



2019 MINNESOTA
ICON HONORS
CELEBRATING LEADERS OVER 60

Published by Finance & Commerce and Minnesota Lawyer • December 2019

finance-commerce.com | minnlawyer.com



FAMILY-BUILT COMMUNITY STRONG

VILLAGE BANK | #FBCS

Don Kveton is a Village Leader

Don has never forgotten where he came from—because he never left. He is still working to make the community he helped build a better place to live, give and do business.

Village Bank is proud to congratulate Don as a **2019 Minnesota ICON** and as a Family-Built, Community Strong Village Leader.



Learn more about #FBCS: www.vb-fbcs.com

Member
FDIC

From the editor

Icon. It's a moniker that gets thrown around so often that it begins to lose its meaning. According to Webster's, something referred to as iconic is "widely known and acknowledged especially for distinctive excellence." It's a term that definitely applies to our 2019 Minnesota Icon honorees.

Some of this year's award recipients are perhaps more widely known to a broader audience. Former Minneapolis Mayor Sharon Sayles Belton certainly fits the bill, as do leading figures in the legal field whose firms feature their names, such as Elliot Kaplan or Douglas Kelley.

While others may not yet be quite as recognizable, each of the 20 Minnesota Icon honorees exhibit the "distinctive excellence" that puts them at the top of Minnesota's business and legal communities. Each has left their mark in fields ranging from architecture (Edward Kodet has served the Twin Cities design community for 50 years) to homebuilding (Betty Hardle actively built affordable housing for 25 years before making the transition to research and consulting).

The awards were presented to the honorees during a Dec. 11 celebration and networking event at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Minneapolis. Each profile features a short introduction of an honoree, followed by a Q&A. The answers have been lightly edited for clarity and length.

Congratulations to our 2019 Minnesota Icon honorees. Your example is a lodestar to guide us all.

— Joel Schettler

Photos in this section were submitted by the honorees.



PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

Bill Gaier
612-584-1537

EDITORIAL

Finance & Commerce Editor

Joel Schettler
612-584-1556

Minnesota Lawyer Editor

Barbara L. Jones
612-584-1543

Special Sections Editor

David Bohlander
612-584-1527

Contributing Writers

Dan Emerson,

Dan Heilman, Holly

Dolezalek, Frank Jossi,

Brian Martucci, Elizabeth

Millard and Todd Nelson

CREATIVE

Designer

Heather Heater

EVENT MANAGER

Kelsey Broadwell

612-584-1534

ADVERTISING

Advertising Account Executive

Scot Wallace

612-584-1544



Share your good news as an impressive work of art!



FINANCE & COMMERCE MINNESOTA LAWYER

Congrats
to our
Alumni
ICONS!



Alan Eidsness '73

Henson Efron

Elliot Kaplan '61

Robins Kaplan LLP

Douglas A. Kelley '74

Kelley Wolter & Scott, P.A.

Rebecca Egge Moos '77

Bassford Remele



Table of Contents



Warren Beck.....6



Philip Boelter7



Alan Carlson8



John Diehl.....10



Alan Eidsness12



Bob Esse.....14



Kathleen Flynn Peterson.. 16



Betty Hardle18



Mary Hansen.....19



Robert R. Hopper20



Elliot Kaplan.....21



Douglas Kelley22



Edward Kodet23



Don Kveton24



Eric J. Magnuson25



Larry Mahoney26



Rebecca Egge Moos.....28



Robert Rosenbaum.....30



Sharon Sayles Belton.....32



James Volling.....34

Kraus-Anderson is Proud to Congratulate

PHIL BOELTER

*An attorney and
business leader
recognized for his
proven success
throughout a
lengthy and
accomplished
career.*



Honored as a 2019 Minnesota ICON
by Finance & Commerce and Minnesota Lawyer.

Together, Strengthening the Communities We Serve



KRAUS-ANDERSON®

www.krausanderson.com

Warren Beck

Gabbert & Beck Inc.

Warren Beck's best-known project — the upscale Galleria in Edina — was the first retail commercial development venture he and his father-in-law, Don Gabbert, took on.

It created a blueprint for the way Beck, president of Gabbert & Beck Inc., handled subsequent projects as both developer and hands-on manager with tenants.

"It was kind of the best of both worlds," Beck said.

The 75,000-square-foot Galleria, which opened in 1974, was built around an existing Gabberts furniture store, Beck said. It tripled in size by 1991 under Beck's leadership, with a mix of high-end local retailers and national brands.

"That's probably the big lesson, to be true to the concept of that shopping center and continue to develop it at that high level of quality," Beck said.

Beck, whose other retail projects included Centennial Lakes Plaza in Edina, opened the Westin Edina Galleria in 2008 and acquired and rebranded the former Hotel Sofitel Minneapolis as the Sheraton Bloomington in 2013. Gabbert & Beck sold its Galleria interest in 2012.

What do you think was the turning point to success in your career?

Joining the family business gave me the opportunity to look at real estate development. When we acquired the Galleria property and focused on the retail aspect of the real estate development, we found the niche that I had



been looking for and where I felt I could spend the next 30-plus years working very comfortably.

What professional achievement are you most proud of?

I'm proud of developing something that sets itself apart [Galleria] and sets itself apart, particularly in the community where many people have enjoyed the result of our work.

What's something that most people don't know about you?

For about 25 years I sang in the group VocalEssence in their volunteer choir and also at Plymouth Congregational Church in the church choir, [both] with Philip Brunelle. It's something I thoroughly enjoyed.

—Todd Nelson

Phil Boelter

Kraus-Anderson

A native of a small town in northeastern Iowa, Phil Boelter graduated from Iowa State University with an undergraduate industrial engineering degree and an ambition to get more education.

As a student Boelter noticed many corporate executives he visited with to discuss career opportunities had earned law degrees before their business careers. He decided to pursue law, with the idea he would work in business.

Then the law firm known today as Dorsey recruited him.

"I never even knew a lawyer, but I decided to join Dorsey in June of 1968," Boelter recalled. "That was a turning point, deciding to practice law as opposed to going into business."

He eventually did go into business 17 years ago after being named Kraus-Anderson's executive vice president and COO. He came to the position after working as the company's outside counsel for years on several significant construction projects, including U.S. Bank Plaza and downtown Hilton Hotel.

At Kraus-Anderson, he led the development of the company's headquarters and the block surrounding it.

"I can look out my window at Minneapolis and look at my career," he said. "I love doing development work."

During his 50-year career, several publications have recognized Boelter as one of America's leading attorneys.



What's the best advice you have for someone following in your footsteps?

I consider myself lucky, but luck is when preparation meets opportunity. You prepare yourself, work hard, build relationships, and find a mentor.

What's something that most people don't know about you?

I played baseball for the 1961

Iowa State Amateur Championship team. We won it the summer after my senior year of high school.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Being from Iowa, I like getting dirt on my hands and doing flower and landscape gardening. I love reading and downhill skiing.

—Frank Jossi

Alan Carlson

Carlson Caspers

After earning an engineering degree from Purdue University, Alan Carlson knew he didn't want to be an engineer. Instead, he chose a law career, but he found a legal specialty where his engineering expertise could come in handy: intellectual property litigation.

After finishing law school, Carlson became the seventh lawyer to join a fledgling firm that would grow into one of the Twin Cities' most successful: Merchant & Gould. Carlson eventually rose to become chairman of Merchant & Gould's management committee, but after three decades with the firm, he was looking for new challenges. In 2003, he and three colleagues founded Minneapolis-based Carlson Caspers.

In considering the reasons for his successful legal career, Carlson cites "competitiveness and drive. In business there are a lot of smart people — everyone thinks they're the smartest — but that's not what sets us apart. It's the willingness to work extra hours to figure out what is going to happen" in a case.

Over the years, Carlson has successfully litigated a number of major IP cases. In one, he represented Insignia Systems, a manufacturer of in-store signage and promotional materials, in a case involving a stolen customer list. By studying phone records and cross-examination, Carlson proved that the defendants were being untruthful about when and how they acquired Insignia's proprietary list. In other memorable cases, he helped high-profile clients Calvin Klein and John Deere



win major IP litigation.

What is something most people don't know about you?

One of my uncles was Vince Bugliosi (a Hibbing native who was the prosecutor in the Manson Family case). He encouraged me to go to law school.

What is the best advice you've received?

"There is a very fine line between success and failure. That's been my theme: to make sure I do what I need to do to get over that line."

Which achievement are you most proud of?

I was the first IP lawyer from Minnesota inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers.

—Dan Emerson

CARLSON

CASPERS



Congratulations, Alan G. Carlson!

2019 Minnesota ICON Award Honoree | Finance & Commerce | Minnesota Lawyer

Thank you, Alan, for your leadership, dedication, and vision. Your commitment to delighting clients, with sophisticated best-in-class legal representation for intellectual property matters inspires us. We are all better because of knowing you.

CARLSON
CASPERS
Intellectual Property Law

carlsoncaspers.com

John Diehl

Larkin Hoffman

Most health care attorneys can reasonably expect to have one big case or project for which they might be remembered beyond the chummy confines of their professional circle. John Diehl could make that claim several times over — before his 40th birthday.

As the assistant attorney general responsible for regulating Minnesota's Blue Cross and Blue Shield health plans in 1970, Diehl did the legislative work to allow Blue Cross to save Blue Shield while revamping the plans' inadequate regulatory framework. Then from 1971 to 1973, he co-wrote the legislation and regulation for health maintenance organizations in Minnesota, establishing a model for modern health care delivery.

He went on to develop the country's first "assigned risk" insurance model, establishing "risk pools" for patients with pre-existing conditions, and in 1976, he co-wrote the country's first health records privacy law.

He later became the first general counsel of the University of Minnesota's health system, then spent nearly 40 years in practice with Larkin Hoffman.

What professional achievement are you most proud of?

My answer is generic: I'm most proud of the — fortunately — numerous times that I've been able to help a client achieve his or her objectives.



What's the best advice you have for someone following in your footsteps?

First, to understand yourself: your strengths and weaknesses, your approach to legal practice. Beyond that, get involved. Get involved with the client and with the subject matter — through study, reading, or showing up someplace where they're doing

what your client wants to. And finally, never be afraid to admit that you don't understand something.

What's something that most people don't know about you?

I really like country-western music, which is not widely known outside my family.

—Brian Martucci

An Honor Worth Noting

JOHN DIEHL

FINANCE & COMMERCE 2019 ICON

We are pleased to congratulate our friend and colleague on this well-deserved honor. John's career achievements, innovation in the healthcare industry and dedication to the legal profession have been an inspiration for many in the firm and in the community.



Alan Eidsness

Henson Efron

As a leader of Henson Efron's family law group, Alan Eidsness brings skill, experience and presence to the profession.

Throughout his career as an attorney, he's received numerous honors and awards, including induction into the American College of Trial Lawyers, an organization in which less than 1 percent of a state's trial lawyers are members. He also served on the Judicial Selection Commission, appointed by Gov. Jesse Ventura, and assisted in selecting more than 70 judges, including two Supreme Court justices.

What do you think was the turning point to success in your career?

The mentorship of Robert F. Henson, my founding and senior partner. Bob and I talked almost every day in the first years of my practice, and he stressed to me the values of integrity, ethics and hard work.

What's something most people don't know about you?

I was a soccer referee for many years. Also, I attended three Minnesota Twins Fantasy Camps and played baseball against former Twins greats.

What's the most memorable case of your career?

There are two: Early in my career, I represented Jesse Ventura in a lawsuit against the World Wrestling Federation and won a \$1 million verdict after a two-



week trial in federal court. Second is the recent family court case of Gill v. Gill that was decided in my client's favor. It established that earn-outs in the sale of a business are marital property even if the payments are made after the marital dissolution, and even if one of the parties had to remain employed after the marriage ended.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

My wife, Lollie, and I enjoy traveling, and we just returned from a trip to China. We also spend a lot of time at our lake home. Most of all, we enjoy being with our two grandchildren, Natalie and William.

—Elizabeth Millard



SHINE ON!

CONGRATULATIONS **ALAN EIDSNES** FOR BEING A MINNESOTA ICON AWARD HONOREE. THANK YOU FOR BEING A GUIDING LIGHT FOR YOUR CLIENTS, OUR FIRM AND THE LEGAL COMMUNITY.



HENSON EFRON

BUSINESS LAW • ESTATE, TRUST & PROBATE • FAMILY LAW • LITIGATION • REAL ESTATE • TAX

220 South Sixth Street, Suite 1800 | Minneapolis, MN | 612-339-2500

HENSONEFRON.COM

Robert Esse

Boveda

Robert “Bob” Esse, long-time General Mills packaging expert, ensured that your Wheaties or Betty Crocker cake mix would be good when you opened the box.

Solving a different problem — keeping cigars properly humidified — seemed like it would be quick work when General Mills chemist Albert Saari presented it on behalf of a frustrated stogie fan. Or so Esse thought. Their patented two-way humidity control technology took five years to develop.

In 1997 Esse and Saari helped launch Boveda, a Minnetonka-based packing firm that also makes humidity-control products for wooden musical instruments and medical cannabis.

Esse worked at General Mills for 35 years after getting his physics degree from St. Olaf College and serving two years in the Army Signal Corps in Japan. He is named as an inventor on 20 patents.

“Curiosity is the key,” said Esse, whose latest project is a copper-based alternative to hand sanitizers.

What do you think was the turning point to success in your career?

One was at work where I was promoted to a higher level but said I wasn’t ready. They did it anyway and mentored me along the way. The second one



was at church. I was put into a leadership position after only being a member for four or five years. I got pushed into it, and again a mentor came forward to help. Those events pushed me out of my comfort zone, but I had mentoring in each role such that the work output was acceptable.

What professional achieve-

ment are you most proud of?

Spending five years getting humidity control into a commercially viable product. What I’m proud of is not just solving the technical problems, but we are helping to put food on the table of about 100 families and that’s a big deal to me.

—Todd Nelson

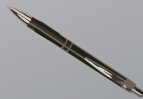
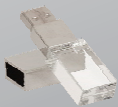
CONGRATULATIONS

Minnesota
ICONS 2019

Crown



We Now Offer **THOUSANDS**
of Promotional Products



Purchase Online At:

crowntrophybloomington.com

Mention Code **ICONS 2019** & receive 25% off your first
promotional products purchase

9420 Lyndale Ave S. Bloomington, MN 55420
952-884-4944 | www.crowntrophybloomington.com

AMAZING KIDS INSPIRE AMAZING CARE.



Children's Minnesota is proud to be named one of the best pediatric hospitals in the country. The recognition helps our patients and families know they're getting the best care, with specialized expertise, advanced technologies and treatments, research and education — all of which leads to excellent outcomes.

Children's
MINNESOTA
childrensMN.org



Framed REPRINTS

Share your good news as an impressive work of art!

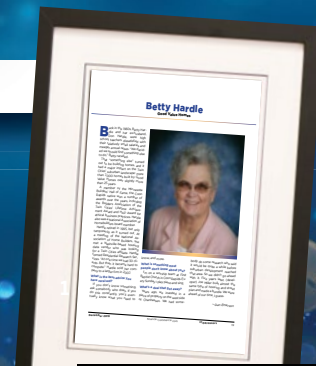


Wooden Plaque
\$299, comes with complimentary
digital PDF

8.5 x 11 framed
finish size is 16" x 18.5"
\$269



To order wooden plaques
& PDFs Call Lisa Arnold:
717.323.5213



11 x 17 framed
finish size is 18" x 24.5"
\$299

To order framed reprints
call Kelsey Broadwell:
612.584.1534

FINANCE & COMMERCE

MINNESOTA LAWYER

Kathleen Flynn Peterson

Ciresi Conlin LLC

Kathleen Flynn Peterson was a registered nurse before she was a lawyer. But to Flynn Peterson, a partner at Ciresi Conlin who has been trying medical negligence cases for 40 years, it's a logical progression. "I tell people, I was advocating for patients as a nurse, and now I'm advocating for them in a different way as a plaintiff's lawyer," she says.

Flynn Peterson spent the greater part of her law career at Robins Kaplan. She joined Ciresi Conlin last March.

What do you think was the turning point to success in your career?

Early in my practice, I had the opportunity to work with talented senior people. When I received a significant jury verdict on a case where I was co-lead counsel, that was a real turning point, because it was a record-setting verdict at the time. When you try medical malpractice cases, you're going to lose a lot more than you're going to win, so to have a significant success that really changed the life of a family — that resulted in many more people coming to us for help — was a big change.

What professional achievement are you most proud of?

I've been able to serve in leadership positions in some very select organizations: the American College of Trial Lawyers, the International Society of Barris-



ters, and the International Academy of Trial Lawyers. I've had a chance to help other women become leaders in those organizations. There aren't as many women who do litigation and trial work. I'm thankful for the opportunities I've had. Mentors I've had have given me opportunities, and I've tried to give them to others.

What's the best advice you have for someone following in your footsteps?

Follow your passion, and also look for mentors — people you believe are doing what you would like to do someday, and seek the opportunity to work with and learn from them.

—Holly Dolezalek

Protect The Future



Congratulations

Kathleen Flynn Peterson

Finance & Commerce

2019 ICON



Ciresi Conlin LLP

CiresiConlin.com

Mary Hansen

Mayo Employees Federal Credit Union

When Mary Hansen joined Mayo Employees Federal Credit Union in 1999, it had just begun to offer member checking accounts and had only recently opened its first true full-service teller line. Previously, members had to call ahead to withdraw more than \$100 from their accounts.

Under Hansen's leadership, MEFCU has gone from two Rochester offices to nine branches in four states; upped membership from 17,000 to more than 63,000; and grown assets from about \$100 million to nearly \$1 billion, mostly through organic growth.

Hansen's achievements have not gone unnoticed among her peers. She's the current vice chair for the Minnesota Credit Union Network's board of directors and has served on the Minnesota Credit Union Foundation's board since 2006. She also sits on the board of Brighter Tomorrows, a nonprofit supporting families of children fighting cancer, and chairs its annual 5K fundraiser. Her family raised more than \$43,400 at this event the last few years.

What do you think was the turning point to success in your career?

One of the most difficult days of my personal life was the day I saw my daughter resuscitated hours after birth and learning of the numerous challenges she would face if she were lucky enough to survive. She not only survived — she has thrived. But that very



tragic life experience changed my perspective and approach to other people. I went from being a very driven and career-focused individual to being a much more compassionate and kind leader.

What professional achievement are you most proud of?

Receiving the CEO of the Year by the Minnesota Credit Union Network was clearly a high point,

as I have the utmost respect for my very talented peers and colleagues across the state. Receiving the Distinguished Service Award from Luther College was especially important to me because my father had received the very same award a couple decades earlier.

—Brian Martucci

Betty Hardle

Good Value Homes

Back in the 1960s, Betty Hardle and her ex-husband, Don Hardle, were high school teachers dissatisfied with their relatively small salaries and meager annual raises. “We decided we should find something else to do,” Betty recalled.

That “something else” turned out to be building homes, and it had a major impact on the Twin Cities’ suburban landscape: more than 7,000 homes built by Good Value Homes over slightly more than 25 years.

A member of the Minnesota Builders’ Hall of Fame, the Coon Rapids native won a number of awards over the years, including the Builders Association of the Twin Cities’ Lifetime Achievement Award and HAP Award for ethical business practices. Hardle also was a National Association of Homebuilders board member.

Hardle retired in 1995, but only temporarily, as it turned out. At a meeting of the National Association of Home Builders, she met a Nashville-based housing data vendor who was looking for a Twin Cities affiliate. Hardle formed Residential Research Services. “At one time we had 30 clients. But then it became hard to compete.” Hardle sold her company to a larger firm in 2007.

What is the best advice you have received?

If you don’t know something, ask somebody who does. If you do this constantly, you’ll eventually know what you need to



know, and more.

What is something most people don’t know about you?

I’m on a worship team at First Baptist Church in Coon Rapids. Every Sunday I play piano and sing.

What’s a deal that got away?

Years ago, we invested in a piece of property on the west side of Chanhassen. We had some-

body do some research who said it would be quite a while before suburban development reached that area. So we didn’t go ahead with it. Five years later, (developer) Joe Miller built almost the same type of housing and street plan and made a bundle. We were ahead of our time, I guess.

—Dan Emerson

Robert (Randy) Hopper

Robert Hopper & Associates

As an undergraduate student Robert Hopper considered a career in neuroscience before an interest in civil rights led him to change course.

That led to a varied career that included studying ethics at a seminary and public policy at the University of Minnesota, working in corporate communications at Cummins Engine Co. and serving as an adviser to Gov. Al Quie.

As a lawyer, Hopper pursued dozens of tort and antitrust cases, notably in the national tobacco class-action lawsuit. "It is still the largest case in history, with \$247 billion payout and included the largest fee ever paid to attorneys," he said.

Hopper has shifted his focus to cases involving neuroscience, focusing on clients suffering traumatic brain, spinal cord and neurodegenerative disease injuries. He teaches courses on the topic at the University of Minnesota Law School and consults on it with the Medical School.

In a recent case, he represented a prominent attorney, Peter Berge, who was suffering from a brain tumor when, while driving, he accidentally hit and killed a pedestrian. Hopper successfully argued that the brain tumor impacted the defendant's vision.

What's the best advice you have for someone following in your footsteps?

Study psychology, philosophy, and theology because then you can begin to understand human



nature. Read Winston Churchill to learn how battles are won and lost, and how to be field general, because trial lawyers are warriors and combatants.

What's something that most people don't know about you?

I own thoroughbred horses and I'm involved in thoroughbred racing.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I read nine books at a time and I jump from subject to subject. I enjoy fly fishing, grouse hunting, raising field dog setters, golfing and racing sailboats competitively on Lake Minnetonka.

—Frank Jossi

Elliot Kaplan

Robins Kaplan LLP

Elliot Kaplan is not a boastful man, but maybe he should be. The veteran attorney and partner at Robins Kaplan has, over the years, presided over a team of lawyers that make up one of the top trial law firms in the United States.

Kaplan created the firm's business litigation group and has been the driving force in Robins becoming a national-scale firm — covering areas including lender liability, intellectual property, monopolization and unfair competition. He has provided expert testimony to the U.S. Senate Committee on Franchise Legislation. The business litigation group that he helped build now works across the firm's eight offices nationwide.

His diligence and loyalty have resulted in a client roster whose relationships with the firm go back decades. One example: In 1968, Kaplan began representing a stereo equipment store called Sound of Music. That relationship lasted four decades, and that company is now called Best Buy.

What do you think was the turning point to success in your career?

This isn't so much about my success. The success of the firm is attributable to an outstanding group of lawyers who are at the very top of our profession.

What professional achievement are you most proud of?

Appearing before the United States Supreme Court was a



great experience.

What's the most memorable case of your career?

There were many, mostly the ones that I prevailed in.

What's the best advice you have for someone following in your footsteps?

Be the best lawyer you can possibly be, and serve your cli-

ents as best you can.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I enjoy sports, traveling and spending time with family. My wife and I travel back and forth to Florida throughout the year. Our last major trip was to Italy.

—Dan Heilman

Douglas Kelley

Kelley, Wolter & Scott

A former assistant United States attorney, Doug Kelley has represented national political figures, served as a court-appointed receiver and trustee in Minnesota's largest ever Ponzi scheme case, and even had his phone tapped by the mob.

Now a partner at Kelley, Wolter & Scott, he brings ample experience and skill to a range of clients, from individuals to corporations, and is a standout in complex civil litigation and criminal defense.

What professional achievement are you most proud of?

I think the services I performed for Joe and Patty Wetterling. The role I played, in addition to representing them, and guiding them through the plea agreement, was bringing the feds and Stearns County together so we could get to what the Wetterlings wanted, which was to find out what happened to Jacob. I think the most difficult day in my entire practice was when the FBI found Jacob and we had to tell the Wetterlings.

What's the most memorable case of your career?

Probably the Mafia case. I was appointed as a special assistant attorney general to prosecute a major, national organized crime case, and led a grand jury investigation that hinged on the testimony of an informant, Joseph Agosto. We had FBI snip-



ers on top of buildings around the courthouse because we were worried the mob would knock him off. Another memorable part of that case was interviewing Sammy Davis Jr. on the set of "Cannonball 3," and I had a subpoena out for Frank Sinatra but sadly didn't get to talk to him. I did learn that the Mafia had a contract out on me,

though, and that was definitely memorable.

What's the best advice you have for someone following in your footsteps?

Figure out a way to try cases. It doesn't matter what they are, because you need to get in court to be a good trial lawyer.

—Elizabeth Millard

Edward Kodet Jr.

Kodet Architectural Group

Library books and encyclopedias introduced Ed Kodet to architecture. What they showed Kodet appealed to his interest in drawing and making things.

"It just fit when I read about what architects do," Kodet said. "I set out on an early path to do that and stuck with it."

Kodet, president of Kodet Architectural Group in Minneapolis, certainly has. In 2019 he's marking 50 years as an architect and active member of the Twin Cities design community.

That early interest took Kodet from his native South Dakota to the University of Nebraska and the University of Minnesota, where he earned undergraduate and master's degrees, respectively, in architecture.

Kodet founded his firm, which specializes in educational, religious, civic and historic restoration projects, in 1983, after working at a local firm. He taught design as an adjunct faculty member for 25 years at the U and has been active on multiple levels with the American Institute of Architects.

"Architecture should represent the period in which it's created," Kodet said. "Be forward-looking and recognize that buildings are going to be there for a long time."

What do you think was the turning point to success in your career?

One was teaching at the Uni-



versity of Minnesota. That gave me a chance to talk to students and fellow faculty members and get a sense of what the profession is about. The second, and maybe a little more important, was starting my own office and having the ability to control my destiny to go after projects that I thought were important and work with clients that I thought

had similar values.

What's the best advice you have for someone following in your footsteps?

Stay focused. Work hard and do things with interest and focus and direction. If you do, things will pay off.

—Todd Nelson

Don Kveton

Village Bank

Don Kveton is an atypical community bank chairman. He wasn't born into the role; he founded Village Bank on his own, a quarter-century ago.

Kveton's station isn't the logical culmination of a long career in finance, either. His early business ventures were eclectic: a cleaning company, a food delivery company, a regional restaurant chain, a nightclub and sports bar complex that at one time hosted volleyball and softball tournaments.

And he still has other pots on the stove: two housing developments in Blaine and a third breaking ground in Ramsey this winter; the miniature cattle ranch on which he lives in Ramsey.

But Kveton makes time to share his bounty. He's particularly fond of Achieve Services, a Blaine organization for people with disabilities and special needs. "When you tour [Achieve Services], you see people no different from us. They want to get up every morning and achieve — they just can't," he said. "Those of us who have been blessed in this world need to help more."

What do you think was the turning point to success in your career?

I've started so many things in my life: restaurants, nightclubs, properties, banks. One consistent thread through it all is my faith. That's what delivered me. Yes, I have a strong, great worth ethic



and strive to do my very best, but it always comes back to my faith.

What's the best advice you have for someone following in your footsteps?

Stay humble. Listen. Get as much feedback as possible from your staff before you make the final decision.

What do you like to do in your

spare time?

I love to travel with my wife. Recently, we've been to Capri, Italy — that was great. We love the vineyards in Sonoma and Napa, California. We have a place in Bonita Springs, Florida, in a super cool setting with biking, boating, walks on the beach.

—Brian Martucci

Eric J. Magnuson

Robins Kaplan LLP

Eric Magnuson's achievements on the bench and before the bar are no secret. But what's lesser known about the former Minnesota Supreme Court chief justice is his commitment to mentoring the next generation of appellate lawyers.

"He's the model of generosity in that regard," said a colleague.

What professional achievement are you most proud of?

It's pretty hard to top being a chief justice. That was a great honor, and I think I performed a service to the state and the judiciary and had a lasting impact, even though my time was short.

I've helped lots of lawyers over the years work their way through appeals and appellate issues. I'm always willing to consult with them on an informal basis to make their representation better — and the court's life easier. I know the court appreciates lawyers who know what they're doing. I've been glad to help lawyers get to the heart of their cases instead of getting tied up with tangential procedural issues.

What's the most memorable case of your career?

Probably the one with the biggest impact on the state was the constitutionality of the public education system.

What's the best advice you have for someone following in your footsteps?

Be active in the appellate community. Get out there and join



things. Be a contributor. There are lots of smart lawyers who are good brief writers, but that's not enough for you to make a name. You need to demonstrate not just your skill, but also your commitment to appellate practice.

What's something that most people don't know about you?

I like order. Rules and certainty are very important to me. What

attracted me to appellate practice was that the cards were all dealt. You can't draw or discard. It's up to the vision you create for your appeal, and how you convey that.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Fish. All year around.

—Dan Heilman

Larry Mahoney

Mahoney Ulbrich Christiansen & Russ P.A.

Accountants are not typically thought of as risk-takers. But when Larry Mahoney co-founded the St. Paul-based accounting firm of Mahoney Ulbrich Christiansen & Russ P.A. in 1989, “it was a pretty risky thing to do,” recalls Mahoney, who earned his law degree at William Mitchell College of Law. “I was in a successful accounting firm at the time, interest rates were high, we had just built a new house and my wife was pregnant. But I felt it was the right thing to do, and I’m grateful that I did it.”

Mahoney will retire in December as leader of MUCR’s tax practice group, focusing on tax and financial planning for highly compensated individuals, and also advising on business taxation, tax law and tax accounting methods.

The South St. Paul native started his career as a CPA, before being attracted by the intellectual challenge posed by the law, specifically tax law — an area that is constantly evolving. “Going to law school had always been on my bucket list,” says Mahoney, a graduate of the University of St. Thomas.

He is proud that the firm has “a culture of giving back to the community,” says Mahoney. He’s been an active board member of a number of community and professional organizations.

Best advice I’ve gotten:

Before you choose a career, make sure it’s something you



like to do, because you’re going to spend a lot of time doing it. Then work hard and be passionate about helping clients and customers in whatever you do.

Most memorable transaction:

Back in the late ’80s, the Tax Reform Act put the rental real estate market into turmoil. It changed the economics of real estate investing. One of our clients was

at risk of losing his property and filing bankruptcy. As a result of advice I provided and implemented with an attorney referral, they were able to keep their property and not file for bankruptcy. That has been the cornerstone of their wealth, which is in excess of \$50 million today.

—Dan Emerson



Framed REPRINTS

Share your good news as an impressive work of art!

A custom framed reprint attractively preserves your professional accomplishments for display at work or home. Framing materials are carefully selected to complement any décor.



**Wooden Plaque
\$299, comes with complimentary
digital PDF**

**8.5 x 11 framed
finish size is 16" x 18.5"
\$269**



**To order wooden plaques
& PDFs Call Lisa Arnold:
717.323.5213**



**11 x 17 framed
finish size is 18" x 24.5"
\$299**

**To order framed reprints
call Kelsey Broadwell:
612.584.1534**

Rebecca Egge Moos

Bassford Remele

There are plenty of firsts in Rebecca Moos' 42-year law career at Bassford Remele. But she prefers to talk about cases, because she's tried so many of them.

As co-chair of the firm's Professional Liability/Claim Prevention-Health Care Practice Group, Moos mentors younger lawyers and helps them develop the relationships like those that have sustained her long career in medical malpractice defense.

What's the most memorable case of your career?

It was a case I lost, and I lost a lot of money. It was a mental health patient who was brought to the ER, and while he was there, he put his head down, ran into a wall, and broke his neck and became quadriplegic. Very sad case. The claim was that staff should have restrained him. I learned a lot about presenting a case to a jury. It was also a good lesson in how verdicts in the past don't necessarily predict current or future verdicts, and on how both sides need to educate the judge on the case. You learn a lot more from cases you lose than the ones you win.

What do you think was the turning point to success in your career?

Because my practice is litigation, it was very important to get to a point in my career



where I had taken a number of cases to verdict. Whether they were defense verdicts or adverse verdicts, I had the experience of taking a case, analyzing medical records, preparing the case for trial and presentation to a jury, and everything that goes with that. I was fortunate to have mentors in the '70s and '80s who thought that women

should be trying those cases in court.

What's something most people don't know about you?

I like fishing! I like watching TV shows and reading about fishing. I don't have fish mounted on my wall, but I like it.

—Holly Dolezalek



Powerful advocates. Always on your side.

BASSFORD REMELE IS PROUD TO CONGRATULATE

Rebecca Egge Moos

on being recognized as a *Minnesota Lawyer*
2019 Minnesota ICON

Becky Moos is a highly accomplished trial lawyer who is called by clients when they are faced with their most complex legal challenges. A pioneer in the legal field, Becky broke barriers for women in litigation. Now, in her fourth decade of practice, she is mentoring the next generation of trial lawyers. Becky is a tireless advocate for her clients, yet always conducts herself with the utmost professionalism, earning her the respect of judges and lawyers alike.

Becky, we at Bassford Remele are fortunate to call you our colleague, mentor, and friend. We congratulate you on this well-deserved honor.



BASSFORD REMELE

MINNEAPOLIS, MN

| 612.333.3000

| BASSFORD.COM

Robert Rosenbaum

Dorsey & Whitney LLC

Bob Rosenbaum has been described as the dean of mergers-and-acquisitions lawyers in Minnesota, if not the entire Midwest. A keen student of corporate and securities law, Rosenbaum has had the pleasure of seeing Dorsey & Whitney named one of the country's top 25 M&A firms for 25 straight years.

In his career, he has closed multimillion-dollar deals for some of Minnesota's largest corporations in industries ranging from technology to banking to agriculture.

Away from work, Rosenbaum is active in the community, Habitat for Humanity being but one of his longtime commitments.

What's the most memorable case of your career?

There have been a lot of deals that were fun in different ways. In the 1990s, we worked on a lot of deals for ADC Telecommunications to grow their business. In the early 2000s, I worked with Cargill to set up the Mosaic company. That was a very complex deal.

More recently, I was part of a team of lawyers that represented the family that owns Hillerich & Bradsby, the makers of the Louisville Slugger baseball bat. We sold that brand to Wilson Sporting Goods. In appreciation, they made us bats with our signatures burned into the barrel.

What professional achievement are you most proud of?



Probably that I'm still practicing after 32 years.

What's the best advice you have for someone following in your footsteps?

The law is so different from what it was when I started. But fundamentals are being curious and learning as much as you can every day from clients and col-

leagues.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Spend time with my kids and grandkids. Also, my wife and I love to travel together. We recently took a biking tour to northern Spain.

—Dan Heilman



cheers for peers

OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT TO THE LEGAL SERVICES PROFESSION

Congratulations to Bob Rosenbaum for being named a 2019 Minnesota ICON.
We are proud of your contributions to the legal community and beyond.

Sharon Sayles Belton

Thomson Reuters

When it comes to leading the way, Sharon Sayles Belton knows what it means to be first. From 1994 to 2001, she was the first African American and first woman to be the mayor of Minneapolis. Under her leadership, she convinced investors to take a chance on downtown, leading to significant projects like U.S. Bancorp Center and a Target retail store.

Sayles Belton continues to be at the forefront of progress, as vice president of community relations and government affairs for Thomson Reuters. She's been instrumental in advancing neighborhood revitalization, clean water, race equality and women's issues.

What do you think was the turning point to success in your career?

The value of collaboration and partnerships contributed to my career success. I honed these skills during the 10 years I served as chair of the Minneapolis Zoning and Planning Committee. Applying those skills in specific areas of the city contributed to increasing the livability of distressed neighborhoods and the revitalization of abandoned and underutilized property in the city.

For example, the Phillips Partnership included city, county government and businesses pooling their resources together to stabilize housing, address unemployment, invest in the youth, reduce crime and foster new private sector investment.



What professional achievement are you most proud of?

Getting elected as the first woman and African American to serve as the mayor of the city of Minneapolis. It was by far the hardest task that I have agreed to pursue. Fortunately, I had the support of a strong, very experienced bipartisan group of women from across the state who

were with me all the way.

What's the best advice you have for someone following in your footsteps?

Don't hesitate to follow your dreams. Find a sponsor who will also serve as a mentor, and no matter what, always put your family first.

—Elizabeth Millard

Congratulations
Sharon Sayles Belton
2019 Minnesota ICON

From all of us at Thomson Reuters



the answer company™

THOMSON REUTERS®

James Volling

Faegre Baker Daniels

One of the most important experiences in James Volling's career came while serving as a law clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Warren E. Burger from 1980 to 1981.

The Supreme Court ruled in the *Estelle v. Smith* case that using prior, undisclosed psychiatric examinations to determine sentences violated defendants' rights. Assigned to write a memo recommending how dozens of similar cases should be disposed, Volling found a disturbing trend.

"I was appalled by the level of lawyering I was seeing in these transcripts," he said. "The South didn't have public defender systems, and the defense lawyer was often whoever was available."

A year later, Volling joined Faegre Baker Daniels and began a career in which he would serve in many leadership roles in the firm and work as a commercial litigator on cases involving billions of dollars. Yet his Supreme Court experience prompted Volling to fight for the rights of convicted inmates throughout his career.

Early in his practice, he worked pro bono for the Louisiana Capital Defense Project, helped found the Death Penalty Defense Project and Faegre's "JUSTice for KIDS" initiative. Volling holds leadership positions for Washington, D.C.-based Pro Bono Institute.

What's the best advice you have for someone following in



your footsteps?

Pursue your passions. Don't come into this profession and give up things that are important to you inside and outside the law. If you're a litigator, don't internalize conflict because it will eat you up.

What's something that most people don't know about you?

I love to sing. I sang and played

guitar in a rock band in high school and sang when I was an undergraduate at Harvard.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I enjoy spending time with my family, music, playing golf and reading.

—Frank Jossi



Framed REPRINTS

Share your good news as an impressive work of art!

A custom framed reprint attractively preserves your professional accomplishments for display at work or home. Framing materials are carefully selected to complement any décor.



**Wooden Plaque
\$299, comes with complimentary
digital PDF**

**8.5 x 11 framed
finish size is 16" x 18.5"
\$269**



**To order wooden plaques
& PDFs Call Lisa Arnold:
717.323.5213**



**11 x 17 framed
finish size is 18" x 24.5"
\$299**

**To order framed reprints
call Kelsey Broadwell:
612.584.1534**

Congratulations

TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE
2019 MINNESOTA ICON AWARD,
INCLUDING OUR ESTEEMED
COLLEAGUES:



**ELLIOT S.
KAPLAN**



**ERIC J.
MAGNUSON**