### **ROBERT D. BARONE, ESQ.** BIOGRAPHY

For over twenty years Robert Barone of the Tarantino Law Firm LLP, Buffalo, NY, has been defending clients in all phases of civil litigation and has successfully tried numerous cases to verdict in courts throughout the State of New York. He has handled a wide array of high-exposure cases in all major areas of civil defense including automobile liability, premises liability, construction accidents involving New York Labor Law §§ 200, 240(1), and 240(6), products liability, and cases involving exposure to lead paint, asbestos, silica and other harmful substances. Mr. Barone devotes a substantial portion of his practice to the defense of physicians in complex medical malpractice litigation and in professional disciplinary proceedings before the New York State Office of Professional Medical Conduct. Mr. Barone is a 1989 graduate of Wittenberg University and a 1993 graduate of the University of Toledo, College of Law. He has repeatedly been listed as an Upstate New York Super Lawyer. Mr. Barone is admitted to practice in both Federal and New York State courts and is a long-standing member of the Erie County Bar Association.

# EILEEN E. BUHOLTZ, ESQ. BIOGRAPHY

Eileen Buholtz graduated from the Eastman School of Music with a Bachelor of Music Degree as a clarinet major and from Syracuse University with a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree. She is a member of Connors, Corcoran & Buholtz, PLLC in Rochester where she concentrates her practice in litigation in insurance defense, insurance coverage litigation, and estate litigation.

Ms. Buholtz is past chair of the New York State Bar Association's Torts, Insurance, and Compensation Law Section. She has served on NYSBA's House of Delegates, New York State Conference of Bar Leaders, Law Office and Economic Management Committee, and CPLR Committee. She serves on the President's Committee for Access to Justice. She is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), the Defense Research Institute (DRI), the Monroe County Bar Association (MCBA), the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys (GRAWA), the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York (WBASNY), and the Defense Association of New York. She co-chairs WBASNY's Judiciary/ Courts Committee. She has lectured for NYSBA, MCBA, GRAWA, Lorman Education Services, and the National Business Institute on topics involving civil litigation, insurance law, Labor Law, statutory liens, and ethics. She has authored chapters on construing insurance contracts, post-judgment interest, and ethical issues in preparing for and trying the civil lawsuit for NYSBA treatises.

She has received awards including the 2009 John E. Leach Memorial Award for service to NYSBA's Torts, Insurance and Compensation Law Section; the 2008 WBASNY Hanna Cohn Pro Bono Award; for multiple years NYSBA's Empire State Counsel for contributing 50-plus hours of pro bono representation; a 2004 nomination for The Daily Record's Nathaniel Award; the 2004 GRAWA Crennel-Branch Award for leadership in GRAWA; the 2000 MCBA President's Award; and the 1994 NYSBA Pro Bono Award and Volunteer Legal Service's Project's McKnight Award for Pro Bono Services. She chairs the Friends of Eastman Opera and is a board member of the Rochester chapter of the National Association of Women in Construction.

### HONORABLE TIFFANY GAUTIER CHASE BIOGRAPHY

Judge Tiffany Gautier Chase is a native of New Orleans and has served as judge of Division A of Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans since May 2007. She has presented at numerous continuing legal education seminars on a variety of civil litigation topics including recent developments in the law, medical malpractice, domestic violence, professionalism and ethics. Judge Chase is committed to providing access to justice to all litigants and works with various groups to do so. In 2010, she worked closely with the Louisiana Bar Association-Access to Justice Committee to create Civil District Court's Self-Represented Litigant Help Desk, the first self-contained legal help desk in a Louisiana court. Judge Chase was appointed in 2013, by the Louisiana Supreme Court as Chairperson of the Louisiana Court Security Committee. She serves as Louisiana's Delegate to the American Bar Association-State Court Trial Judges Committee; serves on the District Court Rules Committee; Executive Committee of the District Judges' Association, Louisiana Judicial Council and previously served as co-chair for two years of Louisiana Judicial College- Louisiana State Bar Association Summer School. In 2010, Judge Chase received the President's Award from the Louisiana State Bar Association and was recently honored by Family Services of Greater New Orleans.

# VINCENT CHIRICO, ESQ. BIOGRAPHY

Vince has over twenty five years of experience in civil litigation, having served as national coordinating counsel for Fortune 500 companies in nationwide and cross-border, industry-wide and individual matters through trial and appeal. Formerly a partner in a mid-size New York City firm, Vince headed that firm's appellate practice group.

In 2012, Vince formed Chirico Law PLLC, providing litigation and transactional representation as well as consulting services to other law firms. In the litigation sphere, Chirico Law specializes in appeals, product liability, commercial, transportation and construction law. The firm's transactional Practice focuses on business formation and transactions, real estate and estate planning.

Vince is a graduate of New York Law School (Class of '93), where he also served as Adjunct Professor for 11 years, teaching upper-class and first-year courses on legal writing, research, analysis, persuasion, pre-trial and appellate advocacy. He currently presents legal education seminars focusing on appeals, practice management, practical skills and persuasion.

In addition to his membership in the New York City Bar Association's Tort Litigation Committee, Vince is a member of Brooklyn's Community Board #11 and serves as Chairperson of Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow (<u>www.obtjobs.org</u>), President of the American-Italian Coalition of Organizations (<u>www.amicoinc.org</u>), and Vice President of the Dyker Heights Athletic Association (<u>www.knightsaa.org</u>).

Vince is admitted to practice in State and Federal courts in New York and New Jersey.

# GARY A. CUSANO, ESQ. BIOGRAPHY

**Gary A. Cusano**, has over 27 years of litigation experience. He has litigated high exposure tort and commercial transaction cases involving automobiles, construction site accidents, products liability, multi-party large-scale property damage cases, breach of contract, toxic tort and dental malpractice. He also litigates insurance coverage and contract matters. Gary's firm, **The Law Office of Gary A. Cusano, P.C.**, is a full service law firm specializing in Insurance Defense Litigation, Insurance Coverage and General Commercial Litigation. Their primary objective is the swift resolution of cases with the most favorable outcome possible for clients. The firm prides itself on its diversity and its attention to detail, which insures that personal attention is given to each issue in every case. Working closely with our clients, they offer a unique approach to legal representation: and are both responsive and receptive. Prior to establishing his firm, Gary held the position of Managing Trial Attorney of CNA Insurance Company's staff counsel program in Tarrytown, New York.

Gary received his J.D. from Brooklyn Law School in 1985 and is admitted to practice in both New York state and federal courts. He is a former Chairman of the Torts, Insurance and Compensation Law Section of the NYS Bar Association; He is a past member of the New York State Bar Association's House of Delegates; Member of the Panel of Arbitrators on Insurance Coverage for A.A.A.; Certified CLE lecturer for the NYS and Bronx County Bar Associations; he is a member of the New York State Bar Association, Westchester Bar Association and the Bronx County Bar Association.

Gary is an accomplished trial attorney who has successfully litigated multi-million dollar matters at both the Federal and State court levels. He has extensive experience in handling complex, high exposure cases.

He currently resides in Westchester County with his wife Adrienne and children Alexandra and Gregory.

# RICHARD W. DAWSON, ESQ. BIOGRAPHY

**RICHARD W. DAWSON** became a partner at Conway, Farrell, Curtin & Kelly, P.C. in 2002 and has been with the firm since 1999. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Mr. Dawson attended Bernard M. Baruch College in New York City and received his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration Management in 1975. After graduation, Mr. Dawson began a twenty year career in property casualty claims working with Hartford, CNA and AIG Insurance Companies. During his tenure as Division Claims Manager for CNA, he resumed his academic pursuits, enrolling in the Evening Division at St. John's University School of Law in 1991, and earned his law degree in 1995. Mr. Dawson was admitted to the New York State Bar as well as the United States District Court for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York in 1996. In June 2004, Mr. Dawson was admitted to appear before the U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Court of Federal Claims, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces.

Mr. Dawson is a member of the New York State Bar Association, the Torts, Insurance & Compensation Law Section, previously serving on the sections Executive Committee and a member of the Trial Lawyers Section. At Conway Farrell, Mr. Dawson practices in the areas of construction labor law, general liability, toxic tort and insurance coverage.

Mr. Dawson brings to the practice of law an extensive knowledge of claims procedure, insurance policy language interpretation, and the manner in which the Federal Courts and Courts of the State of New York have addressed the rights and duties of the contracting parties.

# HONORABLE ARTHUR M. DIAMOND BIOGRAPHY

Arthur M. Diamond has served on the NYS Supreme Court since January 2004.

Justice Diamond is a graduate of Rutgers University (New Brunswick 1974) and Hofstra University School of Law (1978). He began his legal career in the Office of the Nassau County District Attorney Denis Dillon where he spent eight years and served as Deputy Chief of the Trial Bureau. In 1992 he became of counsel to the Garden City law firm of *Fishkin & Pugach*, concentrating in the areas of criminal and personal injury law. In 1999 and 2000 he was appointed to the County Court by Gov. George Pataki.

His column, *Evidentially Speaking*, appears regularly in the Nassau Lawyer, the official publication of the Nassau County Bar Association. He has lectured on evidence at the Nassau County Bar Association, the New York State Bar Association, New York County Lawyers Association, the Statewide Judicial Seminars at the New York State Judicial Institute in White Plains, New York, the Second and Third Departments Attorney for the Child panels and the Hofstra University Continuing Legal Education Institute among others. He is co-editor of the Evidence chapter and a peer reviewer of the Article 81 chapter of the 2013 revision of the *Bench Book for Judges*.

In 2011 he was appointed by Chief Judge Lippman to the statewide Judicial Advisory Council, a committee of Justices dedicated to improving trial practices in New York courts and in 2015 was appointed to the New York State Advisory Committee on Guardianship Matters. In January of 2016 he was appointed Supervising Judge of Guardianship matters for Nassau County.

# ELIA DIAZ-YAEGER, ESQ. BIOGRAPHY

Elia Diaz-Yaeger is a Shareholder in the law firm of Lugenbuhl, Wheaton, Peck, Rankin and Hubbard, her primary areas of practice are industrial employment/long-latency lung disease litigation, insurance defense and coverage, environmental law, commercial litigation, and Board Governance/Cybersecurity. In the last twenty years, Ms. Diaz-Yaeger has successfully defended thousands of occupational exposure claims, including exposure to asbestos and silica-containing products. Mrs. Diaz-Yaeger's extensive litigation experience enables her to provide clients with an early strategic plan, vigorous defense and efficient litigation.

As an AV-rated attorney, Mrs. Diaz-Yaeger was selected for the inaugural edition of the Martindale-Hubbell® Bar Register of Preeminent Women Lawyers<sup>TM</sup>. Her recent professional credentials include the 2014-2015 Recipient of the Louisiana State Bar Association Human Rights Award. She is also a 2015 CityBusiness "Women of the Year" recipient and honoree.

Mrs. Diaz-Yaeger actively promotes diversity and inclusion of women and Hispanics in the legal professions through various professional organizations. She is a long standing member of the Hispanic National Bar Association ("HNBA"), where she currently serves as the National Secretary. Mrs. Diaz-Yaeger is also a member of a number of International Association of Defense Counsel, Defense Research Institute, ABA, Louisiana State Bar Association. She is a frequent speaker and CLE presenter. Her recent professional engagements include: presenting at the 2015 DRI Asbestos Medicine Seminar; 2015 LSBA diversity training seminar; 2015 LSBA presenter on professionalism; speaker at the 2012 ABA mid-year meeting and 2011 HNBA National Corporate Conference; leading round-table discussions at several in-house corporate meetings; serving as a diversity facilitator for the Louisiana State Bar Association; participating in the Louisiana State Bar Association's diversity and inclusion video.

In addition to her professional pursuits, Mrs. Diaz-Yaeger also serves as on the Board of Directors of ASI Federal Credit Union, a Community Development Financial Institution, whose mission is to strengthen the financial health of underserved communities through financial service and education. Mrs. Diaz-Yaeger also volunteers and participates in a number of social and community programs including, Taking Steps for Crohn's and Colitis, New Orleans Ballet, Kingsley house "friendraising", and New Orleans Opera Association. Additionally, she is a founding member of Candy Girls/Life Savers of New Orleans, a non-profit group that supports and provides services to families in need.

#### WORK EXPERIENCE

Lugenbuhl, Wheaton, Peck, Rankin & Hubbard - *Shareholder*, 2007-Present Frilot LLC - *Special Counsel*, 2005-2007 Lynn Luker & Associates, LLC - *Special Counsel*, 2000-2004 Chopin Wagar Richard & Kutcher, LLP - *Associate*, 1999-2000 Tranchina & Mansfield, LLC - *Associate*, 1995-1999

#### AFFILIATIONS

International Association of Defense Counsel - *Member* of Toxic & Hazardous Substances Committee, Diversity Committee, Insurance and Reinsurance Committee and Environmental and Energy Law Committee

Defense Research Institute - *Member* of Products Liability Committee, the Diversity Committee and Diversity for Success Corporate Expo Committee

Hispanic National Bar Association – *National Secretary*, 2015 – date. *Deputy Region XII President*, *Member* of Board of Governors, *Member* of National Coordinating Committee for the 2013 and 2015 Tennis & Golf Tournament and *Co-Chair* of 2011 Mid-Year Corporate Conference and Moot Court Competition

American Bar Association - *Member* of Commission on Racial & Ethnic Diversity in the Profession and Commission on Women in the Profession

Louisiana State Bar Association - *Diversity Facilitator* and *Member* of Conclave Subcommittee New Orleans Bar Association - *Member* of Women in the Profession Committee

Hispanic Lawyers Association of Louisiana - Member

# HONORABLE THOMAS A. DICKERSON BIOGRAPHY

Thomas A. Dickerson is an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division, Second Department of the New York State Supreme Court.\_Justice Dickerson is the author of <u>Travel</u> <u>Law</u>, Law Journal Press, 2016; <u>Class Actions: The Law of 50 States</u>, Law Journal Press, 2016; Article 9 [New York State Class Actions] of Weinstein, Korn & Miller, <u>New York Civil Practice</u> <u>CPLR</u>, Lexis-Nexis (MB), 2016; <u>Consumer Protection</u> Chapter 111 in <u>Commercial Litigation In</u> <u>New York State Courts: Fourth Edition</u> (Robert L. Haig ed.)(West & NYCLA 2016); Dickerson, Gould & Chalos, <u>Litigating Foreign Torts in United States Courts</u>, Thomson-Reuters (West) 2014 and over 400 articles and papers on consumer law, class actions, travel law and tax certiorari and eminent domain issues, many of which are available at:

> <u>www.courts.state.ny.us/courts/ad2/justice\_dickerson.shtml</u> <u>www.nycourts.gov/courts/9jd/taxcertatd.shtml</u> www.classactionlitigation.com/library/ca\_articles.html

# HONORABLE MICHAEL J. GARCIA BIOGRAPHY

Michael J, Garcia, Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals, was born in Brooklyn, in October 1961. On January 20, 2016, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo nominated him to the Court of Appeals, and the New York State Senate confirmed his appointment on February 8, 2016. Judge Garcia received his undergraduate degree with honors from the State University of New York at Binghamton in 1983 and an M.A. degree from the College of William & Mary in 1984. In 1989, he received his law degree (summa cum laude) from Albany Law School, where he graduated as valedictorian. He began his legal career as an associate at Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP in 1989. From 1990 to 1992, he served as Law Clerk to Hon. Judith S. Kaye, then Associate Judge of the New York Court of Appeals.

From 1992 to 2001, he served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York. In 2001, he became Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Enforcement in the Bureau of Industry and Security, and in December 2002 he became Acting Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service at the United States Department of Justice. From March 2003 to August 2005, he served as Assistant Secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement at the United States Department of Homeland Security. Judge Garcia was the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York from 2005 to 2008, when he joined Kirkland & Ellis LLP.

Judge Garcia is on the Board of Trustees of El Museo del Barrio. He previously was Vice President of the Americas for INTERPOL, the international police organization, from 2003 to 2006. From 2012 to 2014, he was Chair of the Investigatory Chamber of the Ethics Committee of the Federation Internationale de Football Association.

Judge Garcia lives in Westchester with his wife and three children.

# DAVID PAUL HOROWITZ, ESQ. BIOGRAPHY

DAVID PAUL HOROWITZ (david@newyorkpractice.org) is a member of Geringer, McNamara & Horowitz in New York City. He has represented parties in personal injury, professional negligence, and commercial cases for over twenty-six years. In addition to his litigation practice, he acts as a private arbitrator, mediator and discovery referee, and is now affiliated with JAMS.

He is the author of Bender's New York Evidence and New York Civil Disclosure (LexisNexis), as well as the most recent supplement to Fisch on New York Evidence (Lond Publications). Mr. Horowitz teaches New York Practice at Columbia Law School and will lecture on that topic, on behalf of the New York State Board of Bar Examiners, to candidates for the July 2016 bar exam, serves as an expert witness and is a frequent lecturer and writer on civil practice, evidence, ethics, and alternative dispute resolution issues. He serves on the Office of Court Administration's Civil Practice Advisory Committee, is active in a number of bar associations, and served as Reporter to the New York Pattern Jury Instruction (P.J.I.) Committee.

# MICHAEL KESTAN, ESQ. BIOGRAPHY

Michael Kestan, an attorney, is the President and owner of AppealTech. Prior to joining AppealTech, he was a litigator in New York City for over 12 years. Mr. Kestan's litigation experience includes commercial litigation at Nixon Peabody as well as insurance defense litigation. He has represented and worked with large corporate clients and many major insurance companies.

Mr. Kestan's litigation experience gives AppealTech a unique insight into the needs and requirements of all our clients. He has extensive knowledge of appellate procedure as well as practical litigation experience.

### **Education:**

University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa (B.Comm) Seton Hall University (JD)

### Admitted:

New York Southern District of New York Eastern District of New York

### HONORABLE EUGENE F. PIGOTT, JR. BIOGRAPHY

Eugene F. Pigott, Jr., Senior Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals, was born in Rochester, New York, in September 1946. He graduated from LeMoyne College (B.A.1968). Judge Pigott served on active duty in the United States Army from 1968 to 1970. While in the service, he was stationed in the Republic of Vietnam, serving as a Vietnamese interpreter. He graduated from SUNY at Buffalo School of Law (J.D. 1973) and was admitted to the Bar of the State of New York in 1974. Judge Pigott practiced law in Buffalo, New York, with the firm of Offermann, Fallon, Mahoney & Adner from 1974 to 1982. In 1982 he was appointed Erie County Attorney and served in that position until 1986. In 1986 he became chief trial counsel for the firm of Offermann, Cassano, Pigott & Greco. On February 4, 1997, he was appointed to the New York State Supreme Court by Governor George E. Pataki and thereafter was elected to a full 14-year term. In 1998 he was designated to the Appellate Division, Fourth Department and was appointed Presiding Justice on February 16, 2000. On August 18, 2006, he was nominated by Governor Pataki to the Court of Appeals. His nomination was confirmed by the New York State Senate on September 15, 2006. He and his wife Peggy live on Grand Island, New York. They have two children.

# KISHORE RANADE, M.D. BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Kishore Ranade is a board certified Neurologist, in private practice for the last 28 years. He is a partner at Caremount Medical Group, located in Westchester and Putnam Counties in the state of New York.

Dr. Ranade earned his medical degree in India. He completed a 4 year residency in Neurology at New York Medical College in 1987, where he continues on faculty as Clinical Assistant Professor of Neurology. In 1988, he received a fellowship in Neurophysiology and Sleep Medicine at the University of Chicago Medical Center.

He is also Board Certified in Sleep Medicine, Neurophysiology and Medical Acupuncture. In addition he is Board Certified as an Independent Medical Examiner.

Dr Ranade has been recognized in Castle Connolly's "America's Top Doctors", "Top Doctors In Hudson Valley from 2012-2016 and was selected by "Best Doctors In America". He has given radio interviews on Brain Injuries and lectures a variety of audiences including doctors, hospital staff, insurance industry.

### SHERYL STORY, ESQ. BIOGRAPHY

**Sheryl Story** grew up in a small town in Indiana and received her undergraduate degree from Valparaiso University, in Indiana. She moved to New Orleans in 1978, earning her J.D. from Loyola University in 1983.

Her entire career has been insurance oriented, beginning as an insurance clerk for Chevron, USA while in law school at night. She was then an underwriter for a marine carrier, Midland Insurance Company. Her legal career has included defending insureds of Travelers, CIGNA, and Zurich.

She has served as the Director and Managing Trial Attorney for CNA's Staff Counsel Office in New Orleans since 1997. The firm currently has 6 lawyers defending cases involving professional liabilities of medical malpractice, architects & engineers, and accountants; general liabilities of premises, products, and construction; and both Louisiana State and Federal workers' compensation matters.

Her personal clients have included volunteer fire departments, ambulance services, national pharmacies, accountants, realtors, dentists, and nurses. She has experience before both State and Federal compensation tribunals, as well as the Benefits Review Board.

Sheryl often speaks in the fall to incoming first year law students about ethics and professionalism. She has served as judge for several Moot Court competitions locally.

# MICHAEL C. TROMELLO, ESQ.

TROMELLO, MCDONNELL & KEHOE

### EMPLOYMENT:

### **CNA Insurance:**

### Director/Managing Trial Attorney – CNA - Melville Staff Counsel (2001 to Present)

I supervise and direct all aspects of insurance defense litigation from pleadings through trials and appeals for CNA and its insureds. Our team presently consists of 11 attorneys, 3 paralegals and 7 support staff. We are defending approximately 650 tort cases and 350 WC cases venued in Queens, Nassau and Suffolk Counties. In addition, we prosecute approximately 75 subrogation cases per year.

### Director/Managing Trial Attorney – CNA - New York City Staff Counsel (1996 to 2001)

I supervised and directed all aspects of insurance defense litigation from pleadings through trials and appeals for CNA and its insureds in New York City. Our team once consisted of 28 attorneys and 14 support staff. We defended approximately 1600 tort cases venued in New York, Kings and Richmond Counties.

### Director/Managing Trial Attorney – CNA - Syracuse Staff Counsel (1992 to 1996)

In addition to handling an individual tort case load of over 200 cases, I supervised and directed all aspects of insurance defense litigation from pleadings through trials and appeals for CNA and its insureds in all counties in "Upstate" NY. (North of Rockland Co.) Our team consisted of 4 attorneys and 3 support staff.

### Senior Trial Attorney - CNA - Long Island East Staff Counsel (1988 to 1992)

As a Senior Trial Attorney, I was responsible for all aspects of insurance defense litigation from pleadings through trials and appeals. I regularly handled 125 to 150 tort cases and 40 to 50 premium collection cases. I was responsible for all large subrogation cases and monitored subrogation cases assigned to other staff attorneys. In conjunction with the Managing Attorney, I developed a manual to assist in the processing of large volumes of *Affirmative Litigation*. (Subrogation & Premium Collections)

### New York State Attorney General (1987 to 1988)

As the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Civil Prosecutions Bureau for Suffolk County, I conducted and supervised civil litigation on behalf of NYS to collect money owed from individuals, insurance companies, private agencies, estates, vendors, outside laboratories and hospitals. I trained and coordinated the efforts of a unit of 12 individuals (attorneys, paralegals and support staff); prepared and monitored the unit's budget and submitted periodic reports on the unit's activities to the NYS Attorney General.

### Office of the District Attorney, Queens County (1983 to 1987)

As an Assistant District Attorney, I was assigned to the Supreme Court Trial Bureau where I conducted over 30 felony jury trials to verdict. I conducted all related pre-trial hearings and non-jury trials. Other assignments included the Criminal Court and Grand Jury Bureaus.

### The City University of New York (CUNY) (1975 to 1983)

As the Assistant Director for Governmental Relations, my primary responsibility was to provide the Director with written memoranda on Federal, State and Municipal legislative proposals concerning education, labor, civil rights, pensions, torts, and contracts. Other responsibilities included assisting in the development and implementation of legislative strategy and acting as the unit's liaison to the Chancellor, his Cabinet, the 18 CUNY College Presidents and the Student Organization representing the University's 160,000 students. In addition, I prepared and monitored the unit's annual budget and handled all administrative matters for the unit's multiple offices which were located in Albany, Washington, D.C., & NYC.

<u>Education</u> :	<ul><li>B.A., Political Science, Queens College (1974)</li><li>M.S., Urban Affairs &amp; Administration, Hunter College (1978)</li><li>J.D., New York Law School (1982)</li></ul>
Bar Admissions:	New York State - Appellate Division, 1st Department (1983) U.S. District Court - Southern and Eastern Districts (1987)

# JEFFREY A. WIECZKOWSKI, ESQ. BIOGRAPHY

Jeffrey A. Wieczkowski received a degree in Accounting from the State University of New York at Geneseo in 1988. He graduated cum laude from Syracuse University College of Law in 1993 where he served as an Executive Editor of the Syracuse Law Review and received an American Jurisprudence Award for Academic Excellence.

Mr. Wieczkowski is admitted to practice before the New York State courts and the United States District Court for the Western District of New York. In his work at the Tarantino Law Firm, Mr. Wieczkowski has focused on medical malpractice, motor vehicle, and insurance defense litigation. Mr. Wieczkowski has successfully defended numerous physicians and hospitals, as well as corporate entities, at trial. Mr. Wieczkowski has also successfully represented physicians in investigations and proceedings before the New York State Department of Health's Office of Professional Medical Conduct and the Office of the Medicaid Inspector General.

Prior to joining The Tarantino Law Firm, Mr. Wieczkowski was associated with the firm of Murray & Coleman and the Law Offices of Barry Sternberg, where he practiced in the areas of civil litigation, criminal defense and matrimonial law.

Mr. Wieczkowski's professional affiliations include the New York State Bar Association and the Bar Association of Erie County. Mr. Wieczkowski has lectured on evidentiary issues involving expert witnesses. He also lectures at the SUNY Buffalo Law School.

Mr. Wieczkowski has been selected for inclusion in New York State Super Lawyers in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015. Mr. Wieczkowski is also a recipient of the Top 1% Trial Counsel - Medical Malpractice 2012 designation.

### **Bar Admissions**

New York, 1994 U.S. District Court Western District of New York, 1994

### Education

Syracuse University College of Law, Syracuse, New York
J.D. cum laude
Law Review: Syracuse Law Review, Executive Editor, 1991 - 1993
SUNY Geneseo, Geneseo, New York
B.S.
Major: Accounting

### **Honors and Awards**

Super Lawyers, 2011 - 2015 Top 1% Trial Counsel - Medical Malpractice, 2012