





ZENA APPLEBAUM*

Nominator: Patrick Fuller Seconder: Greg Lambert

Zena Applebaum is a pioneer in the field of law firm Competitive Intelligence. She helped define the competitive intelligence role and function within law firms. She has authored everything from white papers, articles, and books on the relationship between intelligence and strategy. Zena also took a leading role in professional organizations, advancing the best practices in competitive intelligence. She has been a professor, guest lecturer, and mentor to hundreds of prospective competitive intelligence professionals. Zena's passion for her craft is contagious and serves as an inspiration for generations of intelligence professionals.



JARED APPLEGATE

Nominator: Purvi Sanghvi Seconder: Toby Brown

Jared Applegate is the Chief Legal Operations Officer at Barnes & Thornburg. Jared is at the top of the field when it comes to pricing, project management and process improvement. In 2015, Jared created BTValueWorks, a standalone brand of pricing, technology, and project management professionals. In 2017, Jared became one of the world's first Chief Legal Operations Officers inside a law firm, creating a standalone department. From there, the industry followed suit. Additionally, Jared was one of the first to combine roles of BD, Pricing, LPM, and Practice Management under the same department inside of a law firm. Jared has elevated the view of business professionals in the law firm space. For this effort, Jared and team were recognized in 2021 as the Best Business Team by the *American Lawyer*.



BRETT BURNEY

Nominator: Courtney Troutman

Seconder: Jim Calloway

Brett Burney, of Burney Consultants LLC, focuses the bulk of his time on bridging the chasm between the legal and technology frontiers of electronic discovery. He has been a popular speaker, author, blogger, and podcaster on legal tech for almost two decades. Brett is well-known and respected by the numerous bar associations and the ABATech Show for his informative but entertaining approach to discussing technology. Brett's warmth and readiness to answer questions is highgly valued. He co-authored the eDiscovery Buyers Guide – designed to help small – and mid-sized law firms understand their e-discovery options. Personally my favorite credential of Brett is at that he is an Apple guru, teaching lawyers how to integrate Macs and iOS devices. Brett keeps thousands of Apple-using lawyers engaged and informed throught his podcast.



KEVIN CLEM

Nominator: Connie Brenton Seconder: Emily Teuben

Kevin Clem, Chief Growth Officer for Corporations and Community at Harbor, provides law firms and corporate legal departments with extraordinary strategic guidance. His work focuses on improving operational efficiency and optimizing legal operations. Kevin leads Harbor's client development teams. Previously, he grew HBR's consulting practice from less than \$1M to over \$20M in just five years, working with more than half of the Fortune 500 corporations and the vast majority of the AmLaw 200 firms. He is a thought leader and a tireless advocate for the improvement of corporate legal services delivery. Kevin is a frequent speaker at industry conferences and events and oversees Harbor's thought leadership. Kevin is also known for his fabulous voice and Elvis impersonations. We are looking forward to him creating a College song and singing it.



PAMELA CONE*

Nominator: Dave Hambourger Seconders: Cherie Olland & Deborah

Farone

Pam Cone is the Founder and CEO of Amity Advisory. A consultancy helping professional service firms create compelling, profitable and holistic ESG and DEI programs. Pam took on ESG when most people had no idea what the acronym meant. She has threaded that elusive needle of identifying a need well before others, relentlessly researching the area, then becoming one of the foremost ESG/DEI experts. She guides firms on their ESG journeys, so they can contribute toward a more just and viable society. Prior to her current work, she spent 19 years at Milliman one of the world's largest independent actuarial and consulting firms and also spent 10 years as the Director of Client Services at Davis, Wright Tremaine. Her holistic approach to ESG is the same mindset she brings to her personal and professional relationships as a mentor and friend. She practices sustainability in real life having been married for 37 years.



MARLA CRAWFORD*

Nominator: Farrah Pepper Seconder: Terri Mottershead

Marla Crawford, the General Counsel of Cimplifi, has broken barriers and confronted the status quo throughout her 35 years of practice. Marla spent 22 years practicing law at Jones Day, specializing in the discovery phase of litigation. She also served as associate general counsel for Goldman Sachs for 11 years. Marla has been an unwavering advocate for the use of technology in the legal community since the inception of eDiscovery. She is well known as a strategic advisor, thought leader and force of nature in the legal technology community. Marla is also recognized for creating opportunities and mentoring generations of women and minorities. Marla is continually learning, teaching, and innovating. Marla's personal integrity is a model of responsible conduct, setting a remarkable example for others to follow.



ED EMPAMANO

Nominator: Brad Blickstein Seconder: Joy Rush Heath

Ed Empamano is the Senior Vice President of K2 Services and the Chief Information Officer of Dykema, an AmLaw 200 full-service firm with 350+ lawyers and 14 offices. Ed has 25+ years technology experience and 15 years in legal, with expertise in enterprise technology, office operations and legal practice management services. He is also a long-time collaborator with ILTA. Ed is a transformational organization and change leader and is also a consummate connector. His innate people skills have allowed Ed to build consensus and drive innovation in a field that is often recalcitrant. He is profoundly generous. Despite the many demands on his time, Ed never hesitates to share his skills, connections, and knowledge for the benefit of others.



LYDIA FLOCCHINI

Nominator: Debbie Foster Seconder: Marcie Borgal Shunk

Lydia Flocchini is a Legal Tech GTM Consultant and the former Chief Marketing Officer at SurePoint Technologies. Lydia is a passionate champion of legal technology and is dedicated to helping others succeed in the business of law and technology. She has built a reputation for turning companies into customer-first organizations and is known for her deep expertise in launching new categories of legal tech. Lydia recognizes the influence of the mentors, sponsors, and allies, who have supported and shaped her career, and has embraced every chance to leverage her leadership roles to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion of women. This is a core value of hers and one to which she is deeply committed as a first-generation Latina leader. She is one of the legal community's most talented, dedicated, and proactive leaders.

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KELLY HARBOUR*

Nominator: Patrick Fuller Seconder: Beth Cuzzone

Kelly Harbour is the Chief Business Development Officer at Goulston & Storrs. She is a member of the firm's Executive Committee (which is highly unusual in itself). She spends her time providing leadership and tactical support on the business plans for practices, teams, and individuals as well as leading the firm's client experience initiatives and attorney development. Kelly is a self-proclaimed data, process improvement, and technology enthusiast. She serves as the pro bono Director of Member Engagement for the SALI Alliance, a not-for-profit organization developing open, practical industry standards for efficient and innovative legal services. Kelly's diverse experience generating data-driven analysis, increasing technology adoption, and building learning frameworks for lawyers and business professionals alike has cemented her place among the most influential leaders in the legal industry.



EYAL IFFERGAN

Nominator: Joy Heath Rush Seconder: Curt Meltzer

For 25 years, Eyal Iffergan, the founder and CEO of Hyperion Global Partners, an Epiq Company, has been one of the foremost figures in legal operational performance management. He is an expert in addressing the challenges of legal business process, organization, technology and operations. Eyal was driving legal operations forward before we even knew what to call legal operations. Several areas set him apart. First, his reach has been both broad and deep in legal, running the gamut from law departments to law firms and from technology to strategy to operations. Second, as a consultant, he has always put people first – listening, collaborating to develop solutions, and coaching for success. Finally, as a member of the broader legal community, he has contributed in standards setting (a notoriously thankless job) and in thought leadership, especially in terms of the feasibility of the virtual law practice. Eyal is about the art of the possible in the practice of law.



KEVIN IREDELL

Nominator: Trish Lilley Seconder: Patrick Fuller

Kevin Iredell, chief marketing and business development officer for Lowenstein Sandler, has been an innovative leader in law practice management for nearly 20 years. Kevin spearheaded the early days of online resources via lawyers.com both in the US and internationally. He shepherded the Chinese rollout of lawyers.com while living in Beijing and building a local team. Kevin launched the American Lawyer Media suite of data intelligence tools, later taking his expertise in analytics and practice forecasting in-house to Fox Rothschild, Stroock & Stroock & Lavan and Lowenstein. Kevin's commitment to peers, new entrants to the sector and the industry as a whole is strongly evidenced in his sustained commitment to the Legal Marketing Association. He is serving as their 2024 international president.



KRISTINA LAMBRIGHT

Nominator: Purvi Sanghvi Seconder: Christopher Ende

Kristina Lambright is the Associate Director of Strategic Legal Recruiting at Jones Day. Kristina is a legal industry expert with proven record of developing and driving strategic initiatives at three AmLaw 50 firms. For the past 10+ years she has been an architect in developing Pricing, LPM, Practice Management and Lateral Partner teams. Her career started in the practice of law and evolved to the business side of law firms. Her unique mix of skills, work ethic and drive are evident in everything she pursues from her work in law firms, to being a founding member of the Legal Value Network. She is also a highly sought out mentor to women pursuing business roles in the legal industry. When not working, you can find her competing in marathons.

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JUNE HASIAO LIEBERT

Nominator: Stephen Dempsey Seconder: Catherine J. Moynihan

June Liebert is the Director of Information Services at O'Melveny and Meyers. June likes learning! She has a BS from Case Western Reserve University in Management Information and Decision Systems, a JD from the Maurer School of Law at Indiana University and an MLS from the Indiana University Luddy School of Informatics, Computing and Engineering. June's career has spanned time in both law schools and law firms including UCLA School of Law, the University of Texas Law School, John Marshall Law School, and Sidley Austin. June is passionate about the intersection of technology and information. Her background enables her to understand the needs of lawyers (and soon to be lawyers) and the strengths and weaknesses of technology. She has actively contributed to the legal community throughout her career, both through her speaking and writing, and by participating in numerous organizations. She is currently the President AALL.



LAURA MAECHTLEN

Nominator: Lisa Damon Seconder: Kunoor Chopra

Laura Maechtlen is a member of Seyfarth's Executive Committee, the leader of its dynamic 500+ lawyer Labor & Employment Department and the longtime co-chair of its National Diversity & Inclusion Action Team. Laura has made remarkable contributions to the legal profession with a career-long focus on diversity, equity and inclusion. She has served on countless organizations devoted to diversity, notably serving as the President of the National LGBT Bar Association, the Chair of the Board of the California Minority Counsel Program, and the Executive Committee of the LGBT Law Division of the Hispanic National Bar Association, to name truly only a few. Her tireless efforts and transformative work have made her a true trailblazer in promoting diversity equity and inclusion.



BRIDGET MCCORMACK

Nominator: Jeff Carr Seconder: Patrick Lamb

BRIDGET MCCORMACK

Bridget McCormack is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the American Arbitration Association. Previously, she served as the Chief Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court Supreme Court. In her nearly 10 years on the court, she served as an energetic voice for the critical role of access to justice as the foundation of the rule of law and the courts responsibility to transform what they deliver. She has been an innovator and eloquent spokesperson for the change that is desperately needed in the public sector. Previously she was a professor at the University of Michigan Law School where she taught criminal law and legal ethics. Bridget launched and worked in a pediatric advocacy law clinic focusing on children with health problems, and a domestic violence clinic. She has published on constitutional law, criminal law, criminal procedure, evidence, and legal ethics and has served on the Association of American Law Schools Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure.



HEATHER MCCULLOUGH*

Nominator: Kristen Bateman Leis

Seconder: Patrick Fuller

Heather McCullough is Co-Founder and Chief Growth Officer of INform 54 by Society Tech LLC and Society 54, LLC. With more than 20 years in the legal industry, Heather has held various leadership positions in-house and in professional organizations, co-founded two successful small businesses, co-developed business development software, and is a frequent author and speaker. She is an accredited leadership coach and is certified in gamification. She is an alumnus of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses National Cohort and has also been recognized as a Legal Innovator by ALM and Law.com, and as one of "50 Most Influential Women". Heather is a mental health and literacy advocate, volunteering her time in leadership positions with the Mental Health Americas of the Carolinas and Friends of the Library, Charlotte-Mecklenburg County.



JAMES MCKENNA

Nominator: Chris Boyd Seconder: Joy Heath Rush

Jim McKenna, the Chief Information Officer of Fenwick & West, is a leader in legal technology and information security. He describes his work as combining vision, security, strategy and excellence to drive organizational efficiency and profitability. Easier said than done. At Fenwick, he refined the firm's business processes, provides eDiscovery and compliance consulting and safeguards the security of data shared with the firm. The Financial Times recognized Fenwick as one of North America's most innovative law firms at their Innovative Lawyers Awards, in large part because of the tools that Jim's teams had developed and deployed. Jim has been a superlative volunteer to the broader legal technology community, having served a total of 12 years on the board of the International Legal Technology Association.



EVAN SHENKMAN*

Nominator: Patrick DiDomenico Seconder: Joshua Fireman

Evan Shenkman, chief knowledge and innovation officer at Fisher Phillips, is one of the most well-regarded KM and Innovation professionals today. After a decade of practicing law, Evan started the firm's KM and innovation efforts and quickly became an industry leader. Evan's data analytics and AI initiatives have been repeatedly lauded, winning Litera's "2020 Legal Innovator of the Year," the American Legal Technology Award's "2021 Law Firm of the Year", ILTA's "Innovative Leader of the Year Award" and the "2021 Fastcase 50 List." In 2022, Evan helped Casetext to develop AllSearch neural net search technology, and in 2023, Evan's was the first firm to launch Casetext's GPT-4-powered CoCounsel. Above all, Evan constantly gives back to the KM community, publicly evangelizing and supporting legal technologists and startups. Evan is a fixture on the KM presentation and podcast circuit recently appearing on NPR's Marketplace about Legal GenAI.

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AARON VAN NICE

Nominator: Catherine J. Moynihan Seconder: Reese Arrowsmith

Aaron Van Nice is the Vice President, Global Operations--Legal, Compliance and Government Relations at Archer Daniels Midland Company. He has pioneered corporate legal operations, logging 15 years in-house, including at Baxter International and Merrill Lynch. He previously worked as a consultant in the Strategic Legal Solutions group at Deloitte. When corporate legal operations became a "thing," Aaron willingly stepped up to advance the role and function as it quickly spread. He helped found the ACC Legal Operations group in 2015 and has consistently served on boards, engaged in teaching, and networking groups - generously sharing his know-how, and applying his problem-solving and forward-thinking mindset. Aaron's humble approach was best captured when on a recent panel he advocated giving everyone else credit for the success of a project and personally being accountable for any failures as you implement change.



WILLIAM WASHINGTON III*

Nominator: Marcie Borgal Shunk Seconder: Amanda Brady

William M. Washington III is the Global Chief Financial Officer of Baker & McKenzie, where he directs a 1,400-member finance team (because the firm employs over 13,000 professionals across 46 countries!). Innovation runs in his blood. He launched the first-ever Innovation Hub at Hogan Lovells to explore process efficiency, cost savings and technology. Most recently he founded a CFO Mastermind group for legal finance professionals. And he has a Lean Six Sigma black belt. William is an active advocate for DEI and vocal about his journey as an introverted leader. He is a sought-after speaker and frequent writer for law.com and other publications.

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RACHEL SHIELDS WILLIAMS

Nominator: Jill Huse

Seconder: Joshua Fireman

Rachel Shields Williams is the Knowledge Management Insights and Enablement Director at Sidley Austin. Having grown up as an active participant in her family-run business, she brings an incredible sense of ownership and entrepreneurial spirit to any project. Leveraging almost 20 years of experience in Business Development, Marketing, Sales, Knowledge Management, Legal Technology and now Al, Rachel truly knows the dynamics between stakeholders and results. She has built her career around assessing and anticipating internal and external customer needs, leveraging cross-industry experience, and implementing changes that have measurable impact on a global scale. Most of all Rachel can translate vision into actionable goals and results. When not working, you can find Rachel exploring the world or stretching out on her yoga mat.



AMY YEUNG

Nominator: Jan Anne Dubin Seconder: Kunoor Chopra

Amy Yeung is vice president and deputy general counsel of Sallie Mae Bank, a diversified Fortune 1000 company. She leads a team managing all transactions, banking, corporate development, intellectual property, ESG, technology and data privacy initiatives. Prior to her current role, she served as general counsel for several companies. Amy is known as an agile leader with the vision and skillset to transform organizations while also serving as a role model and innovator in the legal industry. Amy is a recognized thought leader, speaking on data privacy, cultural change, and leadership at conferences such as South by Southwest (SXSW), Duke University, and the Hitotsubashi University Business School. She has been active in the legal and business communities and is Past Chair of the Association of Corporate Counsel's Law Department Management Network. Amy serves as a staunch advocate for diverse lawyers and women. She enthusiastically serves as a mentor and sponsor.