

## **Speaker Biographies**



# JONATHAN ASKIN

## Biography

Professor Askin is the Founder/Director of the Brooklyn Law Incubator & Policy Clinic (BLIP) and the *Innovation Catalyst* for the [Center for Urban Business Entrepreneurship \(CUBE\)](#). He founded the [BLIP Clinic](#) when he joined Brooklyn Law School in 2008, bringing more than a decade of experience in the communications industry from both the public and private sectors. He has provided legal and policy counsel and strategic advice for companies that build and develop communications networks and Internet applications, as well as for other technology-oriented enterprises and startups.

Professor Askin is also Visiting Professor at the Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London; a Fellow at the Columbia Institute for Tele-Information; Adjunct Professor at Columbia Law School; and Founder and Advisor to iLINC, a network of legal support clinics for the European startup community.

A sought-after expert in the field of Internet law, he played a key role in the tech task force of President Barack Obama's 2008 election campaign. He has also served as president and general counsel for the Association for Local Telecommunications Services and was a senior attorney at the Federal Communications Commission. He is actively involved in developing Brooklyn as the 21st century "Silicon Alley," recognizing the borough as a burgeoning hub for innovative start-ups, and is affiliated with the [Dennis J. Block Center for the Study of International Business Law](#).

He has served as a board member to many industry groups, including the Universal Service Administrative Company, the North American Numbering Counsel, and the New York Chapter of the Internet Society, and has served as Chair of the Voice on the Net Coalition, as executive director of the Video on the Net Alliance, as president and founder of the Global IP Alliance, and as inaugural Chair of the CyberSpace Committee of the Federal Communications Bar Association. He is a frequent commenter in the media about Internet, communications, and technology-related issues.

At Rutgers Law School he was Notes and Comments Editor for the *Rutgers Law Review*. After law school, he clerked for Chief Justice Robert N. Wilentz of the New Jersey Supreme Court and practiced as an associate at Davis Polk & Wardwell and as a Deputy Public Advocate for the State of New Jersey.

Professor Askin was also a Visiting Professor at the MIT Media Lab and a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Amsterdam's Institute for Information Law.



# **WILLIAM BELMONT, ESQ.**

## Biography

As an investigative attorney, Mr. Belmont is experienced at investigating civil and criminal matters in the financial, insurance, entertainment, and real estate industries and on behalf of law firms. Additionally, Mr. Belmont has provided security-consulting services to corporate clients for personal and public events and has completed numerous vulnerability surveys, threat assessments, and crisis management engagements.

As a trial attorney, Mr. Belmont represented large corporations in litigation. Mr. Belmont specialized in fraud, premises liability, labor law and products liability cases. He successfully tried and won verdicts on behalf of Greyhound and Allied Security and prevailed in numerous matters involving fraud against insurance companies.

In addition to his experience as an attorney, Mr. Belmont served as a police officer in Mesa, Arizona. He received his B.A. in Criminal Justice from The George Washington University and his J.D. from Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law.



# **PRESTON BYRNE, ESQ.**

## Biography

Preston Byrne is a banking and securities lawyer in the City of London, specializing in securitization and derivatives. He advises the ASI on legal aspects of its policy proposals and writes on a range of subjects including housing and planning law, the security state, freedom of expression and cryptocurrency.

Preston often contributes to or is quoted by mainstream news media. In 2013, he was the lead author of *Burning Down the House*, the ASI's paper opposing the Conservatives' Help to Buy mortgage subsidy programme, which was covered by hundreds of national and international media outlets including Forbes, the Financial Times, City A.M., Reuters, the Telegraph, the New Statesman, Sky News, Deutsche Welle, and the BBC. More recently, he provided a contributing interview in the book *Great Chain of Numbers: A Guide to Smart Contracts, Smart Property and Trustless Asset Management*. He holds a M.A. in International Relations from the University of St. Andrews and a LL.B. from the College of Law.



# JENNIFER CONNORS, ESQ.

## Biography

**Jennifer Connors** is a New York financial services attorney who represents broker-dealers, alternative trading systems (ATs), financial technology (FinTech) companies and other market participants on securities law and market regulation matters. Ms. Connors' practice has a particular emphasis on broker-dealer regulation and compliance issues, trading rules, issues regarding ATs, electronic trading, cybersecurity, sales practices and anti-money laundering (AML) rules. She also advises FinTech companies and fund management clients with respect to broker-dealer regulation issues, as well as securities offerings and private placements.

In addition, Ms. Connors regularly counsels clients on U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) inquiries and examinations, and continuing membership applications (CMAs). She also handles aspects of regulatory examinations and authorizations administered by select non-U.S. regulators, including the United Kingdom Financial Conduct Authority and the Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong.

Ms. Connors has more than 20 years of experience in legal and compliance roles at both global financial services firms and innovative FinTech companies. In these roles, she developed comprehensive written supervisory procedures (WSPs) and training programs for brokerage personnel, and served as a key liaison with financial industry regulators. In addition, Ms. Connors has drafted and negotiated vendor agreements, technology license agreements and electronic-access and trading agreements within the context of a FinTech startup.

Prior to joining Holland & Knight, Ms. Connors was a New York financial services attorney for an international law firm.



# MATTHEW D'AMORE

## Biography

Matthew D'Amore is a Professor of Practice at Cornell Tech and in the Law School at Cornell University, and currently serves as an Associate Dean at Cornell Tech. D'Amore comes to Cornell after a 20-year career at the international law firm of Morrison & Foerster, where he represented high technology and life-sciences clients in the resolution of complex intellectual property disputes and in licensing matters. In addition to his work for technology clients, D'Amore has been recognized for his *pro bono* work in impact cases for children denied special education services and for citizens deprived of the right to vote, and has served as an adjunct professor at Cornell Law School. Now at Cornell Tech, D'Amore brings his legal industry experience to the Cornell Tech community, teaching Technology Transactions and Trade Secret Law and Practice. D'Amore received his B.S., with distinction, from the Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, in biology and society, and his J.D. from Yale Law School.



# **NED GANNON**

## Biography

As a co-founder and CEO of eBrevia, Ned Gannon drives the strategic direction of the company and is responsible for overall management. eBrevia uses machine learning technology to improve the efficiency and accuracy of contract review. Ned brings a broad range of legal and business experience to the company. While practicing corporate law with Paul, Hastings, Janofsky and Walker LLP and LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae LLP (n/k/a Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP), Ned represented private equity funds, strategic investors, venture capital funds and startup companies in mergers, acquisitions, financings and general commercial matters. Prior to practicing corporate law, Ned worked in a sales and business development role at Survey Sampling, Inc., a privately-held data collection company. Ned was selected by Capterra as one of five Legal Tech entrepreneurs to watch and speaks frequently on machine learning technology's impact on the legal industry. Ned holds a Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School, a Master in Public Administration from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and a Bachelor of Science from Boston College.



# **DIANE HOLT, ESQ.**

## Biography

Diane Holt is the managing editor of Bloomberg BNA's DealMaker, the Bloomberg Law product for transactional lawyers. Previously, she worked for many years as a corporate lawyer in Europe. She served as international transactional counsel for Enel, SpA, the Italian electric monopoly, in Rome, Italy. She has also worked with a number of Central European regional operations in transition, and she managed Central European Advisory Group, the regional legal and business consultancy. Ms. Holt is a member of the ABA, the American Society for International Law and the Women's Bar Association of D.C. Her recent volunteer work includes serving as a mediator in the D.C. Superior Court, representing at-risk children in family law disputes with the D.C. Volunteer Lawyers Project and mentoring law students. A graduate of Wesleyan University, she earned her JD. at the University of Michigan.



# JAKKI KERUBO

## Biography

Jakki Kerubo holds an MFA in Creative Writing from New York University (NYU), where she served as an assistant interview editor on the *Washington Square Review*. She has taught non-fiction writing at NYU and the Center for Faith and Work, where she was a 2016 Artist-in-Residence. In the past, Jakki worked as a journalist in the Philippines and in Kenya. There, she covered health, finance and technology and interviewed diverse leaders, including Graca Machel Mandela and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Edwidge Dantica. Her writing has been published in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Quartz*, *Huffington Post*, and the *Golden Handcuffs Review*. A blockchain enthusiast, Jakki hosts workshops to educate others on the basics of this wildly speculative technology. She's the founder of Novum Communications Consulting, and currently works as a communications strategist for both a New York City agency and a blockchain startup. She has a forthcoming debut novel and a non-fiction work in progress.



# **PERY D. KRINSKY, ESQ.**

## Biography

PERY D. KRINSKY is the principal of KRINSKY, PLLC, where he focuses his practice on ethics-based defense litigation. Before forming his own law firm, Mr. Krinsky was associated with the law firm of LaRossa & Ross, and then the Law Offices Of Michael S. Ross.

MR. KRINSKY'S ethics-based defense litigation practice focuses on:

- Federal & State Attorney/Judicial Ethics Matters, including: representing attorneys and law firms under investigation by disciplinary authorities and other government agencies; providing guidance to lawyers concerning the day-to-day practice of law; representing disbarred and suspended attorneys seeking reinstatement; advising and representing members of the New York State Judiciary in matters before the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct; and assisting law school graduates in the admissions process.
- Federal & State Criminal Defense Matters, including: defending clients against law-enforcement actions such as claims of securities fraud, antitrust, investment advisory fraud, health care fraud, tax issues, money laundering, RICO, and narcotics trafficking, among others; helping conduct internal investigations; addressing compliance issues; and responding to regulatory inquiries.
- Art Law Ethics & Litigation Matters, including: allegations of business fraud; art-related disputes; fraudulent transactions; provenance and authenticity; fraudulent inducement to sell; and sales tax evasion.

MR. KRINSKY is a frequent lecturer on topics involving ethics in litigation, personal and professional responsibility and academic integrity, including at: the N.Y. State Judicial Institute; the Appellate Divisions, First and Second Judicial Departments; the N.Y. State Bar Association; the N.Y. City Bar; the N.Y. County Lawyers' Association; the N.Y. State Academy of Trial Lawyers; the N.Y. State Trial Lawyers Association; the Practicing Law Institute; the Bay Ridge Lawyers Association; the Queens County Bar Association; Sotheby's Institute of Art; and law schools such as Brooklyn Law School, Columbia Law School and Fordham Law School.

MR. KRINSKY serves as the Chair of the Ethics Committee of the Entertainment, Arts & Sports Law Section of the N.Y. State Bar Association; and the Chair of the Committee on Professional Discipline of the N.Y. County Lawyers' Association. Mr. Krinsky serves on the Board of Advisors of the N.Y. County Lawyers' Association Institute of Legal Ethics; and is also a Member of: the Brooklyn Bar Association; the N.Y. State Bar Association's Committee on Attorney Professionalism; the N.Y. City Bar Association's Professional Responsibility Committee; and the N.Y. County Lawyers' Committee on Professional Ethics.



# **JOSHUA KRUMHOLZ, ESQ.**

## Biography

Joshua Krumholz is a trial attorney who focuses primarily on intellectual property litigation, with a particular emphasis on patent litigation. His practice covers a variety of technologies and jurisdictions. Mr. Krumholz has successfully taken cases to jury verdict in the Eastern District of Texas, Illinois, Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey, among other jurisdictions. Technologies that Mr. Krumholz handles include telecommunications, software, hardware, electronics and consumer goods. His complex commercial experience includes partnership tax disputes, escheatment, healthcare disputes and antitrust matters. Mr. Krumholz represents leading companies across a range of industries, including Ericsson, Verizon, T-Mobile, Avaya, Acushnet (Titleist) and Hasbro, among others.

Intellectual Asset Management (IAM) Patent 1000 has recommended Mr. Krumholz since 2014. The 2017 publication describes him as "...the model lawyer. He can think on his feet before a judge or in a deposition, and his attention to detail is incredible. He has a knack for explaining complex technical issues in plain English, which is the sign of a first-rate trial lawyer. Plus he's always really responsive and focused on cost efficiency – excellently managing the other members in his litigation team." Mr. Krumholz was awarded the Client Choice Award for Massachusetts in 2015, and regularly is honored by Chambers USA and Best Lawyers of America, among other organizations.



# **GREGORY PICCOLO**

## Biography

Gregory Piccolo is a Technology Consultant specialized in the architecture, implementation and deployment of blockchain and cryptocurrency backed applications.

An early adopter of Bitcoin and Ethereum technology, Gregory has been the lead engineer on several high-profile corporate blockchain projects across multiple sectors. Most recently and representing IBM, Gregory led development on the highly publicized Trustchain Jewelry initiative.

Gregory is a life-long resident of New York City and is currently based in downtown Manhattan.



# **T. ALEXANDER PUUTIO, ESQ.**

## Biography

T. Alexander Puutio is an IP and competition attorney currently working for the United Nations Headquarters in New York. Alexander's current Ph.D. and degree studies at University of Turku and London School of Economics and Political Science involve assessing the complex interplay between competition law and intellectual property, and he devotes much of his research to analysing international aspects of policies that drive financial markets and economic activity at large. He is currently finishing his LLM at Brooklyn Law School. All views expressed are his own and do not in any way reflect those of his institutional affiliations.



# **RORY RADDING, ESQ.**

## Biography

Rory Radding is a member of the Locke Lord's Intellectual Property group. He is Co-Chair of the Firm's ITC Practice Group and former Co-Chair of the Trademark, Copyright and Advertising Practice Group. He has litigated diverse patent, trademark, copyright, and trade secret cases, acting for both plaintiffs and defendants, involving LED lighting and lighting systems, plastic manufacture, electrochemical devices, ring laser gyroscopes, avionics, medical devices, communications, pharmaceuticals, computer controllers, food equipment, data compression, impact sensors, bicycles, candy, wine, jewelry, personal consumer products, television commercials, and vehicle tires; to name a few.

Prior to joining the Firm, Rory was head of the Intellectual Property practice in New York for Morrison & Foerster. Prior to that, he was a senior partner at Pennie & Edmonds, where he practiced for 30 years. Before the start of his legal career, Rory was a pharmaceutical chemist at Wellcome Research Laboratory, and an environmental chemist at Union Carbide Corporation.

