66 ANDY BOJKO

hat is your current role with your firm? I am a Partner within the Firm's Commercial Finance and Banking Practice Group. I advise clients in matters involving middle-market debt financings, broadly syndicated debt financings, mezzanine debt, acquisition financings, and ESOP financings. I also handle a variety of real estate matters including construction and permanent loans, acquisitions and divestitures, and leasing and licensing arrangements.

How would you describe your firm's culture? The culture at Benesch is electric right now. We are in major growth mode. Our Chicago office was the fastest growing law office in Chicago this year (as noted by Chicago Lawyer). After opening that office in 2016 with two attorneys, we recently welcomed our 100th attorney to that office. We are moving up the AmLaw ranks, we have been named the U.S. News - Best Lawyers® "Law Firm of the Year" for Transportation Law for the 7th time, and our defamation litigation practice is making headlines across the country.

Additionally, our associate satisfaction earned the Firm a place in the BTI Associate Satisfaction A-Listers 2022. In the same survey, women associates named Benesch a leader in activities associates value most in deriving high levels of job satisfaction. In short, there is an energy in the hallways and a buzz in the market about Benesch Law.

What drew you to a career in law? I have always enjoyed making compelling arguments on behalf of myself and others.

What do you enjoy outside of work? Attending my daughters' sports and other school events, international travel, big California cabs, working out (running and lifting), and playing pickleball with my wife and friends.

What is the most important lesson your parents taught you? Patience is a virtue...And I am still a work in progress.

Who are some of your legal heroes? Tim Grady was my mentor and remains a dear friend. Tim is one of the best attorneys that I have had the



PARTNER

Benesch Friedlander

Coplan & Aronoff LLP

pleasure to work with or against in my career. And more importantly, he is a person of extremely high character.

Have you learned a valuable professional lesson from a mentor?

Yes. You are only as good as your last deal so strive to do your best on every matter you touch.

How are you adapting to the everchanging legal landscape? As I have done throughout my legal career, I often solicit comments and advice from individuals who I believe are doing it the "right" way. I am constantly trying to evolve into a better lawyer and person. What are some of the challenges facing your practice? The major challenge facing my practice is attempting to strike the "perfect" balance among all of the competing interests for my time and attention: billable work, mentoring and developing associates and young partners, client development, the business of law and all that includes in today's competitive legal environment, family life, and my fitness levels.

What advice would you give future lawyers? Make a point of learning from every one of your mistakes. This practice will significantly accelerate your evolution as an attorney.