

OVERVIEW

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. – Kelley Kronenberg, a diverse business law firm, announced that Jodie Bassichis has joined the firm's Fort Lauderdale office as a Partner, and Juan Blandino, Elizabeth S. Mitchell, Carlos A. Prieto, and Ducarmel Saint Louis have joined as Attorneys.

Jodie Bassichis focuses her practice on Family and Marital Law, as well as Commercial Litigation.



Bassichis has more than 25 years of experience as a Florida Supreme Court Certified Attorney. Prior to joining the firm, she owned and operated her own law firm where she handled all aspects of Family Law including dissolution of marriage, alimony, child support, enforcement/modifications, paternity, and domestic violence. She is also a former Florida Supreme Court Certified Family Mediator.

Bassichis began earning her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Tulane University and went on to earn her Bachelor of Business Administration Degree from the University of Miami. She earned her Juris Doctor Degree from St. Thomas University School of Law. While in law school, Bassichis served as a Family Law Certified Counsel for the Legal Aid Service of Broward County, as well as a Legal Intern for the Violent Crimes Division of the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office. She is admitted to practice law in Florida.



Juan Blandino assists in handling matters related to First Party Insurance Defense, Property and Casualty Claims, and general Civil Litigation matters. Prior to joining the firm, he served as a Student Attorney at a Children Rights and Family Law Clinic in Syracuse, New York.

Blandino received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and Sociology from the University of Florida. He earned his Juris Doctor Degree from Syracuse University College of Law. While in law school, he served as a legal intern for the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office, in addition to a boutique criminal defense firm in Miami. He is admitted to practice law in Florida.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office:



Elizabeth S. Mitchell focuses her practice on Third Party Insurance litigation and First Party Property Insurance Defense litigation. Prior to joining the firm, she worked as an Associate Attorney at a boutique insurance defense law firm where she handled first party property insurance, premises liability, and Workers' Compensation claims. She also has experience representing plaintiffs in personal injury and medical malpractice claims.

Mitchell earned her Bachelor of Science Degree with a double major in finance and marketing from Florida State University. She then earned her Juris Doctor Degree, *cum laude*, from Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad College of Law. While in law school, Mitchell served as an Articles Editor for the Nova Law Review and was a member of the Moot Court Society. Additionally, she completed a judicial internship in Broward County and worked as a research assistant for multiple law school professors. Mitchell is admitted to practice law in Florida.



Orestes Prieto assists in handling matters related to Business Transactions, First Party Insurance Defense, and Property and Casualty Claims. Prior to joining the firm, he was an Associate Attorney for an insurance defense firm handling first party property litigation. He also worked as a Lead Attorney at an insurance litigation firm in Miami where he supervised junior attorneys and paralegals. Prior to beginning his legal career, Prieto was as a Partner with a local investment company.

Prieto earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from Florida Atlantic University and his Master of Science Degree in Psychology, *cum laude*, from Nova Southeastern University, College of Psychology. He later received his Master of Business Administration, *cum laude*, from Nova Southeastern University, H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business & Entrepreneurship and his Juris Doctor Degree from Nova's Shepard Broad College of Law. During law school, Prieto served as a Legal Intern and as a Law Clerk for the Consumer Protection Division of the Florida Office of the Attorney General. He also served as a Legal Intern for the Criminal Conflict and Civil Regional Counsel and served as a Legal Intern for the Department of Homeland Security – Immigration and Custom Enforcement. Prieto is admitted to practice law in Florida and is fluent in Spanish.



Ducarmel Saint Louis assists in handling matters related to Third Party Insurance Defense and General Liability. Prior to joining the firm, he owned and operated his own law firm where he handled all aspects of General Liability matters including Criminal Defense, Personal Injury, Real Estate law, Family law, and Entertainment law. He also served as an Assistant State Attorney and a Lead Attorney in the Felony Trial Unit of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit of Florida.

Saint Louis earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Morehouse College. He then earned

his Juris Doctor Degree from the University of Michigan Law School. While in law school, Saint Louis served as a Law Clerk for the Honorable Judge William Thomas and the Honorable Judge Jerald Bagley of the 11th Judicial Circuit of Florida. He is admitted to practice law in Florida and is fluent in Haitian Creole.

OVERVIEW



MIAMI LAKES, Fla. – Kelley Kronenberg, a diverse business law firm, announced that Daniel R. Agos has joined the firm's Miami Lakes office as an Attorney.

Mr. Agos assists in handling matters related to Workers' Compensation defense.

Prior to joining Kelley Kronenberg, Mr. Agos gained valuable experience working as an attorney at a Miami law firm that focused on personal injury and personal injury protection (PIP) matters.

Mr. Agos earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Sport Management with a minor in Legal Studies from the University of Delaware. He earned his Juris Doctor Degree from the University of Miami School of Law, where he served as a Judicial Intern for the Honorable Antonio Arzola of the 11th Judicial Circuit of Florida. Additionally, he worked as an Athletics Compliance Legal Intern for the University of Miami's Athletics Department. He is admitted to practice law in Florida.

OVERVIEW

Kelley Kronenberg is a proud sponsor of the 2017 WCCP Annual Holiday Conference. The event will take place on Thursday, November 30th at the Sheraton Tampa East in Tampa, FL. The firm is also a Service Partner Member of the WCCP. Partner, Janice Rickert and Attorney, Michael Albani will be in attendance.

This year, the conference will partner with the Rough Riders for their Annual Teddy Bear Drive. The Rough Riders bring new Teddy Bears to children in hospitals, senior citizens in care facilities, and to women who have survived cancer. Each bear donated at the conference increases your chance to win the WCCP Teddy Bear Drive Door Prize!

See you there!

OVERVIEW

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. – Kelley Kronenberg, a diverse business law firm, is proud to announce that Principal Partner and CFO Heath Eskalyo completed the 2017 Ironman World Championship in Kona, Hawaii.

Mr. Eskalyo was invited to participate in the Championship race by the Children's Tumor Foundation's NF Endurance Team, which funds critical research to find treatments for neurofibromatosis (NF). The Ironman World Championship race consists of a 2.4 mile swim, a 112 mile bike ride and a 26.2 mile run.

To compete in such a race requires discipline, commitment and an incredible support team. Therefore, the Children's Tumor Foundation gave Mr. Eskalyo a Team Captain, Bella Paesano, an 8-year-old who has been diagnosed with neurofibromatosis 1 (NF1). NF is a disease that causes tumors to grow on nerves throughout the body and can lead to blindness, cancer, deafness, learning disabilities, and excruciating and disabling pain.

In return for Bella's partnership, Mr. Eskalyo hosted a fundraising campaign to promote awareness of NF and accept donations for the Children's Tumor Foundation. Mr. Eskalyo

exceeded his fundraising goal and raised \$42,076 to benefit the organization.

"Bella faces her diagnosis with resilience, courage and bravery every day," said Mr. Eskalyo. "To be able to increase awareness and raise funds to fight such a terrible disease was an honor."

Bella and her family traveled to Kona to cheer on Mr. Eskalyo and the other triathletes during their 140.6-mile journey on October 14, 2017. Mr. Eskalyo finished the race in 13 hours, 48 minutes, and 2 seconds.

OVERVIEW

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. – Kelley Kronenberg, a diverse business law firm, announced that Attorney Lydia Harley will serve as Vice President of the German American Business Chamber (GABC) of South Florida. She was recently voted into this position by the members of the organization.

The GABC of South Florida promotes business and trade between Germany and the United States, and supports commercial and personal economic, social and cultural relations. In addition, the chapter holds luncheons, speaker events, galas and receptions, and works closely with other chambers, including the British, Canadian, Dutch, French, Italian and Spanish chambers, in the region to host networking events and seminars.

Ms. Harley is an Attorney in Kelley Kronenberg's Fort Lauderdale office and manages the firm's International Practice Group. She focuses her practice on the defense of General Liability and Immigration matters, as well as the prosecution and defense of declaratory judgement actions involving insurance coverage disputes and extra-contractual claims.

In addition to her role with the GABC, Ms. Harley is an active member of the American-German Club of the Palm Beaches. She is fluent in verbal and written German, and is fluent in verbal Aramaic.

Ms. Harley earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Global Business and Public Policy from the University of Maryland College Park where she graduated *magna cum laude*. She earned her Master of Business Administration Degree, with a concentration in Operations Management, from Florida Atlantic University and her Juris Doctor Degree, *summa cum laude*, from Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad Law Center. Additionally, from 2000 to 2004 she was a law student at Justus-Liebig Universität Giessen in Germany, with a primary focus on Constitutional, Contract, Tort, and Criminal Law.

OVERVIEW

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Kelley Kronenberg, a diverse business law firm, announced that Joshua T. Higgins and Reena Patel Sanders have been elevated to Partner in the firm's Fort Lauderdale office.

Mr. Higgins focuses his practice on Workers' Compensation, Police Professional Litigation, Correctional Healthcare and Civil Rights Violations. His background includes extensive experience in Professional Liability Services, Third Party Insurance Defense, General Liability and Coverage.

Kelley Kronenberg hired Mr. Higgins as an associate attorney in 2013 after he worked as a prosecutor at the Broward State Attorney's Office.

Mr. Higgins earned his Bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo and then went on to earn his Juris Doctor degree from Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad Law Center. He is admitted to practice law in Florida.

Ms. Sanders focuses her practice on Real Property Litigation. She joined the firm as an associate attorney in 2015. Prior to that, she worked as a litigator with other South Florida firms that represent financial institutions.

Ms. Sanders earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Villa Julie College n/k/a Stevenson University. She went on to earn her Juris Doctor degree from the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law. She is fluent in Hindi and Gujarati.

OVERVIEW

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. – Kelley Kronenberg, a diverse business law firm, announced that Thomas Mersch, a Partner in the firm's Fort Lauderdale office, has been selected to serve on the Southern District Conference for the Federal Judicial Nominating Commission (JNC). His appointment will last the duration of the 115th Congressional term.

"I am honored to accept this position and take on this important role for our Federal Judiciary," said Mr. Mersch.

Mr. Mersch has more than 30 years of experience as an attorney, corporate counsel, entrepreneur and businessman in multiple sectors including information technology, e-Commerce, finance, travel and government. At Kelley Kronenberg, he focuses his practice on Business Transactions, Data Privacy and Security Matters. He also plays a key role in the firm's marketing and business development efforts.

In addition to his involvement with the JNC, Mr. Mersch is a co-founder of The Venture Mentoring Team, (www.thevmt.org) a nonprofit educational 501(c)(3) dedicated to fostering the startup community by training and credentialing mentors and then connecting them with the best and brightest entrepreneurs to help startups reach their full potential. Additionally, he serves as an entrepreneur in residence at Florida Atlantic University's (FAU) School of Business and FAU's Adams Center for Entrepreneurship. He is also a judge for The Cade Innovation Prize competition.

Mr. Mersch is admitted to practice law in Florida and Mississippi. He earned his Juris Doctor Degree from the University of Mississippi.

OVERVIEW

Kelley Kronenberg is a proud sponsor of the Broward County Bar Association's Young Lawyers Section 30th Annual Charity Golf Tournament. The event will take place on Saturday, October 28th at the Jacaranda Golf Club in Plantation, FL. Attorney Kyle Roberts will be participating as a golfer.

The shotgun tee start is at 8:00 AM. Following the golf tournament, there will be a lunch buffet, awards ceremony and a silent auction! All proceeds from this tournament and its events will be donated directly to 4KIDS of South Florida.

OVERVIEW

TAMPA, Fla. – Kelley Kronenberg, a diverse business law firm, announced that Janice M. Rickert and Blane R. Wheeley have joined the firm's Tampa office.



Ms. Rickert, who joins as a Partner, focuses her practice on Workers' Compensation defense and has experience advising clients in Premises Liability, Employment Practices and Safety/OSHA compliance. Her clients cover a wide range of industries including insurance, restaurants, hospitality, and nursing and residential care facilities.

Prior to joining Kelley Kronenberg, Ms. Rickert served as an attorney in the legal department of a large insurance company, where she represented insureds in the defense of Workers' Compensation claims through all stages of litigation, mediation and appeal. Additionally, she owned and operated her own boutique insurance defense law firm.

Rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell, Ms. Rickert is a Supreme Court Certified Circuit Civil Mediator and a Florida Bar Certified Speaker. She has been recognized in The Best Lawyers in America[®] and is a member of the Workers' Compensation Section of The Florida Bar as well as the Hillsborough County Bar Association.

Ms. Rickert earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and her Juris Doctor Degree from the University of Florida. She is admitted to practice law in Florida; the United States Middle District of Florida; and the United States Court of Appeals, 11th Circuit.



Mr. Wheeler, who joins as an Attorney, assists in handling matters related to Workers' Compensation.

Prior to joining Kelley Kronenberg, Mr. Wheeler worked as an Assistant Public Defender at the Office of the Public Defender, 13th Judicial Circuit in Tampa. He gained valuable experience handling a multitude of cases including DUI, battery, trespassing, and petit theft. He also worked as a Social Security Attorney for a national personal injury law firm in Orlando.

Mr. Wheeler earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree, *cum laude*, in Criminology from the University of Florida. He received his Juris Doctor Degree from Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad Law Center. While attending law school, Mr. Wheeler earned a spot on the Dean's List and was a member of the school's Negotiation Team and Trial Association. He is admitted to practice law in Florida.

OVERVIEW

On Saturday, October 7th, members of Kelley Kronenberg's Tampa office will be participating in the American Diabetes Association's *Step Out: Walk To Stop Diabetes* event. Together, they formed the *Glucose Gladiators* team, which will be led by Team Captain, James Delio, who is a Legal Assistant in firm's Tampa office. The event is scheduled to take place at the Amalie Arena in Tampa, FL.

Every 23 seconds someone hears the three words that will change their life as they know it: "you have diabetes." The *Step Out Walk to Stop Diabetes* event is the American Diabetes Association's signature fundraising walk. The event directly supports research, education, and advocacy for people living with type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes.

To support Kelley Kronenberg's *Glucose Gladiators* in their endeavor, please click here to make a donation.