

LIFOCUS

■ Law Ones to Watch



JOHN BRICKMAN



JOHN COCO



ELAINE COLAVITO



HEATHER MILANESE



ROBERT SCHONFELD



ELIZABETH VAIL

John Brickman

Partner
Ackerman Levine

John Brickman heads the litigation group at Ackerman Levine in Great Neck. The attorney concentrates his practice in the resolution of business disputes and contested trusts and estates matters. Brickman was recently appointed a commissioner of the New York State Commission on Legislative Ethics, which adjudicates complaints of violation of state law governing the conduct of members and employees of the State Legislature. He is also a member of the Town of North Hempstead Working Group to update the town's ethics code. Brickman lectures and writes regularly about legal ethics.

John Coco

Managing Partner
Law Offices of John Coco

John Coco founded his law offices in 2014. Based in Woodbury, he practices exclusively in personal injury litigation. He predominantly represents victims of serious construction site and motor vehicle accidents. Since its inception, Coco's firm has litigated personal injury cases throughout Long Island and New York City. Coco, who was recently named chair of the personal injury committee at the Nassau County Bar Association, earned his Juris Doctor from St. John's University School of Law. Prior to becoming an attorney, Coco founded the Music Academy of Garden City.

Elaine Colavito

Associate
Sahn Ward Coschignano

An associate with Uniondale-based Sahn Ward Coschignano, Elaine Colavito concentrates her practice in matrimonial and family law and civil litigation. In 2014 and 2015, she was recognized as a "Rising Star" in the area of family law by peer review publication Super Lawyers, which also listed her among the "Top Women Lawyers" in the New York area. Colavito was recently re-elected vice president of the Nassau County Women's Bar Association. She previously served the organization as treasurer and a member of the board of directors.

Heather Milanese

Associate
Ansanelli Law Group

Heather Milanese concentrates her practice in estate planning, elder law and litigation. An associate with Ansanelli Law Group in Amityville, Milanese develops asset-protection strategies to meet her clients' needs and counsels her clients on the legal and financial considerations involved in planning for varying life stages, including eligibility for government benefits. The attorney also represents clients in contested estate and trust proceedings before the Surrogate's Court and is eligible for court appointments in Nassau County, as court evaluator and counsel for alleged incapacitated persons.

Robert Schonfeld

Of Counsel
Moritt Hock & Hamroff

Of counsel at Garden City-based Moritt Hock & Hamroff, Robert Schonfeld focuses his practice on anti-discrimination litigation, to enforce the rights of persons with disabilities to live and access services in the community. The attorney secured a landmark decision from the New York State Court of Appeals in *Jennings v. New York State Office of Mental Health*, which restricted the ability of localities to object to the establishment of group homes under the New York State Selection Law. He was recently appointed vice chair of the Nassau County Bar Association's civil rights committee.

Elizabeth Vail

Counsel
Farrell Fritz

Elizabeth Vail represents developers, corporations and homeowners in land use and municipal matters before town boards on Long Island's East End. Based in Farrell Fritz's Water Mill office, Vail has experience in securing town approvals, advising clients on potential State Environmental Quality Review Act issues and navigating town government zoning and planning boards. Vail was previously a town attorney for the Town of East Hampton, an assistant town attorney for the Town of Southampton and an assistant district attorney for Suffolk County.