

**Speaker Bios**

**The Impact of the Trump Administration**

**on Labor and Employment Law**

Thursday, January 12, 2017

**Irwin Bluestein**

**Irwin Bluestein** has been a member of Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein, P.C. since 1999. He has represented labor organizations and their related employee benefit plans for more than 40 years. Among his clients are unions and employee benefit plans in health care, higher education, newspaper, printing, and other industries.

His representation of these clients includes collective bargaining, arbitration, litigation, and proceedings before the NLRB and other federal and state administrative agencies; advising employee benefit plans regarding plan design and administration; drafting plan and trust documents, summary plan descriptions, and the like; addressing fiduciary and compliance issues; merging funds and plans; and litigating trustee deadlocks, withdrawal liability, delinquent contributions, and participant claims.

Mr. Bluestein counsels single and multi-employer Taft-Hartley pension and benefit plans and has negotiated extensively in connection with non-Taft-Hartley plans. He was recently involved in developing and obtaining approval of the first defined benefit adjustable pension plan approved by the IRS. He has since been involved in establishing a second defined benefit adjustable pension plan and is in the process of negotiating other such plans. It is his hope that defined benefit adjustable pension plans will help reverse the growth of defined contribution plans, such as 401 (k) plans, which he considers anathema to the interests of workers and retirees.

Mr. Bluestein is rated “AV Preeminent” by Martindale Hubbell. He is listed in *New York Super Lawyers* and *Best Lawyers in America* and was named the Best Lawyers’ New York City Litigation-Labor and Employment Lawyer of the Year for 2015.

Before joining Meyer Suozzi, Mr. Bluestein was a member of Vladeck, Waldman, Elias & Engelhard, P.C. He is a frequent speaker and instructor on labor law and employee benefits.

**Anne L. Clark**

**Anne Clark** is a partner at Vladeck, Raskin & Clark, P.C., where for over twenty years she has represented employees in a wide range of cases, including discrimination, wage and hour, breach of contract, ERISA, and other related issues. She has been an adjunct faculty member at Fordham University School of Law and has lectured on employment matters for a variety of organizations.

Admitted to Practice:

 •Massachusetts, 1990

 •New York, 1991

 •U.S. Courts, Southern, Eastern, Western and Northern Districts of New York

 •U.S. Courts of Appeals, Second, Third, Seventh, Eleventh and D.C. Circuits

 •U.S. Supreme Court

Education:

 •New York University School of Law, J.D., *cum laude*, 1990

 •New York University, B.A., *magna cum laude*, 1985

Honors and Distinctions:

 •Named a "Super Lawyer" in Employment Law by *Super Lawyers - New York Metro*2006-2015

Professional Activities:

 •Federal Bar Council

 •Association of the Bar of the City of New York

 •National Employment Lawyers Association (NELA)

 •National Employment Lawyers Association/New York, Executive Board, Former Member

Professional Experience:

 •Law Clerk to Hon. Raymond J. Pettine of the United States District Court for the District of

Rhode Island

 •NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund, Skadden Fellow/Staff Attorney

 •Fordham University School of Law, Adjunct Faculty Member

**Barbara E. Hoey**

**Barbara Hoey** is a partner in Kelley Drye & Warren LLP’s New York office and chair of the Labor and Employment practice group. She is a member of the firm’s Executive Committee. Ms. Hoey has more than two decades of experience counseling her clients in all areas of employment law and representing them in single-plaintiff and class action litigation. Her work has been recognized in the 2008-2016 editions of Chambers USA, with clients describing her as “very good, very quick and articulate.”

Ms. Hoey has litigated and won more than a dozen jury and bench trials involving claims arising under Title VII, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), False Claims Act, Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), New York State Whistleblower Law, Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA). She has also litigated cases concerning breach of non-compete contracts and theft of trade secrets.

Ms. Hoey also advises clients on compliance with the employment laws and provides strategies for handling today’s endless variety of workplace issues, such as managing difficult termination decisions, policy design, handling lay-offs and oversight of internal investigations.

She has worked with employers in a variety of industries and of all types, including healthcare and telecommunication companies, as well as universities and non-profit entities.

Ms. Hoey serves as co-editor of Labor Days, Kelley Drye’s labor and employment law blog.

Honors & Awards

 •Listed as a New York “Super Lawyer,” 2009-2011 and 2013-2016

 •Ranked as a leading practitioner in the Labor & Employment area by Chambers USA, 2008-2016

 •Kelley Drye Labor and Employment group recognized as a leading practice in New York, Chambers USA, 2008 and 2009

 •Editorial Advisory Board, Employment Law 360, Member

 •Corporate Circle - National Council for Research on Women, Member

**Mark Konkel**

Mark Konkel, Partner, Kelley Drye & Warren LLP, guides and protects employers in all aspects of employment, labor and human resources law. His pragmatic, single-minded focus is to align legal strategy with business objectives, to drive business and HR strategies forward, to maximize employee relations and to proactively reduce risk.

Mr. Konkel provides strategic advice on employment and labor law compliance, best HR practices and policies, employee privacy, protection of intellectual property, restrictive covenants and business expansions and reductions-in-force (redundancies). He leads companies through internal and government investigations and provides frequent training at all levels. He also helps many companies develop, refine, standardize and implement HR processes and strategies.

Mr. Konkel also defends companies in employment, labor and commercial disputes in court, arbitration, mediation and before governmental agencies. He has a record of success in litigation and arbitrations involving employment discrimination claims, labor disputes, commercial disputes, employee privacy disputes, restrictive covenant and trade secret disputes, employment agreements and disputes involving wage-and-hour laws.

Mr. Konkel has broad experience in helping companies navigate the challenges and opportunities of organized labor. He works closely with leaders across industry sectors to develop and drive company-wide strategies for unionized workforces. He routinely handles major collective bargaining, unfair labor practice disputes, and labor arbitrations, and responses to union organizing and public relations campaigns.

Mr. Konkel serves as lead labor and employment counsel in mergers, acquisitions, sales and purchases for companies in the hospitality, manufacturing, healthcare and transportation industries.

A frequent speaker, writer and television commentator, Mr. Konkel serves as co-editor of Kelley Drye’s Labor Days Blog and has served as contributing editor to The Developing Labor Law and as editor of the Employment Law Strategist. He is a member of the International Association of Privacy Professionals and the Labor & Employment Sections of the American Bar Association and New York Bar Association. Mr. Konkel is listed in New York “Super Lawyers.”