



Michele L. Lorbieski

mlorbieski@lewiswagner.com
Tel: 317.922.2842

Legal Assistant: Sarah Ullrich
Tel: 317.318.0643 | sullrich@lewiswagner.com

Michele is a meticulous advocate who never shrinks from a challenge, representing clients in a dynamic mix of real-world issues that need to be solved quickly and efficiently. For Michele, success is measured by making a difference for her clients before and after litigation commences.

Practice Areas

Alternative Dispute Resolution
Business Litigation
Estate Planning & Administration
Estates, Trusts & Guardianships

Biography

Michele is a seasoned trial lawyer who represents individuals in probate litigation, trust litigation, guardianships, and small businesses in a variety of disputes. Raised in a modest home, Michele learned the value of hard work at an early age. That steely determination served her well as she worked full-time while attending Georgetown, where she graduated with honors. She brings that same grit and focus to every case. Michele focuses her practice on identifying the most efficient path to the ideal resolution. She is direct, organized, and prides herself on open and transparent communication. She is also deeply invested in the future of Indiana. She commits her time to working with families, business, and community nonprofits, focused on improving children's lives. Michele is a native of San Antonio, Texas. She first came to Indiana as an undergraduate student at DePauw. When she's not at her desk, she spends as much time as possible outside exploring nature. She was even featured in a documentary short, "Live Adventurously," profiling women and the great outdoors.

Accolades, Affiliations and Activities

- California State Bar Association
- Central Indiana Women's Business Center – Advisory Council, 2016-2020
- Courageous Hearts Adoption – Board of Directors, 2019-present
- DNK Presents – Advisory Board, 2018-2019
- Girl Scouts – Troop Leader, 2018-2019
- Indianapolis Bar Association and Foundation
 - Estate Planning and Administration Section – Vice-President, 2023
 - Foundation Board, 2023
 - Chair Diversity Job Fair, 2016
 - Leadership Development Academy Class V, 2016
 - Bar Leader Series Class VIII, 2010
- *Indiana Super Lawyers*
 - Super Lawyers, 2018-2025
 - Rising Stars, 2012-2016
- Indiana State Bar Association – Community Service Award, 2016
- Indy Chamber – Business Ownership Initiative Board of Directors, 2019-2022
- Junior Achievement of Central Indiana – Indy's Best and Brightest Finalist-Law, 2017
- Kappa Alpha Theta, 1996-present
- Kids' Voice of Indiana – Guardian Ad Litem, 2016-present
- Midtown Indianapolis, Inc. – Board of Directors, 2019-2021
- Sagamore Inn of Court Barrister, 2022-present
- Starfish Initiative – Mentor, Board of Directors, 2010-2018
- Teachers' Treasures – Board of Directors, 2018-2020
- *The Indiana Lawyer* Leadership in Law Awards – Up and Coming Lawyer, 2016

Publications and Presentations

- "Tips for Drafting Estate Planning Documents from the Perspective of Litigators and Fiduciaries," Indianapolis Bar Association, 2022.
- "Authenticating and Admitting Evidence: Start to Finish," *National Business Institute*, 2019.
- "Sophisticated Deposition Strategies," *NBI*, 2019.
- "Civil Trial from Start to Finish," *NBI*, 2018.
- "Expert Witnesses: Using Indiana Court Rules to Your Advantage," *NBI*, 2017.
- "How to Get Your Social Media, Email and Text Evidence Admitted," *NBI*, 2017.
- "What to Expect When You Go To Court," Indianapolis Bar Association, 2016.
- "Litigating Closely Held Business Disputes: Breach of Fiduciary Duty, Breach of Contract & Shareholder Oppression," *Strafford Publications*, 2015.
- "Case Management Strategies," Indianapolis Bar Association 2014.

Selected Cases and Representation

Michele's experience with probate and trust litigation includes claims filed in probate administrations, will and trust contests, breach of fiduciary claims, emergency and permanent guardianship proceedings, and accounting requests to fiduciaries serving as power of attorney or trustee. She also leverages extensive experience in business litigation, including lawsuits involving breach of contract issues, director and officer liability claims, closely held business disputes, collection issues, and covenants not to compete.

Education and Bar Admissions

- DePauw University, B.A., 1999
- Georgetown University Law Center, J.D., *cum laude*, 2006
- Supreme Court of Indiana, 2009
- State of California, 2006
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Central District of California
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Indiana
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Indiana