



2025

Labor, Employment & Higher Education Practice Group Directory

Partners



Megan Anderson
Minneapolis
Executive Committee Member
612.632.3004 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
State Bar Admission(s): MN

- Affirmative action
- Employment and labor advising and litigation
- Higher education advising and litigation
- trainED
- Nonprofit and tax-exempt organizations
- Health law organizations
- Counseling and policy development
- Contracts
- Audits and investigations
- Training
- Employment law aspects of mergers and acquisitions



Caitlin Gehlen
Minneapolis
612.632.3448 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
State Bar Admission(s): MN

- Employment and labor advising and litigation
- Counseling, policy development, and training
- Non-compete, non-solicit, trade secrets and other restrictive covenants
- Audits
- Workplace investigations, both internal and independent
- Employment law aspects of mergers and acquisitions
- Higher education advising and litigation
- trainED



Gizie Hirsh
Kansas City
816.460.5848 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
State Bar Admission(s): MO

- Focus on immigration law
- Employment and labor
- Employment litigation



Ernest "Ernie" Malaspina
San Jose
408.299.1342 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
State Bar Admission(s): CA

- Employment advice, counsel, and best practices including hiring, policies and procedures, wage and hour compliance, performance management, leave administration, and discipline and termination
- Litigation avoidance strategies
- Class action defense – wage and hour
- Complex employment litigation – single plaintiff and class action defense
- Management training including harassment prevention and compliance



Michael Manoukian
San Jose
408.286.9800 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
State Bar Admission(s): CA

- Wage and hour violations
- Discrimination, retaliation, harassment, and wrongful termination
- Class action defense
- Defending employers against claims under the Private Attorneys General Act
- Complex business litigation

**Mark Mathison**

Minneapolis

612.632.3247 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)

State Bar Admission(s): IL, MN, WI

- Focus on traditional labor law and management / union relations
- Employment and labor
- Employment litigation, counseling, policy development
- Higher education
- Nonprofit and tax-exempt organizations
- Franchise employment and labor issues
- Health care labor and employment
- Restrictive covenants
- OSHA defense

**Rosalee "Rosie" McNamara**

Kansas City

816.460.5604 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)

State Bar Admission(s): CO, KS, MO

- National workplace investigations – both internal and independent
- General employment advice and counsel
- Litigation defense: class/collective actions, individual and multi-party lawsuits/charges
- Fortune 50 public companies to small private companies
- Nonprofit and tax-exempt organizations
- Counseling, policy development, and training
- Non-compete, non-solicit, trade secrets, and other restrictive covenants
- All industries, including accountant liability and risk management

**Kathryn Nash**

Minneapolis

Practice Group Leader

612.632.3273 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)

State Bar Admission(s): CO, MN, ND, SD

- General employment advice and counsel
- Advice and counsel for higher education institutions on variety of issues (employment, faculty, student-related matters, Title IX, VAWA, and FERPA)
- trainED – training on conducting investigations, adjudications, appeals and other matters relating to sexual misconduct, Title IX, and VAWA
- Child safety prevention and response

**Daniel "Dan" Pyne**

San Jose

Integration Partner

HC Co-chair of L&E Practice

408.299.1392 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)

State Bar Admission(s): CA

- Discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and wrongful termination litigation
- Wage and hour, class action, and PAGA litigation
- Advice and counseling on employment law issues such as policies and procedures, hiring, wage and hour compliance, leaves of absence, unfair competition and employee mobility, discipline and termination
- Employment contracts
- Management training
- Investigations

**Laura Reathaford**

Los Angeles

LA Partner in Charge

310.789.4648 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)

State Bar Admission(s): CA

- Single and multi-plaintiff employment litigation
- Wage and hour class/collective actions
- PAGA representative actions
- Appellate practice
- Counseling and policy development

**Bridget Romero**

Kansas City

Lathrop GPM Personnel Counsel

816.460.5602 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)

State Bar Admission(s): KS, MO

- General employment advice and counsel
- Training and policy development
- Workplace investigations
- Business Immigration and Employment Eligibility Verification/Form I-9 compliance
- Employment litigation
- Class/collective actions



Jill Waldman
 Kansas City
 816.460.5614 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
 State Bar Admission(s): KS, MO

- General employment advice and training
- Employment litigation
- Workplace investigations
- Counseling and policy development
- Merger and acquisition due diligence

Counsel



Sam Garcia
 Dallas
 469.983.6030 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
 State Bar Admission(s): TX

- Employment litigation
- Employment and labor
- Wage and hour class/collective actions
- PAGA claims
- Counseling and policy development
- Construction litigation
- Business litigation
- Product liability and tort litigation



Kathleen Hunter
 Kansas City
 816.460.5868 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
 State Bar Admissions(s): MO

- Employment and labor litigation
- Advice on VA policy and procedures, reviewed OMI reports, and handled congressional inquiries and OAWP findings
- Previously represented the Department of Veterans Affairs before various federal bodies, including the EEOC, MSPB, and the FLRA



Shirley Farboud Jackson
 San Jose
 408.299.1331 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
 State Bar Admission(s): CA

- Class/collective and PAGA representative actions
- Employment litigation
- General employment advice and counsel
- Policy development
- Employment contracts and agreements
- Litigation



Pamela Kovacs
 Minneapolis
 612.632.3398 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
 State Bar Admission(s): MN

- Focus on higher education
- Advises and trains colleges on Title IX, VAWA, FERPA, child safety, and ADA
- trainED
- General employment advice and counsel



Michael Link
 Minneapolis
 612.632.3515 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
 State Bar Admission(s): MN, ND, WI

- Employment and labor
- Employment litigation and administrative charge responses
- Employment counseling and policy development
- Workplace investigations
- Employee benefits and executive compensation including ERISA withdrawal liability issues
- Non-compete, non-solicit, trade secrets and other restrictive covenants
- trainED



Jake Lorence
 Minneapolis
 612.632.3530 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
 State Bar Admission(s): FL, MN

- Employment and labor
- Employment counseling and personnel management advising
- Workplace investigations, both internal and independent
- Wage and hour violation prevention and response
- Child labor violation prevention and response
- Non-compete, non-solicit, trade secrets and other restrictive covenants
- trainED
- Employee benefits and executive compensation
- ERISA, life, health and disability



Robin Maynard
 Minneapolis
 612.632.3063 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
 State Bar Admission(s): MN

- Higher education
- trainED



Tammy Somogyi
 Overland Park
 913.451.5106 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
 State Bar Admission(s): KS, MO

- trainED
- Workplace and other investigations
- K-12 employment and education law (employee discipline, separation agreements, special education, student discipline, policy development, TIX, etc.)
- General employment advice/counseling, with particular expertise in
 - FMLA
 - ADA
 - Government entities
 - Higher education
 - Healthcare industry
- Administrative Law (unemployment appeals, department of labor audits, civil service)
- Separation Agreements
- Independent Contractor analysis/agreements
- Education Employment litigation



Tana VanGoethem
 Minneapolis
 612.632.3294 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
 State Bar Admission(s): MN

- Focus on higher education and child safety issues
- Advises on Title IX, VAWA, FERPA, and child safety
- Investigations
- Employment litigation



Rebecca "Beckie" Yocum
 Kansas City
 816.460.5657 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
 State Bar Admission(s): CO, IL, KS, MO

- Employment and labor
- Employment litigation
- Counseling and policy development
- Government relations

Associates



Jay Harrington

Kansas City

816.460.5537 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)

State Bar Admission(s): KS, MO

- Breach of contract
- Business torts
- Employment law
- Title IX



Cory Mickels

San Jose

408.299.1446 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)

State Bar Admission(s): CA

- Employment litigation and dispute resolution services
- General employment advice and counsel
- Wage and hour compliance audits, investigations, and risk management solutions
- Employee handbook drafting and regulatory compliance services
- Discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and wrongful termination litigation with tailored employee training
- Contract dispute resolution and enforcement of binding arbitration agreements
- Class action litigation and California PAGA representative actions
- General and complex litigation across various industries and sectors
- Legal support for business formation, corporate governance, and compliance strategies



Emily Neumann

Minneapolis

612.632.3287 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)

State Bar Admission(s): MN

- Legal research and analysis
- Pro bono
- General employment advice and counsel
- Employment litigation
- Higher education



Graciela "Grace" Quintana

Minneapolis

612.632.3215 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)

State Bar Admission(s): MN

- Employment litigation
- General employment advice and counsel
- Higher education
- trainED



Ellen Rudolph

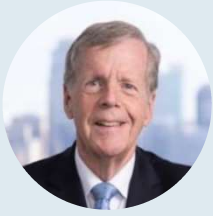
Kansas City

816.460.5717 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)

State Bar Admission(s): KS, MO

- General employment advice and counsel
- Employment litigation
- Workplace investigations
- Policy development
- Civil rights litigation
- Higher education

Senior Counsel



Terry Kilroy
Kansas City
816.460.5865 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
State Bar Admission(s): MO

- Labor law, including NLRB matters, management-union relationships, union campaigns, and collective bargaining
- Employment litigation
- Advises clients in the health care, manufacturing, transportation, and food industries
- Equal opportunity and wrongful discharge litigation
- Occupational safety



Jack Rowe
Kansas City
816.460.5607 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
State Bar Admission(s): MO

- Employment counseling and policy development
- Employment litigation
- Class/collective action defense and PAGA
- Traditional labor
- Affirmative action compliance
- Occupational safety
- ERISA, life, health and disability



Brian Woolley
Kansas City
816.460.5621 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)
State Bar Admission(s): IL, KS, MO

- Labor law, including negotiations, arbitrations, elections and NLRB proceedings
- General employment advice and counsel
- Management training
- Employment and labor litigation
- Wage and hour advice and litigation

Paralegals



Hillary Green
Kansas City
816.460.5835 | [Email](#) | [Bio](#)

- Employment and labor
- Immigration