

People



Jill K. Klein

Special Counsel, Corporate
Franchise and Licensing

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Jill Klein focuses her practice on U.S. and international franchise laws, including all aspects of risk management, contract negotiations, mergers and acquisitions, litigation, rebranding, and regulatory compliance. She has experience representing start-ups and existing franchisors and franchisees with general business advice, franchise legal advice, and litigation strategy. She is well versed in business formation and development issues and collateral matters such as trademark protection, insurance, financial statements, securities offerings, build-out and leases, IP licensing, supply and distribution, vendors, affiliates, independent contractors, and employees.

Jill has 14 years of unique experience serving as chief legal officer of multi-brand, multi-national franchising chains where she was responsible for all legal issues affecting in-house clients.

Related Professional Experience

- United Franchise Group, General Counsel, 2014-2019
- Moran Family of Brands, General Counsel, 2011-2014
- Francorp, Inc., General Counsel, 2003-2007, 2010
- Employee Information Svcs, Inc., General Counsel, 1998-2001

Published Work and Lectures

- 2022 Denver Franchise Business Network Conference, Moderator, “Panel of the Pros – Navigating Legal Landmines in a Decade of Wild Opportunity,” July 14, 2022
- *The Franchise Lawyer*, Co-Author, “Regulators Take a Hard Look at Franchise Questionnaires,” Fall 2021, Vol. 24, No. 04

Affiliations

- American Bar Association - Forum on Franchising, Member
- Florida Blue Key National Honor Fraternity, Member

Areas of Experience

Corporate
Franchise and Licensing
M&A and Private Equity
Cannabis

Education

J.D., University of Miami School of Law, 1997, cum laude
B.A., University of Florida, 1991

Admissions

Bars

Florida
Illinois
District of Columbia

Related Content

New FTC Rule Spares Non-Compete Clauses That Bind Franchisees, But Bans Most “Worker” Non-Compete Clauses
April 26, 2024

Seven Akerman Lawyers Recognized as *Franchise Times* 2024 Legal Eagles
April 02, 2024

Akerman Hosts Annual Franchise Business Network Global Summer Summit
July 18, 2023

- Golden Key National Honor Society, Member
- Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity, Member
- Phi Sigma Sigma Alumni Association, Member
- Omicron Delta Kappa Society, Member
- Rotary International Foundation Scholar Alumni Association, Member

Honors and Distinctions

- *Franchise Times*, 2023-2024, Recognized as a “Legal Eagle”