



LESLIE D. CORWIN, ESQ.

Commerical, Dissolutions, Employment, Entertainment, Finance

Leslie Corwin is a successful and well-respected attorney whose practice focuses primarily on mergers and acquisitions, liquidations, dissolutions and bankruptcies. As one of the nation's foremost authorities in business divorce disputes, he has negotiated hundreds of cases on behalf of the principals, partners and senior executives for many of the country's leading investment banks and private equity firms, international and national law firms, accounting firms, broker-dealers, hedge funds and real estate developers. He has deep experience with the full range of valuation, accounting and ethical issues that typically arise in business disputes (both nationally and internationally). Further, he has litigated disputes in the emerging field of litigation funding.

Mr. Corwin has played a critical role in constructing and unwinding some of the legal profession's largest law firms. He has handled the mergers of numerous firms and advised on multiple dissolutions including an international firm that once had more than 730 attorneys across 15 offices – and whose dissolution plan was sustained by the California Supreme Court. Mr. Corwin has also litigated issues of first impression. In the 1990's, his litigation of the seminal *Dawson v. White & Case* matter led New York State to pass legislation allowing for the sale of legal practices. The book entitled *Law Firm Partnership Agreements*, which he co-authored, remains the definitive treatise on the subject.

As a neutral, Mr. Corwin draws upon his years of experience when negotiating business transactions and agreements and mediating or arbitrating in the private ADR forum, bringing to resolution even the most complex financial and interpersonal conflicts. Additionally, he has handled, counseled and supervised numerous complex disputes and lawsuits throughout the United States that include issues relating to finance, real estate, securities, entertainment, employment law, ERISA, corporate management agreements, franchise acquisition, legal fees, licensing, partnerships, professional liability and disciplinary proceedings, contracts, legal and ethical responsibilities of corporate board members, director and officer liability, errors and omissions and breach of fiduciary duty.

Mr. Corwin is well-respected and highly regarded throughout the legal and business communities and is known for his substantive knowledge and professionalism. In addition to his role as an arbitrator and mediator with NAM, he is Of Counsel to a prestigious AMLaw 100 law firm.

He is a member of the American Law Institute, a member of the Committee on Character and Fitness for the Supreme Court of the State of New York, First Judicial Department and serves on multiple other court committees. In 2019, Mr. Corwin was honored with a *Lifetime Achievement Award* by the New York Law Journal which recognizes outstanding legal professionals who have made a significant impact on the practice of law. He was named to The American Lawyer's 2021 Inaugural List of Northeast Trailblazers and also named as one of the New York Law Journal's 2019 Inaugural List of New York Trailblazers. He is a frequent analyst on CNN, CNBC, and Fox television as well as for The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times. He also writes extensively for law journals and leading industry publications and has lectured for the judiciary, bar, legal associations and law schools, industry organizations and Harvard Business School.

In 2017, Mr. Corwin was invited to attend the annual Aspen Institute's Justice & Society Seminar, an annual invitation-only seminar co-founded by the late Supreme Court Justice, Harry A. Blackmun. The Seminar brings together a diverse group of lifelong learners to explore and examine what justice means and how a just society should structure its legal, judicial, and political institutions. Mr. Corwin's seminar was led by Robert Post, Dean of Yale Law School and Brett Kavanaugh, now a Justice of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Corwin is available to arbitrate and mediate business disputes throughout the United States.

AREAS of EXPERIENCE

- Bankruptcy
- Dissolutions
- Employment
- Entertainment
- ERISA
- Finance
- Liquidations
- Merger and Acquisitions
- Partnership Law
- Professional Liability
- Real Estate
- Securities

LECTURES and PUBLICATIONS

- Co-Author, *Law Firm Partnership Agreements*, Law Journal Seminars-Press, 1998
- Author, *Response to Loyalty in the Firm: A Statement of General Principles on the Duties of Partners Withdrawing from Law Firms*, 55 Wash. & Lee L. Rev. 1055, 1998
- Co-Author, *What Baggage Can Withdraw Law Partner Carry Out the Revolving Door?* Rhode Island Bar Journal, 2001
- Lecturer, New York State Bar Association Commercial Litigation Academy, 2017, 2019
- Featured, *All-Star Acquisitions: The 25 Biggest Lateral Moves of 2018*, The American Lawyers, 2019
- Quoted, *Beverly Hills Firm Lures Blank Rome Partner Duo to Expand in New York*, New York Law Journal, 2018
- Quoted, *Once Storied Sedgwick Files for Bankruptcy as Wind-Down Fails*, The American Lawyer, 2018
- Quoted, *Battle Over Howrey Collapse on D.C. Court's Doorstep*, Bloomberg Law, 2018
- Quoted, *As Law Firms Change Their Pension Plans, Will Retiring Partners Shoulder the Risk?*, The American Lawyer, 2020
- Quoted, *Partner Pay Cuts Could Reach Richest Firms if Recovery Drags*, Bloomberg Law, 2020

HONORS and AWARDS

- Named to the American Lawyer's Inaugural List of Northeast Trailblazers, 2021
- Honored, Lifetime Achievement Award, New York Law Journal, 2019
- Named to The New York Law Journal's Inaugural List of New York Trailblazers, 2019
- Selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers of America, Commercial Litigation, 2005 – Present
- Selected for inclusion in the New York Metro Super Lawyers, 2006 – 2008, 2010 – 2020
- Elected to Who's Who Hall of Fame in the Field of Law, WC Mepham High School Alumni Association, 2020
- AV Preeminent Peer Review rated by Martindale-Hubbell
- Named *Legal Elite* in Litigation, Avenue Magazine, 2011 – 2012
- Listed, *Appellate Practice Group of the Year*, Law 360, 2011
- Listed in *Who's Who* in American Law
- Recommended in PLC *Which Lawyer?*, 2009

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

- Of Counsel, Duane Morris, Present
- Managing Partner, Eisner LLP, New York office LLP, 2018 – 2021
- Partner, Blank Rome, New York office, 2014 – 2018
- Principal Shareholder, Greenberg Traurig, LLP, New York office, 1998 – 2014
- Founding Partner, Morrison Cohen Singer & Weinstein, New York office, 1984 – 1998
- Partner, Lans Feinberg & Cohen, New York office, 1979 –1984

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES and ADMISSIONS

- New York State Bar, 1974
- Supreme Court of the United States
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
- U.S District Court for the Southern District of New York
- U.S District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- U.S District Court for the District of Colorado

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS and ASSOCIATIONS

- Member, American Law Institute
- Committee on Character and Fitness, Supreme Court of the State of New York, First Judicial Department
- Member, American Bar Association
-Section of Business Law
- Fellow, American Bar Foundation

- Member, Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers
- Member, Association of the Bar of the City of New York
- Board of Directors, Israel Tennis & Education Centers Foundation
- Independent Judicial Screen Committee, Supreme Court of New York County
- Justice Circle, Aspen Institute
- Law Advisory Committee, Fordham University School of Law
- Fellow, New York Bar Foundation
- New York State Bar Association
- Task Force of the New York State Unified Court System's Pro Bono Scholars Program, provides law students with the opportunity to dedicate their last semester of law school to performing full-time pro bono service for the poor

EDUCATION

- Fordham University, School of Law, J.D., 1973
- Brown University, B.A., 1969