



UKRAINIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Асоціація Українських Правників Америки

NEWLY ELECTED UABA OFFICERS AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS for 2017-2019

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Oksana Pelekh

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Oksana Pelekh specializes in litigation, real estate, bankruptcy and immigration law in New York City, New York. Oksana is admitted to the New York State Bar and licensed to practice law in Ukraine. Oksana earned her law degree in 2005 from Ivan Franko National University, School of Law and in 2007 received LL.M. degree from Pace Law School

VICE PRESIDENT

Iryna Ivashchuk

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Iryna Ivashchuk focuses her practice in general corporate transactions and complex real estate and financing matters, assisting clients in domestic and cross-border deals. Iryna advises clients from all over the world on formation and capitalization of various entities, corporate governance, private securities offerings, and joint venture transactions, as well as acquisitions and dispositions of all types of real and personal property and businesses, real estate and other asset-based financing, leasing of real and personal property, and real estate development. Iryna is fluent in Ukrainian, Russian and Spanish. Iryna was named a Florida Super Lawyers

Rising Star in the area of real estate law in 2013, 2014 and 2015. She was also a finalist for the 2014 Daily Business Review Top Dealmakers of the Year (Leasing) award. In 2015, Iryna was selected as a fellow of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar for a two-year term.

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Victoria V. Kulik

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Victoria V. Kulik is a senior associate in the Corporate Transactions & Securities Group. Her practice focuses on domestic and international mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and other commercial transactions. Ms. Kulik also has experience representing lenders, arrangers, borrowers/issuers, sponsors and underwriters in various corporate finance transactions, including secured and unsecured syndicated credit facilities, secured financings, acquisition financings and various asset-based financings. Ms. Kulik is a member of the firm's Women's Initiative

Regional Committee and the Dallas Hiring Committee. Additionally, Ms. Kulik has performed pro bono work on various matters for local nonprofit organizations and individuals. Ms. Kulik received her J.D., cum laude, in 2007 from the Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University, where she served as a member of the *Mercer Law Review*. She graduated from Montreat College in 2002 with a B.S., summa cum laude, in business administration with concentration in international business and minors in history and literature.

CORPORATE SECRETARY

George Pazuniak

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George Pazuniak is an Intellectual Property attorney practicing in Wilmington, Delaware. George has extensive experience in all facets of IP enforcement, protection, arbitration, licensing and counseling. His diverse client base has included start-ups and small to medium sized businesses as well as global Fortune 50 companies. Mr. Pazuniak has been lead counsel in over forty IP cases, including ten jury trials and several arbitrations, in venues ranging from Delaware to East Texas to California. Many of these have been complex high-profile cases involving, for example, biotechnology, agricultural chemicals and seeds, other chemical compounds, software, telecommunications and other electronics, and mechanical devices. He has also handled appeals before the

Delaware Supreme Court, the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court. George was one of the original founders of the UABA.

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Taras Rudnitsky has dedicated his entire legal career to representing consumers seeking justice under the law. His unique background as a consumer protection attorney, automotive engineer and expert witness has provided invaluable insight for consumers in cases throughout Florida and the United States. Taras has been a featured speaker before consumer justice attorneys, governmental investigators, and corporate executives, and has also been interviewed by several television and newspaper reporters regarding consumer justice issues. Taras is also active in the Florida Bar, having served as chair of its Small Claims Rules Committee. He is on the Board of Directors for several legal aid organizations, and has served as their President. The Florida Supreme Court has frequently recognized

Taras's contributions to the public for pro bono legal services, including the Florida Bar President's 2016 Pro Bono Service Award for the 18th Judicial Circuit. He has also earned numerous pro bono awards every year from 2009 through 2017 for his significant pro bono work on behalf of indigent consumers. Taras earned his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School, and also holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Mechanical Engineering from Wayne State University in Detroit.

Markian Silecky

Partner

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Canadian Embassy, and various diplomats with regard to their activities in Ukraine.

Markian B. Silecky is a partner in Dentons Kyiv and New York offices. He specializes in general corporate law, mergers and acquisitions, international transactions, real estate and environmental law. Before Dentons, he was a partner in Salans, prior to which Markian was the principal of an international law firm which he founded in 1988. He has been practicing in Ukraine since 1992 and will continue working in both the Kyiv and New York offices. He has worked with various Ukrainian State Agencies, including the Ministry of Transport, State Property Fund, Ministry of Environment and the Cabinet of Ministers, and has also represented the Embassy of the United States, the

Ivanka Bilych

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(June 15, 2015). Ivanna Bilych holds a Masters in International Affairs from Columbia University and LL.M. from NYU School of Law. She also received her LL.B. degree and LL.M. degree from Kyiv National T. Shevchenko University

Ivanna Bilych is Co—founder and President of Volya Institute for Contemporary Law and Society (an organization dedicated to generating and promoting intellectual leadership in the field of civil society, human rights and the rule of law). Ivanna is a lawyer who represented Viktor Smalyy, an attorney from Ukraine prosecuted by the former regime and helped mobilize an advocacy campaign in support of him. Ivanna led the group of international lawyers and scholars in co-authoring the following reports: The Crisis in Ukraine: Its Legal Dimensions (April 15, 2014); Human Rights on Occupied territory: Case of Crimea

Deanna Elaine Hazen

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of premises liability, and representing companies with vehicles involved in motor vehicle accidents.

Deanna Hazen joined the firm of White Fleischner & Fino, LLP in 1995, after practicing for several years in the State of Michigan. Her practice focuses on the defense of negligence-based lawsuits involving complex construction accidents, premises liability and security, and automobile and trucking accidents. Her practice involves both personal injury and property damage claims in the State of New York. Deanna has significant experience representing owners and contractors in construction site litigation involving New York State Labor Law, representing property owners and commercial tenants in matters

Hon. Orest A. Jejna

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past positions of Vice President and President.

Orest A. Jejna has been a municipal court judge in Scottsdale, Arizona since 2001. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Jejna practiced as a criminal defense lawyer for twenty years in Arizona and in other states on special appearance. During his years in practice, Judge Jejna became engaged with other members of the UABA in several human rights events, most notable being the Medvid Incident in New Orleans in 1985. Subsequently, Judge Jejna along with others spearheaded the efforts to abrogate the agreement between the American Bar Association and the Association of Soviet Lawyers. A member of the UABA since 1985, Judge Jejna has served on the Board of Governors as a member and Chairman along with holding the

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Tanya Karpiak, formerly a prosecutor, civil litigator, journalist and television reporter, was an American Bar Association specialist in Kyiv. She was a member of a team that evaluated strategies to combat the trafficking of women and children Ukraine

See: pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PDABSO33.pdf). Karpiak helped devise a USAID program training Ukrainian attorneys to represent journalists who were harassed for their investigative reporting. As a Boston University adjunct professor, she administered a 5-year U.S. State Department-funded grant for a faculty exchange program with the Tomsk State University Law Institute in Siberia. Also in Tomsk, she established the Tatiana

coalition, an NGO to aid victims of domestic violence. Tanya has given presentations at various international conferences and seminars. She currently volunteers as an election observer for the OSCE.

Walter M. Lupan

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Walter M. Lupan is a partner with Murphy & Lupan, P.A., where he concentrates in business, banking and commercial litigation. A good portion of his practice consists of sophisticated commercial collection matters and workouts, involving foreclosures, repossessions and receiverships. Mr. Lupan is a graduate of Temple University (B.A. 1972), University of Pennsylvania (M.A. 1976) and Syracuse University College of Law (J.D. 1981), where he was an editor of the Syracuse Law Review. Mr. Lupan's prior professional experience also includes a stint with the Middlesex County District Attorney's Office, where he was a white-collar prosecutor in the Public Protection Bureau. He has also served as

President and Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Ukrainian American Bar Association and as the United States representative to the International Board of Supervisors and Foreign Advisors of the Ukrainian Legal Foundation.

Andrew E. Stecki

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Andrew E. Stecki practices in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Andrew was a named partner in the general practice firm Odza, Gindhart, Stecki & Farion, P.C. for 3 decades before striking out on his own. He continues to handle primarily civil litigation matters with an emphasis on trusts & estates. Andrew is one of the original founders of the UABA, He has also served the organization as its Chairman of the Board, and President.

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Gregory J. Popadiuk is a Senior Associate at the law firm Clausen Miller P.C. where he defends bodily injury and property damage claims brought against commercial property owners, tenants, management companies, managing agents, private homeowners, general contractors and various subcontractors. Mr. Popadiuk's prior experience includes defending multiple utility companies in bodily injury cases relating to construction site, premises liability and automobile accidents. He also defended an independent investment banking and brokerage firm for In re: World Trade Center Disaster Site Litigation venued in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New

York. Mr. Popadiuk completed his undergraduate studies at Montgomery College where he earned an Associate of Arts degree and the University of Maryland, College Park where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree. He earned his Juris Doctor from the Touro College,

Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center. Prior to attending law school, he served as a Deputy Associate Director in the Office of Presidential Personnel at The White House. He is currently a member of the Brooklyn Bar Association and is admitted to practice law in New York and Connecticut.

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND FOREIGN POLICY

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Victor Rud has more than thirty-five years' experience as an international attorney. Before Ukrainian independence, he was co-counsel, in the West, for members of the Ukrainian Helsinki Accords Watch Group, and for other dissidents in Ukraine. He was also counsel to the US Public Member to the Helsinki Accords Review Conference in Madrid. Mr. Rud is a founder and past Chairman, Board of Governors, of the Ukrainian American Bar Association, and presently is the Chairman of its Committee on International Affairs and Foreign Policy. He is an honors graduate of Harvard College and Duke Law School. His most recent commentaries have been carried by The

Atlantic Council, The Kyiv Post, and Forbes.

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Myroslaw Smorodsky has been involved since 1968 in many diverse areas of the law ranging from criminal defense, to international transactional and litigation matters, to massive class actions involving Nazi Era Slave/Forced Labor claims resulting in billion-dollar settlements. Over the years, he has also represented such diverse clients as soviet political prisoners in the 70's and 80's to acting as legal adviser to the Ukrainian Mission to the UN, the Ukrainian Consulate in New York and to the Ukrainian Embassy after Ukraine declared independence. In 1980, he was appointed by President Carter as a Public Member of the American Delegation to the Madrid Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and from 2001 to 2006 he

was advisor to the United Nations International Organization for Migration (IOM) on issues relating to distribution of compensation to slave/forced labor victims of Nazi Era war crimes. His practice has evolved to and is now restricted to matters that are of an international character or are of special interest. Myroslaw is one of the original founders of the UABA, and is immediate past Chairman of the Board of Governors as well as the organization's webmaster. He has also previously served the organization as its Chairman of the Board, and was its President for two separate terms during the UABA's 40-year history