

von Briesen Announces Statewide Growth

Oct 08 2024

von Briesen & Roper, s.c. announced continued growth with several attorneys joining the firm statewide: **Sarah J. Barnes** (Madison), **Cindy L. Hangartner** (Eau Claire), **Hanna R. Kolberg** (Milwaukee), **Avery J. Mayne** (Milwaukee), **Aleksandar Prpa** (Milwaukee) and **Derik P. Rush** (Milwaukee).

Sarah J. Barnes is an Associate in the Trusts & Estates Section and also a Certified Trust and Fiduciary Advisor (CTFA). Barnes has over 15 years of experience in both private practice and as a trust officer. Her practice focuses on estate planning, probate and trust administration matters.

Barnes is President of the Junior League of Madison and serves as a Board Member for The Arc - Dane County and Access to Independence. She is a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin (Local Bar Committee), American Bar Association, Madison Estate Planning Council and the Legal Association of Women (LAW). She received a J.D. from Marquette University and a B.A. from Edgewood College.

Cindy L. Hangartner joined the Trusts & Estates Section as Counsel. She focuses her practice on estate planning, business and agricultural succession plans and advising for-profit and nonprofit businesses, including cooperatives and religious organizations.

Hangartner serves on the Board of Trustees and as Secretary for the Eau Claire Community Foundation and as Vice President of the Confluence Council at the Pablo Center. Hangartner is a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin, Eau Claire County Bar Association, the American Bar Association and a Fellow of the Wisconsin Law Foundation. She received an LL.M. from the University of Denver, a J.D. from the University of Wisconsin and a B.A. from Luther College.

Hanna R. Kolberg is a Shareholder in the Government Law Group and Real Estate Section. She focuses her government law practice on advising municipalities and counties on governance, administrative proceedings, public records, open meetings, public policy, litigation, Police and Fire Commission hearings and collective bargaining. She focuses her real estate practice on property tax assessment litigation and eminent domain matters.

Kolberg is a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin, Eastern District of Wisconsin Bar Association, Milwaukee Bar Association and the Association for Women Lawyers (AWL). She received a J.D. from the University of Wisconsin and a B.A. from Tufts University.

Avery J. Mayne is a Shareholder in the Trusts and Estates Section. She focuses her practice on elder and special needs law matters, including advising clients on asset protection from long term care costs; eligibility and appeals for public benefits; and adult guardianship and protective action litigation. She is certified as an Elder Law Attorney (CELA) by the National Elder Law Foundation. She is recognized by *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America*[®] in Elder Law, Family Law, Litigation - Trusts and Estates (2022-2025) and Trusts and Estates (2025). She is also a Wisconsin Rising Star (2020-2024).

Mayne serves on the Board of Directors for the Adaptive Community Approach Program (ACAP) of Waukesha, Life Navigators, Inc. and Elder and Special Needs Law Section (State Bar of Wisconsin). She is a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin, State Bar of Illinois, Milwaukee Bar Association and the Association for Women Lawyers. She received a J.D. from Marquette University Law School and a B.A. from the University of Missouri.

Aleksandar Prpa is an Associate in the Litigation and Risk Management Practice Group. He focuses his practice on a variety of litigation matters including general litigation, insurance coverage, toxic tort, real estate and municipal prosecutions. He is a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin, the Milwaukee Bar Association and the Wisconsin Defense Counsel. Prpa received a J.D., *cum laude*, from Marquette University, an M.S. Sports Management, *summa cum laude*, from the University of Wisconsin-Parkside and a B.S., *summa cum laude*, from the University of Wisconsin-Parkside.

Derik P. Rush is an Associate in the Litigation and Risk Management Practice Group. He focuses his litigation practice on commercial, business, construction, real estate and water/riparian rights issues. He is a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin and the Milwaukee Bar Association. Rush received a J.D., *cum laude*, from Marquette University and a B.A. and from the University of Iowa.
