

# About the Editors and Contributors

## EDITORS

**Kurt M. Heyman** is a founding partner at Proctor Heyman Enerio LLP in Wilmington, Delaware. Since clerking for the Delaware Court of Chancery in 1991-92, Kurt's practice has focused on corporate and commercial litigation in that Court, including some of the leading business divorce cases of the past decade. Kurt is a founding Co-Chair of the Business Divorce Subcommittee of the ABA Business Law Section, Business and Corporate Litigation Committee. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and his law degree from the University of Chicago Law School. He has been an adjunct professor at J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, Widener University School of Law and Fordham University School of Law.

**Melissa N. Donimirski** has been associated with Proctor Heyman Enerio LLP in Wilmington, Delaware since 2009. Melissa focuses her practice in the area of corporate and commercial litigation in the Delaware Court of Chancery. Her practice includes litigating stockholder class actions and derivative suits, issues of corporate governance, officer and director fiduciary obligations and indemnity, and limited partnership and limited liability company disputes. Melissa has significant experience negotiating and litigating "business divorce" matters and is active in the Business Divorce Subcommittee of the Business and Corporation Litigation Committee of the Business Law Section of the ABA. Melissa is also co-contributor to the Pre-Suit Considerations and Common Claims chapters and contributor to the Issues in Damages and Valuation chapter.

## CONTRIBUTORS

**Peter B. Ladig** is the Vice Chair of the Corporate and Commercial Litigation Group at Morris James LLP in Wilmington, Delaware. Pete concentrates his practice in the areas of corporate governance and commercial litigation in the Court of Chancery. Pete also has extensive 1 in

the growing area of the “business divorce,” particularly requests for judicial dissolution to dissolve limited liability companies and corporations. He is active in the Business Divorce Subcommittee of the Business and Corporation Litigation Committee of the Business Law Section of the ABA and has spoken on ABA panels and authored an article in *The Business Lawyer* regarding whether a state court can dissolve a foreign entity. Pete also co-hosts CorpCast, Morris James’ podcast discussing corporate and commercial law in Delaware. Pete is co-contributor to the Pre-Suit Considerations and Effectuating a Split chapters.

**Jaime d’Almeida** is a Managing Director at Duff & Phelps in the Dispute & Investigations practice. He is a frequent speaker and author, and his corporate finance expertise has been featured in numerous publications. Jaime has over 20 years of experience in economic and valuation analysis and consulting and has provided both deposition and trial testimony on valuation and damages issues. He is an Adjunct Lecturer at both Boston University’s Questrom School of Business and Babson College’s F.W. Olin Graduate School of Business, where he also received his M.B.A. in entrepreneurship. He received his B.S. in electrical engineering/engineering and public policy from Carnegie Mellon University. Jaime is also an Accredited Senior Appraiser of the American Society of Appraisers. Jaime is co-contributor to the Issues in Damages and Valuation chapter.

**Daniel Formeller** is Senior Chairman of Tressler LLP. As a trial lawyer based in the firm’s Chicago office, Dan focuses his practice on business litigation and the resolution of business disputes through mediation and arbitration. Dan handles a wide variety of complex business litigation and counseling, including intellectual property, state and federal securities actions, anti-trust, ERISA, shareholder disputes, class actions and directors’ and officers’ liability matters. He has been lead trial counsel in bench and jury trials in state and federal courts throughout the United States. Dan is co-contributor to the Pre-Suit Considerations chapter.

**Michaela Sozio** is a partner at Tressler LLP in Los Angeles. She is an experienced litigator who represents and counsels companies in business disputes, employment-related matters and other litigated matters. Michaela handles a wide variety of complex litigation including defending officers and directors, shareholder disputes, copyright infringement, trademark infringement, privacy claims, class actions, contract disputes and other commercial litigation matters. Michaela is co-contributor to the Pre-Suit Considerations chapter.

**Brian M. Gottesman** is a partner at the Delaware law firm of Berger Harris LLP. A 2003 graduate of Harvard Law School, Brian has counseled a wide array of businesses with respect to governance issues, business formations, the establishment of subsidiaries and holding companies and sales of assets and equitable interest, and has provided opinions in real

estate acquisitions, structured finance deals, business mergers and other transactions. In addition to his transaction work, Brian has extensive experience with litigation in Delaware courts, particularly in the Court of Chancery. Brian has represented clients in breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty and business divorce actions, as well as a wide array of other corporate and commercial litigation matters. Brian is a co-blogger and author at [www.businesslawbasics.com](http://www.businesslawbasics.com). Brian is co-contributor to the Common Claims chapter.

**Eric Milby** is a shareholder in the firm of Lundy Beldecos & Milby, where he focuses his practice on commercial disputes including Business Divorce cases. Eric also handles a variety of other business disputes, including restrictive covenants such as non-compete and non-solicitation provisions, trade secret litigation, construction disputes, commercial landlord-tenant disputes, commercial debts, and a variety of other contract disputes. Eric is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and New Jersey and regularly practices in state and federal courts as well as various arbitration tribunals such as JAMS, AAA, FINRA and the American Health Lawyers Association. Eric received a Bachelor of Science from Old Dominion University and a Juris Doctor, cum laude, from Widener University School of Law. He also successfully completed the Trial Advocacy Program at the University of Virginia. Eric is co-contributor to the Effectuating a Split chapter and the Pre-Suit Considerations chapter.

**Scott I. Unger** is a Shareholder and member of Stark & Stark's (Princeton, New Jersey) Litigation Group, where he concentrates his practice on litigation arising out of business and commercial disputes. Mr. Unger regularly counsels business owners on the prosecution and defense of minority oppression litigation. Scott received both his undergraduate and law degrees from The Ohio State University. He is a member of The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law's National Counsel and is admitted to practice law in New York, New Jersey, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Scott is co-contributor to the Common Claims chapter.

**Michael P. Connolly** is a partner with Murtha Cullina LLP in the firm's Boston, Massachusetts office. Michael represents stakeholders in family-owned businesses and closely-held businesses in connection with disputes between business owners under LLC operating agreements, shareholder agreements, and partnership agreements; breach of fiduciary duty claims against directors and officers; and other internal disputes concerning business valuations, distributions, and access to company information. Michael also has an active business litigation practice, in which he represents businesses in disputes involving contracts and trade practices, including claims arising from business asset purchase and sale agreements, commercial leases, financing agreements, franchise and distribution agreements, non-competition agreements, and trademark infringement and theft of trade secrets. Michael is co-contributor to the Challenging a Split chapter.

**Brett A. Margolin, Ph.D.**, is a principal resident in the Wilmington, Delaware office of BLDS, LLC. His practice applies economic theory and analysis in a variety of contexts, with a particular focus on business valuation and damages estimation in corporate governance, commercial, and bankruptcy litigation. Brett has testified in a number of state and federal courts, including the Delaware Court of Chancery. He is co-contributor to the Issues in Damages and Valuation chapter.

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**Ladd Hirsch** is a business trial partner with the Dallas office of Diamond McCarthy LLP, a national business litigation and insolvency boutique. Ladd prosecutes and defends complex business claims for clients in state and federal courts and arbitration cases. For more than a decade, Ladd has focused a large part of his practice on handling business divorce disputes representing majority owners and substantial minority investors with conflicts arising out of their interests in private companies. Ladd represents clients in a wide variety of industries, including health-care, software and technology, retail, real estate, energy and entertainment businesses. Ladd is co-contributor to the Common Claims chapter.

**Aaron M. Nelson** is an associate at Proctor Heyman Enerio LLP in Wilmington, Delaware, where he practices corporate, alternative entity, and complex commercial litigation, including business divorce cases involving the dissolution of privately held business entities. Aaron helped successfully persuade the Delaware Court of Chancery to “equitably dissolve” Carlisle Etcetera LLC, a joint venture between Royal Spirit Group of Hong Kong and Tom James Company. This was the first Delaware case to “equitably dissolve” an LLC. Aaron is co-contributor to the Pre-Suit Considerations and Common Claims chapters.

**Stephen B. Brauerman**, a director at Bayard, P.A. concentrates his practice in corporate, commercial and intellectual property litigation in Delaware's state and federal courts. He has litigated a wide array of cases involving fiduciary duty claims, corporate and alternative entity control

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**John Tancabel** is associated with Diamond McCarthy LLP and represents businesses and individuals in a variety of complex, high-stakes disputes in state and federal court. John has extensive experience with fiduciary duty and securities related litigation as well as fights over control of business entities, class actions, and multi-jurisdictional litigation. Before joining Diamond McCarthy, John was a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Sidney A. Fitzwater, Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas and then spent five years with the law firm of Haynes and Boone, LLP in the firm's specialized litigation section. John is co-contributor to the Common Claims chapter.

**Vanessa R. Tiradentes** is an associate at Gould & Ratner LLP in Chicago, focusing her practice in commercial litigation in both federal and state courts. Her experience includes handling allegations of breach of fiduciary duty, business divorces, contract disputes, and indemnification claims, among other commercial matters. Admitted to practice in four states, Vanessa was selected by Super Lawyers as a 2016 Delaware Rising Star in Business Litigation. In 2008, she clerked for Vice Chancellor Donald F. Parsons, Jr. of the Delaware Court of Chancery through the ABA Business Law Section Diversity Clerkship Program. She attended Hofstra University School of Law and Harvard University. Vanessa is co-contributor to the Challenging a Split chapter.

**Anne M. Steadman** is an associate at Ross Aronstam & Moritz LLP, where she concentrates her practice in the area of Corporate Litigation. Previously, Anne worked as a judicial intern for the Honorable Abigail M. LeGrow in the Delaware Court of Chancery. Anne also clerked for The Honorable M. Jane Brady in Delaware Superior Court. During law school, Anne interned for The Honorable Gary A. Feess in the Central District of California. Anne earned her J.D. from the UCLA School of Law in 2014, her Ph.D. from the University of Arizona in 2011, and her B.A. from the University of Delaware in 2005. She is admitted to practice in Delaware and California and is a member of the American Bar Association. Anne is co-contributor to the Effectuating a Split chapter.