a Certified Regulatory and Compliance Professional, and developed into what might be termed a multidisciplinary compliance generalist.

Robbins accepted a position in 2008 as a senior compliance officer with Delaware Investments. “My life

has taken the trajectory I wanted,” she said. “Though I didn’t become an employment attorney as I had thought, my interests morphed over time to my desiring to do exactly what I am doing now.”

Robbins is generous with her time and her resources. She has financially supported the Eckstein Hall project, saying, “The beautiful new building is an outward manifestation of the seriousness that the professors and students bring to the study of law.” Additionally, she endowed a scholarship to help economically disadvantaged students from the Philadelphia area attend Cornell. She is a volunteer mediator in a neighborhood justice program in Philadelphia where she serves as its board president. She is also in the process of rehabbing a house in Savannah, Ga., so that it is accessible to those with physical disabilities.

Robbins is a jazz enthusiast, supporter of the arts, and “trying,” she said “to become a better golfer.”

“I acknowledge that I cannot single-handedly change the world, but I think I am making valuable contributions and managing my corner of it,” she said. ■

## 2009

**John S. Bennett**, Wauwatosa, Wis., has been appointed to the board of directors of Supportive Community Services.

**Thomas W. Moniz** has joined the Oshkosh, Wis., office of Davis & Kuelthau.

**Michael Rust** has founded Strategic Conflict Resolution Services, LLC, to serve Green Bay, the Fox Valley, and Wisconsin with mediation, conflict-resolution, and training services for individuals and companies. He was also appointed to the board of the Wisconsin Association of Mediators.

**Dustin F. Von Ruden** has joined the Eau Claire, Wis., office of Weld, Riley, Prens & Ricci. He is with the firm’s business and real estate sections.

## 2010

**Scott S. Luzi** has joined Heins Law Office, Mequon, Wis. He focuses his practice on plaintiff’s employment law and litigation.

**Kate McChrystal**, Milwaukee, has joined Gagne & O’Halloran. She focuses on family law.

**Sara C. Mills**, Milwaukee, has joined Crivello Carlson as an associate with the firm’s litigation team.

**Meghan C. O’Connor** has joined von Briesen & Roper as a member of the firm’s health care practice group. She focuses her practice on managed care and providing contracting, risk management, and regulatory compliance for hospitals and healthcare systems.

**Tim Schoonenberg** has joined Houseman & Feind, Grafton, Wis., as an associate. He focuses his practice on commercial

transactions, employment, small business, municipal, and family law matters.

**Michael R. Soule** has joined Consigny, Andrews, Heming & Grant, Janesville, Wis., as an associate.

## 2011

**Meghan M. Coffey** has joined Ryan Kromholz & Manion, Brookfield, Wis., as an associate.

**Nicole S. Rosen**, Milwaukee, has joined Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren as part of the firm’s healthcare practice.

**Sarah J. Knutson**, Milwaukee, has joined Urban & Taylor as an associate trial attorney. She focuses her practice on plaintiff personal-injury and employee-rights litigation.