



2024
 — LONG ISLAND BUSINESS —
INFLUENCERS
 — LONG ISLAND BUSINESS NEWS —
LAW



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Editor's Note

LONG ISLAND BUSINESS INFLUENCERS: LAW 2024

In this special section, “Long Island Business Influencers: Law 2024,” we feature 40 of the region’s best legal minds. Whether commercial land use, elder law, matrimonial and family law, cannabis, real estate and others, the region by far boasts some of the most successful and engaging attorneys. Undoubtedly perfectionists when it comes to their craft, these individuals not only go above and beyond service to their clients—they also give back to their respective communities on both a personal and professional level.

Aside from advocating for their clients based on the best-use of the law, this year’s list of influential attorneys also hone their skills to teach others. Representing local law schools Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University, St. John’s University School of Law, and Touro Law as the deans overseeing these institutions, many of this year’s influencers are also educators, dedicating their time to mentoring and guiding the next generation of attorneys.

In addition, LIBN seeks to honor these great legal minds—many alumni also appear in this special section—with our annual Business Finance and Leadership in Law awards. Held this year on Monday, Nov. 11, this event recognizes individuals whose dedication, both in the legal profession and the community, have had a positive impact on Long Island. To learn more go to: <https://libn.com/event/businessfinanceawards-leadershipinlaw/>

With law kicking off this year’s Influencers series, we will feature additional industries throughout the year. If you—or someone you know—is considered a Long Island influencer, please feel free to recommend them using our online form: <https://libn.com/libn-influencers-recommendation-form/>.

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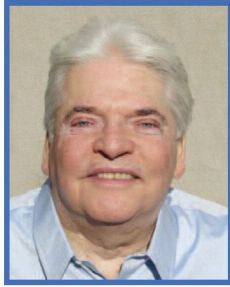
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KEN KUNKEN
DEPUTY BUREAU CHIEF
NASSAU COUNTY DISTRICT
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

In 1970, while a junior at Cornell University, Ken Kunken broke his neck making a tackle on a kickoff in a lightweight football game. He sustained a spinal cord injury rendering him a quadriplegic, almost totally paralyzed from the shoulders down, and spent more than nine months in hospitals and rehabilitation facilities.

In 1971, he returned to campus, where he completed his undergraduate degree in industrial engineering and became the first quadriplegic to graduate from Cornell. Kunken went on to earn a Master of Arts at Cornell in education and a Master of Education at Columbia University in psychology. In 1977, he began working for what is now The Viscardi Center in Albertson, coordinating a program that provided work experiences for severely disabled college students.

Kunken earned a Juris Doctor in 1982 from Hofstra University's School of Law and went to work as an assistant district attorney in Nassau County. He was promoted a number of times during his more than 30 years with the DA's office, eventually becoming a deputy bureau chief of the County Court Trial Bureau, helping to supervise more than 20 other assistant district attorneys. Kunken retired from full-time employment in 2016 but continues to serve as deputy bureau chief in a part-time capacity, providing continuing legal education lectures and litigation guidance.

Last year, Kunken's memoir, "I Dream of Things That Never Were: The Ken Kunken Story," was published.

The attorney married Anna in 2003, and they are the proud parents of triplets: Joey, Jimmy and Timmy.



ARTHUR S. LAITMAN
MANAGING PARTNER
ROSENBERG FORTUNA &
LAITMAN

After coming aboard as an associate in 1999, Arthur S. Laitman rose to partner in 2006 and was added two years later as a name partner of what is now known as Rosenberg Fortuna & Laitman.

Laitman founded the Garden City-based firm's emerging companies practice in 2008. Prior to that, he concentrated his practice in commercial and corporate transactions and related litigation. Laitman has conducted jury and bench trials and examinations before trial and has drafted a number of appellate briefs for the firm's clients.

Laitman is a rare breed: a lawyer with the skills and experience to advise global corporations combined with the entrepreneurial spirit and passion to guide startups and investors from formation through exit. In his leadership role with the

emerging companies practice, Laitman works with companies all over the world at all stages—from two founders dreaming up an idea to the world's leading multinational corporations. He has worked with technology companies throughout his career.

From seed capital raising to expansion stage financing transactions to public acquisitions, his experience facilitates him to advise companies and investors through the entire company lifecycle. Recently, Laitman and his team represented three different clients who were each acquired by Fortune 500 companies.

For early-stage companies, he helps founders plan for success. This entails not only providing sound legal documentation, but delivering valuable advice as to market terms and expectations. Together with his team, Laitman connects young companies to a vast network of people, including accountants, private equity teams and venture capitalists, who can help them succeed.

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Adam P. Silvers
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Ruskin Moscou Faltischek, P.C. is one of the premier business law firms in the New York region. With 75 attorneys, superior knowledge of the law, polished business acumen and proven credentials, we have earned a reputation for excellence and success. The strength of our firm's resources greatly enhances what we can accomplish for clients; to not only solve problems, but to create opportunities. This ongoing achievement makes Ruskin Moscou Faltischek an acknowledged leader among our peers and the preferred choice among business leaders.