

Franchise & Distribution

Lawyer Biographies



Brian B. Schnell

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With more than 25 years of experience, Brian Schnell is the chair of the franchise practice at Faegre Baker Daniels. Brian's experience uniquely includes serving as the COO and Chief Legal Officer during 2012 for one of the country's leading health care franchisors. With his unique legal and business experience, Brian counsels both emerging and mature franchisors in a variety of industries, ranging from companies with thousands of locations worldwide to companies in the initial stages of building franchise systems. Brian combines his experience with a passion for — and keen understanding of — franchising to find practical solutions for clients. Like the rest of the Faegre Baker Daniels franchise team, he is committed to focusing on what matters most and making a difference.

As the first male to receive the IFA Women's Franchise Committee Crystal Compass, Brian earned that distinction in 2009 based on his leadership in franchising. Brian also is consistently recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America - Franchise Law*, *Chambers USA*, *Chambers Global*, *International Who's Who of Franchise Lawyers*, and as a *Franchise Times - Legal Eagle*.



Kerry L. Bundy

Partner, Minneapolis

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Kerry Bundy is a trial lawyer, concentrating her practice on franchise and distribution law, trade secret and non-compete litigation, and international arbitration. Kerry sits on the Governing Committee of the American Bar Association Forum on Franchising. She is a frequent national speaker on franchise and trade secret issues, and is the co-editor and contributing author of the acclaimed book, *The Secrets to Winning Trade Secret Cases* (2009). She is qualified and has served as mediation neutral. She has been recognized as a leading litigator by Chambers and Best Lawyers in America, has been named a Legal Eagle by Franchise Times, and was named a 40 under 40 honoree with Twin Cities Business Journal.



Gretchen Miller Busch

Partner, Denver

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Gretchen Miller Busch focuses on sophisticated commercial real estate transactions, with an emphasis on national corporate real estate services. She advises large regional and national corporate users of commercial and industrial real estate on the management of their corporate real estate portfolios. Core services include representation of clients in lease negotiations, acquisition of new land and buildings for business expansion or relocation, divestment transactions, sale-leaseback transactions, and integration of assets and properties acquired through merger and acquisition transactions.



Jodi A. DeSchane

Counsel, Minneapolis

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Jodi is member of the intellectual property group in Minneapolis. Her practice is primarily focused in the area of trademark counseling, prosecution and enforcement. Jodi's experience encompasses all aspects of U.S. and international trademark law including global trademark portfolio and brand management; clearance searches and opinions; prosecution of domestic and international trademark applications; opposition and cancellation proceedings before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board; resolution of interparty disputes before trademark offices worldwide; development of domain name strategies and resolution of domain name disputes, including arbitration under the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy; execution of trademark watching and enforcement strategies; drafting license, co-branding, coexistence and settlement agreements; and due diligence reviews.



Katrina M. Gossett

Associate, Indianapolis

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Katrina Gossett focuses her practice in business litigation, with an emphasis on public bid law, franchise law and trade secret law. She was a summer associate with Faegre Baker Daniels in 2007 and 2008. Katrina graduated with honors from the University of Chicago Law School where she was named a Kirkland and Ellis Scholar and was selected for the Order of the Coif. While at the University of Chicago, Katrina worked in the employment discrimination legal clinic, completed an internship with the Chicago Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, served as vice president of the Law Student Association and performed in a Shakespeare production with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer. As an undergraduate student at the University of Notre Dame, Katrina was the top student in film, television and theatre and co-founder of the Perspectives Disability Awareness Club.



Daniel A. Graham

Associate, Denver

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Dan Graham is a member of the firm's commercial litigation team. He focuses his practice on advising clients and advocating for clients in the franchise and banking industries. Dan has represented clients through all stages of litigation, including pleading, discovery, summary judgment and trial.

A former Faegre Baker Daniels summer associate, he has served as an intern in the office of the Colorado Attorney General and at the Securities and Exchange Commission in Denver.



Lucie Guyot

Counsel, Boulder

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Lucie Guyot's practice focuses on international franchising. She drafts and negotiates agreements and advises clients in connection with international franchise matters, including master franchise deals, area development deals, joint venture arrangements, franchise disclosure documents and franchise registration matters. She also advises franchisor clients in connection with domestic matters, including franchise registration matters, drafting and negotiation of franchise agreements, franchisee terminations and general advice with respect to franchisor-franchisee relationships. Lucie also represents companies in mergers and acquisitions, as well as corporate reorganizations and restructurings. She has represented emerging companies and investors in private equity and debt securities offerings. Lucie also advises clients on general corporate matters, including corporate organization and governance, contract preparation and review, and securities law issues. Lucie is proficient in the Czech language.



Kevin P. Hein

Partner, Denver

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Kevin Hein focuses his practice on a range of franchise and real estate matters, including state and federal disclosure issues, compliance with state relationship laws, franchise sales compliance, restaurant development, mergers and acquisitions, corporate counseling, bankruptcy matters, real estate and dispute resolution. Kevin is recognized consistently for legal excellence by organizations such as Chambers USA- Franchising, The Best Lawyers in America - Franchise Law, International Who's Who of Franchise Lawyers, and as a Franchise Times - Legal Eagle.



Chris E. Hofstad

Partner, Minneapolis

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Chris Hofstad is head of the firm's worldwide corporate group and its 200+ professionals. His personal practice involves a variety of corporate and other business matters, including mergers and acquisitions; general corporate and business counseling; financing, securities, and private equity; and joint ventures, outsourcing, and other complex commercial arrangements. Chris also advises and represents clients in commercial transactions and contract negotiations, capitalization, executive compensation, reorganizations and restructurings, dissolutions, regulatory matters, and state law requirements. He has extensive experience negotiating complex transactions.



William L. Killion

Partner, Minneapolis

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Bill Killion has a specific focus on franchise law in his litigation practice. He has represented franchisors and manufacturers responding to claims based on antitrust laws, product pricing, little FTC acts, deceptive trade practices, franchise and special dealership statutes, the covenant of good faith and fair dealing, fiduciary duties, and unlawful termination. Bill has defended several class actions on behalf of franchisor clients. Although he has actually tried and arbitrated many cases on behalf of franchisors, Bill also understands that trials and arbitrations are not always (or not even usually) the best way to resolve disputes. He is therefore committed to alternative dispute resolution, where appropriate. Bill also works with franchisors to develop programs designed to reduce the risk of claims.



Justin P. Krypel

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Justin Krypel represents franchisors, public companies, and financial services firms in complex business litigation around the country. He has represented clients in court and in arbitration in cases involving breaches of franchise agreements, franchisor vicarious liability, franchisor joint employment, unlawful termination, fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing, breach of contract, and various business torts. He has won cases at every stage of litigation, up to and including trial.



James D. Leonard

Partner, Denver

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James Leonard has represented a variety of clients in a full range of corporate transactions, including entity formation; financing; purchase, sale, and lease arrangements; reorganizations; liquidations; product distribution arrangements; acquisitive roll-up transactions; employment and consulting arrangements; licensing arrangements; sponsorship, sweepstakes and promotional arrangements; general contracting; dispute resolution; and risk management.



Kenneth S. Levinson

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Ken Levinson leads the firm's international tax and captive insurance company practices. In tax, Ken provides advice to clients on worldwide planning, transaction structuring, international franchising, licensing and distribution agreements, M&A, audits, controversy management, and compliance for federal, state and foreign taxes. In insurance and risk management, he leads the strategic design and implementation of corporate insurance programs, the structuring and implementation of captive insurance subsidiaries, the negotiation and purchasing of insurance, and the submission/management/negotiation of claims. He teaches the international tax course at the University of Minnesota Law School, and is recognized in Best Lawyers in America – Tax and Litigation & Controversy – Tax, in The Legal 500 – Tax, Aviation and Captive Insurance, and in Who's Who Among Executives and Professionals



Marc C. Levy

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Marc Levy focuses his practice on trademark, advertising and unfair competition litigation and enforcement. Marc has represented clients in these matters, including preliminary injunction hearings and trials, in federal trial and appellate courts across the country. In the advertising arena, Marc has not only represented clients in the federal courts, but also at the National Advertising Division of the Better Business Bureau. Marc also handles opposition and cancellation proceedings at the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board.



Yiqiang Li

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Yiqiang "Lee" Li provides a full range of legal services in connection with foreign investment and commercial matters in China. He is also licensed to practice law in the United States. Lee's practice focuses on work involving the telecommunications, chemical, automotive, manufacturing, architectural, hospitality, insurance and finance industries.



Michael A. Maciszewski

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Michael Maciszewski has a broad transactional practice involving commercial contracts, franchise and distribution law, mergers and acquisitions, intellectual property, and employment law. He serves as outside general counsel to private companies in a wide range of industries including restaurant and hospitality, health care and wellness, technology, transportation, nonprofit organizations, and sports and entertainment. With extensive management experience and valuable business training prior to law school, Michael provides clients with practical solutions to legal and business issues.



Heather Carson Perkins

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Heather Carson Perkins has practiced at the firm since 2002 and serves as the Office Leader in Denver. Her practice focuses on complex commercial litigation, including antitrust litigation, distribution and franchise disputes, trade secret litigation, and insurance litigation. She is an experienced first-chair trial lawyer, who has successfully litigated cases from inception through appeal on behalf of her clients in federal, state and arbitration proceedings across the country and abroad.



Patricia I. Reding

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Trish Reding is a member of the firm's intellectual property practice in Minneapolis. She concentrates her practice in the area of trademark counseling, prosecution and enforcement. Trish's experience encompasses all aspects of U.S. and international trademark law, including global trademark portfolio planning and brand management; policing and enforcement of trademark rights; clearance searches and opinions; prosecution of domestic and international trademark applications; resolving domain name disputes including arbitration under the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy; execution of trademark watching and enforcement strategies; drafting coexistence, license, co-branding and settlement agreements; franchise-related trademark issues; and due diligence. Her international client base includes leading companies in the furniture, grocery and food service products, restaurant services, refining and chemical products, educational, and consumer products, industries.



Nick R. Rotchadl

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Nick Rotchadl is a member of the firm's business litigation group. His practice focuses on commercial litigation, including matters involving franchise law, breach of contract, and business torts. Nick regularly represents national franchisors on fraud, franchise act, trademark infringement, breach of contract, injunctive relief, and declaratory judgment actions. He has also represented several businesses in software development disputes. In addition to representing clients before courts, he has represented clients before the American Arbitration Association, the International Chamber of Commerce, and the International Centre for Dispute Resolution.



Jason J. Stover

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Jason Stover practices in the area of business and commercial litigation, with a special emphasis on franchise litigation. He represents franchisors in disputes with franchisees in courts and before arbitration panels throughout the United States, including cases involving franchisee termination, enforcement of post-termination obligations (including removal of trademarks and enforcement of covenants against competition), fraud and misrepresentation claims, enforcement of franchise system standards, vicarious liability, and recovery of liquidated damages and lost future profits. In addition to his representation of franchisors, Jason represents clients in mediation, arbitration and trial on litigation matters involving a range of business disputes.



Ryan R. Woessner

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Ryan Woessner is a member of the corporate group at Faegre Baker Daniels. He focuses primarily on cross-border transactions, mergers and acquisitions, and franchise and distribution matters. During law school, Ryan was a summer associate at FaegreBD. He also interned with the International Institutions and Global Governance Program at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York, New York. As an undergraduate student, he interned at TransparentDemocracy in Palo Alto, California, and in the office of U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar in Washington, D.C.