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## **FIRM PROFILE**

**UNDERSTANDING** the history of our clients' needs and assisting them with their vision for the future requires passion, dedication and the ability to listen and implement personal, timely and cost-effective services.

The lawyers of KATZ & KORIN deliver a comprehensive array of legal services to individuals, businesses (public and closely held entities) and government-related organizations. Primary practice areas of the firm include the following:

- Administrative agency matters
- Business and commercial litigation
- Business planning and advice
- Business transactions, acquisitions and sales
- Commercial bankruptcy and workouts
- Contract Law
- Environmental Law
- Estate planning, probate and trust matters
- Health care law
- Insurance law
- Gaming law
- General litigation
- Labor and Employment law
- Mediation
- Real estate development and financing
- Receiverships and lender representation
- Tax planning and controversies
- White collar criminal defense

KATZ & KORIN actively supports lawyer involvement in professional and community activities. The firm is a principal supporter of the Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library and has supported numerous community based organizations involved in the arts and community redevelopment efforts.

## **About Our Lawyers**

**RONALD M. KATZ**, a co-founding partner of KATZ & KORIN, has largely devoted his practice to creating opportunities through tax planning strategies and responsiveness to legislative initiatives. Mr. Katz is widely known for his efforts in assisting nonprofits and government-related clients who seek to maximize community and economic development initiatives. Mr. Katz also leads the firm's tax, estate planning, probate and trust practice.

Mr. Katz has lectured throughout the country and written extensively about creating and structuring affordable housing opportunities and other community development initiatives. He chaired the American Bar Association (ABA) Forum on Affordable Housing and Community Development Law in 2005-06, and co-chaired the ABA Forum's annual continuing legal education conferences in 2000 and 2001 in Washington, D.C. He is the author of *Housing and Development Forms and Commentary*, a 1996 publication of West Group, and *Housing Tax Credits in Indiana*, a 1995 (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition) publication of METRO Publishing Co., Inc. In recent years Mr. Katz has devoted his "extracurricular" writing, research and teaching energies to local and national continuing legal education initiatives throughout the country relating to his areas of practice.

Mr. Katz is a member of the National Advisory Board of the West Group's Housing and Development Reporter (1994-present). He also served as an adjunct Professor of Law for the Indiana University School of Law - Indianapolis (Real Estate Transactions) and, since 1993, has taught the Indiana Bar Review courses on Wills, Probate and Trust Administration, Real Property Law and Personal Property Law. Mr. Katz previously served as General Counsel to the Indianapolis Bar Association (IBA) Board of Managers (2004) and as a Vice President of the IBA Board of Managers (2006). Mr. Katz is an active member in several arts and civic organizations in the City of Indianapolis, and recently completed six years of service on the Board of Directors for the Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention of Greater Indianapolis, Inc. (CHIP), serving on the Executive Committee and as an officer for the last 3 years of his term. He was the 2009 recipient of CHIP's Emile Godfrey Board Service Award. He also serves on the board of directors for The Indianapolis Fringe Theatre, Inc.

Mr. Katz served as president of the Jewish Community Center Association of Indianapolis, a United Way agency, from 1995 to 1998, and served on the Board of Directors for the Jewish Community Centers Association of North America from 2004-10. He is a 1997 recipient of the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis' L.L. Goodman Leadership Award, and a 1991 recipient of the Jewish Community Center Martin L. Lerner Leadership Development Award. He has been recognized as a life member of the National Registry of *Who's Who*, as a *Distinguished Fellow* of the Indianapolis Bar Foundation, a Fellow of the Indiana Bar Foundation and as a 2002 recipient of the Indianapolis Bar Association Dr. John Morton-Finney Excellence in Legal Education Award. Mr. Katz has also been recognized by his peers as an *Indiana Super Lawyer*®.

Mr. Katz is a graduate of the Indiana University School of Law – Indianapolis and also holds a Masters of Law in Taxation degree from the Georgetown University Law Center, a certified public accountant license from the State of Maryland (1984) and has been admitted to practice in the District of Columbia. Mr. Katz can be reached via e-mail at [rkatz@katzkorin.com](mailto:rkatz@katzkorin.com).

**OFFER KORIN**, a co-founding partner of KATZ & KORIN, heads the firm's litigation practice, concentrating on complex business disputes. He represents clients in all Indiana state and federal courts, the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, U.S. Fourth Circuit, U.S. Seventh Circuit and the United States Supreme Court, as well as other jurisdictions on a *pro hac vice* basis. Mr. Korin is extensively involved in the firm's business planning practice and represents management, as well as employees, in a variety of employment relations cases.

Mr. Korin received a B.A. degree from Indiana University in 1985, followed by his J.D. from the Indiana University School of Law - Indianapolis in 1988. He was admitted to the bar in the State of Indiana, both Southern and Northern Districts of the U.S. District Court, and the U.S. Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals in 1988. Mr. Korin was admitted in 1996 to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mr. Korin has been honored as a 2005 Fellow of the Indiana Bar Foundation and as a Distinguished Fellow of the Indianapolis Bar Foundation. He has also been recognized in several editions of Who's Who in American Law. Mr. Korin is a frequent lecturer on professional ethics and litigation matters.

Mr. Korin is a member of the Local Rules Advisory Committee, United States District Court, Southern District of Indiana and a past president of the Indianapolis Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. Mr. Korin is a life member and past president of the board of the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), and a recipient of its 2010 Cook Leadership Award. He is an officer of the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis (JFGI) and a recipient of its 2005 L.L. Goodman Young Leadership Award. Mr. Korin was also Secretary of the Board of Directors for Congregation Shaarey Tefilla from 1994 through 1996. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis from 2002 to 2008. Mr. Korin was a participant in the JCRC's New Leaders Project, as well as the JFGI's Young Leadership Program and Campaign Leadership Program. Presently, he is chairing the JFGI's ATID Advanced Leadership Program. Mr. Korin has also been recognized by his peers as an *Indiana Super Lawyer*®. Mr. Korin can be reached via e-mail at [okorin@katzkorin.com](mailto:okorin@katzkorin.com).

**SALLY FRANKLIN ZWEIG** concentrates her practice in complex commercial litigation and healthcare law. She also represents clients with administrative and governmental contract concerns. Ms. Zweig leads the firm's healthcare practice and has represented a wide range of clients in that area, covering corporate healthcare services and management organizations, as well as medical product and device manufacturers in product defense and patent litigation. Her litigation practice has also regularly covered high tech and manufacturing concerns.

Ms. Zweig has also developed unusual experience in art law, having participated in the reclamation of valuable pieces of cultural patrimony that had been stolen in time of war. She continues to advise both patrons and artists on their unique legal concerns.

Ms. Zweig received her B.A. degree in political science and English from Washington University in 1971 and her J.D. in 1986 from the Indiana University School of Law. She is admitted to practice in all Indiana State and Federal Court districts as well as the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals and the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States. She is a member of the American, Indianapolis and Indiana State Bar Associations.

Ms. Zweig was appointed to her first term on the Indiana Supreme Court Disciplinary Commission in

2000, was re-appointed for a second term in 2006 and served as its Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer before her tenure will end in 2011. She is a past Chair and a charter member of the Indianapolis Inns of Court, and past President of the Board of Directors of the Indiana University Law School (Indianapolis) Alumni Association. She has also served on the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Organization of Indiana and is an active member of the Defense Trial Counsel of Indiana and the Medical Device and Products Committee of the Defense Research Institute. She has co-chaired the Indianapolis Bar Association's Professionalism Committee and served with the Indiana Conclave for Legal Education. She is a *Distinguished Fellow* of the Indianapolis Bar Foundation, a *Fellow* of the Aspen Institute Justice & Society Seminar, a 2002 recipient of the Indianapolis Bar Association Dr. John Morton-Finney Excellence in Legal Education Award, and served as a panelist for the Oxford University Centre for Socio-Legal Studies' Social Justice and Economics in 1998.

Appointed by the Mayor to the Greater Indianapolis Progress Committee Executive Board of Directors, Ms. Zweig also led its Race Relations Leadership Network for two years. Other board memberships, past and present, include At Your School Services, The Indianapolis Art Center, and the Immigrant Welcome Center.

Ms. Zweig can be reached via e-mail at [szweig@katzkorin.com](mailto:szweig@katzkorin.com).

**MICHAEL HILE** concentrates his practice in the business reorganization and restructuring area. Mr. Hile has substantial transactional experience, generally in the context of chapter proceedings, including structured financing, opinion practice, derivative securities, mortgage-backed securities, mergers and acquisitions, workouts, securities offerings and debtor-in-possession financing. Mr. Hile represents debtors, creditors and other interest holders in Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases in both federal judicial districts in Indiana and throughout the country. He also has significant experience in commercial litigation and other business issues, and has lectured extensively on asset protection planning and other bankruptcy related issues.

He received his B.A. degree in 1982 from Andrews University and his J.D. in 1985 from the Indiana University School of Law. He is a former law clerk to Judge Kearns of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Indiana. Prior to joining KATZ & KORIN in May 2001, Mr. Hile was a member of Johnson Smith, LLP and associated with Willkie Farr & Gallagher in its New York office. Mr. Hile can be reached via e-mail at [mhile@katzkorin.com](mailto:mhile@katzkorin.com).

**MICHAEL J. GABOVITCH** concentrates his practice in business transactions, government practice and real estate. His real estate experience spans the entire spectrum of representation – from individual home buyers and sellers to the nation's largest retail real estate developer. Mr. Gabovitch has worked on both sides of governmental regulatory matters, representing clients appearing before state and local agencies and providing representation to governmental entities, including the Marion County Election Board and the Indiana Gaming Commission. He is a past chair of the Indianapolis Bar Association Government Practice Section. Mr. Gabovitch has unparalleled experience in urban redevelopment projects on behalf of governmental entities, including both commercial and residential redevelopment of blighted areas, from the initial offering of the property for public bid, through negotiations for developer commitments and governmental incentives to closing.

Mr. Gabovitch serves as a volunteer for many local charitable organizations, including a free legal clinic for the indigent, a youth offender diversion program, and a mentoring program for students lacking a positive male role model. Mr. Gabovitch also participates in the Big Brothers program and serves as Chairman of the Board of an international adoption agency.

Mr. Gabovitch received his B.A. degree, with distinction, in 1983 from Indiana University (Phi Beta Kappa). He earned his J.D. in 1986 from the Indiana University School of Law – Indianapolis where he served as an editor of the Indiana Law Review. Mr. Gabovitch can be reached via e-mail at [mgabovitch@katzkorin.com](mailto:mgabovitch@katzkorin.com).

**MICHAEL J. KERSCHNER** concentrates his practice in general corporate matters and business transactions, with an emphasis in the areas of estate planning, probate administration, real estate, affordable housing and community development, tax and commercial finance. He has extensive experience in working with and representing homeowners associations regarding covenant enforcement, collections, and other legal issues.

Mr. Kerschner joined the firm in 1996 and advanced to the ownership ranks of the firm on January 1, 2002. Before joining KATZ & KORIN, he practiced law in the Chicago area, representing clients in the areas of corporate, tax, business, and real estate transactions. He graduated with honors from IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law and has a B.S. in Accountancy from the University of Illinois. Mr. Kerschner has lectured on title law in Indiana, choice of entities, and the low-income housing tax credit program. He is an active volunteer in several charitable organizations, a member of the board of directors of the Indianapolis Bureau of Jewish Education, Inc. and a past president of the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation. He previously served as an officer (vice president and treasurer) and chaired numerous committees of the congregation. Mr. Kerschner can be reached via e-mail at [mkerschner@katzkorin.com](mailto:mkerschner@katzkorin.com).

**BERNARD L. “BUDDY” PYLITT** reentered the practice of law in early 2005 with KATZ & KORIN after serving as Judge of Hamilton County Superior Court No. 2 during 2004. During that time, Judge Pylitt presided over a wide variety of complex civil and criminal matters, including the settlement of the Trinity Homes class action mold lawsuit, cases of first impression involving the disposition of frozen embryos and a same sex custody adoption dispute. Mr. Pylitt brings a unique perspective to our firm, with over 35 years of experience as a County and Federal prosecutor, trial lawyer, Administrative Law Judge for three Indiana agencies, and Superior Court Judge.

The focus of Mr. Pylitt’s practice includes mediation/alternative dispute resolution, white collar criminal defense, gaming law and complex Federal and State Court civil litigation. Mr. Pylitt has extensive experience representing both individuals and corporate clients investigated for committing federal and state crimes. He is also a fully Certified Civil Mediator in the State of Indiana and admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. He is a past President of the Indianapolis Chapter of the Federal Bar Association and was named a Sagamore of the Wabash by Governor Joseph Kernan in recognition of his service as an Administrative Law Judge for the Indiana Gaming Commission and the Indiana Horse Racing Commission. Mr. Pylitt has made presentations on a wide variety of topics at ICLEF programs.

Following graduation from Indiana University with a B.A. degree in 1970, Mr. Pylitt enrolled in the Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis. His law school studies were interrupted by a two-year commitment to the United States Army where he served in the Judge Advocate General Corp at Fort Carson, Colorado. He was honorably discharged in 1973 and awarded the Army Commendation Medal. He resumed his studies and received his Doctor of Jurisprudence from Indiana University School of Law in 1975.

Mr. Pylitt has served as President of the Hamilton County Sheriff Merit Board since 2006. Additionally, he was appointed by the Chief Judge of the US District Court to the Board of Directors of Indiana Federal Community Defenders, Inc., is a member of the Hamilton County Alcoholic Beverage Commission, and is the Vice Chair of United States Swimming's National Board of Review. Mr. Pylitt has also been recognized by his peers as an *Indiana Super Lawyer*®. He can be reached via e-mail at [bpylitt@katzkorin.com](mailto:bpylitt@katzkorin.com).

**THOMAS G. BURROUGHS** concentrates his practice in general corporate transactions, complex commercial litigation, insurance regulatory matters and medical practice issues. Prior to joining KATZ & KORIN, Mr. Burroughs was General Counsel for Do it Best Corp., a member-owned distributor of hardware, lumber and building materials with more than 4,300 member dealers and annual sales in excess of \$2.2 billion. Mr. Burroughs represents buyers, sellers and lien claimants with respect to the purchase and sale of commercial and residential real estate. He also represents lenders and secured claimants in real estate foreclosure actions and *lis pendens* proceedings. Mr. Burroughs has represented title insurers in a variety of litigation involving title issues. As to litigation matters, Mr. Burroughs represents clients in a variety of complex commercial litigation matters, including claims for fraud, securities fraud, breach of contract, misappropriation of trade secrets, and other claims. Mr. Burroughs has represented debtors and creditors—secured and unsecured—in bankruptcy cases, including cases under chapters 7, 11, 12 and 13. He represents insurers and brokers in insurance matters and physicians and physician groups in medical practice matters.

Mr. Burroughs graduated from Indiana University in 1987, cum laude, with a bachelor of science in accounting. He passed all four parts of the Uniform Certified Public Accountants Examination on his first sitting in 1987. He obtained his J.D. from Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis in 1990, summa cum laude. He was an editor on the Indiana Law Review. He has been a lecturer on a number of business and litigation topics. He is a member of the Indiana State Bar Association and the Indianapolis Bar Association and is admitted to practice in all state and local courts in Indiana, as well as to the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

Mr. Burroughs is active in the community and coaches youth baseball. He can be reached via e-mail at [tburroughs@katzkorin.com](mailto:tburroughs@katzkorin.com).

**KRISTOPHER N. KAZMIERCZAK** offers more than a decade of bench and jury trial experience in state and federal court protecting the rights and interests of businesses and individuals. He utilizes his trial experience to achieve cost-effective solutions for his clients' legal issues and business disputes. Mr. Kazmierczak represents clients ranging from individuals to closely held family run businesses to fortune 500 companies. He has provided counsel on a wide range of issues concerning corporate, employment, insurance, civil rights, municipal liability, construction, and contract matters. Mr.

Kazmierczak handles complex commercial litigation, collective and class actions, mass tort lawsuits, administrative proceedings, and appeals.

While Mr. Kazmierczak routinely deals with all types of business disputes, one of his key interests is in the area of employment counseling and litigation. Areas of representation include matters before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and other Indiana agencies, and claims under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Family and Medical Leave Act, Fair Labor Standards Act, Employee Retirement Income Security Act, Equal Pay Act, Indiana's Trade Secret Act, Indiana's Wage and Hour laws, and disputes relating to employment contracts and non-competition and non-solicitation agreements.

Mr. Kazmierczak has appeared on behalf of clients in a number of federal courts, including the district courts for Northern and Southern Districts of Indiana, Eastern and Western Districts of Michigan, Eastern District of Wisconsin, Northern and Southern District of Ohio, Central District of Illinois, District of Minnesota, Northern District of Alabama, District of Arkansas and Middle District of Tennessee. In addition to his trial work, Kris has also handled civil and criminal appeals. He is admitted to the Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

Mr. Kazmierczak is a member of the Federal, Indiana, Indianapolis and Hamilton County Bar Associations and a former member of the Indianapolis American Inn of Court. He was selected for inclusion in the Indiana Super Lawyers – Rising Star Edition 2009. Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America (2009) an invitation only trial lawyer honorary society composed of less than one-half of one percent of American lawyers.

Mr. Kazmierczak can be reached at [kkaz@katzkorin.com](mailto:kkaz@katzkorin.com).

**CHRISTINE K. JACOBSON** received her undergraduate degree from Indiana University with a B.S. in accounting and her J.D. (*cum laude*) from Georgetown University Law Center. Ms. Jacobson represents creditors and debtors in commercial work-out bankruptcy matters and related commercial litigation. She has also represented borrowers and lenders in commercial loan transactions, including real estate and asset-based lending transactions. She has experience in receiverships, foreclosures and related collection proceedings.

Before entering the field of law, Ms. Jacobson practiced as a certified public accountant for Ernst and Whinney in New York City. She later worked as an internal auditor and financial analyst for Bristol Myers Company, also in New York City.

Ms. Jacobson has been an active participant in the Indianapolis community and is a member of the Indianapolis and Indiana (and member of creditor's rights counsel) Bar Associations, American Bankruptcy Institute and International Women's Insolvency Restructuring Confederation. She has also participated in Indy-Crew and served on the IWIRC-Indiana board, Executive Committee for the Women in the Law Section and CLE Committee for the Indianapolis Bar Association and has previously taught creditor's rights for bar review courses.

Ms. Jacobson enjoys community involvement and is currently a trustee for The Orchard School and member of the School's Diversity Committee. She has served on several boards, including Breaking

Free, Inc., Master Scholars, Inc., Families with Children from China – Indiana, Inc. and Broadway United Methodist Church. She has also served as a Brownie Troop Leader, the World of Hope Gala for ChildVision, Inc., and Circle of Stars Gymnastics Invitational.

Ms. Jacobson can be reached via e-mail at [cjacobson@katzkorin.com](mailto:cjacobson@katzkorin.com).

**RONALD G. SENTMAN** has more than twenty-five years of experience in complex commercial and civil litigation at both the trial and appellate court levels and in both state and federal court. Mr. Sentman concentrates his practice in civil litigation of all kinds and has represented clients in cases involving such varied matters as contracts, fraud, shareholder disputes, partner disputes, product liability, FDCPA defense, trade disparagement, asbestos defense, commercial loan disputes, commercial construction disputes, trade secrets, employment disputes, attorney malpractice defense and accountant malpractice defense.

Mr. Sentman received his B.A. degree and also his J.D. degree (*cum laude*) from Indiana University. During law school, he was a staff member of the Indiana Law Journal. He is admitted in all Indiana state courts as well as the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit and the U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Indiana. Mr. Sentman can be reached via e-mail at [rsentman@katzkorin.com](mailto:rsentman@katzkorin.com).

**LINDA L. VITONE** joined the firm after graduating from Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis in May 2002. She received her B.S. in Chemistry from Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania in 1990, and worked for nine years as a practicing organic chemist specializing in synthesis of therapeutic agents and controlled substances before deciding to attend law school. Her prior employment experience, which includes a working knowledge of DEA, EPA, OSHA, and FDA regulations, brings a unique perspective to the firm's corporate clients. Since joining KATZ & KORIN, she has gained litigation experience in the areas of product liability, insurance law, medical malpractice defense, and intellectual property. Ms. Vitone also has experience in the areas of environmental law, intellectual property licensing, copyright and trademark law. With regard to insurance law, Ms. Vitone has represented both insurance companies and surplus lines carriers in both state and federal court with regard to matters involving all aspects of insurance law including rescission, breach of contract, bad faith, insurer and agent/broker duties and obligations, ERISA, HIPAA privacy requirements, COBRA, surplus lines insurance regulation, and has provided advice to insurance companies and surplus lines carriers with regard to compliance with Indiana state and federal law, policy language/revisions, coverage determinations, and insured appeals.

Ms. Vitone is admitted to practice in Indiana state and both federal court districts. She is admitted to practice with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office as a registered patent attorney. She is a member of the American, Indiana, and Federal Bar Associations. She can be reached via e-mail at [lvitone@katzkorin.com](mailto:lvitone@katzkorin.com).

**M. ALEX BEATTY** is a graduate of Indiana University School of Law – Indianapolis, and joined the firm in December, 2010. Alex earned his B.A. in Political Science from Indiana University Southeast. He earned his J.D. cum laude from the Indiana University School of Law – Indianapolis. While in law

school, Alex served as the Executive Production Editor of the *Indiana International & Comparative Law Review* and as the Fellowship Director of the school's Dean's Tutorial Society, through which he also tutored Civil Procedure.

Prior to joining Katz & Korin, Alex served as legal intern to the Office of the United States Trustee in the Indianapolis, Indiana and Louisville, Kentucky offices. He also served as legal intern for an Indianapolis-based engine manufacturer. Mr. Beatty can be reached via e-mail at [mabeatty@katzkorin.com](mailto:mabeatty@katzkorin.com).

**HENRY MESTETSKY** joined the firm as an associate after graduating from the Indiana University Maurer School of Law – Bloomington in 2010. He earned his B.S. from the Indiana University Kelley School of Business – Indianapolis in 2007, where he double majored in Accounting and Finance.

Prior to joining Katz & Korin, Mr. Mestetsky served as legal intern for one of the largest commercial real estate development companies in the country, law clerk for a Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Panel Trustee, and legislative intern for a member of Congress in Washington D.C. While in law school, Mr. Mestetsky participated in various moot court competitions including representing his school at the Duberstein Bankruptcy Moot Court competition in New York City. He was also heavily involved in student life and was the Justice of Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity in his final year of law school.

Mr. Mestetsky is admitted in all Indiana state courts as well as the U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Indiana. He is a member of the Indianapolis and Indiana State Bar Associations. He speaks fluent Russian.

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