

inside Benesch

MY BENESCH
MY TEAM

E-NEWS AND EVENTS FROM BENESCH FRIEDLANDER COPLAN & ARONOFF LLP

December 2012

Plewacki Appointed to American Transportation Research Institute's Research Advisory Committee



Richard A. Plewacki

Richard A. Plewacki has been appointed to the American Transportation Research Institute's (ATRI) Research Advisory Committee (RAC). Rich will serve a two-year term starting January 2013.

ATRI is the trucking industry's 501(c)(3) not-for-profit research organization. It is engaged in critical research relating to freight transportation's essential role in maintaining a safe, secure and efficient transportation system. The RAC is charged with annually identifying the trucking industry's top research needs. RAC members represent a diverse group of industry stakeholders including motor carriers, industry suppliers, academics, government, driver groups and law enforcement.

Rich has been involved with the transportation and logistics industry, both as a businessman and an attorney, for over 40 years. He focuses his practice on advising and defending motor carriers, leasing companies, third-party logistics providers, national shippers and large private fleets. Rich's experience includes independent contractor/owner-operator issues, shipper/carrier matters, industry-specific litigation, transportation-related service agreements, freight claims, mergers and acquisitions, corporate and regulatory compliance, intermodal issues, sales and use tax issues, and licensing and permitting.

Benesch Earns 19 First-Tier Rankings in 2013 "Best Law Firms" Rankings



We are very pleased to achieve first-tier rankings in 19 national and metropolitan categories, including two national first-tier rankings, in the 2013 U.S. News/Best Lawyers® "Best Law Firms" rankings. Overall, the firm was ranked in 51 national and metropolitan categories.

Benesch was ranked in the first tier, nationally, in the areas of **Professional Malpractice Law – Defendants** and **Transportation Law**.

"Best Law Firms" ranks more than 10,000 U.S. law firms in 80 national legal practice areas and in 118 metro or state practice areas. A primary determinant of the rankings was evaluations of law firms by clients voting on firms' expertise, responsiveness, understanding of a business and its needs, cost-effectiveness, civility and whether they would refer another client to a firm.

First-tier metropolitan rankings for Benesch included:

Cleveland, OH

[Corporate Law](#)

[Health Care Law](#)

[Litigation – Construction](#)

[Litigation – Labor & Employment](#)

[Real Estate Law](#)

[Securities/Capital Markets Law](#)

[Transportation Law](#)

Columbus, OH

[Administrative/Regulatory Law](#)

[Health Care Law](#)

[Labor Law – Union](#)

[Litigation – Labor & Employment](#)

[Transportation Law](#)

Wilmington, DE

[Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/](#)

[Insolvency and Reorganization Law](#)

Indianapolis, IN

[Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/](#)

[Insolvency and Reorganization Law](#)

[Litigation – Bankruptcy](#)

[Professional Malpractice Law – Defendants](#)

[Real Estate Law](#)

Benesch Named One of "50 Best Law Firms For Women" for the Second Year in a Row

Working Mother and *Flex-Time Lawyers* named Benesch as one of the 2012 Working Mother and Flex-Time Lawyers "50 Best Law Firms for Women," awarded for our family-friendly policies and business development initiatives that are retaining women and advancing them into the leadership pipeline. The companies are featured in the December/January issue of the magazine, and on workingmother.com and flextimelawyers.com.

Working Mother and *Flex-Time Lawyers* founded the "50 Best Law Firms for Women" initiative in 2007 to celebrate the law firms that are most successful in retaining and promoting women lawyers. The goal is also to give law firms the benchmarking tools to enable them to improve the status of women in their firms in the future.

Carol Evans, President of Working Mother Media, says, "Nearly one-third of women lawyers are leaving the legal workforce independent of maternity leave. The Working Mother and Flex-Time Lawyers 50 Best Law Firms for Women have led the way in creating new models for the rest of their profession in promoting women and developing more generous work-life policies. These

continued on page 2

Benesch on the Web

Please make sure to check out Benesch on the web.

BLOGS:

Benesch Class Action Update Blog

This blog provides meaningful, timely and concise updates on developments of interest in class action litigation, especially but not exclusively within those jurisdictions in which we maintain offices: Ohio, Indiana, Philadelphia and Delaware; the Third, Sixth and Seventh Circuits. It's a fast-moving area, and we keep our fingers on the pulse. Our correspondents are Benesch attorneys who practice in the field as well as guest correspondents with interesting points of view.

www.beneschclassactionupdate.com

Benesch Health Law Blog

This blog is maintained by the Health Care Practice Group at Benesch as a resource for health care industry professionals. The site contains links to legal and regulatory resources and posts on current issues.

www.beneschhealthlaw.com

Ohio Shale Update on Twitter

Twitter: [@ohioshaleupdate](https://twitter.com/ohioshaleupdate) or www.twitter.com/ohioshaleupdate

Please make sure to follow Benesch's Shale Oil & Gas team for daily updates and information on this new and ever-changing industry.



COMING SOON:

Make sure to check out www.ohioshaleupdate.com—our newest blog for timely and topical information relating to the Utica shale boom. We will be launching in the next few weeks.

Benesch Named One of "50 Best Law Firms For Women" for the Second Year in a Row

continued from page 1

firms deserve recognition for working to improve women's advancement and to equalize their compensation and access to business development."

Deborah Epstein Henry, president of Flex-Time Lawyers LLC, states, "These firms understand that their efforts towards women need to expand to not only focus on work-life issues but also on women gaining access to sponsors as well as business development and leadership opportunities. We hope these firms will lead the charge to further improve the status of women in the profession by creating structural change within the law firm model as well as empowering women to take the individual action steps they need to make sustainable change."

On November 28, our Women's Initiative Committee held a champagne reception in honor of this prestigious award.

Women's Initiative Committee Hosts ABA Women's Event in Indiana



Benesch Partner Andi M. Metzel addresses women attorneys in attendance at the firm's November 13 breakfast program.

On November 13, Benesch's Women's Initiative Committee hosted a breakfast program, "Time! Manage Yours Well to Have An Effective Practice, Reduce Stress, & Build A Successful Personal Brand," at the firm's Indianapolis office. The program, initiated by the American Bar Association's Women Rainmakers Committee, was the first of its kind hosted by a law firm in Indianapolis. Approximately 30 women attorneys were in attendance, representing more than 10 law firms in the city and multiple organizations. Benesch partners **Andi M. Metzel** and **Judy L. Woods** presented and led attendees in an interactive discussion. Benesch anticipates hosting similar programs of this nature in Indianapolis in 2013.

Women's Initiative Committee Holds "Plus One" Event

On Thursday, October 18, our Women's Initiative Committee held a "Plus One" event in Cleveland at Fahrenheit restaurant in Tremont. The concept was that each woman at Benesch invited one female contact, and then that contact could also invite one female contact thus expanding everyone's networks. The event was a great success with over 30 women in attendance. Celebrity chef, Rocco Whalen, stopped by to meet the group and explain a bit about the history of Fahrenheit and his other restaurants, as well as the food scene generally in Cleveland.

Join Benesch's Women's Initiative Committee for a "Plus One. . .

"Plus One" Cocktail Party at Fahrenheit!

**Thursday, October 18
5:00-7:00 P.M.**

Fahrenheit
2417 Professor Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44113
www.fahrenheittremont.com

Special guest appearance by
celebrity Chef Rocco Whalen.

We also invite you to bring a "Plus One" (your own female guest—a client, contact, etc.), expanding her network and yours. We look forward to this fun evening with great food, drinks and friends.

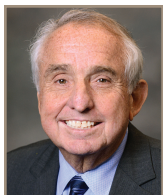
Please let me know by **October 1** if you are able to attend. I am also attaching an invitation for you to send to your "Plus One."

BENESCH
Attorneys at Law



New Attorneys

Cleveland



David C. Weiner

David C. Weiner

Of Counsel, Litigation Practice Group
216.363.4584
dweiner@beneschlaw.com
B.A., University of Cincinnati
J.D., Georgetown University Law Center

David has over 40 years of experience successfully representing numerous businesses and individuals in a wide variety of litigation settings.



James A. Brown

James A. Brown

Associate, General Practice Group
216.363.4417
jbrown@beneschlaw.com
B.A., Ohio University
J.D., The Ohio State University, Moritz College of Law

James has extensive experience researching transactional and litigation issues, assisting with various stages of business transactions and assisting in the preparation for civil litigation.



Connie A. Porter

Connie A. Porter

Associate, General Practice Group
216.363.4442
cporter@beneschlaw.com
B.A., Ohio University
J.D., The University of Akron School of Law

Connie has experience researching transactional and litigation issues, assisting with business transactions and corporate governance matters.



Adam N. Saurwein

Adam N. Saurwein

Associate, Real Estate & Environmental and Energy Practice Groups
216.363.4462
asaurwein@beneschlaw.com
B.A., University of Dallas
M.S., Cleveland State University

J.D., Cleveland State University, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law
Adam's practice focuses on energy, real estate and finance. He has assisted clients with the acquisition, leasing and disposition of commercial, industrial and residential properties.



Brent Shelley

Brent Shelley

Associate, Corporate & Securities Practice Group
216.363.4150
bshelley@beneschlaw.com
B.A., Indiana University - Bloomington
J.D., Vanderbilt University

Brent advises clients on merger and acquisition transactions, contracting and sales issues, transaction financing, business entity formation and governance, capital investment, private equity and venture capital investment and private and public securities matters.

Columbus



Sean Cooke

Sean Cooke

Associate, General Practice Group
614.223.9339
scooke@beneschlaw.com
B.A., Ohio University
M.S., Antioch McGregor University
J.D., Capital University

Sean is experienced in dealing with special education matters, information privacy and public records requests, public sector technology policy and organizational conflict management.

Indianapolis



Steven M. Badger

Steven M. Badger

Attorney at Law, Litigation Practice Group
317.632.3232
sbadger@beneschlaw.com
B.A., Wabash College
J.D., The Maurer School of Law at Indiana University

Steve's practice focuses on representing clients in commercial and complex business litigation matters, business disputes, arbitrations and appeals.



Leeann P. Simpkins

Leeann P. Simpkins

Associate, General Practice Group
317.685.6131
lsimpkins@beneschlaw.com
B.A., Marian College
J.D., Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law

Leeann is a former lobbyist and has worked in nearly all areas of state and local politics and is a qualified civil mediator.

Benesch Raises Money for the Love Richmond Hill Relief

Benesch held a Jeans Day on November 30 to raise money to support the Love Richmond Hill Relief after a deadly gas explosion killed two people, left several others injured and destroyed multiple homes.

Benesch Raises Money for the Wounded Warrior Project

In recognition of Veterans' Day, Benesch held a jeans day on November 9 to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project.

MY BENESCH



"I work with Benesch because of their ability to get to the core of an issue and then develop the strategies to resolve it, whether an everyday matter or something out of the ordinary."

DAVID I. MANSBERY
President
Duck Creek Energy, Inc.



MY TEAM

Cleveland

Columbus

Indianapolis

Philadelphia

Shanghai

White Plains

Wilmington

www.beneschlaw.com

David considers himself a "serial entrepreneur" and has relied on Benesch for a multitude of business needs. From handling real estate, leasing, litigation and general business matters for Duck Creek Energy to navigating the successful sale of a prior business and its intellectual property to incorporating a new venture, Benesch has the breadth and depth to help David go wherever his ideas take him.

To learn more about our relationship with Duck Creek Energy, visit beneschlaw.com/myteam



Featured attorneys (left-right): ROBERT A. ZIMMERMAN, LORI H. WELKER, DAVID MANSBERY, JR., DAVID R. MAYO and JOSEPH G. TEGREENE

© 2012 Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff LLP

Upcoming Events

Negotiation of Physician Employment Agreements

Daniel J. O'Brien

Northeast Ohio Medical University
(NEOMED)

January 30, 2013 | Rootstown, OH

Internet and E-Mail Admissibility Issues of Electronic Evidence at Trial

Nicole D. Galli

The Knowledge Group Legal Series
March 19, 2013 | Live Webcast

Does Fraud on the USPTO Still Exist after Therasense v. Becton, Dickson

Nicole D. Galli

ABA-IPL 28th Annual Intellectual Property Law Conference

April 5, 2013 | Arlington, VA

Drafting Purchase and Sale Agreements and Other Real Estate Documents

Norman R. Newman

National Business Institute Seminar:
Real Estate Transactions

April 8, 2013 | Indianapolis, IN

Fracking Law: From Land Contract Negotiations to Environmental Disputes

Kevin D. Margolis

National Business Institute
April 10, 2013 | Cleveland, OH

Fracking Law: From Land Contract Negotiations to Environmental Disputes

Kevin D. Margolis

National Business Institute
April 11, 2013 | Akron, OH



Friend us on Facebook:

<http://facebook.com/benesch.friedlander>



Follow us on Twitter:

twitter.com/BeneschLaw