RWL | RIFKIN WEINER LIVINGSTON LLC

RWL Sports Law, Gaming and Facilities Group

"RWL's commercial awareness was most impressive. Our project involved the highest level of government and required exceptional business acumen. RWL was exceptional in addressing our issues and their level of responsiveness was very strong."

Partner, Gaming Enterprise and Facility

"The lawyers at Rifkin Weiner Livingston are outstanding. Not only are they thorough and dedicated to their clients' interests, but they find creative solutions to complex legal problems. They are counselors in the truest sense of the word."

Former Owner, Pimlico Race Course and Preakness Stakes

"...the members of their firm are outstanding attorneys. They practice law like professional chess players – blending the natural instincts of litigators with the talents of very sophisticated business lawyers."

Former President & CEO, Major League Baseball Club

"RWL's ability to handle complex and sophisticated matters is very strong. They are an exceptionally focused and innovative group and very knowledgeable in the business and operations of sports enterprises."

Principal Advisor to Minor League Baseball Club

"Time and again, I have been impressed by their deep dedication to their clients' interests and strategic vision. They represent their clients with professionalism, zealous advocacy and great skill."

Partner, AmJur 100 Law Firm

About RWL

With offices located in the state capital of Annapolis, Baltimore, and the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, RWL provides an important link to principal business, commercial and governmental centers throughout the country.

Since its founding in 1989, RWL and its many attorneys have created an impressive record of service in the public and private sectors. As one of the nation's first law firms to recognize that a client's legal issues can often be addressed through a comprehensive approach that may include all of the various branches of government, RWL has established itself in the areas of business and commercial transactions, administrative law, health care law, government relations, sports franchise law, procurement law, zoning and land use, and complex litigation.

Where law, government and business converge, and where public policy and public opinion intersect, RWL is there to assist – using our "team approach" to navigate through the maze of laws, regulations and governmental institutions to assist our clients in the authorization and funding of sports and gaming facilities.

RWL provides our clients with sound legal and practical business advice in courtrooms, boardrooms and governmental hearing rooms.

RWL and its attorneys have annually been included in a number prestigious law firm rating systems that rank outstanding lawyers and law firms who have achieved a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement, including top rankings in Chambers, Best Lawyers, Super Lawyers and Martindale-Hubbell.

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS

CANNABIS POLICY, ADMINISTRATIVE LAW AND LITIGATION

COMPLEX COMMERCIAL AND CIVIL LITIGATION

ELECTRONICALLY STORED INFORMATION (ESI)

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND LOBBYING

MEDIATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

NATIONAL PRACTICE DEVELOPMENT

SPORTS LAW, GAMING AND FACILITIES

STATE CONTRACTING, PROCUREMENT AND BID PROTESTS

WHITE COLLAR CRIMINAL DEFENSE AND INVESTIGATIONS

Sports Law, Gaming and Facilities

DECADES OF EXPERIENCE WITH THE SPORTS AND GAMING INDUSTRIES

For almost four decades, RWL has provided legal advice and counsel to professional sports teams, sports enterprises, regional sports networks, gaming and casino operators, and sports wagering enterprises. From facility authorization and funding to the development of a regional sports network to the approval and development of sports and gaming enterprises, RWL has been in the forefront of legal, administrative and regulatory issues in these important industries. Most recently, RWL was instrumental in the negotiations for a $450 million public/private partnership for the rebuilding of Pimlico Race Course and Laurel Park. RWL was also instrumental in the authorization and funding of the then Washington Redskins' FedEx field; the approval and development of Oriole Park at Camden Yards; the acquisition and development of the Baltimore Orioles' spring training facility in Sarasota, Florida; the formation and evolution of the Mid-Atlantic Sports Network (MASN), media and sponsorship agreements, facility security and ADA-related matters, and a wide variety of other legal issues. RWL has also consulted with other MLB franchises, recently including an MLB National League Team, with respect to lease extensions and facility improvements (presently subject to NDA). The firm has also provided consultative services to a prospective WNBA franchise, including funding and facility development (presently subject to NDA).

EXPERIENCED ADVICE AND COUNSEL

RWL's decades of legal experience help our clients succeed in a range of sports and gaming related actions, approvals and transactions, including:

- Professional sports association governance law
- Sports and gaming facilities and venues approvals, funding and development
- Media rights
- Sports broadcasting networks
- Sports-related transactions
- Governmental approvals, authorizations and assistance with legislation
- Sports and gaming facilities leases and land transactions
- Regulatory and administrative proceedings
- Sports entity financing
- Online lottery, instant ticket and monitor games
- Manufacturers of slot machines and other electronic gaming equipment
- Intellectual, trademark and copyright protection
- Intellectual property disputes
- Contract disputes
- Complex commercial disputes

Sports Law, Gaming and Facilities

NOTABLE REPRESENTATIONS

- Advised and represented Governor of Maryland and administration (before Maryland General Assembly and agencies) with respect to approval and funding for Oriole Park at Camden Yards.
- Provide legal and consultative services to an MLB National League Team with respect to lease extension and facilities improvements (presently subject to NDA).
- Provide legal and consultative services to prospective WNBA franchise with respect to league governance and facilities (presently subject to NDA).
- Represented then Washington Redskins on a variety of matters, including authorization and funding for FedEx Field.
- Led a negotiating team for the Maryland Jockey Club, The Stronach Group and the Preakness Stakes® for the authorization and legislative approval of a $400 million public/private partnership for the rebuilding of Pimlico Race Course and Laurel Park.
- Represented the Maryland Jockey Club and the Preakness Stakes® in negotiations with Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert with respect to doping allegations and restrictions on participation.
- Served as outside counsel to the Baltimore Orioles and the Mid-Atlantic Sports Network on a wide variety of matters, including media rights, sponsorship agreements, facilities development, ADA compliance, facilities security under SAFETY Act, financing and other transactions.
- Represented the Baltimore Orioles in negotiations with Major League Baseball concerning compensation for the Orioles in connection with the relocation of the Washington Nationals to Washington, D.C., including the formation and development of the Mid-Atlantic Sport Network.
- Defended professional sports franchise in pay television rights and contract dispute; case dismissed in favor of sport franchise.
- Negotiated the Baltimore Orioles' spring training stadium development authorization and funding with Sarasota City and County in Florida and matters related to the development of the Ed Smith Stadium and practice facilities.
- Represent MLB Club in lease extension and capital improvements negotiations with governmental counterparties.
- Provided advice and counsel to governmental entities with respect to NLF franchise (subject to NDA).
- Represents the Maryland Jockey Club, owners of the Preakness® Stakes and Pimlico Racecourse in a wide variety of commercial, regulatory and litigation matters.
- Advised in the transactions related to development of the Ripken Experience at Disney World.
- Represented Ripken Baseball and Tufton Professional Baseball.
- Represented Caesars' casino interests in securing a casino license for Horseshoe Casino and in regulatory and legislative matters since.
- Successfully defended casino interests against constitutional challenges.

Meet the Team



ALAN M. RIFKIN, ESQ.
Managing Partner and Chair of Sports Law, Gaming and Facilities Practice Group

- Managing Partner of RWL, which was founded in 1989 after serving as Counsel and Chief Legislative Officer to former Governor William Donald Schaefer and after previously serving in the same capacity to the Senate of Maryland.
- Well-recognized and Chambers rated commercial and business attorney who has represented many national and international corporations and institutions for over three decades. Current areas of practice include business and commercial transactions, complex civil and commercial litigation, sports franchise and media rights, class action suits, and false claims act cases.
- Led legal team's efforts to obtain authorization and funding for Oriole Park at Camden Yards. Widely credited with securing the funding, legislative approval and development plan, including the formation of the Maryland Stadium Authority.
- Led a negotiating team for the Maryland Jockey Club, The Stronach Group and the Preakness Stakes® for a $450 million public/private partnership for the rebuilding of Pimlico Race Course and Laurel Park
- Provides legal and consultative services to an MLB National League team with respect to lease extensions and facility improvements (presently subject to NDA).
- Provides legal and consultative services to a prospective WNBA franchise with respect to league governance and facilities (presently subject to NDA).
- Represented the Tufton Group (Ripken Enterprises) on various matters, including nation youth sports park facility development, facility improvements and funding matters.
- Served as outside counsel to various professional sports franchises and sports networks, including: the Baltimore Orioles, Mid-Atlantic Sports Network (MASN®), Maryland Jockey Club and the Preakness Stakes®, among others
- Represented the Baltimore Orioles in negotiations with Major League Baseball concerning compensation for the Orioles in connection with the relocation of the Washington Nationals to Washington, D.C.
- Negotiated the Baltimore Orioles' spring training stadium development authorization and funding with Sarasota City and County in Florida and matters related to the development of the Ed Smith Stadium and practice facilities.
- Provided advice and counsel to governmental entities with respect to NLF franchise (subject to NDA).
- Adjunct professor, "Sports and the Law", at the University of Maryland Carey School of Law.

Meet the Team



JAMIE EISENBERG KATZ, ESQ.
Partner and Chair of Business and Commercial Transactions Practice Group

- Chair of the Business and Commercial Transactions Practice Group.
- Represents a diverse client base handling legal matters involving corporate, contract and transactional law, sports law, commercial real estate acquisitions, sales and leases, and civil arbitration.
- As counsel to a major sports franchise and other sports and entertainment related enterprises, has handled transactional and contractual legal matters affecting all aspects of the sports and entertainment industry, such as: league compliance and team operational matters; radio and telecast broadcasting agreements; advertising and sponsorship agreements; stadium leases, stadium development, and commercial leases; concession agreements; event and facility agreements; vendor contracts; ticketing agreements; commercial financing arrangements; intellectual property in licensing agreements and trademark matters; employment and talent agreements.
- Advised in the transactions related to the development of the Ripken Experience at Disney World.
- Represents the Maryland Jockey Club, owners of the Preakness® Stakes and Pimlico Racecourse in a wide variety of commercial matters.
- Represents businesses and its owners across various industries on life-cycle issues, from the entity formation stage, navigation of operational arrangements and contracts during its growth, as well as owner “divorces.”
- Counsel to a consortium of rental car companies operating at the Consolidated Rental Car Facility located at Baltimore Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport for more than a decade.
- Represented a regional skilled nursing and rehabilitation company in the acquisition of more than a dozen skilled nursing facilities in the Mid-Atlantic region, as well as its acquisition financing and refinancing arrangements.

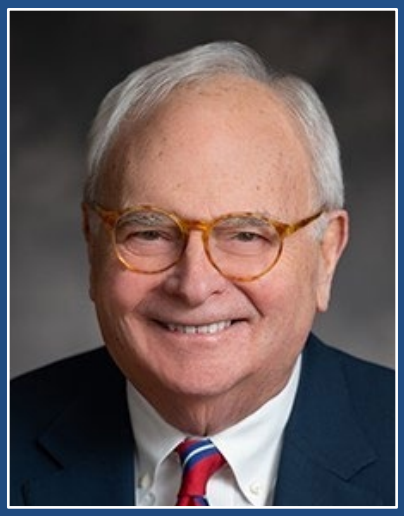
Meet the Team



MICHAEL V. JOHANSEN ESQ.
Administrative Partner

- Former staff counsel to Maryland Senate Budget and Taxation Committee handling matters related to state and local taxes, retirement, and agency budgets.
- Experienced lobbyist on health care delivery systems, health insurance, and health occupations, including managed care, hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, dental plans and pharmaceuticals.
- Team leader on multi-firm effort to preserve the Preakness Stakes in Maryland and to enact a statutory framework for a nearly $400 million capital redevelopment effort for Maryland's racetracks.
- Counsel for automotive industries including new automobile dealers and rental car agencies.
- Lead lobbyist on legislation to authorize transportation network companies.
- Experienced gaming lobbyist representing lottery, casino, racetrack and sports wagering interests.
- Procurement counsel assisting entities on RFPs, bids and other offers of goods, services and construction to state and local governments.
- Counsel clients on state and local ethics laws, gift laws, campaign contribution compliance, election laws, and lobbying rules.

Meet the Team



ARNOLD M. WEINER, ESQ.
Partner and Co-Chair of Complex Civil and Commercial Litigation Practice Group

- Experienced and highly regarded trial attorney and civil litigator, as well as Chair of the firm's White Collar Criminal Defense practice and Co-chair of the firm's Complex Civil and Commercial litigation practice.
- Represented the Baltimore Orioles with respect to telecast rights disputes related to ownership of telecast rights and to determination of telecast licensing fee.
- Primary counsel in several large business disputes that have generated hundreds of millions of dollars in settlements for his clients.
- Previously served as an Assistant United States Attorney and Assistant Attorney General for the state of Maryland, and as Principal at multiple prestigious Baltimore area law firms, including the Law Offices of Arnold M. Weiner, Weiner & Weltchek, and Weiner, Astrachan, Gunst, Hillman & Allen, P.C.
- Former Assistant United States Attorney and Assistant Attorney General for the State of Maryland. Lead defense attorney in the high-profile prosecutions of Maryland Governor Marvin Mandel, Congressman Edward Garmatz, and Baltimore Mayor Sheila A. Dixon, as well as many other notable criminal trials.
- Lead counsel in lengthy civil trials both as plaintiff's attorney and as defendant's attorney, in federal and state courts throughout the United States.
- Has taught courses in civil procedure, criminal procedure and trial practice and procedure at the University of Maryland School of Law.
- Listed in the Best Lawyers in America since 1983.
- Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers for over 30 years.
- Top Ten Maryland Super Lawyers.
- University of Maryland School of Law Distinguished Graduate Award (2019).
- Daily Record Icon Success and Leadership Award (2017),
- Daily Record Leadership in Law Award (2011).
- Baltimore Business Journal Power Twenty Award (2010).
- Featured in cover story of Super Lawyers Magazine (2007).

Meet the Team



M. CELESTE BRUCE, ESQ.
Partner and Co-Chair of Complex Civil and Commercial Litigation Practice Group

- Twenty-five years of experience in broad-based commercial and complex civil litigation in state and federal courts and before administrative and arbitral tribunals.
- Represented the Baltimore Orioles with respect to telecast rights disputes related to ownership of telecast rights and to determination of telecast licensing fee.
- Experienced in litigating commercial, business, stockholder and partnership disputes and dissolutions, land use and zoning matters, contract disputes, fraud and fraudulent transfers, commercial bankruptcy adversarial proceedings, preferences disputes, derivative claims, employment disputes, appeals and appellate practice, and regulatory and agency adversary proceedings.
- Experienced in representation of clients on matters involving sports franchise and media rights law, business torts, corporation and partnership dissolution, corporate governance, election law and referendum issues, franchise disputes, asset purchase agreements and sales, stock purchase and sale agreements, business entity creation and dissolution, and catastrophic injury and medical malpractice.
- Member of the Maryland State Bar Association, District of Columbia Bar Association, Federal Bar Association, Montgomery County Bar Association, Women's Bar Associations of Maryland and Montgomery County, and American Bar Association.
- Immediate past president of the Federal Bar Association, Maryland Chapter and instrumental in creating and organizing the Maryland Chapter's Women in the Law Program.
- Primary Counsel in successfully defending multi-million dollar lease termination dispute involving an off-track betting facility.
- Primary Counsel representing RSN in contract dispute with auditor.
- Primary Counsel in successfully litigating breach of employment agreements and stockholder purchase agreement on behalf of medical service provider corporation.
- Primary Counsel in successfully defending derivative and other shareholder claims on behalf of construction company, resulting in termination of claimant shareholders' rights.
- Primary Counsel in successfully defending shareholder and partnership claims against President of a software company.
- Primary Counsel in successfully litigating claims against neighboring landowner for contamination of client's site.

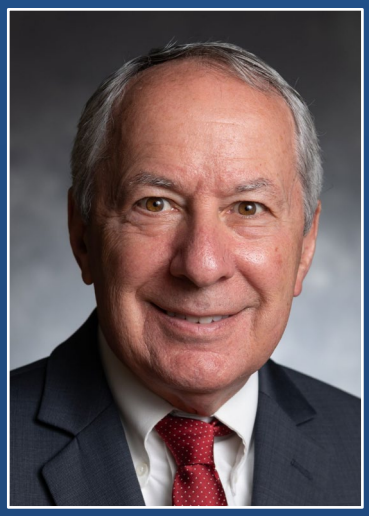
Meet the Team



BRAD I. RIFKIN, ESQ.
Partner, Co-Chair of National Practice Development Group, and Co-Chair of Cannabis Policy, Administrative Law and Litigation Group

- Prior to joining the firm full-time in 2013, was named President to the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League (still in that role today) after previous work for the Baltimore Orioles and Milwaukee Brewers.
- Lead lobbyist securing the successful passage of legislation modernizing alcoholic beverage laws on behalf of Maryland's craft beer manufacturers – including the statutory reform of Maryland's beer franchise laws for the first time since 1974.
- Co-lead lobbyist on the successful passage of transformative legislation creating the first statutory and regulatory framework for peer-to-peer ridesharing in the nation.
- Lead lobbyist on successful passage of complex and high-profile medical cannabis legislation, expanding ownership rights and advancing in-state research capabilities for licensees in partnership with academic institutions.
- Lead lobbyist on successful passage of legislation creating a statutory framework for Maryland's private sector industrial hemp industry.
- Lead lobbyist on successful passage of legislation authorizing new class of street-legal vehicle in Maryland ("autocycle").
- Worked on successful passage of legislation that will keep the Preakness Stakes in Baltimore City, redeveloped Pimlico and Laurel racetracks, and helped advance the long-standing interests of the Park Heights community.
- Successfully represent clients with a wide array of statutory, regulatory, funding and procurement interests, including automobile dealer, casino-gaming, innovative technology, insurance, non-profit organizations, rental cars, ride-sharing and ride-hailing.

Meet the Team



MICHAEL D. BERMAN, ESQ.
Of Counsel

- Member of the firm's Complex Commercial and Civil Litigation and Electronically Stored Information (ESI) practices.
- Previously was the Deputy Chief of Civil Litigation, Office of the Attorney General of Maryland (2001-2008).
- Adjunct faculty member at the University of Baltimore School of Law.
- Guest lecturer at Judicial College of Maryland.
- Editor-in-chief and a contributing author in "Electronically Stored Information in Maryland Courts" (Maryland State Bar Ass'n. 2020)
- Co-editor of two other American Bar Association books on electronic discovery and co-author of a number of law review and other articles regarding electronically stored information.
- Experienced in federal and Maryland courts, with extensive appellate experience.
- Past Chair of bar association's Federal District Court Committee; Subcommittee to Propose Revisions to ESI Protocol of District of Maryland; Litigation Section Council; and, American Bar Association Litigation Section Book Publishing Board.
- Co-author of University of Baltimore article on Maryland referendum law.
- Graduate of University of Maryland at Baltimore and College Park, as well as the University of Wisconsin – Madison.
- Law clerk for the Hon. R. Dorsey Watkins, United States District Judge, United States District Court for the District of Maryland.
- Awarded Army Commendation Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Paratrooper's Badge, and Expert Infantry Badge.

Meet the Team



DEVON HARMAN MAUNZ, ESQ.
Partner

- Partner in the firm's Business and Commercial Transactions; Complex Commercial and Civil Litigation; State Contracting, Procurement and Bid Protest; and Sports Law, Franchise, Facilities Media Rights and Gaming practice groups
- Advises and defends clients in high-stakes, civil and criminal litigation at the state and federal levels.
- Experience advising clients in an array of regulatory compliance and administrative law matters.
- Assists clients with government contracts at the federal, state and local levels.
- Member of the Maryland State Bar Association.

Meet the Team



EMILY T. GORDON
Law Clerk

- In the Firm's Administrative Law, Business and Commercial Transactions, and Complex Civil and Commercial Litigation practice groups.
- Recent graduate of the Wake Forest University School of Law, emphasizing intellectual property, transactions, and administrative law in coursework.
- Participated in the Wake Forest Law Intellectual Property Clinic, worked as a Research Assistant to a Clinical Professor of Law in Intellectual Property, and served as Symposium Editor of the Wake Forest Law Review while in law school.

RWL | RIFKIN WEINER LIVINGSTON LLC

225 Duke of Gloucester Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410.269.5066 | 410.269.1235(f)

502 Washington Avenue, Suite 405
Towson, Maryland 21204
410.769.8080 | 410.769.8811(f)

7700 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 320
Bethesda, Maryland 20814
301.951.0150 | 301.951.0172(f)

www.rwllaw.com