

# Legal People

## Hall, Render, Killian, Heath & Lyman, P.C.



**Rob Welch**

Hall, Render, Killian, Heath, & Lyman is pleased to announce attorney **Rob Welch** has joined the firm's Michigan office.

Welch practices health care law with a focus on general corporate matters and contracting. Welch's experience includes defense of catastrophic medical malpractice claims, defense of correctional health care professionals from 42 U.S.C. §1983 "Deliberate Indifference" claims, the defense of licensed health care professionals and professional organizations before the State of Michigan's Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs and audit defense before private insurers as well as state and federal regulatory and compliance agencies.

He received his Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Western Michigan University and his law degree from Western Michigan University Cooley Law School.

Welch is admitted to practice in Michigan and is a member of the American Health Lawyers Association, the Health Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan, and the Oakland County Bar Association.

## Brooks Kushman P.C.



Brooks Kushman attorneys **Jonathan D. Nikkila** and **Rachel A. Smith** have been appointed as Michigan Intellectual Property Law Association (MIPLA) officers for the 2016-2017 term. Nikkila will serve as president and Smith will serve as second vice-president.

As president, Nikkila will be

Cantor and Shareholders **William G. Abbott**, **John E. Nemazi**, **Sangeeta G. Shah**, and **Frank Angleri** were also recognized as patent leaders in Michigan. Cantor and Angleri are both recognized for their intellectual property litigation experience, while Abbott, Nemazi and Shah are each recognized for their experience in patent prosecution. Nemazi, Shah and Angleri's practices also include post-grant proceedings before the U.S. Patent Trial and Appeal Board.

"We are proud to be listed as Michigan's only gold-standard firm for the third consecutive year," said Cantor. "This honor is a direct reflection of our incredible team of patent prosecution and IP litigation attorneys and the exceptional work of our staff."

## Secret Wardle

The Third Circuit Court and the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association presented Law Day 2016 Detroit on May 12. Approximately 300 high school students from 15 Detroit schools participated in the event, which educates young men and women about the opportunities available in the legal profession and court system. Students spent time with judges and attorney mentors, and participated in group exercises and oral arguments.

Secret Wardle sponsored a scholarship for the event. Secret Wardle attorneys **Justin Grimske**, **Alexander Baum**, and **Daniel Rizzo**, all located in the firm's Troy office, served as volunteers.

Secret Wardle is also a long-time supporter of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America's (CCFA) Michigan Chapter which presented its 9th Annual Spring into Style Fashion Event at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham on May 5. The occasion was attended by more than 350 guests. Fashions from select Somerset and Birmingham fashion boutiques were on display, presented by RGA Model Management. A silent auction and an ultimate raffle were featured. Proceeds provide funding for CCFA's mission to support research, raise awareness, and provide education and support to IBD patients.

Secret Wardle Senior Partner and Co-Managing Partner **Mark Morley's** daughter, **Laura Zuidema**, attended the function and served on the Benefit Committee. Morley's son-in-law, **Chris Zuidema**, of Ernst & Young, serves as a member of the organization's Board of Directors.

Secret Wardle is a law firm specializing in defense litiga-

tion. She attended the London School of Economics, ultimately received her B.A. in Economics from Colby College, and graduated from the University of Michigan Law School.

## Young & Associates

Farmington Hills-based **Young & Associates** has hired **Giles Rhodenhiser** and **Laura Ellis Bieniek** to join its professional legal staff. Young & Associates founder **Rodger D. Young** made the announcement.

Rhodenhiser and Bieniek will represent both plaintiffs and defendants in actions across the country, executing day-to-day responsibilities for a variety of multi-million dollar cases focused on complex business litigation in areas ranging from automotive and arbitral to complex contract and intellectual property.

Prior to joining Young & Associates, Rhodenhiser was a law clerk for North Carolina Court of Appeals Judge **Chris Dillon**. He graduated from the University of North Carolina Law School at Chapel Hill.

Bieniek comes to the Young & Associates team from her position as a litigation attorney for the national law firm **Sedwick LLP** in San Francisco where she represented corporate clients in commercial cases and served as a member of the trial team for California's largest public utility company in a \$1 billion complex tort litigation matter.

She attended the London School of Economics, ultimately received her B.A. in Economics from Colby College, and graduated from the University of Michigan Law School.



**Giles Rhodenhiser**



**Laura Ellis Bieniek**