

Kelley Kronenberg Attorney Jacqueline Costoya Appointed Assistant Chair of The Junior League's 2018 Riverwalk Run

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.

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.

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.



WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — Kelley Kronenberg, a diverse business law firm, announced that [Helen C. Hsu](#) has joined the firm's West Palm Beach office as an attorney. Ms. Hsu assists in handling matters related to Workers' Compensation defense.

Prior to joining Kelley Kronenberg, Ms. Hsu owned and operated her own firm, where she handled matters involving Corporate and Transactional Law, Personal Injury, Employment, Landlord Tenant Law and Real Estate Law. Additionally, she is experienced in Civil Litigation including Medical Malpractice and Wrongful Death, and she previously served as In-House Counsel for a distribution company in Florida.

Ms. Hsu earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in English Literature from the University of Michigan, and earned her Master of Business Administration degree in International Business and Marketing from George Washington University. She received her Juris Doctor Degree from

the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. While attending law school, Ms. Hsu earned a certificate of completion in Chinese Comparative Law from the East China University of Politics and Law.

She is admitted to practice law in Florida and New York and is conversational in Mandarin Chinese.

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. Wheeley, who joins as an Attorney, assists in handling matters related to Workers' Compensation. Prior to joining Kelley Kronenberg, Mr. Wheeley 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. Wheeley 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. Wheeley 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. 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. With Hurricane Irma quickly approaching, Florida is in a state of emergency. All of us at Kelley Kronenberg encourage you to be prepared for this potentially devastating storm. Please be advised that the firm will be closed starting at 3:00 PM on Thursday, September 7th, and will remain closed on Friday, September 8th. In order to prepare, the National Hurricane Center suggest the following materials:

- Water – At least 1 gallon of water per person/ animal per day for at least 3 days.
- Food- At least a 3-day supply of non-perishable food.
- Radio- A battery-powered radio with NOAA weather radio tone alert and extra batteries.
- Flashlight- Make sure you have extra batteries as well.
- First Aid Kit
- Manual Can Opener – If the electricity is out, you would need some way to open your canned food.
- Cell Phone – Make sure you have extra battery packs or a solar charger to keep your phone on.
- Prescription Medications
- Glasses
- Cash
- Important Family Documents – Make sure you have copies of insurance policies and some form of state issued ID.

- Sturdy Shoes – Think about pulling out those rain boots and sneakers.
- Pet Supplies – Your pets will need enough food and water to also weather out the storm with you.

Please stay safe!

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. – Kelley Kronenberg, a diverse business law firm, recently collected donations to support active-duty troops as part of the firm's ongoing Kelley Kronenberg Cares (KKC) program. During the months of July and August, donations for military care packages were collected throughout various Kelley Kronenberg Florida-based offices.

The firm partnered with Forgotten Soldiers Outreach, a non-profit organization headquartered in Lake Worth, FL, that strives to boost the morale and well-being among our service members who receive little or no support from the home front. The organization ships care packages to registered soldiers every month, for as long as they are deployed. Collected items included travel-sized toiletries, non-perishable food, games and other items to help ease the everyday lives of military personnel. Monetary donations were also collected.

"These brave soldiers put their lives on the line for us every day – it is the least we can do to repay them for all they do for us," said [Heath Eskalyo](#), Principal Partner and Chief Financial Officer for Kelley Kronenberg. "Every donation, no matter the size, makes a huge difference. I truly enjoy seeing our team come together to dedicate their time and effort to this cause that is so important and hit so close to home."

Office leaders for this KKC initiative included:

- Miami Office – Partner [Julie Swindell](#) and Paralegal Maria Zucker
- Miami Lakes Office – Attorney [Patrick Davis](#)
- West Palm Beach Office – Partner [Amy Siegel Oran](#)
- Tampa Office – Partner [Dana Andrews](#)
- Orlando Office – Paralegal Gail Cocchiarella
- Panama City Office – Partner [Peter Egan](#)
- Tallahassee Office – Partner [Kim Fernandes](#)
- Fort Lauderdale Office – Marketing and Events Manager [Jody Ligas](#) and Marketing and Events Coordinator [Erica Wander](#)

KKC was created to provide opportunities for the firm's attorneys and staff to personally commit to civic and charitable efforts in the cities where the firm's offices are located. In addition to the firm's regular philanthropic work, previous KKC projects have included a statewide school supplies drive for students as well as holiday food drives and clothing donations. One of the KKC projects, nicknamed "Operation Cookie," involved a friendly interoffice competition where members of Kelley Kronenberg's Florida offices competed to purchase and collect Girl Scout Cookies for our troops overseas. The winner of the competition was awarded a catered lunch for their respective office on the firm!

Kelley Kronenberg is excited to be a Platinum Sponsor of the [2017 Labor Day Retreat, hosted by the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar](#). The retreat will take place at the EAU Palm Beach Resort & Spa in West Palm Beach, FL from September 1-4. As part of the sponsorship, the firm will also be hosting the Family Breakfast on Sunday morning. The Business Law Section of The Florida Bar is the primary resource for Florida business lawyers who seek practical information about business law developments in business entities, securities, bankruptcy, banking, commercial finance, franchise, antitrust, intellectual property and computer law. In honor of the 30th Anniversary, the theme for this year's retreat is "Pearls of Wisdom." Firm Partners [Irwin Gilbert](#) and [Dennis LeVine](#) will be in attendance. We look forward to seeing you there!

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. – Kelley Kronenberg, a diverse business law firm, announced that Attorney [Jacqueline Costoya](#) has been appointed as Assistant Chair of the 2018 Riverwalk Run. This annual event is hosted by the Junior League of Greater Fort Lauderdale, with all proceeds from the event benefitting the organization's current community projects.

The Junior League of Greater Fort Lauderdale is a non-profit organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

As an Attorney in Kelley Kronenberg's Fort Lauderdale office, Ms. Costoya assists in handling matters related to Real Property Litigation and works with businesses, banks and financial service providers with regard to regulatory, enforcement, transactional and litigation matters. She was recently appointed to The Florida Bar's Media and Communications Law Committee, effective July 1, 2017.

Ms. Costoya is admitted to practice law in Florida and the United States District Court, Southern District of Florida. She earned her Juris Doctor degree from the University of Miami School of Law where she graduated *cum laude*, served on the executive board of the Charles C. Papy, Jr. Moot Court Board, and received the Dean's Certificate of Achievement in Client Communications.