



Pittsburgh Golden Triangle

Diverse Pittsburgh

Focusing on the Legal Profession

Lourdes Sanchez Ridge Serves as Senior Counsel at Thorpe, Reed & Armstrong



Lourdes Sanchez Ridge

Lourdes Sanchez Ridge's law practice includes commercial litigation with a strong focus on white collar defense. She has handled domestic and international fraud litigations. Prior to joining Thorpe Reed & Armstrong, Lourdes served as an Assistant United States Attorney in Washington, D.C. and an Assistant State Attorney in Miami, Florida.

During her career as a prosecutor, she tried over 45 jury trials and conducted over 100 grand jury investigations. Since moving to Pittsburgh, she has engaged in the general practice of law, including the representation of foreign nationals.

Lourdes is the President of the Pittsburgh Metropolitan Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce which is a non-profit organization whose goals are to promote and aid Hispanic businesses to succeed as well as provide a link between corporate America and the Hispanic community in Southwestern Pennsylvania. She also played a significant role in the formation of the Hispanic Bar Committee of the Allegheny County Bar Association. A graduate of the University of Florida School of Law, Lourdes is fluent in Spanish.

Lourdes was a former Chairperson, Familylinks, Former Commissioner, Pennsylvania's Governor's Commission for Latino Affairs, Former Member, Holy Family Courage House Award Committee, and Former Board Member, Shuman Juvenile Detention Center.

Professional / Civic Activities

President, Pittsburgh Metropolitan Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Committee for Governor's Conference on Women

Committee Member, Women Economic Development Outreach

Upper St. Clair Odyssey of the Mind Coordinator

Graduate, Leadership Pittsburgh

Mission Statement

*Gene Harris, J.D.
Diversity Coordinator –
Allegheny County Bar Association*



“Pittsburgh is re-inventing itself.”

It is our mission to place the spotlight on successful women and minority attorneys from law firms, corporations and government agencies as a way of making people aware of some of the rising stars in the legal community. Through the efforts of the Allegheny County Bar Association (ACBA) to promote diversity, we have been able to become aware of these outstanding individuals.

Pittsburgh is re-inventing itself in many ways that have attracted young professionals in business, government and law to the region. As we enter our third year of activity under The Allegheny County Bar Association’s Diversity Initiative, it is evident that young professionals continue to find Pittsburgh a viable, competitive employment option. Last year the ACBA offered to assist the Homer S. Brown Law Association, the Hispanic Bar Committee and the Asian Bar Committee by providing administrative support and regular meeting space. By assisting these minority law associations, the ACBA helped them bolster their effectiveness and service to their members and the community.

In this issue we feature six successful women and minority attorneys who are active members of the law associations that have been helped through the efforts of the ACBA. These attorneys are making a difference in the Pittsburgh legal community. Each attorney has decided upon Pittsburgh as a place to live, grow their practice and be successful.

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Kathy Bissoon

Cohen & Griggs’ “Super Lawyer” Kathy Bissoon Earns Multiple Honors and Awards

A Director in the Labor & Employment Group at Cohen & Griggs, Kathy Bissoon concentrates her practice on employment litigation and compliance counseling, representing clients in an array of industries ranging from higher education to heavy manufacturing. A graduate of Harvard University Law School, she has first-chair jury trial experience in addition to extensive pretrial litigation experience. Prior to joining Cohen & Grigsby, Kathy was a partner and the former firm-wide head of Employment Group at the law firm of Reed Smith LLP. She also served as Reed Smith's Director of Diversity for several years earning accolades for her work in this area. Her awards/honors include:

- Listed in The Best Lawyers in America (multiple years)
- Named a "Pennsylvania Super Lawyer" by Philadelphia Magazine (multiple years)
- Listed in Chambers USA America's Leading Lawyers (multiple years)
- Recognized as one of the top 50 lawyers in Pennsylvania under the age of 40
- Recognized for her contributions to diversity in the legal profession with a Multicultural Prism Award from Minorities in Business Magazine (2006)

Korry Greene Focuses on Product Liability & General Civil Litigation for Eckert Seamans

Korry Alden Greene is a Member in the Litigation Section and Appellate Practice Division of Eckert Seamans Law Firm. A graduate of Duquesne University School of Law, his current practice focuses on product liability and general civil litigation, as well as the appellate process. In the past, Korry's practice also included criminal law, family law, medical malpractice (24 cases tried to verdict), personal injury and toxic tort litigation. He has argued several times before the Superior Court of Pennsylvania.

Korry has also served as a lecturer for various continuing legal education and numerous Allegheny County Bar Association seminars. He is also an adjunct professor for trial tactics at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, a position he has held since 2001. Korry was inducted as a fellow into the Allegheny County Academy of Trial Lawyers. He was the first African-American recipient of the Allegheny County Bar Association's Outstanding Young Lawyer Award in 1996 and he has also received the Rotary International "Service Above Self" Award in 2003. In 1996, in recognition for his community service by then State Senator Melissa Hart, Korry was nominated for and received a Pennsylvania State Senate Congratulatory Proclamation.



Korry Greene

Membership Affiliations

International Association of Defense Counsel

National Bar Association

Defense Research Institute

Pennsylvania Bar Association

Homer S. Brown Law Association

Allegheny County Bar Association

Allegheny Technologies' Alka Patel Recognized for Technical Excellence, Academic and Professional Achievement

Alka Patel is Intellectual Property Counsel at Allegheny Technologies. Alka received a Society of Women Engineers (SWE) 2006 Distinguished New Engineer Award. The award, which is given for outstanding technical performance during the first 10 years of a woman's engineering career, recognized Patel for her technical excellence, academic and professional achievement, and civic participation in support of the SWE mission.



Alka Patel

Patel concentrates her law practice in intellectual property matters, including patent prosecution. Her technology practice includes an array of materials science, chemical, medical, mechanical, and business method fields. The *Legal Intelligencer* and *Pennsylvania Law Weekly* recently named Patel one of 25 Women on the Verge (of greater accomplishments and increased visibility in Pennsylvania) in their annual Women in the Profession supplement. In 2004, the *Pittsburgh Business Times* named her one of the Pittsburgh area's top 50 Fast Trackers under the age of 45.



K & L Gates' Eric Cottle Successful in Pittsburgh

A senior associate with Kirkpatrick and Lockhart Gates, Eric Cottle's areas of practice include general corporate, commercial and contract litigation. A graduate of Duquesne University School of Law, Eric has litigation experience in both federal and state courts representing corporations and individuals in the defense and prosecution of claims.

Prior to joining K&L Gates, Eric was an associate at a Pittsburgh law firm where he represented hospitals, corporate and municipal clients in areas of civil rights, medical malpractice, products liability, environmental, and toxic torts/asbestos defense.

Professional Civic Activities

- Allegheny County Bar Association Board of Governors – Elected, 2002 - present
- Pennsylvania Bar Association Zone 12 Representative
- Homer S. Brown Law Association
- Pennsylvania Bar Association

Jennifer Andrade

Jennifer Andrade is an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania. Jennifer practices in the Office's Civil Division where she represents the U.S. Government in employment, federal tort claims and prisoner matters. Prior to this position, she was employed by Sherrard, German & Kelly's Litigation Services Group. Her practice included business, commercial and employment litigation matters in federal and state court. Jennifer also served as a law clerk to the Honorable Ila Jeanne Sensenich of the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania for two years.



Jennifer Andrade

Professional and Community Activities

- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Pennsylvania Bar Association
- Member, Allegheny County Bar Association
- Member, Hispanic Attorneys Committee of the Allegheny County Bar Association
- Member, Federal Bar Association
- Active Member, Junior League of Pittsburgh
- Member, Pittsburgh Metropolitan Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce