

## Benesch Launches Its New Website

Benesch is pleased to announce that it has launched a new firm website at [www.beneschlaw.com](http://www.beneschlaw.com). The site features helpful enhancements for clients and other visitors seeking information about Benesch, including:

- Contemporary, single-page home page navigation, showcasing client experience
- Simplified site search, including type-ahead functionality
- Easier access to firm and attorney experience through seamless integration throughout the site
- Access to client bulletins, blogs and other social media

"We revamped our firm website to ensure that our clients, lawyers and the general public have easy access to firm information, including past experience and timely information in connection with all of our practice and industry groups," said [Ira C. Kaplan](#), Benesch's Managing Partner. "We are committed to being on the cutting edge of law firm technology and client service, and our new user-friendly website confirms our commitment."

Benesch partnered closely with Chicago-based [One North Interactive](#) to conceive and develop the site. For both teams, the focus was on providing the very best client experience possible, while also taking advantage of new technologies.

"The newly launched [Beneschlaw.com](http://Beneschlaw.com) represents what is possible when creative, user experience and technology disciplines work together with a forward-thinking firm," notes John Simpson, CEO & Founder of One North Interactive. "One North Interactive is particularly proud of the bold, contemporary design and thoughtful user experience. We believe the site is a true reflection of the dynamic nature of the firm today."

## Grams Joins Benesch as Partner-in-Charge of Shanghai Office



Richard Grams

[Richard Grams](#) joined Benesch as Partner-in-Charge of the firm's Shanghai office. He will be practicing in the firm's [Corporate & Securities](#) Practice Group and will serve as Co-Chair of the [China](#) Practice.

As a longtime resident of Hong Kong and Mainland China with many years of experience advising senior management, business owners and private equity funds, Mr. Grams understands the needs and challenges of foreign businesses operating in China today.

Mr. Grams routinely advises local and international clients on cross-border investments, mergers and acquisitions and reorganizations in China and Hong Kong across a range of industries, including distribution and retail, aerospace, health care, specialty chemicals, franchising and financial services. He is also recognized as having significant experience with corporate finance, especially private equity financings of investee companies; franchising and IP licensing; and matters involving insolvency, employment, anticorruption and internal forensic/fraud investigations. Over the years, Richard has been instrumental in establishing more than 200 corporate operations in China.

Mr. Grams is licensed to practice law in Hong Kong and England and is fluent in Mandarin Chinese and English. Richard received his B.A. in Canada (from the University of Saskatchewan) before relocating to Hong Kong in 1987. He received his LL.B. (Honors, First Class) in 1998 and a Certificate of Laws in 1999 all from the University of Hong Kong. Additionally, Mr. Grams attended the Judge Business School's Partner Development Programme at Cambridge University.

## Benesch Hires Leading IP Partner Michael D. Stovsky



Michael D. Stovsky

Benesch is pleased to announce that [Michael D. Stovsky](#) has joined the firm as Chair of the [Innovations, Information Technology and Intellectual Property \(3iP\)](#) Practice Group.

"The addition of Mike is a strategic step in the successful expansion of our 3iP Practice Group, a core practice for our firm," said Ira C. Kaplan, Benesch's Managing Partner. "We are thrilled to have found a leader with a strong IP and information technology transactions practice as well as a strong background in data security and privacy to help support our clients' needs."

Mr. Stovsky has extensive experience in handling a wide array of IP, technology, corporate and securities law matters. His concentration in the cutting-edge areas of technology transactions, licensing and transfer, IP protection, data security and privacy, Internet and e-Commerce serves numerous clients in both established and emerging businesses. His experience in corporate and securities law includes private equity transactions, mergers, acquisitions and divestitures of businesses; financing structures; and federal and state securities compliance.

An AV-Rated lawyer, Mr. Stovsky has been named to Best Lawyers in America<sup>®</sup>, Information Technology Law (Woodward/White, 2007–2013) and has been listed as an Ohio Super Lawyer<sup>®</sup> (2006).

Mr. Stovsky received his B.A. from Northwestern University and his J.D. from The University of Pennsylvania Law School.

## 2013 Pennsylvania and Indiana Super Lawyers® Announced

Benesch announces that eight attorneys have been named 2013 Indiana Super Lawyers®, three attorneys have been named 2013 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers® and two attorneys have been named 2013 Indiana Super Lawyers® Rising Stars.

Super Lawyers® rankings are determined through statewide nomination processes, peer review by practice area and independent research on candidates. The following Benesch attorneys were selected in their respective practice areas:

### Philadelphia Office

**Michael J. Barrie** – [Business Reorganization](#)

**Nicole D. Galli** – [Intellectual Property](#)

**Raymond H. Lemisch** – [Business Reorganization](#)

### Indianapolis Office

**Jonathan B. Abels** – [Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights](#)

**Jeffrey A. Abrams** – [Real Estate](#)

**Wendy D. Brewer** – [Bankruptcy & Creditor/ Debtor Rights](#)

**Samuel D. Hodson** – [Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights](#)

**David H. Kleiman** – [Bankruptcy & Creditor/ Debtor Rights](#)

**Andi M. Metzel** – [Civil Litigation Defense](#)

**James H. Schwarz** – [Real Estate](#)

**Judy L. Woods** – [Business Litigation](#)

Super Lawyers® Rising Stars are also determined through statewide nomination processes, peer review by practice area and independent research on candidates. Rising Stars recognizes lawyers practicing less than 10 years or who are under age 40. The following Benesch attorneys were selected in their respective practice areas:

### Indianapolis Office

**Raegan M. Gibson** – [Business Litigation](#)

**Stephanie S. Penninger** – [Employment Litigation – Defense](#)

## Building Our Bench Strength To Serve You Better Benesch is Pleased to Announce New Partners



**Matthew D. Gurbach**

**Matthew D. Gurbach** has been named a partner with Benesch's [Litigation Practice Group](#). He is experienced in litigating complex commercial and business disputes including shareholder controversies, covenants not to compete, trade secrets and breach of contract claims. Mr. Gurbach has represented clients as first-chair trial counsel in courtrooms throughout the State of Ohio. He has also appeared as lead counsel in numerous appellate courts and before the American Arbitration Association. Mr. Gurbach received his A.B., *magna cum laude*, from Youngstown State University and his J.D., with a concentration in Litigation, from Case Western Reserve University Law School. He works out of the firm's Cleveland office.



**Lisa M. Kimmel**

**Lisa M. Kimmel** has been named a partner with, and currently chairs, the firm's [Executive Compensation & Benefits Practice Group](#). She focuses her practice on tax, compliance and fiduciary issues relating to qualified and nonqualified retirement plans, executive compensation and deferred compensation plans, transactional work involving transition of benefits and plan mergers and transfers, and dispute resolution including Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and Department of Labor (DOL) controversies. Ms. Kimmel has more than 25 years of experience as a dedicated employee benefits attorney. Ms. Kimmel received her B.A. from Bucknell University and her J.D. from Case Western Reserve University Law School. She works out of the firm's Cleveland office.



**M. Casey Kucharson**

**M. Casey Kucharson** has been named a partner with Benesch's [Commercial Finance & Banking Practice Group](#) and the [Corporate & Securities Practice Group](#). He represents banks, other financial institutions and borrowers in secured and unsecured lending transactions. His experience includes structuring, documenting and negotiating various types of loan transactions, including asset-based transactions, health care transactions, subordinated debt placements, letters of credit and bond financings, syndications, venture capital transactions and other leveraged buyout transactions. Mr. Kucharson also counsels companies on day-to-day corporate matters. He received his B.S., *cum laude*, from Miami University and his J.D., *summa cum laude*, from The University of Akron School of Law. He works out of the firm's Cleveland office.



**Amanda M. Miller**

**Amanda M. Miller** has been named a partner with the firm's [Innovations, Information Technology and Intellectual Property \(3iP\) Practice Group](#). She represents clients in a range of intellectual property matters, particularly patent litigation, licensing and prosecution matters. She is experienced in preparing patent applications relating to pharmaceutical, chemical and mechanical inventions. Ms. Miller also has prepared patent-related opinions, such as freedom-to-operate and invalidity opinions, including those related to Abbreviated New Drug Applications (ANDA). Additionally, Ms. Miller has experience advising on patenting strategy and litigation avoidance/design-arounds, as well as supervising foreign patent prosecution. Ms. Miller received her B.S. from Capital University and her J.D., with honors, from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. She works out the firm's Cleveland office.



**Marty J. Sweterlitsch**

**Marty J. Sweterlitsch** has been named a partner with the firm's [Health Care Practice Group](#). She is also Chair of the firm's Not-for-Profit Team. Ms. Sweterlitsch's practice focuses on not-for-profit, administrative, health, state tax, and federal and state tax exemption law and lobbying. Significant areas of practice include creation, reorganization, mergers and consolidations, and ongoing advice to not-for-profit corporations, state and federal tax and tax exemption for not-for-profit organizations, and legal issues related to charitable solicitation and fundraising. She also has experience as borrower's counsel

## Motheral Elected to Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity of Ohio, Inc.

Benesch is pleased to announce that **T. Ted Motheral** has been elected to the 2013 Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity of Ohio, Inc. He will serve a two-year term beginning January 2013.

Habitat for Humanity of Ohio, Inc. is a not-for-profit, charitable, faith-based housing organization whose purpose is to assist the 64 Ohio Habitat for Humanity affiliates to build more affordable homes. Habitat for Humanity of Ohio, Inc. supports the 64 local Habitat offices by providing services related to advocacy, training and resource development. In Fiscal Year 2012, Habitat for Humanity of Ohio, Inc. affiliates partnered with 225 families through home ownership opportunities or home repairs. To date, Ohio Habitat for Humanity of Ohio, Inc. affiliates have provided over 4,000 homes in the state. To learn more, please visit <http://www.habitatohio.org>.

## The 2012 Annual First In Service Top Performer Award Winners

Connie Allen (IPC Supervisor – Cleveland) and Rebecca Walker (Legal Secretary – Indianapolis) are winners of the firm’s 2012 Annual First In Service Top Performer Award.



Connie Allen and Ira Kaplan

## Building Our Bench Strength To Serve You Better

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for not-for-profit entities doing tax-exempt financing. She has been involved over many years with legislative initiatives affecting the regulation, operation and taxation of not-for-profit entities, including changes to the charitable solicitation laws. Ms. Sweterlitsch received her B.A. from The Ohio State University and her J.D. from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. She works out of the firm’s Columbus office.



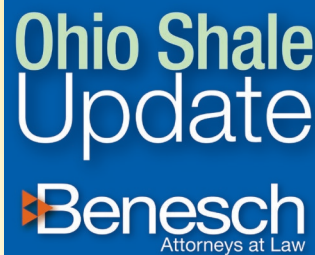
Jennifer M. Turk

**Jennifer M. Turk** has been named a partner with Benesch’s Litigation Practice Group. She focuses her practice primarily on employment litigation, counseling of long-term care facilities, commercial litigation and insurance matters. She counsels employers regarding the policies contained in their employee handbooks as well as issues involving employee discharge and employee leave. Ms. Turk has experience with protection of trade secret information and the enforcement of non-competition agreements. She also counsels long-term care facilities regarding their resident admission practices and

procedures, collection issues and issues related to residents’ rights. Ms. Turk received her B.A. from Marquette University and her J.D. from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. She works out of the firm’s Columbus office.

## Crain’s Cleveland Business Shale Magazine

Benesch was the sponsor of Crain’s Cleveland Business’ first-ever shale publication, “Crain’s Shale.” which was published December 2012 and was distributed throughout the state of Ohio. The firm’s sponsorship of this publication was part of Benesch’s continuing effort to stay on the forefront of shale-related news. We continue to grow our Shale Oil & Gas Industry Team and counsel clients on the complex legal, business and regulatory issues relating to the nation’s fastest-growing energy source—shale oil and natural gas.



## Benesch Launches Shale Blog

Our Shale Oil & Gas Industry Team is pleased to launch the Ohio Shale Update blog, [www.ohioshaleupdate.com](http://www.ohioshaleupdate.com), through which we hope to provide readers with informative posts on this continually developing industry. We will be posting on the most timely shale industry moves, shale infrastructure, impact on economic

development, environmental and governmental issues and regulations as they relate to this exciting and constantly evolving topic.

## Benesch Has a New Look

Welcome to Benesch’s new look—a bolder, stronger logo with type that draws attention more prominently to our name.



Why the change? The logo refresh coincides with the celebration of our 75th anniversary in 2013. It’s a subtle yet highly visible way to convey that, just as our clients are adapting to technological, business and culture changes, we too are moving forward while staying true to our roots.



## Gurbach Named to March of Dimes Board

Benesch is pleased to announce that **Matthew D. Gurbach** has been named to the 2013 Board of Directors of the [Northeast Ohio Chapter of March of Dimes](#).

The [March of Dimes](#) is the leading not-for-profit organization for pregnancy and baby health and is celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2013. With chapters nationwide and through its premier event, March for Babies, the March of Dimes works to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. For the latest resources and information, visit [marchofdimes.com](http://marchofdimes.com).

## Plewacki Elected to Truckload Carriers Association Board of Directors for Fourth Consecutive Year

Benesch announces that **Richard A. Plewacki** has been elected to the Board of Directors of the [Truckload Carriers Association \(TCA\)](#) for the fourth straight year. He will serve a one-year term, which began March 3, 2013.

In addition to his role on TCA's Board of Directors, Mr. Plewacki is a member of TCA's Carrier/Shipper Relations Committee as well as the organization's Independent Contractor Policy & Practices Committee. He is also a member of American Transportation Research Institute's Research Advisory Committee and a member of the American Trucking Association's Independent Contractor Task Force.

TCA dedicates itself to representing the interests of truckload carriers. TCA members, along with hundreds of other leaders in the truckload carrier industry, work to ensure safe, high quality, reliable and efficient truckload transportation services.

## Sweterlitsch Named Recipient of 2013 Alvis House Founders Award

Benesch is excited to share that **Marty Sweterlitsch** has been named the recipient of the 2013 Alvis House Founders Award. She will be presented the award at Alvis House's 46th Annual Meeting on April 17 in Columbus. The Alvis House Founders Award, given by the organization's Board of Trustees, recognizes individuals who, in a manner of action or deed, have made a significant and lasting contribution to Alvis House. Ms. Sweterlitsch was selected for this award because of her ongoing, excellent work on behalf of Alvis House.

"We have relied on Marty's expertise on everything from Medicaid issues to zoning to resolving employment issues," says Denise M. Robinson, President & CEO of Alvis House. "I can't imagine where we'd be without her work on our behalf." Associate Vice President of Alvis House, Gloria Iannucci, adds, "We so appreciate everything Marty's done for us. She deserves to be recognized and honored as much as possible."

As noted on page 2, Ms. Sweterlitsch is a partner with the firm's Health Care Practice Group and Chair of the firm's Not-for-Profit Team.

[Alvis House](#), a Benesch client, operates a range of research-based residential and community reentry programs as well as an intermediate care facility, licensed beds and supported living programs for individuals with developmental disabilities. Each year, Alvis House provides direct services to more than 5,000 men, women, young adults and children, and impacts tens of thousands more. Learn more about Benesch's relationship with Alvis House at [www.beneschlaw.com/MyTeam](http://www.beneschlaw.com/MyTeam).

## Benesch Supports the American Heart Association's Go Red For Women®

This marks the 10th year of the American Heart Association's [Go Red For Women®](#) movement—10 years of fighting to save women's lives from heart disease. At Benesch, we are ready to rise to the challenge and make this year a turning point in the fight against heart disease. On February 1st, Benesch attorneys and staff each donated \$5 for a "jeans day" and wore red attire in support of the American Heart Association's Go Red For Women® movement. All proceeds went directly to the American Heart Association. The money raised will help fund lifesaving educational programs and the development of new treatments to fight heart disease.



Columbus Wears Red



Indianapolis Wears Red



## Benesch's First Annual Gallery Night

Our First Annual Gallery Night at the Columbus office was held on March 14th in support of the Columbus arts community and the [Cultural Arts Center](#). The art exhibition, silent auction and networking event was enjoyed by nearly 100 guests. We are pleased to be donating a portion of the proceeds to the Cultural Arts Center and would like to thank the 18 local artists who displayed their work and made this event possible.



## Benesch's Annual Harvest for Hunger Campaign



Benesch took a bite out of hunger this year with its annual [Harvest For Hunger Campaign](#). Benesch hosted new and exciting firm events to raise an astonishing \$11,000+ this year. The firm held events including three Friday jeans days, a hot and spicy Chili Cook-Off, PTO Day Raffle, a groovy Corks for a Cause Wine Tasting and last, but not least, a floor-by-floor Jar Contest where the lowest contributing floor will have an elected floor representative, in this case, partner [Stuart A. Laven, Jr.](#), hop into a bunny suit for a day.

## Benesch Supports Nationwide Children's Hospital at Rock-N-Bowl



In February, Benesch partners [John F. Stock](#) and [Ronald L. House](#), Columbus office manager Angela Vecchio and legal secretary Tracy Hughey laced up their ever-stylish bowling shoes and laid down strikes at [Nationwide Children's Hospital's](#) Rock-N-Bowl in Columbus. The funds raised went to support child abuse treatment and prevention programs at The Center for Family Safety and Healing.





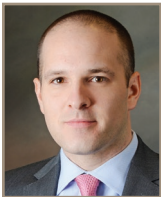
## New Attorneys

### Cleveland



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Michael Stovsky

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## Upcoming Events

### **EEOC Policy on Criminal Background Checks**

National Association of Professional Background Screeners Conference  
Peter N. Kirsanow

**April 16, 2013 | Arlington, VA**

### **An Analytical View of Time Capture: Benefits and Approaches to Improving this Important Function**

Ark Group's Business Intelligence & Analytics in the Legal Profession Conference  
Karen E. Anzuini

**April 18, 2013 | New York, NY**

### **Title & Survey Review Under Purchase Agreement**

Indiana Continuing Legal Education Forum – 2013 Title Insurance; Situations, Perspectives & Forms

Jeffrey A. Abrams

**April 18, 2013 | Indianapolis, IN**

### **Freight Intermediaries—Protecting Your Interests**

Annual Joint Conference of the Transportation & Logistics Council and the Transportation Loss Prevention & Security Association

Eric Larson Zalud

**April 22–24, 2013 | San Diego, CA**

### **Risk Management and Insurance**

Annual Joint Conference of the Transportation & Logistics Council and the Transportation Loss Prevention & Security Association

Martha J. Payne

**April 22–24, 2013 | San Diego, CA**

### **Transportation Attorneys Panel**

Annual Joint Conference of the Transportation & Logistics Council and the Transportation Loss Prevention & Security Association

Marc S. Blubaugh

**April 22, 2013 | San Diego, CA**

### **Lobbying and Advocacy Strategies for COAD (Corporation for Appalachian Development)**

Appalachian Leadership Academy

Marty J. Sweterlitsch

**April 23, 2013 | Columbus, OH**

### **Watch What You Say: Restraints on Lawyers' Speech**

Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association - 13th Annual Northern Ohio Employment & Labor Law Conference

Joseph N. Gross

**April 25, 2013 | Cleveland, OH**

### **Survey and Enforcement: Keeping Abreast of Changes**

Ohio Health Care Association's 2013 Annual Convention

Janet K. Feldkamp

**April 30, 2013 | Columbus, OH**

### **Contractual and Liability Issues Relating to Third-Party Transportation Intermediaries**

Eric Larson Zalud

Transportation Lawyers Association Annual Conference

**May 1–5, 2013 | Napa, CA**

### **Recent Developments in Tax Law Affecting Charitable Giving**

Northern Ohio Planned Giving Council - Planned Giving Day

Scott E. Swartz

**May 2, 2013 | Cleveland, OH**

### **Hot Topics: Jalapenos and Long Term Care**

AANAC's 2013 Annual Conference

Janet K. Feldkamp

**May 3, 2013 | San Antonio, TX**

### **Expert Witness Discovery Ohio State Bar Association**

John F. Stock

**May 8, 2013 | Cleveland, OH**

### **Hiring and Recruiting National Business Institute—Human Resource Law**

Mark R. Waterfill

**May 8, 2013 | Indianapolis, IN**

### **Second Annual Executive's Guide to Not-for-Profit Success**

Presented by Benesch and Blue & Co.

Martha J. Sweterlitsch and

Jessica N. Angney

RSVP by May 1, 2013 to [Annette Nugent](#)

**May 9, 2013 | Indianapolis, IN**

### **27th Annual Labor & Employment Conference**

Maynard A. Buck, Joseph N. Gross,

Lisa M. Kimmel, Peter N. Kirsanow,

Steven M. Moss, Patrick O. Peters,

Katie Tesner, Robert A. Zimmerman

[Register](#)

**May 15, 2013 | The City Club of Cleveland**

### **SBA Lending**

Somerset CPAs

Kiamesha-Sylvia G. Colom

**May 16, 2013 | Indianapolis, IN**



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