The year 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment. The women who fought for the right to vote paved the way for women having a tangible voice in our society. Critically, the women inspired future generations of women, providing role models and inspiration to achieve.

We received well over 100 submissions of women who inspired another in their own way.
Kristen Hudson is a highly skilled litigator and counselor. She is, too, committed to the advancement of women in the profession, mentoring junior women lawyers in the firm and wider community, speaking at meetings and conferences organized by groups that focus on the professional development of women, and establishing herself as a thought leader not only in her particular area of expertise, but in matters affecting women in the profession. Her contributions have been recognized repeatedly by various bar and other groups in the local legal community. I am proud to nominate Kristen as a Woman Who Inspires Us.

- Stephen A. Wood
Tonya Newman

Tonya is an inspiring leader who has shared her valuable time to lead the charge to make sure that this conference is a grand success. She is an energetic and committed champion of the advancement of women and the Section of Litigation is lucky to have her among our ranks.

- Barb Dawson
Jennifer is a top-notch litigator who always maintains a sense of grace, composure and humor for her clients and colleagues. She is inspiring particularly for women in the litigation practice group, leading the way and lifting other women up.

She is also a secret talent of providing the most riveting and humorous reports of the Outmann Cup -- the DC office's annual associates v partner softball game. She is an all-around wonderful human being who keeps morale high in any situation.

- Catherine Stillman
Janice Mitrius

Janice has been a leader in the profession, with great experience managing her law firm, handling a national practice and serving in critical roles in the Section of Litigation. She is a positive force for the advancement of women, through her example and her persistent encouragement and support of other women. She inspires me and makes me smile, as her great judgment and steady hand makes all work together easier and more fun.

- Barb Dawson
Angela is the pro bono partner at Baker & McKenzie. In that role she has led her firm to do transformational work for children's legal rights all over the world, for example publishing homeless youth handbooks, creating the first ever White House Foster Care Hackathon and sponsoring two international summits on the legal rights of street connected children and youth. These innovative efforts are inspirational, but what makes her inspiring to me is that in the 20 years I've known her she has helped me believe in myself by being my biggest cheerleader, my mentor and friend.

- Cathy Krebs
Edith G. Osman

Edith is not only an inspiration to me but to all woman lawyers. She has been a trailblazer in the profession throughout her career. In addition to being a phenomenal attorney, she was the second woman to be President of the Florida Bar, was a president of the Florida Association of Woman Lawyers and has held numerous leadership positions in other bar and civic organizations.

- Rick Gross
Linda Coberly is a woman who has inspired and supported so many over her career. She speaks up for others who need a powerful voice. A creator of Winston’s 2016 Sponsorship Initiative pilot, Linda led a group that identified, cultivated, and supported sponsoree-sponsor relationships between high-performing women and diverse lawyers and senior partners invested in their sponsorees’ success. She also played a key role in creating and implementing a gender-neutral parental leave program. Currently, Linda is Chair of the national ERA Coalition’s Legal Task force and is working to support ratification efforts after assisting in bringing about Illinois’s historic ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

- Paula W. Hinton
Hon. Lorna G. Schofield was confirmed by a unanimous U.S. Senate vote as a United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York on December 13, 2012. Judge Schofield began her career as an associate at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton. She then served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Criminal Division of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York. She is a former chair of the American Bar Association Section of Litigation, an organization in which she held many leadership positions over twenty years. Judge Schofield has written and spoken frequently about trial tactics and women in the legal profession.

- Pilar Kraman
Jennifer McClellan

Jennifer McClellan is a winner; plain and simple. The mother of a 4-year-old and 8-year-old, Jennifer was elected to the Senate of Virginia in January 2017. Prior to her election, Jennifer was a member of the Virginia House of Delegates for 11 years. Elected at the age of 33, she was the youngest female delegate. Currently, Jennifer is an Assistant General Counsel at Verizon Communications and a member of the Virginia Bar Association Board of Governors. I first met Jennifer as a colleague at Hunton & Williams in Richmond, VA when she was a Litigation Associate focusing on Telecommunications Regulatory issues at the firm. She is currently Regulatory Counsel at Verizon with 17 years' tenure with that company. A woman fully aware of her worth, Jennifer's drive, commitment and sheer excellence in all that she does is a testament to the "totality of being" to which any female of any age can aspire.

- Jennifer Bechet
Laurel Bellows is a true leader and inspiration to all women lawyers. She has served as President of the American Bar Association, Chair of the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession and head of the Chicago Bar Association. She also leads a women-owned law firm.

- Helen Kim
Jennifer Ancona Semko

Jennifer is an incredibly talented litigator. Equally important, she is a true leader in the Washington, DC office and in her practice group nationally.

- Michael Egan
Kaity Kasper accomplished more in 40 years than most do in many more decades. Throughout her battle with cancer, Kaity showed unbelievable courage, grit and love of life. I knew her not just as a great coverage lawyer and leader of the Section's Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee, but for her verve in Tucson on the dance floor. I was privileged to work with her as an author and speaker, and to enjoy life with her as a terrific and inspiring human being. Though she lost her valiant fight last year, her example of excellence and service continues to inspire.

- Lorelie S. Masters
Barb Dawson

Barb is such an inspiration to myself and many of the women at my firm. Barb goes out of her way to bring others along with her in her success. She is on the executive committee at my firm, the chair of the ABA Section of Litigation, and involved in numerous non-profits. Her dedication to the legal profession and her community is a true inspiration to me.

- Blakeley Griffith
Edith is a leader who inspires other women who are following in her footsteps. As a past president of the Florida Bar, she is always looking for opportunities to introduce other women lawyers to bar leadership. She is a mentor to many and truly embraces all aspects of being a well-rounded lawyer.

- Yolanda Strader

Edith G. Osman
Paula W. Hinton

Paula Hinton is a great trial attorney who parachutes into trials on complex business matters. She is the former Co-chair of the Woman Advocate Committee and has held numerous positions in the Section including co-chair of Annual Meetings such as the Houston Professional Success Summit. She works tirelessly for the Section and on women's issues.

- Mary Craig Calkins
Over twenty years after we first met, Judge Pamela A.M. Campbell continues to be an inspiration to me. When faced with a difficult decision in my practice, I am guided by Judge Campbell’s dedication to the core values of integrity, honesty, and zealous advocacy. Judge Campbell has also been an inspiration for her devotion to improving our profession and her community. She has always been available for advice whenever I needed it. She is my champion and I am forever grateful.

- Sabrina C. Beavens
Jennifer is an amazingly talented lawyer who always demonstrates grace, a sense of humor, along with propriety and civility in the face of even the worst confrontation in litigation. She is a true leader that inspires our entire women attorney team in Disputes in Baker, holding one of the highest leadership positions of our practice group in North America. She's simply amazing!

- Jennifer Trock
Ms. Coward is one of the top litigators in the area practicing in criminal law, juvenile delinquency, family law and local & city government. An advocate for children, Ms. Coward is co-founder of One Voice Children’s Law Center, a non-profit organization that represents kids that have pending matters in the dependency, delinquency and/or educational systems. Ms. Coward is currently co-chair of the YLLP for the Section of Litigation but has previously served as a Division Director and chair of several other committees within the Section. She is also Chair-Elect of the GP Solo & Small Firm Division of the ABA. Her endless commitment to service is an inspiration to me and makes her stand out from her peers.

- Keathan Frink
Kaity Kasper lost her third go-round of an epic battle with cancer on September 22, 2018 (having just turned 40). Kaity was a great coverage lawyer and champion for the Section's Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee. She was a well known face (as a speaker and reliable attendee) at the ICLC's Tucson and WIN meetings. As a former ICLC web editor, I often turned to Kaity to contribute content. Kaity also gave so much to her community in terms of fundraising for cancer causes. Her life and struggle are truly an inspiration.

- Rina Carmel
Ms. Zandra Foley is an amazing leader and mentor. She is an inspiration to me and other female attorneys because not only is she a minority equity female partner, but she is an excellent mentor and role model. Ms. Foley was appointed as Section Head to the Products Liability Section in 2017 and is the first female to serve this position. Her dedication to her work and family is another inspiration because she has shown that a work-life balance is possible. Personally, she encouraged me to balance my (new) family life with work because "we can win in any situation."

- Sandy Huynh
Lindsay Breedlove sets the bar for achievement. A newly elected partner of Pepper Hamilton in Philadelphia recognizes her appetite to grow through excellence. All of my peers look up to her as a youthful role model.

- Louis Burke
Stephanie Scharf is a former partner at Kirkland & Ellis who left to establish a women's based firm in Chicago. She has been the chair of the ABA Commission of Women in the Profession, is a vigorous advocate for the advancement of women, and focuses on women's issues. In addition to being a zealous and excellent advocate for her clients, she is involved in numerous activities to publicize the Commission's findings on women. A true role model for young women and an excellent trial attorney.

- Mary Craig Calkins
Barb Dawson

Barb will probably see this nomination and say no, but her MDs and the Conference Chairs should override any objections. Barb is a great role model, not only in her practice where she is a major rainmaker and superb litigator, but also in her excellent service to the Section and now as Chair. She should be recognized on this list!

- Mary Craig Calkins
Section of Litigation leader and former Committee co-chair Tina Tchen has advanced the position of women attorneys nationally. In addition to handling complex civil litigation and high profile class action and enforcement matters and acting as office managing partner of a major law firm, she previously served as an Assistant to President Obama, Executive Director of the White House Council on Women and Girls, and Chief of Staff to First Lady Michelle Obama. She worked on Title IX initiatives and was instrumental in the formation of the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault. Tina also is a cofounder of Time's Up Legal Defense Fund, a national movement devoted to fighting sexual harassment, gender inequity, and discrimination, and has addressed these issues at Forbes’ I.D.E.A. Summit, the Wall Street Journal’s Future of Everything Festival, Vanity Fair’s Founder’s Fair, and the Milken Institute’s Global Conference, among other notable venues. Tina Tchen is a leader of Buckley’s Workplace Cultural Compliance practice, counseling companies on issues related to gender inequity, sexual harassment, and lack of diversity in the workplace.

- Mary Craig Calkins
I am pleased to nominate Janet Nesse to be among the 100 Women Who Inspire Us. Janet gave me my big break in law school, hiring me as a part-time law clerk at her law firm. Janet taught me the importance of being a fierce and practical advocate for my clients and the tremendous value of having a patient but matter-of-fact mentor. She also taught me that life is not always fair, but you fight for what you know is right, and you maintain your sense of humor. Janet is the type of lawyer and woman I aspire to be.

- Anne Kamosso
Sheryl Howard is an invaluable mentor to young minority attorneys. Sheryl spent a total of twelve years as an in-house trial attorney for two of the largest insurance companies in the country and spent nine years in private insurance defense practice as a senior trial attorney. In 2003, she was appointed by the Louisiana Supreme Court as Judge Pro Tem for the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans. During her career, she has handled more than 900 files to conclusion and tried over 100 judge and jury trials. Aside from her professional accomplishments, she serves as a member in several professional and civic organizations, and she actively mentors young minority attorneys in the Greater New Orleans area.

- Ebony Morris
Jennifer Ancona Semko

I have practiced law with Baker McKenzie LLP for 30 years -- almost 20 of which with my partner, Jennifer Semko. She is by anyone's definition a wonderful person and terrific advocate. She epitomizes grace and civility in the most challenging of litigation settings. She is a natural leader who inspires other women in our practice group, holding leadership positions in both the DC office and regionally -- while masterfully balancing family obligations and raising strong women of her own.

- Barrie L. Brejcha
I’ve seen Amy Stewart grow from a young associate, to a senior associate developing her trial practice, to today the owner of a firm employing several attorneys while maintaining her firm’s vision as a minority owned litigation firm. Along with being a great attorney, Amy is tenacious, gracious with her time, a mentor to many, and a champion of diversity, women and veterans. She is active in several bars and the Litigation Section. Amy Stewart is a bright star who often spotlights others in the field. She inspires me to do more. I’m honored to call her a colleague and friend.

- Laura McLaughlin
I’ve always been inspired by the energy Kristen is able to bring to so many different aspects of the legal profession. As a commercial litigator, she tirelessly pursues good results for her clients. She is an enthusiastic law school adjunct professor and coach of a moot arbitration team, helping to mentor the next generation of lawyers. She finds time for pro bono work, having dedicated countless hours to Chicago Volunteer Legal Services. And, if that were not enough, Kristen was recently elected to the Cook County Assembly for the Illinois State Bar Association. Kristen’s energy is truly remarkable!

- Lesley Smith
Kaity Kasper lost an epic battle with cancer on September 22, 2018, having just turned 40. Kaity was a great insurance coverage lawyer and champion for the Litigation Section's Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee. She was well known at the ICLC's Tucson and WIN meetings, frequently wrote for ICLC publications, and had a relentlessly positive outlook. Both Kaity's professional and personal life are truly an inspiration.

- Suzan Charlton
Christina was my co-Managing Director during Gene Vance's year. She is a dynamo, with a tremendous focus on young lawyers and the Section of Litigation. Christina is former Chair of the Young Lawyers Division, was Chair of the ABA Rules and Calendar Committee appointed by Bill Bay, and works tirelessly on ABA and Section activities. She teaches in addition to her duties with the Wisconsin Court of Appeal. And after long days, she takes young lawyers out to ensure that their Section experiences will enhance our future leadership. I remain in awe.

- Mary Craig Calkins
Tremendously skilled advocate; mentors young associates, giving them argument and client contact experience; very supportive of my pro bono efforts.

- Graham Cronogue
It goes without saying that Angela is a leader in her field. Her substantive knowledge, experience, and business acumen set her apart among her peers in the insurance coverage practice area. What truly makes Angela inspiring, though, is her willingness to befriend and mentor young attorneys, particularly women, who aspire to follow her path. While many attorneys are willing to accept a mentor when asked, Angela is proactive about her mentoring - seeking out potential mentees and consistently following up with them over time. She helps to develop their skills, point them in the direction of valuable opportunities, and offers practical advice and guidance. I am constantly inspired by Angela and consider myself lucky to know her.

- Lindsay Rollins
Amy is incredibly smart, creative, and calm under pressure. She is kind, thoughtful and has the best laugh. Amy is someone you can always turn to with any problem, work or personal, and she will stop whatever she is doing (and she is always doing a million things) and will treat you like you are her only priority. When I’m trying to work through a problem at work, I always ask myself, “What would Amy do?” Amy is an inspiration to me (and so many others) and I am forever grateful for her mentorship and friendship.

- Robin Perkins
Emily N. Masalski

Emily sees roadblocks for women in the legal profession and finds ways to knock them down. She is always looking for ways to clear the path for women who follow her. She is driven, confident, loyal, ethical and, most importantly, fun. She is a great person to know. When she saw that working, traveling mothers had no private room to pump at O'Hare, she prepared the initial draft of Senate Bill 0344 “Lactation Accommodation in Airports Act” (“Act”) and coordinated outreach to Illinois legislators. The Act became law on August 2, 2015 (See, 410 ILCS 140/).

- Kristen Prinz
Robin is an exceptional and aspiring woman. She is an excellent mentor to other women, taking the time to provide guidance and support. For example, Robin went in house recently with Wells Fargo. However, she still has regular talks with me about my career and business development. Her support has been instrumental to my success and the success of many, many other women. Additionally, Robin is involved in many organizations, including the ABA and serving on the board of the Animal Foundation, a non-profit which provides shelter services to animals.

- Blakeley Griffith
Michelle A. Behnke, ABA Treasurer, has mentored me for 25 years. She is a Past President, Treasurer, and Board Chair of the State Bar of Wisconsin. She was the first African-American to hold many positions, including Chair of our State Bar’s Diversity Outreach Committee. She is a role model for all lawyers, especially women lawyers and lawyers of color. Michelle has her own law firm, focusing on business, real estate, and estate planning. She also serves on numerous non-profit and corporate boards, and she served five years on the Wisconsin Federal Nominating Commission. She is a dynamo dedicated to helping fellow lawyers and citizens.

- Christina Plum
Judge Abrams is probably the most reasonable person I have ever met. She manages to carefully, realistically, and optimally balance her family and judicial responsibilities. She somehow excels at all of it. Her ability to multitask and maintain perspective is remarkable. On a daily basis, she goes from adjudicating disputes between litigants who appear before her in court to those between her daughters who call her in chambers. She always makes time to listen, because what matters most is getting it right. She often repeats that every case is equally important. What sets her apart is that she means it.

- Jennifer Fischell

Hon. Ronnie Abrams
Lisa Ramsay Cole

Lisa Ramsay Cole has broken new ground in Tennessee twice: first for being elected a shareholder while working part time and secondly for being elected as the only female leading a large firm in Tennessee. Lisa has focused her practice on representing medical providers in medical malpractice cases and employers in workers compensation matters in state and federal court. After six years as an attorney, her first child was born in 1999, and Lisa's father was fighting a battle against cancer. At that time, it was virtually unheard of for a female attorney to work a reduced, flexible schedule and stay on partnership track. Despite these challenges, Lisa quadrupled her client base and caseload, made shareholder, and rose in the firm. Lisa is believed to be the first female to be named shareholder while working part time in one of the 10 largest firms in the state.

As her children entered school, Lisa was able to return to work full time and assume even more leadership roles in her law firm and in the community. In 2013, Lisa was elected President/managing shareholder of her firm and now leads one of the largest firms in the state. During her tenure, Lisa has managed merger of her firm Lewis King with a long established firm in Memphis Thomason Hendrix. The new firm is known as Lewis Thomason. Lisa has been elected President/managing shareholder of the combined firm for multiple terms since then. The combined firm is spread over three offices across the state of Tennessee and has nearly 100 attorneys and enjoyed 15% growth last year.

- Jonathan Cole
Stacy Douglas

Stacy is the embodiment of the ideal female attorney. She is a skilled attorney and has been recognized by California Super Lawyers as a Rising Star from 2009-2013. Notably, she served as the Chair of the 2019 DRI Diversity Seminar, and she will serve as the first African-American woman Chair of the 2020 DRI Annual Meeting. She is active and passionate about promoting diversity in the legal profession, and she serves as a mentor for young women attorneys.

- Ebony Morris
Mary McCutcheon is an excellent litigator and coverage attorney, and great mentor for women. She is former Committee Co-Chair for the Section of Litigation's Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee, Past President of the American College of Coverage Counsel, and active in San Francisco area associations. She has been recognized as Legal Momentum's Women of Achievement Award in 2016, and she speaks on a variety of issues at professional conferences, such as those sponsored by the American Bar Association, the American College of Coverage Counsel, the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the Association of Corporation Counsel. Her mentorship of young women is outstanding.

- Mary Craig Calkins
Jhanice Domingo

Jhanice V. Domingo is a leader in her own right. She is a family lawyer by trade, a powerhouse in the Filipino and Asian Pacific American bar association leadership organizations both nationally and regionally in the NY-NJ area balancing partnership, bar association leadership and motherhood. She was born in Manila, Philippines and since moving to New Jersey has been an exemplar for female lawyers. She is a partner/member of the Board of Directors at her firm and has been recognized by various organizations for her professional achievements. She is a past president of the National Filipino American Lawyers Association (NFALA) and the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of NJ (APALA-NJ). Currently, she serves as Chair of APALA-NJ’s and NFALA’s Judicial and Prosecutorial Appointments Committee, and also sits on the advisory board of NFALA. She is also a long-standing member of the Korean American Family Service Center (KAFSC) where she serves as legal counsel of KAFSC’s pro bono family law clinic in New Jersey.

- Janice Arellano
Paula W. Hinton

Paula, the daughter of a judge in Alabama, and has risen to be a prominent national trial lawyer, sought after for her strategic thinking and fierce commitment to her clients. She has dedicated herself to the advancement of women in the profession of law through service in numerous bar associations and within the firms where she has practiced. She pulls other women up the ladder behind her and is a staunch advocate for adding more women to the table. She has taught countless women how to manage competing responsibilities as she inspires them to pursue their professional and personal goals.

- Anne Marie Seibel
Edith has been a champion for women in the profession throughout her career. She has been a leader in various community organizations, including President of the Florida Bar, and is constantly looking for ways to support other women in our firm, helping younger attorneys find leadership positions and find their voice as attorneys. She inspires me to mentor other women and to advocate for equality in the profession.

- Naomi Berry
Alfreda Coward

Alfreda once told me that she likes conflict. Shocked I asked her why and she told me that through conflict comes growth. That is one of the many lessons I have learned from Alfreda. Her life has been all about service to vulnerable populations, particularly children. She is an adoptive mom and a fierce lawyer for children in both delinquency and dependency matters. In addition to her work, Alfreda serves in so many volunteer leadership roles in bar associations and service organizations and is chair elect to the GP Solo Section.

- Cathy Krebs
Celia is a respected litigator in the field of employment and labor law. She is a frequent speaker to professional and business groups and a nationally published author on employment issues. She is recognized by Best Lawyers and Super Lawyers in Employment Law, Labor Law and Workers’ Compensation Law. Celia served as Chair of the Alabama State Bar Labor and Employment Law Section from 2007 to 2008. In 2014, she was recognized by Best Lawyers as Mobile’s Lawyer of the Year in Employment Litigation Defense.

Celia has always been an inspiration to her fellow women lawyers in Alabama. She served as Chair of the Alabama State Bar’s Standing Committee on Women in the Profession from 1994 to 1996 and then as Chair of the Task Force on Women in the Profession from 1996 to 1998, both precursors of the ASB’s Women’s Section. Celia is passionate about all of the women lawyer organizations she belongs to, but she isn’t just a passive proponent of their goals. She gets involved, she has ideas, and she reaches out to younger lawyers. Her passion and energy are infectious.

In 1998, Celia decided to run for an open seat on the ASB Board of Bar Commissioners. At the time, only a handful of women had served as Bar Commissioners, none from Mobile. She put herself out there and won election, serving on the Board until 2007. She also served as Vice President of the ASB from 2003 to 2004, only the third woman to do so.

Celia has taken on other leadership roles as well. She has served as President of the Paul W. Brock Inn of Court in Mobile and as a member of the Board of Directors for the South Alabama Volunteer Lawyers Program. She is a Fellow of both the Alabama Law Foundation and the American Bar Foundation.

And, if all of that is not impressive enough, Celia has also been very active outside of the legal profession, serving on various community boards such as United Way of Southwest Alabama, YMCA of South Alabama, the Women’s Business Center of Mobile, and United Cerebral Palsy of Mobile. She has been a member and director of the Junior League of Mobile.

- Mary Margaret Bailey
Jennifer is an excellent litigator, able to distill complex legal issues for her clients and the courts. She is committed to diversity and inclusion, serving as a role model and mentor to young associates, women and minorities. She gives young lawyers the opportunity to speak in court and argue motions. She is also dedicated to pro bono work. She recently represented activists seeking to protect African-American burial grounds from being turned into parking space. She made partner while on maternity leave and now chairs the litigation and government enforcement group for her firm’s DC office. A true inspiration!

- Marilyn Batonga
Jennifer Parent

Jennifer Parent is an outstanding New Hampshire attorney recognized for her tireless work successfully advocating on behalf of businesses and employers. Jennifer works to help make New Hampshire a better place and her efforts have helped pave the way for future women to be leaders in both the field of law and business.

Her contributions to the legal profession are immense. She helped found the NH Women’s Bar Foundation, is the only person to be president of both the NH Bar Association and the NH Women’s Bar Association, and currently serves as President of the National Conference of Bar Presidents.

- Susan de Mari
Hon. Karen Wells Roby

Judge Roby is an inspiration not only to me, but to local women attorneys in New Orleans, Louisiana. As a mentor, Judge Roby hosts monthly luncheons with young women attorneys to discuss their long-term goals and marketing strategies for building brands within their practice areas. Judge Roby brings a wealth of knowledge to her luncheons, and she is personally invested in the success of young women attorneys. She exemplifies excellence in the legal profession, and I am privileged and blessed to know her as a mentor and adviser.

- Ebony S. Morris
Judy Perry Martinez

Judy (Judy Perry Martinez) has inspired a generation of women through her leadership. She has excelled at every stage of her amazing career, and has had the vision to see where organizations should go to succeed. The ABA is so fortunate to benefit from Judy’s talents and commitment at this critical time. She well deserves to lead the celebration of the 100th anniversary for the ABA given the inspiration that she offers through her own example.

- Barb Dawson
Trish O'Prey is remarkable. She has held numerous positions in Section of Litigation leadership over the past decade plus, most recently on the Membership & Marketing and Woman Advocate Committees. She is former in-house counsel at General Electric, was a partner in private practice before that. Early this year, she opened her own law firm with a colleague to focus on her expertise in internal investigations and white collar litigation, as well as general civil litigation. She is a zealous advocate for women and a role model about how to get it all done, including making the bold choice to hang out your own shingle.

- Mary Craig Calkins
Jennifer Ancona Semko

Jennifer is an incredible individual, a loving mother and a super talented litigator. I have had the honor of working with her for almost 20 years at Baker McKenzie. Her grace, gravitas and intelligence have always set her apart. I am impressed by her presence and her ability to capture her audience all while putting a smile on the faces of her audience. Jennifer has served on many different management roles/committees in Baker McKenzie and serves as a mentor to many. She is truly an inspiration.

- Pamela Dayanim
Kristen E. Hudson

Whether representing a client or planning a celebration for a friend, Kristen is laser focused on ensuring that no detail is overlooked. I have never met anyone else who creates such a clear picture of the objective in every situation and has the tenacity to ensure that the end result is as beautiful and effective as her vision.

- Alison Larson
Justice Ginsburg shattered the glass ceiling in law school and again in her professional endeavors. She was a tireless advocate for the rights of women as a lawyer and rose to the highest level possible in her profession. In doing so, she inspired countless women to achieve their professional goals, even when they were the only women in the room. Her achievements and determination to remain a voice of influence have made her a cultural icon, as well. We are indebted to her for her service to women and to the nation, as well.

- Anne Marie Seibel
Tristan counsels clients on a variety of matters pertaining to international law, private client, tax, trusts, estates and probates. Tristan’s practice focuses on advising domestic and foreign high-net-worth individuals and families on various estate planning issues including sales to defective grantor trusts, family limited partnerships and grantor retained annuity trusts. Tristan is also experienced in designing and implementing estate planning strategies for high-net-worth clients from the United States and other countries. She inspires me because even with her professional obligations, she still manages to be involved with the legal community through bar association events and she volunteers her time to the community in general.

- Julie T. Houth
Kami inspires me in both word and example. She has taught me to be an objectively strong attorney since before I was one, she ensured that my first conference surrounded me with relatable role models (WIPL), and identifies how to avoid the subconscious cues that can make women seem “other” in the workplace. And she is an unquestionable driving force at our firm, notwithstanding her many “senior” male partners. I don’t think it’s a coincidence that the fastest people to make partner in the history of my firm are Kami and a woman she mentored and sponsored—me.

- Jenna A. Hudson
Fran is, of course, an excellent attorney and counselor. She is also brave and uncompromising in her expectations for women’s careers in the law and has “put her money where her mouth is” both in publicly calling out her prior law firm for its discriminatory actions and in turning her negative experiences into positive ones by starting her own firm, where she seeks to work with and support other women. She is gracious and always willing to lend a helping hand. She is a role model and mentor for me and was an inspiration for me in 2016, when I started the first national networking organization devoted to women entrepreneurs in the law, Women Owned Law.

- Nicole Galli
Amy is a constant source of positivity and vibrancy in the practice of law. She is selfless and always looking for ways to help support others around her. I have found that she is respected by her clients as much as her peers, and that those who know her hold nothing but praise for her.

- Rudy Perrino
Year after year, leading industry publications and legal directories recognize Jill as a top attorney in her field. She is routinely recognized in Chambers USA in the top level in Illinois and nationally and currently has the status of Senior Statesperson. She is consistently ranked in Lawdragon 3000, International Who’s Who of Business Lawyers, International Who’s Who of Insurance and Reinsurance Lawyers (2008-2019), Best Lawyers of America (2006-2020), Leading Lawyers of Illinois (Top 100 Attorneys and Top 50 Leading Women Business Lawyers in Illinois), and Illinois Super Lawyers (Top 100 Attorneys and Top 50 Female Attorneys). She was also awarded Lawyer of the Year by BestLawyers in the 2017 and 2019 editions for "Litigation - Insurance." Jill has been named a "litigation star" for the state of Illinois in the 2014 edition of Benchmark Litigation, The Guide to America’s Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys.

- Angela Elbert
Sandra Davidson

Sandra (Sandy) Davidson has been an inspiration to me since I first met her 20 years ago. Her approach to law, its meaning in our society, its elegance, its power, has stayed with me through my career and my life. Talking law with her was as much art as science, and inspires me with the beauty of law. Her lessons have also helped me avoid many lawsuits in my profession (journalism), and helped me effectively partner with our legal teams. I wouldn't be where I am without her, and I would have missed out on love of the law had I never met her.

- Tim Wolff
I have worked with Marisa in my capacity as both President and Board Member of the Mexican American Bar Association. Marisa has aggressively expanded our law student mentorship program, and single-handedly grown our Federal Judicial Externship Scholarship Program. She frequently speaks to students about her experience as a Latina litigator. Marisa candidly acknowledges the challenges facing young women of color in litigation, while also lauding the unique perspectives such women contribute. Her candor, eagerness to mentor, and commitment to expanding the number of women of color in federal externships and clerkships make Marisa incredibly inspirational to me and countless others.

- Oscar Rene Gutierrez, Esq.
Amber Duncan

Amber is a true inspiration and someone I admire immensely. She is currently a partner at Williams Mullen, but I met Amber several years ago when she was at another law firm. She recruited me to that firm and became a mentor and friend. She helped (and currently helps) me navigate difficult professional and personal issues always with an open mind and carefully crafted advice. She is a wife and mother to three young children and still finds the time to have a thriving law practice and be a true friend.

- Bridget Warren
JoAnne Epps

A whole generation of lawyers has celebrated and appreciated Joanne’s enthusiasm, dedication, humor, professional experience, commitment to due process, diversity and the profession of law. From a novice AUSA in California, to a public defender in Philadelphia, a pioneer in teaching trial skills in the nation’s law schools, JoAnne took a leap into the law school deanship of Temple Law from whence one might have expected Joanne to take a deep breath victory lap. But that would be wrong. JoAnne is now the Provost, the chief academic officer of Temple, the university that has raised to a high art form the delivery of a great education, a school with acres of diamonds in its own backyard.

- Lawrence J. Fox
Nicole has taken immense strides in establishing and growing her own law firm over the past four years and is also strongly committed to advancing fellow women lawyers. Upon witnessing the lack of easily accessible and current resources for women starting firms, Nicole started the first national networking organization devoted to women entrepreneurs in the law, Women Owned Law (WOL). I became a founding sponsor of WOL and currently serve as Chair of the Advisory Board. Involvement in WOL has been a pleasure and an honor. In the two years since WOL was founded, it has grown to 150+ members across the country and overseas. There are many professional organizations for women lawyers and entrepreneurs, but WOL fills a unique and greatly needed niche. It is the most inclusive on any legal or business group for women that I’ve encountered. Nicole’s sacrifices and achievements in founding and growing WOL are unrivaled.

- Francine Friedman Griesing
Anne Marie Seibel

Too many to list! She is a class act lawyer whose experience speaks for itself and is evident from her bio. Intangibles: she constantly and consistently serves as a sponsor, advocate, and mentor for women attorneys in and out of her firm at small and large firms. She argued at the New Hampshire Supreme Court and made time during that trip to support a fellow woman lawyer in a different firm going through a difficult time. She is amazing.

- Haley Maple
Megan is a star in the courtroom. After clerking, she joined the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of Illinois where she quickly distinguished herself, rising to Deputy Chief of the Financial Crimes and General Crimes sections. Her sharp intellect and humility are a lethal combination.

Megan is unflappable. She confronts novel legal issues and stressful situations with poise. Megan has work-life balance. She has become a star litigator while also balancing her role as a mother to four children.

Megan is generous. She always credits the entire team. And she makes a point of providing less-experienced attorneys with opportunities.

- Lauren Weinstein
Michelle Hernandez

Michelle is a zealous advocate for her clients, an avid proponent of diversity and inclusion in the legal profession, and a dedicated community leader. Over the last two decades, Michelle has cultivated a thriving litigation practice. She has also developed expertise in commercial matters and championed the causes of small business owners through advocacy in the courtroom and before the New Mexico Legislature and as the chair of the Albuquerque Hispano Chamber of Commerce. As a former regional president of the Hispanic National Bar Association, Michelle advocated for greater inclusion and advancement of Hispanic lawyers.

- Tomas Garcia
Jennifer does it all. She zealously advocates on behalf of her clients, patiently mentors attorneys at all levels, leads her practice group within the firm, guides overall firm strategy, and does all this while raising 3 wonderful girls. She is an inspiration to us all.

- Mark McCrone
Stephanie is extraordinarily accomplished. She is a founding member of Scharf Banks Marmor LLC, a boutique Chicago law firm providing legal services to businesses in the United States and globally. She obtained her Bachelors Degree from Rutgers University and her Ph.D. and Juris Doctorate from the University of Chicago Law School. Utilizing her Ph.D. and advanced training in statistical analysis and scientific research, she is an experienced trial attorney skilled at presenting technical issues to judges and juries. She has been named a Leading Lawyer and was selected as one of the “500 Leading Litigators in America” by Lawdragon Magazine. She is also dedicated to the advancement of women in the legal profession, serving as the 2018-2019 Chair of the American Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession, former President of the National Association of Women Lawyers (2004-2005), and a member of the Advisory Board of DirectWomen.

- Sherilyn Pastor
Emily N. Masalski is a founding partner of Hunter Masalski LLC, an environmental, health and safety law boutique in Chicago. In addition to successfully litigating in these fields, Ms. Masalski helps women attorneys, young lawyers, and law students advance into bar association leadership roles. She has served as an at-large delegate from Cook County to the ABA House of Delegates and in various Illinois State Bar Association and Chicago Bar Association leadership roles. Ms. Masalski prepared the initial draft of Senate Bill 0344 “Lactation Accommodation in Airports Act” (“Act”) and advocated for this Act, which became law in August 2015.

- Cheryl Dancey Balough
Kristen E. Hudson

Kristen is co-coach of UIC John Marshall Law School’s Vis International Commercial Arbitration team. Each year, I volunteer to moot the team before they travel abroad for competition. I observe first-hand the progress the students make through Kristen’s tutelage. The students respect and appreciate Kristen’s ability to create a cohesive team amongst members, some of whom speak English as their second language. This past year under Kristen’s leadership, the team brought home awards for Best Claimant’s Brief and Best Respondent's Brief. I am completely supportive of Kristen receiving this prestigious award.

- Edwin Josephson
Andrea inspires me with her drive, determination, and caring spirit. She has supported me since I joined GPSOLO, 2 kids ago, and was gracious enough to serve as my Diversity Fellow Mentor last year. She’s a savvy business woman and a hardworking lawyer. I’m grateful to consider her a colleague as well as a friend.

- Chisa Putman
Linda Klein, the first woman president of the State Bar of Georgia and the seventh woman president of the ABA, has served the ABA as chair of the House of Delegates, chair of the Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section, chair of the Committee on Rules and Calendar, and chair of ABA Day. Klein has received three honorary law degrees, the Margaret Brent Award and was named one of the 100 most powerful Georgians. In 2018, she was chosen "Attorney of the Year". Her practice includes dispute prevention and resolution, professional liability, and risk management. She was recognized recently for authoring a five sentence brief to emphasize the clear precedent supporting a successful preliminary injunction against enforcement of Georgia's "heartbeat" law.

- Pilar Kraman
Judge Piper Griffin is a judicial pacesetter in New Orleans, Louisiana. She is incredibly active in professional and civic associations and a frequent community and continuing legal education speaker. Judge Griffin has an "open door" policy, and she is deeply invested in the success of younger attorneys.

- Ebony Morris
Michelle Browning Coughlin

Michelle created an extraordinary community of lawyers who are mothers, Mothers Esquire. Part networking community, part referral service, part advocacy organization, all #womensupportingwomen. Michelle has made a profound impact on my life as a working litigator and primary breadwinner, and I know she has touched hundreds of us in her work.

- Jamie Szal
Angela has been a mentor to women at our firm since she first walked through the doors. Not only does she believe that women can do it all - have a thriving practice and develop a significant book of business from scratch while raising a family and being active in the community, she goes out of her way to help any woman in our firm (and in the greater legal community, for that matter) understand how she can do the same. The phrase "I can't" is not part of Angela’s vocabulary. Angela has been a friend, mentor and inspiration to me and to so many others, and truly deserves to be recognized for all that she does.

- Tonya G. Newman
A true role model, Kim Askew has encouraged dozens of young attorneys to be the best trial lawyer they can be. Walking into a courtroom to try a multimillion dollar case, you need the confidence that comes not only from talent, but from thorough preparation. Kim has it in spades because she employs her intelligence and work ethic to consider every angle of a case and to always be the most prepared in the room. Kim’s unique style inspires others to find the style that works for them and she pushes those around her to also be their best.

- Alison Ashmore
Kristen Hudson inspires me because she is completely genuine about helping other women in the legal profession. Through mentoring, pro bono, and leadership, Kristen supports others without keeping score—she champions others’ successes, remaining modest about her own. Work with the Coalition of Women’s Initiatives in Law and ABA’s Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee has demonstrated commitment to advancing women attorneys. She’s devoted her time for 18+ years to Chicago Volunteer Legal Services, helping obtain access to justice.

Kristen inspires with her perceptiveness, sharp mind, and professionalism. She represents the best and brightest—generously giving of her time, talent, and treasure.

- Jennifer Kobayashi
Christina Plum

Christina cares about the development of attorneys, particularly young attorneys. Christina is a past president of the State Bar of Wisconsin Young Lawyers Division and a past Chair of the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division. A Senior Staff Attorney for the Wisconsin Court of Appeals, Christina also teaches public speaking to law students at the University of Wisconsin Law School.

- Sherilyn Pastor
Megan Baroni

Megan is a great lawyer and an outstanding colleague. She is very responsive to clients, is active in the ABA, acts as a mentor to others at the firm, and serves on both the firm's Hiring and Women's Committees while raising two young boys. Her ability to seamlessly balance all of these competing demands is truly inspirational.

- Joey Lee Miranda
Mary Borja is a courageous litigator. She is a talented and passionate attorney, who handles complex coverage cases in a field dominated by men. I have been her adversary, and have always been impressed by her preparedness, integrity, and grit. Mary handles complex litigation and arbitration involving professional liability, general liability, crime, and property insurance coverage. She provides advice to insurers on legal malpractice and other errors and omissions claims, director and officer liability, bankruptcy, crime, construction defect, environmental liability, technology, emerging issues, and bad faith.

- Sherilyn Pastor
Barb Dawson

Both in her practice and as the current chair of the Section of Litigation, Barbara has worked for years to be a model of success and create a path for other women to succeed. Barbara serves on her firm’s Executive Committee and Compensation Committee, and has a thriving practice while also making time for pro bono work. Barbara has been widely recognized locally and nationally for her outstanding advocacy and pro bono work. Barbara also makes room and creates opportunities for other women to lead. She has been working for more than a year to make the Women in Litigation Joint Conference a success and a celebration of women.

- Tonya G. Newman
I know Anne Marie Seibel to be not only a winning litigator and a fierce advocate for clients, but also an inspiring leader, mentor and friend. Anne Marie draws on her innate skills and tireless work ethic to achieve successes for her clients every day. But she also makes the most of her many roles as a leader at the firm, the ABA, and the community to develop opportunities for other females and minorities to thrive and advance professionally. It is so inspiring to see someone use her voice and influence to increase dialogue about inclusion and champion others.

- Tiffany deGruy
Demetra Liggins

Demetra is a leader in the bankruptcy area focusing business finance and restructuring for a variety of large and small public and private companies. As one of the premier African-American women who practice in this area, she is a role model for younger practitioners who want to enter into this specialty. She is also the only African-American equity partner at Thompson & Knight, one of the oldest law firms in the state of Texas. In addition to her legal prowess, she and her sister started "The Corporate Homie" which provides mentoring to minorities who work in the corporate and legal environment. See more at https://www.corporatehomie.com

- Amy Stewart
Elizabeth is a trial partner at a national law firm, and a mother, mentor, cancer survivor and friend. Many women say they support other women in the workplace; Elizabeth does it. Her work for the economic advancement of women inspires. She created a women’s salary negotiation workshop (reaching 200+ women this year), chairs the 350-member Colorado Women’s Foundation PEP Committee (raising $350,000+ annually to support the work of the Women’s Foundation, including passing Colorado’s Equal Pay Act and impacting 2,800,000 women statewide), coaches a high school mock trial team, and serves as a Colorado Attorney Mentoring Program mentor.

- Kelley B. Duke
Hon. Karen Wells Roby

Judge Karen Wells Roby is a leader in the ABA and in my local legal community. In particular, I appreciate how she has invested her time in mentoring young women lawyers. She has provided countless opportunities for my professional development and provided an outlet for my peers when we need a seasoned woman lawyer to share things with.

- Ashley Heilprin
Cathy was a pioneer in the law and a woman who rose to power while taking others with her. She stood up and did the "right thing" at Shell Oil in developing true diversity measurements for outside counsel. As she often said, "that which can be measured can be judged." She is retired now, but continues to mentor and train young women lawyers to help through the pitfalls of everyone's careers...She made a difference.

- Paula Hinton
Professor Knauer is an excellent lawyer, author, law professor. In 2012 Professor Knauer created the Temple Law & Public Policy Program (LPP Program) where students study the intersection of law, politics, and policy. Professor Knauer is the co-founder of the Aging, Law & Society Collaborative Research Network of the National Law & Society Association and served on the Executive Committee of the Family Law Institute of the National LGBT Association. She remains in contact with most of her students and always considers their success and well-being as attorneys.

- Janice Arellano
Kathy is respected by her peers in the legal profession not only for her legal acumen but also for her skill as a litigator. She has been described as tenacious, determined and competitive. Litigation is tough, and Kathy has been involved in some really big cases during her career – maritime, environmental, and medical malpractice cases. According to her partner Richard Franklin:

“[W]hen she’s in a case with you, she’s right there pulling her load, handling her witnesses, doing her trial work while at the same time managing a law firm with 30+ attorneys…”

This willingness to put her nose to the grindstone isn’t limited to Kathy’s lawyering. She gets asked to serve in a lot of professional and civic capacities because, once she commits to doing something, she can be depended on to put in the time which is necessary to do whatever it is extremely well.

Her list of firsts is impressive:
- 1st female partner and 1st female managing partner at Armbrecht Jackson, a firm which dates back to 1897.
- 1st female president of the Mobile Rotary Club, one of the largest and oldest such clubs having been established in 1914.
- 1st female president of the Paul W. Brock Inn of Court in Mobile.
- 1st female chair of the Board of Trustees of St. Paul’s Episcopal School – and probably the youngest board member ever since she was only 25 when she first went on the board in 1981.
- When the school decided to start giving a Distinguished Alumni award, of course, she was the 1st recipient of that award.
- And Kathy was one of the 1st women to serve as Senior Warden at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, which is the highest lay office in the church.

Kathy is a strong advocate; she’ll get the job done but she will do it in a professional manner which is respectful of all the lawyers and parties involved. More than one of her law partners described her to me as being “the conscience” of their firm. She is truly inspiring, not just to me but to countless others.

- Mary Margaret Bailey

M. Kathleen Miller
Jennifer Ancona Semko

Jennifer is a very talented lawyer who exemplifies work-life balance at Baker. Whether I meet her at the office during the week or on the basketball court with her daughters during the weekend, she always has a positive and motivating attitude. She is an inspiring figure who helps women stand out and be heard.

- Celine van Zeebroeck
Kim Askew

Kim is a trailblazer: Not only is she a role model as a fantastic female trial lawyer, but she is also an inspiration to other women of color who aspire to be trial lawyers and leaders of the legal profession. And she is a charismatic leader, a past Chair of the ABA Section of Litigation, and a leader of the Texas Bar.

- Helen Kim
Kristen E. Hudson

Kristen Hudson is highly regarded throughout the firm as one of its co-General Counsels and an accomplished litigator. In addition to her professional skills, Kristen demonstrates her commitment to the advancement of women in the legal profession. She is a mentor to her colleagues, especially the female attorneys. She also serves on the Board of Directors for The Coalition of Women’s Initiatives in Law and in 2018 she received the Coalition’s Inspiration award in recognition for excellence in the legal practice and her advocacy for gender parity and the rights of women in the legal profession.

- Susan Robinson
Trish is an inspiring trial lawyer who has shown what women can do in the courtroom in bet-the-business matters and issues of national significance. She is an extraordinary lawyer, and a wonderful leader for the ABA during the time of our celebration of women’s right to vote. As a trailblazer who watches out for those women to follow, she is an inspiration to women lawyers nationwide.

- Barb Dawson
Laura A. Foggan

A former ABA Litigation Section ICLC Co-Chair, Laura Foggan inspires all who know the ICLC and its Annual CLE meeting, through their 20+ year history. Laura promotes civility in the insurance coverage bar, helps attorneys master cutting-edge insurance issues, and helps assimilate diverse and younger lawyers in the field. A Band 1 Chambers practitioner, Best Lawyers' "Lawyer of the Year" for Insurance in Washington DC, and consistently among Washington D.C.'s "Top 100 Lawyers" and "Top 50 Women Lawyers," Laura chairs Crowell & Moring's Insurance/Reinsurance Group, and plays an unparalleled role leading insurance appellate work throughout the country.

- Marguerite ("Meg") Downey
Lorie Masters is an inspiration in terms of dedication to the advancement of women in addition to issues relating to women in the practice of law. She is the former chair of the Section of Litigation's Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee, former President of the American College of Coverage counsel, a national association of preeminent attorneys representing insurers and policyholders, former President of the District of Columbia Women's Bar Association, currently sits on the ABA Board of Governors, and is active in and a founding member of many additional organizations. She ran for office in the DC area, and focuses on women's equality issues. She continues to personify the best in women in our profession.

- Mary Craig Calkins
Mary is not only a talented attorney, but an important role model for lawyers. She has spent over 30 years handling complex, high-value insurance matters for policyholders. As but one example, she recovered $90 million in coverage for a television news company, which was the first media outlet to address issues relating to the #MeToo movement.

Mary is a member of numerous professional and community organizations and associations, most notably the American Bar Association Section of Litigation. She is now on Council, was a Managing Director during the 2018-2019 bar year, she was National Chair of the Women of the Section of Litigation Annual Conference, and Co-Chair of the Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee, among many other positions.

- Sherilyn Pastor
Stephanie Scharf has taken her leadership in the Section to many organizations promoting women’s interests. As President of the National Association of Women Lawyers and founder of the NAWL Foundation, she created the groundbreaking survey of women partner compensation. In its twelve years, it has had incredible impact in the fight for pay equity in the legal profession. Stephanie continues to inspire in the founding of her own woman-owned law firm and as Chair of the Commission on Women. In all her roles, Stephanie reaches out to younger lawyers and others who look to her for help and leadership.

- Lorelie S. Masters
Kristen E. Hudson

Kristen's ability to drive people to reach great heights of performance and success and to demonstrate the crucial qualities for aspiring litigators: passion, purpose, listening, and giving meaning to their role. She is quick to support and help lift you in any way you may need, whether it be personally, professionally, and even academically. Her tenacity, dedication, and continuous self-improvement is admirable and inspirational.

- Brittany Mancuso
Chair of McCarter & English’s Insurance Recovery, Litigation & Counseling Group, Sherilyn Pastor is a formidable advocate for corporate policyholders who leverage her decades of experience litigating complex coverage matters throughout the country and abroad. Through negotiation, arbitration, litigation and trial verdicts, Sheri has recovered billions of dollars for her policyholder clients. A former chair of the Section of Litigation’s Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee, and in line to be President of the national American College of Coverage Counsel, Sheri is very involved in the legal community at large, serving as the current Co-Chair of ABA’s Section of Litigation Trial Practice Committee in addition to holding leadership positions with a number of other prominent legal and insurance law focused organizations. In all of these roles, Sheri is an active proponent and supporter of women who excels both in her litigation skills and in her mentoring of other women.

- Mary Craig Calkins
Beth Kaufman

Beth is an inspiration to all of us in how to excel in our legal careers, while also living a full life. Beth’s leadership is nationally renowned, having been the President of the National Association of Women Lawyers and as the current Vice Chair of the ABA’s Section of Litigation. She has held various leadership positions in the NY City Bar, where she was the first woman to chair its Committee on the Judiciary, and did so for three years, and at the ABA, where she served for three years as Second Circuit Representative to the Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary, and has held innumerable positions in the 30 years she has been in the leadership of the Section of Litigation. She also vetted judicial candidates for NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg, for whom she served on the Advisory Committee on Judicial Nominations. Beth is the primary equity partner at her firm and achieved her success while raising three accomplished daughters. We should all be fortunate to have as full and successful career as Beth has had – she is a true inspiration!

- Patricia O'Prey
Jennifer Ancona Semko

Jennifer is a great professional. Despite the business she always finds time to support and express appreciation to colleagues. Great person to work with.

- Yulia Kuchma
Beatty is the ultimate role model as a trial lawyer. She thoroughly loves standing up in front of a jury -- a captive audience. She doesn't shy away from challenges, tough issues, or a hostile venue. And, she has taken many, many younger lawyers under her wings to encourage them to develop skills and to stay in the game.

- Anne Marie Seibel
Kaity Kasper lost her third go-round of an epic battle with cancer on September 22, 2018 (having just turned 40). Kaity was my close work colleague and a director in our firm. She was also a great coverage lawyer and champion for the Section's Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee. She was a well known face (as a speaker and reliable attendee) at the ICLC's Tucson and WIN meetings, and frequently wrote for ICLC publications. Kaity also gave so much to her community in terms of fundraising for cancer causes. Her life and struggle are truly an inspiration.

- John Mumford
Tara is helping cultivate female trial lawyers in complex cases – something that sets her apart from everyone else in her field. She runs a woman-owned trial consulting firm and is skilled in assisting with voir dire, witness prep and trial presentation. But her promotion of female trial lawyers is truly remarkable. She lobbies for female team members to get standup time and coaches them on approach and style. Tara and I have brainstormed countless times on my own strategies as a female trial lawyer – from delivering compelling openings to handling tough witnesses. She also instills confidence in younger women who are readying for their first trial to help build our next generation.

- Kalpana Srinivasan
Prior to joining Chuhak & Tecson, I worked at the Illinois Office of the State’s Appellate Prosecutor. During that time, I had the pleasure of meeting Kristen at a Coalition of Women’s Initiatives in the Law event. From day one, Kristen has proven to be an exceptional mentor. She has supported and guided me through transitioning into private practice, routinely sharing her strategies for success. Kristen’s generosity with her thoughtful advice and the sharing of her own journey has been a tremendous help to me, as I continue to navigate law firm life and grow my practice.

- Jasmine Morton
Franchesca is very clear about her priorities and she never wavers from them. She represents children in child welfare cases (children removed from their families due to allegations of abuse or neglect). She is an extraordinary lawyer for children and is a recipient of the ABA Child Advocate of the Year award. Her work inspires me but so does her heart for service. She serves her local community and is a leader within the Section of Litigation as the Section’s secretary and first chief diversity officer. Her calm and steady demeanor belies the fierceness of her spirit.

- Cathy Krebs
Monique Weiner

Monique is a founding partner and managing partner of her firm, which was one of the first (if not the first) female-owned law firms in New Orleans. Monique maintains a significant, busy practice while also being a resource and mentor to women across the country.

- Tonya G. Newman
Anne Marie is a woman whose accomplishments are extraordinary, and her approach is always collaborative. She balances a national practice, service to the profession and community, with a full and rich personal life. Her ability to handle high pressure situations with endless calm inspires all around her. She is a leader whose successes will inspire us for decades to come.

- Barb Dawson
According to Merriam-Webster’s Dictionary, “inspire” means “to exert an animating influence.” Anyone who has met my law partner, Pamela Sakowicz-Menaker, would agree with me that she is by definition a truly inspiring woman.

Alongside her juris doctor, Pam is an alum of the Medill School of Journalism, at Northwestern. She leverages both in her capacity as Communications Partner at Clifford Law Offices, handling all press for our firm’s high-profile cases, including the recent airline crash in Ethiopia earlier this year. She easily balances her legal practice with activities serving the legal community. Her installation as the current President of the Catholic Lawyers’ Guild comes on the heels of her tenure on the Chicago Bar Association’s Board of Managers. Pam is also serving her second term on the Illinois State Bar Association’s Board of Governors. She has been involved with the CBA Editorial Board since 1985, serving as book editor from 1995-2016. Pam is principally involved in the creation and management of my firm’s annual Continuing Legal Education webinar, which provides free CLE credit to thousands of practitioners across the state. In addition to her successful professional career, she’s been an outstanding single mother of three great children who have each excelled in life due to Pam’s unwavering support, love and guidance. Pam has inspired me since she joined my firm in 1991. I am proud to have her on my team and to nominate her for this well-deserved award.

- Robert Clifford
Jocelyn Larkin

Jocelyn is a great lawyer and a better person. She has served her entire career trying to make the world a better place through the Impact Fund. In so doing, she has become a true expert on the Rules of Civil Procedure and especially on Class Actions. She has served as co-chair of the Class Action and Derivative Suits Committee within the Litigation Section of the ABA for many years, and with me for several years. Although we had dramatically different political philosophies and different legal orientations (I practice primarily as a defense lawyer), we worked "hand in glove". She suggested the idea of the first book that I produced for the ABA and then served as co-editor with me on the second. She is such a pleasure to work with. She is also a dedicated mother and wife.

Jocelyn is an amazing person and I am honored to nominate her.

- Gregory Cook
Monica has talent, experience, and drive. She is a proven problem-solver. She not only carries her load, but carries others. She knows how to maintain control in the midst of chaos. She is a fantastic lawyer; she is Board Certified in Civil Appellate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, a Texas Super Lawyer, and on the Best Lawyers in America list, among many other accolades. She has a national reputation, and has always stepped up in leadership roles in both the American Bar Association and the Sedona Conference. Monica serves on her firm’s Executive Committee and chairs its Business Litigation practice group.

- Sherilyn Pastor
She is an amazingly talented advocate who always demonstrates grace, propriety and civility in the face of even the worst confrontation in litigation. She is a trailblazer and leader that inspires our entire women attorney team in Disputes in Baker, holding one of the highest leadership positions of our team, while also balancing a full family schedule and raising strong women of her own.

- Teresa Michaud
During her 30 year legal career, Gay has done it all, including becoming a top large law firm litigator (Pepper Hamilton), transitioning to valued in-house counsel (Children's Hospital of Philadelphia), and then back to large law firm litigator (Pepper Hamilton) and practice group leader (co-head of Securities Litigation Group), and now as the co-founder of a business litigation boutique that is majority women owned (Dailey LLP).

- Jeffery A. Dailey
Mary is a well-respected and talented jurist and a long time friend. Notwithstanding her position as a judge on the Missouri Supreme Court, she maintains a grueling and full schedule of public appearances, and freely gives of her time to speak at many organizations (both legal and civic) throughout the state. When speaking, she always delivers uplifting and positive remarks about the state judicial system and the need to deliver equal justice for all, volunteering her time to that proposition through several different programs and organizations. A tireless worker, she is remarkably friendly and able to connect with everyone she meets as if they are the only person in the room. Whether on the bench, speaking to legal or non-legal groups, or simply working for good causes in her community, Judge Russell leads by example, embodying all of the qualities of an ideal public servant—humble, dedicated, persevering, smart and fair. I am proud to nominate her for this honor and proud to call her my friend.

- Robert Will
Sherilyn Pastor has an enviable record of success, enforcing coverage for her corporate policyholder clients in litigation, arbitration, and mediation. She inspires wide respect among clients and colleagues on both sides of the aisle (representing policyholders, including insurers when they seek coverage from their own insurers). Sheri is a true leader, stepping up to advance the profession and the insurance coverage practice area on occasion after occasion, not just in the ABA but the American College of Coverage Counsel, and other organizations. She does it all with a deft touch and a smile, showing that one can do good and do well.

- Lorelie S. Masters
Kristen E. Hudson

Kristen exudes the status of an inspirational woman in her work with young attorneys and in particular, female law students. She spends the majority of the year mentoring a team of six in an international moot competition by continually donating her time and often her own funding. She teaches students how to communicate and articulate better. She shares her own story to motivate women to push ourselves to our fullest potential in advocacy work and cast away the idea of fear. Kristen instilled that above all else, we must maintain integrity in the legal profession, our coursework, and our personal lives.

- Gabrielle Neace
The Honorable Ernestine Gray forever molded the course of my life. I first met the Judge in 1999, as a new public defender placed in her courtroom and given a front-row seat to the magic of this inspirational woman. Judge Gray embodies the definition of a role model in every way. As a black female attorney, Judge Gray has shown me the meaning of excellence and that there are no limits. It’s no coincidence that four out of the five juvenile judges in New Orleans Juvenile Court are black females, Judge Gray has inspired generations.

- Nicole Pittman
Megan Baroni

I have worked with Megan for over 7 years in litigation, and her calm, pleasant demeanor under the most challenging and hostile of circumstances is truly an inspiration. Her grasp of the facts, the technical issues and consistent preparation puts her and her clients in an advantageous position in all disputes. She is comfortable with emerging technology, facile with complex database queries, and an organized, communicative team member. She takes on extracurricular assignments for her firm (co-author of their Manufacturing Law Blog), while managing her home front with two young sons. I have worked in environmental litigation for more than 25 years, and I see Megan as in the top 1% of all attorneys (male or female) with whom I have worked, and I highly recommend her as an accomplished, inspiring woman!

- Muriel Robinette
Elizabeth Timkovich

As in-house counsel for Wells Fargo and, prior to that, a litigation partner for Winston & Strawn, Elizabeth has experience managing teams of more than 20 attorneys. She is an excellent communicator, displays strong empathy and is able to get the best out of people through a combination of encouragement and independence. Elizabeth has a history of giving back to the community, including through leadership roles in the ABA and volunteer programs such as Teen Court. She is a prolific writer/presenter, with a focus on providing guidance to women and young litigators, including being an editor of The Woman Advocate.

- Brett Harrison
Lorie Masters is a leader in the legal industry, that never misses an opportunities to educate others in the industry. She is a nationally recognized litigator, having won significant trials and arbitrations for high-profile clients such as Tyson Foods, Hoechst Celanese, and Dow Corning. She has written two widely-regarded treatises on insurance and international arbitration. Lorie serves as an expert witness and arbitrator. Lorie helped found the American College of Coverage Counsel and was its second president. She serves on the Board of Governors of the American Bar Association. She also has an active pro bono practice and is a founding board member of the Human Trafficking Legal Center.

- Sherilyn Pastor
Sandy Grannum motivates those around her through her dedication and leadership within the firm, the legal sector, and the greater community. In her brief time at Drinker Biddle, her peers have selected her to co-chair the Commercial Litigation Team, one of the firm’s largest groups, and to serve as a Managing Partner. Sandy maintains a thriving legal practice, focusing on securities, broker-dealer arbitration, mediation, litigation and regulatory defense. She is quick to share credit, provide support, and mentor associates; Sandy uses her platform to advocate for diversity in the profession and to give voice to those in underserved, underrepresented communities.

- Tracey Salmon-Smith
Laura A. Foggan

I nominate Laura Foggan, who is a supportive and encouraging mentor, as well as an inspiring role model. Laura, a former ABA Litigation Section ICLC Co-Chair, has been active in ABA Litigation Section activities for her entire career, and she has diligently promoted them to others, including me. Not only has she promoted me for leadership and career development opportunities, Laura continually looks ahead to cutting-edge insurance issues, and encourages us all to see what may be the key legal issues of tomorrow. Laura is focused on how evolving technology brings new opportunities to insurers and their counsel, addressing technology innovations including cybersecurity coverage issues, blockchain applications, and coverage issues stemming from connected products. Among other things, Laura encouraged me to speak and write about cyber issues at the last ICLC Tucson meeting, which has fostered new professional relationships for me as well as business opportunities.

- Stephanie Corrao
Kristen is an ambitious leader and teacher who expects the same level of effort and skill from those around her that drives her practice. She is poised, ambitious, and eloquent.

- Sara Geoghegan
Charla Bizios Stevens

Charla Bizios Stevens is an outstanding attorney and leader in the business community, but most of all she is truly a great human being. Charla loves to be involved in important issues. She is a board member of Families in Transition and Granite United Way.

Charla is a champion for those who are voiceless or feel they have less power. Any team that she is on is better just because of her presence. She is a competitive individual in the sense that she always wants to do her best. Whether running a road race, participating in a 100 mile bike trek, or skiing down the mountain, Charla is a champion and she makes those around her feel like champions too.

- Cathy Schmidt
Patricia Lee Refo

Trish is one of the most highly respected attorneys I have ever met. As one of Trish's former colleagues commented when I mentioned that I work with her, Trish's natural leadership skills are incomparable. In addition to her amazing leadership skills, Trish's dedication to the profession and commitment to supporting and furthering the careers of others has inspired many women to see her as a role model.

- Kelly Kszywienski
Beatrice O'Donnell

Beatty O'Donnell has taken over 90 trials to verdict, representing major clients in the healthcare and transportation industries in complex products liability litigation. She was a responsive and insightful Division Director for Division V last year, and is a former chair of the Woman Advocate and Mass Torts committees. She is a fabulous supporter of women and women's issues, and a great role model.

- Mary Craig Calkins
I had the pleasure of getting to know Eileen Letts during her tenure as co-chair of the Litigation Section's Diversity and Inclusion Committee. She has received numerous awards, chief among them is the ABA Margaret Brent Award. What inspires me, though, is not her awards, but rather what she did to earn them. She is a successful attorney and a mother of two. In short, she is busy. Yet she still finds time to mentor less experienced attorneys, to advocate for inclusiveness in our profession, and to serve in various capacities in the ABA. Eileen is truly an inspiration and role model for our profession!

- Davis G. Yee
I have known Jennifer for over 10 years at Baker, and she is the epitome of intelligence, grit, class, grace under pressure, and patience. As the mother of 3 daughters, she has had to balance work and home life her entire career -- and has shown us that both can be done well. I've looked up to her my entire career, and know that no one deserves this recognition more than Jennifer Semko.

- Jane Klinger
Mary achieves success in all things, and makes it all look easy. She is recognized as one of the most successful policyholder lawyers (of any gender) in the country, and has a track record of success the rest of us envy. She always has (and makes) time to reach out to help others and to bring along those who follow. Mary has been an inspiration in the Section’s Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee and one of the key reasons for its continued success. She is a valued friend and wise counselor, to friends and clients alike.

- Lorelie S. Masters