

BARRISTER'S BEST

lawyers everywhere nightmares, but Ramirez-Eaves made sure her Boulder-based medical tech company was ready for it. She even took time to earn a CIPP/E certification and become an expert on European cybersecurity regs, herself.

BEST APPELLATE LAWYER

People's Choice: Sean Connelly, Connelly Law

At Law Week, we've grown accustomed to seeing Connelly's name just about every time the Colorado Supreme Court or Court of Appeals releases a new batch of opinions. And for good reason: Connelly, a former Colorado Court of Appeals judge, has recently been on the winning side of arguments ranging from juvenile justice to allegations of a law firm committing fraud in a land deal.

Barrister's Choice: Anne Gill, Gill & Ledbetter

It's no wonder Gill is one of Colorado's most skilled appellate lawyers: She spent 12 years on the "inside," working as a staff attorney for the Colorado Court of Appeals. Indeed, that long stint in the office has served Gill well; in recent years she's successfully handled appeals on a whole host of matters ranging from family law to deeds and easements to probate litigation.

BEST IP LAWYER

People's Choice: Ben Fernandez, WilmerHale

Fernandez is making a repeat appearance on our Barrister's Best list after being selected for the People's Choice for Best IP Lawyer in 2017 as well. Fernandez's work includes experience in most areas of patent work as well as in a number of industries. Add in his work with ProBoPat Colorado, which helps provide pro bono patent work for low-income inventors, it's no surprise he's so popular in the patent world.

Barrister's Choice: Gene Bernard, Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton

We're probably not concealing our preferences too much with making Bernard our Barrister's pick for Best IP lawyer. Bernard is a favorite expert

source for Law Week both for his own work as well as for his ability to provide analysis on other major IP issues.

BEST IP LITIGATOR

People's Choice: Natalie Hanlon-Leh, WilmerHale

Since coming onto the Denver scene several years ago, WilmerHale has made a name as a powerhouse IP firm. And as co-partner-in-charge and a renowned IP litigator, it sure seems like Hanlon-Leh has something to do with that. One of the many votes cast

for Hanlon-Leh was "not even close" by a reader from Colorado.

Barrister's Choice: Bruce Montoya, Messner Reeves

It didn't take long for Montoya to make a name for himself as an intellectual property lawyer. He has spent the last several years in a

BEST EMPLOYMENT LAWYER – PLAINTIFFS

People's Choice: Ogborn & Gere

Wire is an expert in a rather specialized area of employment issues — corporate whistleblowing. His success at the 10th Circuit this year representing a pharma company's ousted exec in *Genberg v. Porter* cemented his reputation. If you see something, say something. And if it doesn't go well, call Clay Wire.

Barrister's Choice: Qusair Mohamedbhai, Rathod Mohamedbhai

While he's best known for his excessive force cases against police, Mohamedbhai is also a top-notch advocate for employees. His work with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission resulted in a \$1.5 million settlement last month for Somali-American workers at a Cargill meat packing plant over religious discrimination claims.

BEST EMPLOYMENT LAWYER – DEFENDANTS

People's Choice: Todd Fredrickson, Fisher Phillips

We've lost count how many years

Barrister's Best has recognized Fredrickson, who's known for his well-rounded expertise and continues to pull in reader votes. From traditional labor issues to wage-and-hour disputes to discrimination claims, his expertise covers almost all the bases for employers.

Barrister's Choice: Amy Miletich, Miletich PC

Miletich is a busy litigator who has a sharp eye for the big-picture trends in anti-discrimination enforcement and other employment issues. That

Barrister's Choice: Jim Leventhal, Leventhal & Puga

Even after what he's accomplished in more than four decades of med mal litigation, Leventhal doesn't seem to be slowing down. He's still plying his courtroom craft to devastating effect in several trials a year. Last year a Kentucky jury awarded his client \$8 million for injuries stemming from an undiagnosed aneurysm.

new mission: seeking better treatment of detainees with disabilities in immigrant detention centers.

Barrister's Choice: Steven Earl, Apex Disability Law

This Burg Simpson alum has carved out a thriving practice in the niche of Social Security disability law, helping thousands of clients with their claims. Claiming SSD benefits can be a mystifying process, but Earl has a rock-solid reputation for knowing it inside and out.

BEST PERSONAL INJURY LAWYER

People's Choice: Jim Chalot, Chalot Law

Chalot is a force to be reckoned with in a variety of serious injury suits, but readers still know him well for his work for plaintiffs who've been hurt on the slopes. Recently his firm negotiated a settlement of more than \$300,000 in June for a skier's leg injury and a \$1.5 million settlement last September from a high-speed skier-snowboarder collision.

Barrister's Choice: David Woodruff, Denver Trial Lawyers

Woodruff leverages his knowledge of "the other side." He has doctors in his family and used to defend doctors and hospitals before switching over to representing plaintiffs in medical malpractice claims. Since then his case results have shown up in "top verdict" lists year after year, including a \$7 million verdict last summer in a birth injury case.

BEST MEDICAL MALPRACTICE LAWYER – PLAINTIFFS

People's Choice: Stephen Justino, Boesen Law

Readers are recognizing Justino this year for med mal, but his work for plaintiffs in other types of injury cases lately have turned heads. In January, he obtained a million-dollar settlement in a Federal Tort Claims Act case for a delivery truck driver who suffered injuries at an Air Force base. Justino also sued Anadarko and Noble Energy in connection with the deadly Firestone house explosion last year.

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BEST MEDICAL MALPRACTICE LAWYER – DEFENDANTS

People's Choice: Kevin Kuhn, Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell

It's no wonder Kuhn comes to readers' minds when we ask them to name a top med mal defender. Best Lawyers just named him a Lawyer of the Year in Medical Malpractice Defense — for the third time. Even so, his 135-plus trials and regular speaking engagements have already cemented his reputation as one of the health care community's most skilled advocates.

Barrister's Choice: Bruce Montoya, Messner Reeves

Montoya's community involve-