



# Hallways

Reflections on a Milestone 2024

Spring 2025

**Tucker Ellis** | LLP

10 "Long Hallways" serving clients nationwide

ATLANTA | CHICAGO | CLEVELAND | COLUMBUS | LOS ANGELES | MORRISTOWN  
ORANGE COUNTY | SAN FRANCISCO | ST. LOUIS | WASHINGTON, D.C. | TUCKERELLIS.COM

# Reflections on a Milestone Year



**Joe Morford**, Managing Partner  
Tucker Ellis LLP

## Our 2024 in review

### Reaching new heights

2024 was a remarkable year for Tucker Ellis, marked by exciting expansion, high-stakes client victories, and industry recognition. We opened new offices in Atlanta, Georgia, and Morristown, New Jersey, growing our national Labor & Employment and Health & Life Sciences practices with top-tier lateral additions. Our attorneys secured major trial wins, led billions of dollars' worth of transactions, and delivered standout results for clients across our Business, Intellectual Property, and Trial Departments.

The legal community continued to take notice of our achievements, with our attorneys and practice groups garnering recognition from Chambers USA, The Legal 500, Best Lawyers, Best Law Firms, IFLR1000, IAM Patent 1000, WTR 1000, and many more.

Now, we're entering 2025 in the best position our firm has been in since we founded Tucker Ellis nearly 22 years ago. We've grown to 432 attorneys and business professionals, serving more clients across more practice areas and geographies than ever before. Through this growth, we've stayed true to who we are—the kind of people others want to

work with—and for that, we are especially grateful. Thank you to everyone who helped bring us to this exciting moment.

### Enhancing our team

In 2024, we welcomed a deep bench of new talent, with 42 attorneys from across the country coming aboard. We opened Hallways in two new markets, adding a robust Labor & Employment team in Atlanta and an outstanding Health & Life Sciences team in Morristown—a hub of the national life sciences industry—to bolster our nationwide capabilities.

In other Hallways, we also continued to grow, expanding our national intellectual property and products liability practices with the addition of skilled attorneys in both Cleveland and Los Angeles, adding new talent to our white collar and estates practices in Cleveland, and developing our business litigation practice in Orange County.

Meanwhile, we maintained our commitment to developing talent from within by electing four attorneys to partnership and promoting two associates to counsel. Their leadership,

## Tucker Ellis | LLP

Hallways | Spring 2025

## Table of Contents

Reflections on a Milestone Year.....	2
Strengthening Our Bench.....	4
Elevating Legal Excellence.....	7
Excellence in the Courtroom.....	8
Making a Difference Through Pro Bono Service.....	9
Advancing Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion.....	10
Fostering an Inclusive Legal Pipeline.....	11
IRGs in Action.....	12
A Year of Giving Back.....	14
In the Community.....	16
Accolades.....	18
Our Year in Reviews.....	19



*In February, Tucker Ellis opened new Hallways in Morristown (left) and Atlanta (right).*



*“We’re entering 2025 in the best position our firm has been in since we founded Tucker Ellis nearly 22 years ago.”—Joe Morford*



*Tom Baker welcomes Diana Gerstel of our new Morristown Hallway during our 2024 In-House Counsel Summit.*

combined with our strategic expansion across practice areas and markets, positions us for continued success in the years ahead.

### Winning for our clients

Our Business Department thrived in 2024, earning industry honors from Chambers USA, IFLR1000, Midwest Real Estate News, and others. Our Real Estate and Finance groups closed nearly 140 deals valued at over \$5.4 billion across 25 states and Canada, while our M&A attorneys expertly managed numerous global, high-value deals.

Our Intellectual Property team achieved record-breaking results, facilitating the issue of more than 1,100 patents and registering nearly 730 trademarks—more than double our 2023 totals—while managing a full litigation docket. Recognized in Chambers USA, IAM Patent 1000, WTR 1000, and other organizations, our IP attorneys continue to drive innovation and success.

Our Trial Department also had an outstanding year, securing significant client wins both as plaintiff’s counsel and

as defense counsel in 10 cases in five states—one of which Courtroom View Network recognized as the #1 Most Impressive Defense Verdict of 2024—plus numerous successful appeals. Notably, one of our trial teams secured summary judgment wins in two first-of-their-kind cases under the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act, while our appellate group scored a Fifth Circuit victory in a landmark pharmaceutical case.

### Committed to inclusion and growth

Equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) remained a driving force at Tucker Ellis in 2024. Chad Eggspuehler and Charissa Walker took the helm as co-chairs of our EDI Committee, continuing outgoing chair Brian Brookey’s outstanding leadership and commitment to fostering inclusivity across our firm. We launched the Jewish Inclusion Resource Group (IRG), expanded leadership across existing IRGs, and deepened firmwide engagement through meaningful conversations, events, and educational initiatives.

Our dedication to EDI was recognized on a national level: we earned Mansfield Certification Plus for the fifth consecutive year as well as the Top Performer recognition from the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD). We also received distinctions from Bloomberg Law and the Diversity & Flexibility Alliance, reinforcing our commitment to building a more inclusive legal profession.

We continued to uphold our firm’s values through pro bono service and community engagement. We maintained our commitment to our Pipeline Program initiatives, providing learning opportunities to support

students from underrepresented backgrounds in exploring legal careers, while keeping engaged with our communities through volunteer work and nonprofit leadership.

Meanwhile, internally, professional development remained a top priority, with TE attorneys from around the country convening in Cleveland for our Litigation Institute, Business Law Institute, and Intellectual Property Summit programs.

### Looking forward

At Tucker Ellis, we believe that success is about more than just results—it’s about the culture we build and the impact we make. In 2024, we lived our values, invested in our people, and strengthened our commitment to a more inclusive legal profession. In 2025, we aim to build on that momentum.

As we continue to grow and evolve, we remain committed to delivering outstanding results and fostering a culture that values excellence, collaboration, and mentorship.

Thank you to our attorneys, staff, and clients for making 2024 such a success. We look forward to another great year ahead.

**1,106**  
patents  
issued



**729**  
trademarks  
filed

**10**  
cases  
tried



**19**  
appeals  
argued



**\$5.4 billion**  
in Real Estate and Finance  
transactions closed

# Strengthening Our Bench

## Welcome to our new attorneys

2024 was a landmark year for growth at Tucker Ellis. We opened new offices in Atlanta and Morristown, strengthening our national Labor & Employment and Health & Life Sciences practices. Across our existing Hallways, we expanded our Intellectual Property, Products Liability, White Collar, Estates, and Business Litigation practices, bringing in 42 attorneys nationwide to deepen our bench and enhance client service.

With strategic expansion, key promotions, and a growing national presence, we are better positioned than ever to serve our clients at the highest level. Let's give a warm welcome to all the attorneys who joined us in 2024!



**Alex M. Barfield**

Counsel  
Atlanta



**Paige R. Betley**

Associate  
Cleveland



**Roylance L. Bird**

Associate  
Los Angeles



**Matthew A. Boyd**

Partner  
Atlanta



**Rose Carlyon**

Associate  
Cleveland



**Daniel C. Curth**

Counsel  
Chicago



**Emily G. Evans**

Associate  
Los Angeles



**Diana Katz Gerstel**

Partner  
Morristown



**Marlin Gramajo Gillespie**

Associate  
Los Angeles



**Aaron P. Howell**

Counsel  
Cleveland



**Stephanie E. Joseph**

Staff Attorney  
Cleveland



**Jennifer K. Juarez**

Counsel  
Chicago



**Maha  
Kabbash**

Partner  
Morristown



**Maya  
Kanaan**

Associate  
Cleveland



**Zachary O.  
Kaplan**

Associate  
Cleveland



**Colin D.  
Kelsey**

Associate  
St. Louis



**Pieter  
Keushkerian**

Associate  
Los Angeles



**Ryan D.  
Kray**

Associate  
Cleveland



**Christine A.  
Kurke**

Counsel  
Atlanta



**Razi  
Lane**

Associate  
Cleveland



**Brandon W.  
Lansche**

Counsel  
Los Angeles



**Brian  
Lee**

Associate  
Los Angeles



**Prashanthi  
Manoharan**

Associate  
Los Angeles



**Daniel M.  
McClain**

Counsel  
Cleveland



**Meghan E.  
McDonnell**

Associate  
Cleveland



**Steven  
Meyer**

Partner  
Los Angeles



**Anna  
Nelson**

Associate  
Cleveland



# Strengthening Our Bench



**Caleb Ohrn**

Associate  
Cleveland



**Breshauna Perkins**

Associate  
Atlanta



**Ronald G. Polly, Jr.**

Partner  
Atlanta



**Anika M. Prednis**

Associate  
Orange County



**Dakota C. Reckamp**

Associate  
St. Louis



**Scarlet R. Rush**

Associate  
Orange County



**Alexander R. Safyan**

Counsel  
Los Angeles



**Steven J. Solomon**

Partner  
Cleveland



**Carlo J. Spagnolo**

Counsel  
Cleveland



**Jeffrey B. Stoltz**

Counsel  
Los Angeles



**Christopher T. Teodosio**

Counsel  
Cleveland



**Cheska Tolentino**

Associate  
Morristown



**Cory W. Verba**

Associate  
Cleveland



**Genevieve R. Vince**

Associate  
Cleveland



**Kristin A. Volk**

Associate  
Cleveland

# Elevating Legal Excellence

## Our 2024 in-house training programs

In 2024, we continued our tradition of providing enriching, high-impact training programs for our attorneys. Through a series of in-house initiatives, lawyers across practice areas honed their skills, deepened their expertise, and engaged in meaningful mentorship opportunities. From corporate law and intellectual property to litigation strategy and in-house counsel insights, these programs reinforced the firm's commitment to professional growth and client service excellence.



*Chris Hewitt and Jayne Juvan present at our 2024 Business Law Institute.*

In March, we hosted our **Business Law Institute**, a two-day intensive program designed to enhance corporate attorneys' technical knowledge and practical skills. With panel discussions, mentorship opportunities, and hands-on training — including mock negotiations—attorneys across all levels sharpened their expertise in key business law topics. “Fostering bonds across practice areas and supporting the next generation of attorneys in their professional development is what Tucker Ellis's in-house mentorship and training programs are all about,” said program leader **Jayne Juvan**.



*Howard Kroll and David Steele present at our 2024 IP Summit.*



*Our 2024 Litigation Institute included participants **Bridget McCusker** and **Roylance Bird** and faculty members **Ed Racek** and **Rob Hanna**.*

Held in July, the firm's annual **IP Summit** brought together IP attorneys nationwide for knowledge-sharing, skill development, and discussions on recent cases. Attendees deepened their expertise in IP prosecution and litigation, ensuring innovative solutions for clients.

Across two sessions in September and October, 35 associates and 44 faculty members participated in our **Litigation Institute**, focusing on courtroom advocacy, strategy, and client representation. Participants engaged in advanced training, mentorship, and collaboration, with the aim of ensuring that our next-generation trial teams are fully prepared to meet the complex needs of our clients.

In October, we also hosted our 11th annual In-House Counsel Summit, bringing together legal leaders for a series of dynamic **in-person** and **virtual** CLE sessions. The program featured engaging discussions by TE attorneys and their colleagues on some of today's most pressing legal challenges, including ethical dilemmas for in-house counsel, key takeaways from the U.S. Supreme Court's latest term, and emerging trends in health care law.



*Members of our Appellate & Legal Issues Group presented “Supreme Court Term in Review” at the in-person session of our 11th annual In-House Counsel Summit.*

This year, we welcomed **Jenn Mesko** as co-chair of our **Junior Attorney Corps (JAC)** program alongside **Chaz Weber**. Our JAC program provides a dynamic 16-month experience that fosters professional growth through mentorship, hands-on training, and exposure to various practice areas. Under Jenn and Chaz's leadership, JAC will continue to support and develop the next generation of legal talent at our firm.

*“I am excited to be stepping into the role of co-leading our Junior Attorney Corps, which provides me an opportunity to help shape the future of the firm, ignite our young lawyers' passion for the practice of law, and instill the skills and values that will empower them to thrive in their careers.”*

*—Jennifer Mesko, Tucker Ellis  
JAC Co-Chair*



*Chaz and Jenn led our JAC Deep Dive sessions in October.*



# Excellence in the Courtroom

## 2024 trial and appellate spotlights

In 2024, Tucker Ellis participated in 10 trials and argued 19 appeals in courts throughout the United States. With significant client wins both as plaintiff's counsel and as defense counsel—plus numerous successful appeals—our outcomes reflect the skill, strategy, and dedication that define our trial practice.

### Major defense verdicts

In a high-stakes five-week trial, Tucker Ellis helped secure a **unanimous defense verdict** for Mead Johnson in *Whitfield v. St. Louis Children's Hospital et al.*, a case involving \$6.27 billion in claimed damages related to premature infant formula. The trial was named **Courtroom View Network's (CVN) #1 Most Impressive Defense Verdict of 2024** and one of **Law360's Top Product Liability Cases of 2024**. (The court granted a motion for new trial on March 13, 2025; Abbott and Mead Johnson filed an appeal on March 20, 2025.)

In another significant win, the firm defended **Davey Tree Surgery Company** in a six-week California trial, obtaining a defense verdict on a \$60 million traumatic brain injury claim brought by a motorcyclist. Tucker Ellis also prevailed in a three-week California battery trial, where the plaintiff sought \$15 million in damages after allegedly suffering severe injuries from a thrown dart. Additionally, the firm secured a defense verdict in a



**Sherry Knutson and Charissa Walker** led Tucker Ellis's Mead Johnson team.

two-week federal jury trial in California, overcoming counterclaims seeking damages and ownership of an invention valued at \$20 million.

### Appellate and landmark wins

In *Hickey v. Hospira, Inc.*, Tucker Ellis secured a key appellate victory before the Fifth Circuit, which vacated a summary judgment denial and clarified drug labeling regulations under the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act's 505(b)(2) approval pathway. This precedent-setting decision, acclaimed in numerous legal publications, including **Law360** and the Drug & Device Law blog, carries significant implications for thousands of pending cases.

### Complex and first-impression cases

Tucker Ellis obtained summary judgment in two first-impression cases alleging violations of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) while serving as national coordinating counsel for a major hotel chain. The firm also secured a midtrial settlement in a related multiweek trial and resolved another case on the eve of trial, both TVPRA cases as well.

In another complex matter, Tucker Ellis bench-tried a multimillion-dollar federal excise tax case against the U.S. government in Ohio federal court on behalf of an aircraft management company, challenging the sufficiency of IRS guidance and fairness applications.



**Mike Ruttinger** after delivering oral arguments in the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.



**Joe Manno, Sandy Wunderlich, Chelsea Mikula, Cheryl Bunevich, Elisa Arko, and Spencer Krebs** were part of Tucker Ellis's national coordinating counsel team for the hotel chain.










# Making a Difference Through Pro Bono Service

## 2024 pro bono highlights

In 2024, attorneys across our 10 Hallways provided crucial pro bono assistance in a wide range of legal matters. Led by Pro Bono Partner-in-Charge **Justin Eddy**, our attorneys collaborated with legal aid organizations, bar associations, and civil rights groups to ensure access to justice for those in need. Here are some highlights of our 2024 pro bono work.

### Types of pro bono legal services we provide:

-  1983 Actions
-  Adoption
-  Birth Certificate Corrections
-  Death Penalty Appeals
-  General Advice
-  Housing: Landlord/Tenant
-  Immigration

### Advocating for inmates' rights

**Diana Gerstel** and **Cheska Tolentino**, appointed pro bono counsel by the District of New Jersey, represent a detainee in a 1983 lawsuit against Hudson County Correctional Facility for failing to mitigate COVID-19 risks. **Tom Fawkes** provided critical bankruptcy support.

In Ohio, **Jennifer Mesko**, **Nathan Nasrallah**, and **Izaak Horstemeier-Zrnich**, with assistance from **Zach Kaplan** and **Jessica Toncler**, secured a favorable settlement in a 1983 lawsuit for an inmate who alleged that he was denied medical care during suicide attempts, violating his Eighth Amendment rights.

### Securing justice for a tenant

**Danielle Easton** and **Spencer Krebs**, through the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, uncovered due process violations in a landlord-tenant case, overturning a \$15,000 judgment. They continue to defend our clients' rights in municipal court.

### Fighting for asylum

Law clerk **Benjamin Crawford**, under attorney supervision, argued for asylum for a Honduran migrant facing persecution. While the matter is ongoing, the team crafted a compelling brief to prevent deportation.

### Protecting veterans' rights

**Scott Wilkov**, with law clerk **Bobby Ohly**, is representing a disabled U.S. Navy veteran in a claim for benefits after an initial VA denial, using his accreditation to navigate the complex appeals process.



### Recognized for Pro Bono Service

In 2024, 24 Tucker Ellis attorneys were inducted into The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland's **Pro Bono Honor Societies**. Legal Aid also featured **Tucker Ellis Day** in its newsletter Poetic Justice, highlighting our firm-wide commitment to pro bono work.

"Throughout the years, Tucker Ellis has participated in pro bono work in a variety of ways," said **Lauren Gilbride**, Managing Attorney for Legal Aid's Intake Group and Volunteer Lawyers Program. "It's a firm-wide commitment that includes everyone from partners to newer associates to paralegals to their summer law clerks. We're always so appreciative of working with them on Tucker Ellis Day."



*The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland's Time Well Spent Honor Society honors private attorneys as they reach milestones of cumulative hourly work as pro bono colleagues, while its Community Commitment Honor Society honors private attorneys as they reach milestones of Brief Advice Clinics attended.*

# Advancing Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

## Our year in EDI

At Tucker Ellis, equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) remain central to who we are. In 2024, we strengthened our commitment to fostering an inclusive workplace through strong leadership, expanded initiatives, and partnerships with national organizations dedicated to advancing inclusion in the legal profession.

### New leadership and expanding initiatives

In 2024, **Chad Eggspuehler** and **Charissa Walker** became co-chairs of our **EDI Committee**, bringing extensive leadership experience in diversity initiatives within the legal profession and their communities. As co-chairs, Chad and Charissa oversee EDI activities firm-wide and provide critical support to our Inclusion Resource Groups. “We believe that EDI at its core is a chance to bring together people of all backgrounds, promote understanding, and encourage conversations and actions that reflect just outcomes, equality of opportunity, and inclusivity,” they wrote in a joint statement.



Chad Eggspuehler Charissa Walker



V. Sathienmars and DT Amajoyi attend the 2024 Spring Meeting of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity.

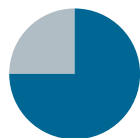
### National recognition for our commitment

Tucker Ellis was once again recognized as a leader in EDI in the legal industry, earning **Mansfield Certification Plus** for the fifth consecutive year—a distinction awarded to firms that meet or exceed 30% diverse representation in leadership roles. We were also honored to be recognized in **Bloomberg Law’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Framework** and to receive the **Diversity & Flexibility Alliance’s “Tipping the Scales”** award for having 50% or more women in our 2024 partnership class.

### Investing in the next generation of leaders

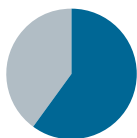
In 2024, we strengthened our partnership with the **Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD)**. We selected **Steven Lauridsen** for the LCLD Fellows Program for mid-career attorneys and **DT Amajoyi** and **V. Sathienmars** for the LCLD Pathfinder Program for early-career attorneys—programs that provide career development, leadership training, and mentorship opportunities to top-performing attorneys. In recognition of our active engagement in LCLD’s initiatives and programs throughout the year, Tucker Ellis was named a **2024 LCLD Top Performer**.

Female attorneys, attorneys of color, LGBTQ+ attorneys, and attorneys with disabilities account for:



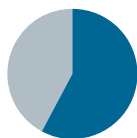
75%

of our 2025 Partnership Class



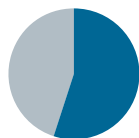
60%

of our Partners-in-Charge by location



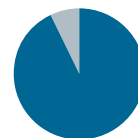
58%

of our Practice Group Leaders



55%

of all attorneys hired in 2024



93%

of Summer Associates





# Fostering an Inclusive Legal Pipeline

## Opening doors for the next generation of legal talent

In 2024, our award-winning Pipeline Program continued to inspire and empower students from historically underrepresented communities to explore careers in law. Through mentorship, hands-on learning, and community engagement, we remained committed to opening doors for future leaders in the legal profession.

Our attorneys educated students on legal rights and career pathways through the **3Rs** program, coached the **John Hay Early College Mock Trial Team** to a second-place competition finish, and welcomed **Saint Martin de Porres High School** students for hands-on work-study experience. We also provided paid summer internships through the **Louis Stokes Scholars Program** and strengthened our **law school partnerships** through sponsorships, scholarships, and mentorship opportunities.

Through active **recruitment** efforts—including the Norman S. Minor Bar Association Law Student Summit and the LCLD 1L Scholars Program—we continued working to build a more inclusive legal profession. Additionally, our **Junior Achievement** volunteer efforts helped equip local students with the skills needed for economic and career success.



*Avery Brobbey served as our 2024 Louis Stokes Scholar.*



*Tucker Ellis colleagues volunteering with Junior Achievement in March 2024. (Above)*

*Led by Karen Ross, John Hay Early College High School earned second place in the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association's mock trial competition. (Above)*

*In September, we sponsored the Norman S. Minor Bar Association's 9th Annual Law Student Summit for Success. Since the summit's inception in 2016, Tucker Ellis has had the honor of hosting every annual program.*

# IRGs in Action

## Empowering voices and creating an inclusive workplace

In 2024, Tucker Ellis and its **Inclusion Resource Groups (IRGs)** championed cultural awareness, fostered meaningful dialogue, and contributed to national conversations on inclusion. From welcoming new leadership to hosting firm-wide discussions on a variety of timely topics, our IRGs engaged in impactful programming throughout the year. Through events, publications, and community celebrations, we honored diverse identities and strengthened our commitment to an inclusive workplace and profession.



*Sheri Rigas, Diana Gerstel, Maha Kabbash, and Cheska Tolentino of our Morristown Hallway sport their pride colors.*



*Francesca LaMontagne moderated our virtual book club event in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month.*

### FEBRUARY

Members of our Black Inclusion & Advancement Network (BIAN) IRG shared their reflections on **Black History Month**.

Our Asian-American, Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian, Middle Eastern, and North African (AAPINHMENA) IRG celebrated the Lunar New Year with a special social media post.

BIAN presented “DEI in Corporate America in the Wake of the Supreme Court’s Ruling in Students for Fair Admissions.”

### MARCH

The Women’s Initiative celebrated **Women’s History Month** with a thoughtful series of social media posts and a virtual panel discussion featuring the firm’s female lawyers.

### APRIL

AAPINHMENA IRG honored **Arab American Heritage Month** with a newsletter recognizing the achievements of the Arab American community.

### MAY

Our Jewish IRG celebrated **Jewish American Heritage Month** with a message about Yom Hashoah.

Our Hispanic/Latinx IRG marked Cinco de Mayo with vibrant celebrations across our firm.



## Our inclusion resource groups

### AAPINHMENA IRG

Our AAPINHMENA IRG provides community and support to members of the Asian-American, Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian, Middle Eastern, and North African communities through educational programming.

Chair: **Edward Racek**

### Black Inclusion & Advancement Network

BIAN connects Tucker Ellis's Black attorneys and staff with a range of educational, social, and business development opportunities and professional resources.

Co-Chairs: **Sarena Holder** and **Ludgy LaRochelle**

### Jewish IRG

Our Jewish IRG is a dedicated platform for individuals who identify as Jewish and those interested in Jewish culture and religion.

Chair: **Anna Gecht**

### Hispanic/Latinx IRG

Serving members of the Hispanic/Latin(a/o)/Latinx community, this IRG organizes professional development workshops and networking events, among other initiatives.

Co-Chairs: **Frank Garritano** and **Amanda Villalobos**

### IgbTE

IgbTE serves our LGBTQ+ attorneys, staff, and allied colleagues interested in issues of equity and inclusion by participating in and supporting various activities throughout the year.

Chair: **Andrea Glinka Przybysz**

### Women's Initiative

The Tucker Ellis Women's Initiative supports the professional development of our female lawyers across all of our Hallways by sponsoring programs and activities.

Chair: **Madeline Dennis** and **Melissa Kelly**



BIAN co-chairs **Ludgy LaRochelle** (left) and **Sarena Holder** (middle) with Juneteenth panelists **Patrice Johnson** (KeyBank), **George Sample** (Blue Streak Consultants), and **William A. Willis** (Cleveland Development Advisors).



Hispanic/Latinx IRG co-chair **Amanda Villalobos** leads our L.A. office's Cinco de Mayo celebration.



In May, Jewish IRG chair **Anna Gecht** and member **Scott Wilkov** attended the Six Million Steps, Six Million Lives – Never Again Walk with their families in Beachwood, Ohio.

## JUNE

Organized by IgbTE, Tucker Ellis celebrated Pride Month with colorful luncheons and rainbow apparel contests in support of The Trevor Project.

In honor of Juneteenth, BIAN hosted a firm-wide panel conversation on the disparity of economic power between Black businesses and their majority counterparts.

## OCTOBER

Our Hispanic/Latinx IRG concluded Hispanic Heritage Month with a virtual book club event on the novel *In the Time of Butterflies* by Julia Alvarez, moderated by **Francesca LaMontagne**.

## NOVEMBER

IgbTE commemorated **Transgender Day of Remembrance and Transgender Awareness Week** with a newsletter about issues impacting the trans community.

# A Year of Giving Back

## Our community work in 2024



At Tucker Ellis, community engagement is at the heart of who we are. In 2024, we remained deeply committed to pro bono service, volunteer initiatives, event sponsorships, and leadership roles within organizations across the country. Below are just a few of the many impactful organizations we were proud to partner with throughout the year.

American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee  
 American Bar Association  
 American Inns of Court  
 Anti-Defamation League  
 Apollo's Fire  
 Associated Beer Distributors of Illinois  
 Benedictine High School  
 Black Law Students' Association  
 Black Women Lawyers' Association of Los Angeles  
 Boys Hope Girls Hope of Northeast Ohio  
 Business Volunteers Unlimited  
 Case Western Reserve University School of Law

Center for Arts-Inspired Learning  
 Chagrin Arts  
 Cleveland Animal Protective League  
 Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association  
 Cleveland State University College of Law Alumni Association  
 Cleveland State University College of Law School  
 Cleveland Zoological Society  
 College Now Greater Cleveland  
 Crime Stoppers of Cuyahoga County  
 Cuyahoga County Public Library  
 Cycle for Survival  
 Deaconess Foundation  
 Defense Research Institute  
 Edna House for Women

Equality Ohio  
 Federal Bar Association  
 Fieldstone Farm  
 First Tee of Cleveland  
 Five Acres  
 Friends of Kids with Cancer  
 Gilmour Academy  
 Goryeb Children's Hospital  
 Greater Cleveland Food Bank  
 Habitat for Humanity  
 Hanna Perkins Center for Child Development  
 Harvard Business School Club of Northeast Ohio  
 Humble Design  
 Illinois Craft Brewers Guild  
 InMotion





*“I’m a great admirer of Providence House and the critically needed services it has been providing to Ohio’s families’ children for more than 30 years. I couldn’t be more excited to join its mission as a member of the Board of Directors.”*

**—Jayne Juvan**

Jennings  
Lawyer’s Guild  
The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland  
The Literacy Cooperative  
Littlest Heroes  
National Arab American Bar Association  
Noggin Builders Foundation  
Norman S. Minor Bar Association  
The Ohio State University  
OhioGuidestone  
Open Doors Academy  
Partners for Women & Justice  
Providence House  
Public Law Center

Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital  
Red Oak Behavioral Health  
Rockstar Support  
Saint Martin de Porres High School  
Sedona Conference  
Seeds of Literacy  
Serra’s Pantry  
Shaker Schools Foundation  
St. Edward High School  
Sonia and Celina Sotomayor Judicial Internship Program  
Susan G. Komen Northeast Ohio  
Team NEO Foundation  
Thrive Counseling Center

Tommy DeRoia Success Foundation  
The Trevor Project  
TWO Foundation  
University Hospital/Ireland Cancer Center  
University Settlement  
Upper Arlington Crew, Inc.  
Upward Bound House  
Ursuline Sisters  
The Village of Healing  
Waterloo Arts  
West Side Catholic Center  
Youth Challenge  
YWCA

*“After several years of involvement, I first joined the West Side Catholic Center Board in 2010. Since then, the staff and volunteers have likely served over a million meals—and provided thousands of clothing items and basic necessities—with their signature love and respect as their clients worked through their individual journeys to self-sufficiency. The work on this board was the most eye-opening, the most humbling, and the most meaningful. As I cycle off for new talent to cycle on, my wife and I hope to be around and help all we can.”*

**—Joe Morford**



# In the Community

## Our year in photos



1.

1. In November, we held our annual Chili Cook-Off to support the Greater Cleveland Food Bank's Harvest for Hunger campaign. The event, organized by legal secretary/"Chili Coordinator" **Suzanne Romanin**, featured delicious chili recipes and desserts prepared by our talented attorneys and staff.

2. In October, TE colleagues participated in the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association's (CMBA) annual Halloween Run for Justice, the proceeds from which support the CMBA's pro bono and community outreach programs.

3. In September, Tucker Ellis co-sponsored "Lovely One: A Conversation with Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson," hosted by the City Club of Cleveland.

4. In July, members of our Corporate/ M&A Group attended the Providence House 2024 Charity Classic at Barrington Golf Club in Aurora, Ohio. **Jayne Juvan** (pictured with **Bob Loesch** and **Dan McClain**) serves on the Board of Directors of Providence House, Ohio's first and one of the country's longest-operating crisis nurseries.

5. In May, Tucker Ellis colleagues attended Saint Martin de Porres High School's 21st annual Birthday Bash and fundraising event at the Cleveland Museum of Art. A Cristo Rey Network School, Saint Martin is part of the largest network of urban high schools in the country enrolling only low-income youth.



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6. In May, we hosted an event supporting Susan G. Komen for the Cure in our Cleveland Hallway.



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7. In November, we held our annual Talent Show to benefit The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland.



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8. In October, Tucker Ellis sponsored the Sonia & Celina Sotomayor Judicial Internship Program's 10th anniversary event in New York.



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9. Among our Tucker Ellis Day activities in July, our Morristown Hallway dedicated the day to volunteering at Goryeb Children's Hospital; our Orange County Hallway collected food donations for Serra's Pantry; and colleagues in our Cleveland Hallway volunteered at Red Oak Behavioral Health.



9.

10. In October, **Grayson Sieg** co-chaired the 55th anniversary celebration of Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry (LMM), a social services agency focused on justice and well-being. Grayson and **Nicole Braden Lewis** serve on LMM's Board of Directors.



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11. In October, **Maha Kabbash**, **Diana Gerstel**, and **James Mizgala** attended the Volunteer Lawyers for Justice Gala at the Park Savoy Estate in Florham Park, New Jersey.



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# Accolades

Throughout 2024, our attorneys were honored for their dedication, skill, and unwavering commitment to delivering exceptional legal services, earning recognition across the industry.\*

**Chambers USA** ranked 25 of our individual lawyers in its 2024 guide—an increase from the 22 attorneys ranked in 2023. Chambers USA also ranked the firm in 10 practice areas, another increase from 2023.



78 Tucker Ellis attorneys were listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® and *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America* for 2025. **John McCaffrey**, **Benjamin Sassé**, and **John Slagter** were named to Best Lawyers' "Lawyer of the Year" awards lists.

Tucker Ellis received 10 national and 46 regional rankings for 2025 in the 15th edition of the United States **Best Law Firms**® rankings, including a National Tier 1 ranking in the area of Mass Tort Litigation / Class Actions – Defendants.



Dozens of TE attorneys in **Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, and California** were named to the 2024 **Super Lawyers**® and **Rising Stars**® lists. **Scott Stitt** and **Keith Grady** were also named to Super Lawyers' prestigious "Top 50" lists for the Columbus and St. Louis markets, respectively.



Tucker Ellis practice groups and attorneys earned accolades from a variety of distinguished organizations, including:

- ❖ **Benchmark Litigation** (Product Liability and Recall: Dispute Resolution)
- ❖ **BTI Litigation Outlook** ("Standout")
- ❖ **LMG Life Sciences** (Product Liability)
- ❖ **Who's Who Legal** (Life Sciences – Product Liability)
- ❖ **Lawdragon** (Commercial Litigation, Product Liability, Medical Liability, and Complex Civil Litigation)
- ❖ **WTR 1000** (Intellectual Property)
- ❖ **IAM Patent 1000** (Intellectual Property)
- ❖ **IFLR1000** (Banking, Capital Markets, M&A, and Real Estate)
- ❖ **Midwest Real Estate News** (Real Estate)



\*No aspect of these advertisements has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.



# Our Year in Reviews

## Client testimonials



“Tucker Ellis repeatedly demonstrates the ability to analyze complex situations and areas of law. The service is exceptional.”

— **Corporate Law/M&A client**

“The team knows this area of law inside and out and is one of my preferred firms for product liability.”

— **Mass Tort & Product Liability client**

“Tucker Ellis has the resources to provide expert opinion on all complex matters brought to them.”

— **Real Estate client**



“Tucker Ellis are excellent class action litigators. They are strategically focused and are true business partners.”

— **Insurance client**



“Tucker Ellis has a number of resources that specialize in different areas—providing clients with expertise regardless of complexities.”

— **Intellectual Property client**

“The team has provided top-notch customer service and a strong team in an extremely complex case.”

— **Business Litigation client**

“I trust that everything I bring to Tucker Ellis, they are able to help with. They are able to see the business as well as legal perspective.”

— **Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation client**

“The team is very multifaceted and connected, with experience to help clients navigate the next best step.” — **White Collar Criminal Defense & Corporate Investigations client**

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10 "Long Hallways" serving clients nationwide

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