

89 Lippes Mathias Attorneys Recognized in the 2026 Edition of The Best Lawyers in America®



August 21, 2025 | **PRESS RELEASES**

Lippes Mathias LLP today announced that 89 of the firm’s Albany, Buffalo, Clarence, Cleveland, Jacksonville, New York City, Rochester, Syracuse, Washington, D.C., and West Palm Beach-based attorneys have been listed in the 2026 editions of *The Best Lawyers in America*®, *The Best Lawyers in America: Lawyer of the Year*, and *The Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch*. *Best Lawyers*, the oldest and most respected peer review publication in the legal profession, compiles its lists of outstanding attorneys based entirely on peer review.

Attorneys recognized as “Lawyer of the Year” in the 2026 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* and their practice areas include:

Buffalo, N.Y.

- [Gary P. Bluestein](#) – Tax Law
- [Amy Habib Rittling](#) – Mediation
- [Kevin T. Merriman](#) – Insurance Law
- [Jennifer C. Persico](#) – Litigation – Municipal

Rochester, N.Y.

- [Amy L. Reichhart](#) – Environmental Law

Syracuse, N.Y.

- [Michael J. Compagni](#) – Health Care Law

Lippes Mathias attorneys and their respective practice areas who have been named to the 2026 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* include:

Albany, N.Y.

- [Conor E. Brownell](#) – Commercial Litigation
- [Matthew L. Hosford](#) – Health Care Law
- [Keith R. Jacques](#) – Government Relations Practice; Labor Law – Union
- [Anoush Koroghlian-Scott](#) – Health Care Law
- [Lawrence H. Schaefer](#) – Labor Law – Union
- [David E. Siegfeld](#) – Elder Law
- [Karl J. Sleight](#) – Commercial Litigation

Buffalo, N.Y.

- [Scott S. Allen, Jr.](#) – Commercial Litigation; Criminal Defense: White-Collar
- [Brian J. Bocketti](#) – Banking and Finance Law; Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships); Commercial Finance Law; Corporate Law; Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- [Kevin J. Cross](#) – Commercial Litigation
- [Jillian E. Deck](#) – Banking and Finance Law
- [Thomas J. Fennell](#) – Real Estate Law
- [Raymond L. Fink](#) – Banking and Finance Law; Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law; Commercial Litigation; Litigation – Bankruptcy
- [John J. Flynn](#) – Criminal Defense: White-Collar
- [Nisha V. Fontaine](#) – Immigration Law
- [Scott E. Friedman](#) – Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships); Corporate Law
- [Thomas J. Gaffney](#) – Commercial Litigation; Construction Law; Litigation – Construction
- [Steven S. Grieco](#) – Corporate Law
- [Amy Habib Rittling](#) – Employment Law – Management; Labor Law – Management; Mediation
- [Hon. Carol E. Heckman \(Ret.\)](#) – Appellate Practice; Arbitration; Commercial Litigation; Mediation; Native American Law
- [Margaret A. Hurley](#) – Commercial Litigation; Litigation – Real Estate
- [Gregory T. Ivancic](#) – Corporate Law
- [Elizabeth M. Klarin](#) – Immigration Law
- [John J. Koepfel](#) – Corporate Law; Mergers and Acquisitions Law; Venture Capital Law
- [Brendan H. Little](#) – Commercial Litigation

- [Christian M. Lovelace](#) – Corporate Law
- [Brian C. Mahoney](#) – Commercial Litigation
- [Eileen M. Martin](#) – Immigration Law
- [Kirstie A. Means](#) – Commercial Litigation
- [Kevin T. Merriman](#) – Insurance Law
- [Paul A. Mitchell](#) – Corporate Law; Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- [Johnny A. Mueller](#) – Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law; Litigation – Bankruptcy
- [Michael L. Nisengard](#) – Real Estate Law
- [Helen Osgood](#) – Commercial Finance Law; Real Estate Law
- [Jennifer C. Persico](#) – Commercial Litigation; Litigation – Municipal; Litigation – Real Estate; Municipal Law
- [Brendan J. Rich](#) – Corporate Governance Law; Corporate Law; Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- [Meghann N. Roehl](#) – Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants
- [Paul J. Schulz](#) – Corporate Law; Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- [Blaine S. Schwartz](#) – Real Estate Law
- [Ryan V. Stearns](#) – Real Estate Law
- [Lauren A. Suttell](#) – Health Care Law
- [Courtney Donahue Tasner](#) – Trusts and Estates
- [Charles E. Telford, III](#) – Trusts and Estates
- [Dennis C. Vacco](#) – Commercial Litigation; Corporate Compliance Law; Criminal Defense: White-Collar
- [Paul F. Wells](#) – Real Estate Law
- [Alan S. Wexler](#) – Real Estate Law
- [Andrew M. Wilson](#) – Immigration Law

Clarence, N.Y.

- [Gary P. Bluestein](#) – Litigation and Controversy – Tax; Tax Law
- [Daniel F. Brown](#) – Commercial Litigation

Jacksonville, Fla.

- [Daniel D. Akel](#) – Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships); Corporate Law
- [Edward C. Akel](#) – Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships); Litigation – Trusts and Estates; Litigation and Controversy – Tax; Tax Law
- [Alessandro A. Apolito](#) – Litigation – Trusts and Estates; Trusts and Estates
- [Helen S. Atter](#) – Corporate Law
- [Kathleen H. Cold](#) – Corporate Law; Tax Law; Trusts and Estates
- [Musa K. Farmand](#) – Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants; Personal Injury Litigation – Plaintiffs
- [H. Leon Holbrook, III](#) – Corporate Law
- [Michael J. Lufkin](#) – Employment Law – Management
- [Thomas R. Ray](#) – Construction Law; Litigation – Construction
- [Bethany Ray Reichard](#) – Commercial Litigation
- [Robert G. Riegel, Jr.](#) – Employment Law – Management; Labor Law – Management; Litigation – Labor and Employment
- [Christopher A. Walker](#) – Corporate Law

New York, N.Y.

- [Matthew D. Asbell](#) – Litigation – Intellectual Property; Trademark Law

Rochester, N.Y.

- [Alan R. Feldstein](#) – Real Estate Law
- [Kelly S. Foss](#) – Appellate Practice; Commercial Litigation
- [Svetlana K. Ivy](#) – Appellate Practice; Commercial Litigation
- [Amy L. Reichhart](#) – Environmental Law

Syracuse, N.Y.

- [Marc S. Beckman](#) – Health Care Law
- [Stephen H. Cohen](#) – Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law; Health Care Law
- [Michael J. Compagni](#) – Health Care Law
- [Bruce A. Smith](#) – Health Care Law
- [Laura L. Spring](#) – Litigation – Labor and Employment

Washington, D.C.

- [Klint A. Cowan](#) – Native American Law
- [Brendan P. Kelleher](#) – Employment Law – Management; Labor Law – Management
- [Michael G. Rossetti](#) – Native American Law

West Palm Beach, Fla.

- [Conrad Damon](#) – Real Estate Law
- [Michael J Posner](#) – Real Estate Law
- [Philip H. Ward, III](#) – Closely Held Companies and Family Businesses Law; Real Estate Law

Attorneys who have been named to the 2026 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch* list and their practice areas include:

Albany, N.Y.

- [Juliana E. Piemonte](#) – Labor and Employment Law – Employee
- [John M. Tuppen](#) – Labor and Employment Law – Employee

Buffalo, N.Y.

- [Vadim V. Belous](#) – Real Estate Law
- [Richard R. Capote](#) – Environmental Law; Real Estate Law
- [Hannah E. Cominsky](#) – Commercial Litigation

- [J. Tyler Finn](#) – Corporate Governance and Compliance Law; Corporate Law; Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- [Donell L. Gibson, Jr.](#) – Corporate Governance and Compliance Law; Corporate Law; Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- [MacKenzie E. Hamill](#) – Corporate Law; Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- [Anthony M. Kroese](#) – Commercial Litigation; Corporate Law; Litigation – Intellectual Property; Real Estate Law
- [Gregory T. Measer](#) – Health Care Law
- [Jessica M. Peraza](#) – Elder Law; Litigation – Trusts and Estates; Trusts and Estates
- [Mitchell J. Ream](#) – Banking and Finance Law; Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships); Corporate Law; Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- [Thomas R. Southard](#) – Commercial Litigation
- [Carmen Alexander Vacco](#) – Commercial Litigation; Criminal Defense: White-Collar
- [Caroline R. Vilardo](#) – Corporate Governance and Compliance Law; Corporate Law; Mergers and Acquisitions Law

Jacksonville, Fla.

- [Mark D. Canfield](#) – Litigation – Real Estate; Real Estate Law

Rochester, N.Y.

- [Megan N. Ha](#) – Banking and Finance Law
- [Alexis B. Telga](#) – Banking and Finance Law

About Lippes Mathias LLP

Lippes Mathias is a full-service law firm with 220-plus attorneys serving clients regionally, nationally, and internationally. With offices in Buffalo, Clarence, Albany, Long Island, New York, Rochester, Syracuse, and Saratoga Springs, N.Y.; Greater Toronto Area; Chicago, Ill.; Jacksonville, Tampa Bay, and West Palm Beach, Fla.; Cleveland, Ohio; San Antonio, Texas; Oklahoma City, Okla. and Washington, D.C., the firm represents publicly and privately-owned companies, private equity and venture capital firms, independent sponsors, real estate developers, financial institutions, municipalities, governmental entities, and individuals.

Ranked No. 204 on The National Law Journal's NLJ 500 list of the largest law firms in the United States by attorney headcount, Lippes Mathias is proud to be recognized year after year by The Best Lawyers in America®, U.S. News - Best Lawyers®, Super Lawyers, and Chambers USA. For more information, visit www.lippes.com.

Related Team



New York: Albany, Buffalo, Clarence, Long Island, New York City, Rochester, Saratoga Springs, Syracuse // Florida: Jacksonville, West Palm Beach
 Illinois: Chicago // Ohio: Cleveland // Oklahoma: Oklahoma City // Ontario: Greater Toronto Area // Texas: San Antonio // Washington, D.C

Attorney advertising. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.



Daniel D. Akel
Partner



Edward C. Akel
Partner



Scott S. Allen, Jr.
Partner | Team
Leader - Agriculture



**Alessandro A.
Apolito**
Partner | Office
Leader, Jacksonville



Matthew D. Asbell
Partner



Helen S. Atter
Partner | Team
Leader - General
Counsel Services



Marc S. Beckman
Partner | Team Co-
Leader - Health Care



Vadim V. Belous
Associate



Gary P. Bluestein
Of Counsel



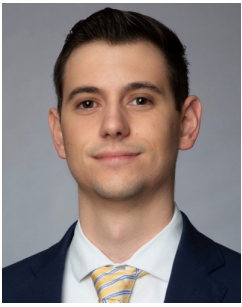
Brian J. Bocketti
Chief Growth Officer
| Partner | Executive
Committee | Team
Co-Leader - Banking
& Financial
Transactions



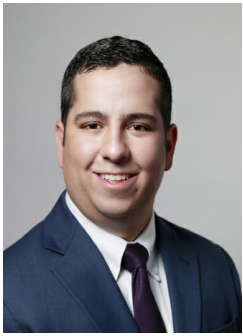
Daniel F. Brown
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Partner



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Senior Associate



Richard R. Capote
Partner



Stephen H. Cohen
Partner



Kathleen H. Cold
Partner



**Hannah E.
Cominsky**
Associate



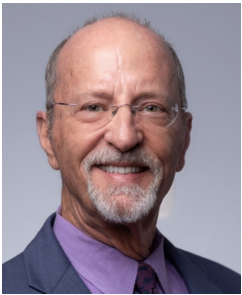
**Michael J.
Compagni**
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Leader, Syracuse



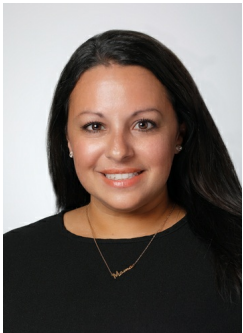
Klint A. Cowan
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Leader - Indian Law



Kevin J. Cross
Managing Partner |
Chairman | Executive
Committee



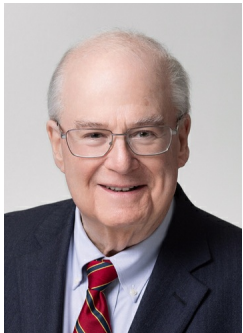
Conrad Damon
Partner



Jillian E. Deck
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Financial
Transactions



Musa K. Farmand
Partner



Alan R. Feldstein
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Thomas J. Fennell
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Raymond L. Fink
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Restructuring &
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J. Tyler Finn
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John J. Flynn
Partner | Team
Leader - Municipal
Law | Team Co-
Leader - Lobbying &
Public Policy



**Nisha V. Fontaine
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Kelly S. Foss
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Scott E. Friedman
Partner | Team Co-
Leader Startups &
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Chief Operating
Officer | Partner |
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Team Leader -
Construction
Litigation



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Steven S. Grieco
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Megan N. Ha
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Amy Habib Rittling
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Officer | Team
Leader -
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MacKenzie E. Hamill
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Hon. Carol E. Heckman (Ret.)
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Leader- Alternative
Dispute Resolution



H. Leon Holbrook III
Partner



Matthew L. Hosford
Partner



Margaret A. Hurley
Partner



Gregory T. Ivancic
Senior Counsel



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Leader - Appellate



Keith R. Jacques
Partner | Team
Leader - Public
Sector Labor



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John J. Koeppl
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Equity | Team
Leader- Independent
Sponsor



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Brendan H. Little

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Leader - Consumer
Financial Services
Litigation



Christian M.

Lovelace
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Leader - Franchising
& Licensing | Team
Leader - Asset
Receivable
Management | Team
Co-Leader -
Corporate



Michael J. Lufkin

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Brian C. Mahoney

Partner



Eileen M. Martin

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Leader - Immigration
| Team Leader -
Canada-U.S. Cross
Border



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Gregory T. Measer

Senior Associate



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Partner | Team
Leader - Insurance
Recovery,
Counseling &
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Paul A. Mitchell
Senior Counsel



Johnny A. Mueller
Partner | Team Co-
Leader - Financial
Restructuring &
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**Michael L.
Nisengard**
Partner



Helen Osgood
Senior Counsel



Jennifer C. Persico
Partner | Executive
Committee | Team
Leader - Litigation



Juliana E. Piemonte
Associate



Michael J. Posner
Partner | Florida
Board Certified In
Real Estate Law



Thomas R. Ray
Partner



Mitchell J. Ream
Senior Associate



**Bethany Ray
Reichard**
Partner



Amy L. Reichhart
Partner | Team
Leader- Brownfield &
Superfund Cleanup
and Redevelopment



Brendan J. Rich

Partner | Team Co-Leader - Corporate | Team Leader - Mergers & Acquisitions



Robert G. Riegel, Jr.

Partner



Meghann N. Roehl

Partner | Team Leader - Medical Malpractice Litigation Defense



Michael G. Rossetti

Partner | Team Co-Leader – Government & Corporate Investigations | Team Co-Leader - Lobbying & Public Policy



Lawrence H. Schaefer

Partner



Paul J. Schulz

Senior Counsel



Blaine S. Schwartz

Partner



David E. Siegfeld

Partner | Team Leader - Trusts & Estates



Karl J. Sleight

Partner | Office Leader, Saratoga Springs



Bruce A. Smith

Partner



Thomas R. Southard

Associate



Laura L. Spring

Partner



Ryan V. Stearns
 Partner | Team
 Leader - Cannabis



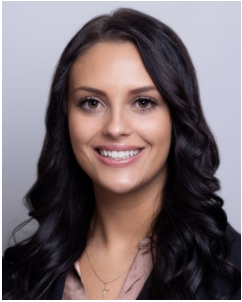
Lauren A. Suttell
 Partner | Team
 Leader - Not-For-
 Profit



**Courtney Donahue
 Tasner**
 Partner



Charles E. Telford III
 Partner



Alexis B. Telga
 Associate



John M. Tuppen
 Counsel



Dennis C. Vacco
 Partner | Executive
 Committee | Team
 Co-Leader -
 Government &
 Corporate
 Investigations



**Carmen Alexander
 Vacco**
 Senior Associate



Caroline R. Vilardo
 Senior Associate



**Christopher A.
 Walker**
 Partner



Philip H. Ward, III
 Partner



Paul F. Wells
 Partner | Executive
 Committee | Team
 Leader - Real Estate



Alan S. Wexler
Retired Partner



Andrew M. Wilson
Partner | Chief
Advisory Officer |
Team Co-Leader -
Immigration