

September 16, 2020

## Michael Best Named Best Law Firm for Women by Working Mother

Michael Best is pleased to announce that it has been recognized as one of this year's Best Law Firms for Women by *Working Mother*. The list, in its thirteenth year, recognizes firms that utilize best practices to recruit, retain, promote and develop women lawyers. Michael Best is one of 60 firms that earned spots on this year's list.

"It is an honor to be recognized by *Working Mother* as a firm that supports the advancement of female attorneys," said Farrah Rifelj, Partner, Co-Chair of the firm's Diversity & Inclusion Committee, Management Committee Member, and mother of 3. "I'm proud of the strides we've made at Michael Best and within the legal community over my 17 years with the firm, but there's still work to be done, which the global pandemic has highlighted. As a firm, we are continuously discussing and shaping how we can support our attorneys as they juggle the demands from clients and the needs of their families."

At Michael Best, diversity is one of the firm's core values. The firm is committed to fostering a diverse, inclusive culture, hiring and retaining diverse attorneys and staff, and helping advance their careers. It upholds that commitment through a variety of programs, benefits, and policies, including the firm's women's initiative, which focuses on identifying and addressing issues of particular concern to women at Michael Best and in the legal profession in general; Milk Stork, a breast milk delivery service for traveling mothers which provides refrigerated, express shipping or easy toting of breast milk home; its parental/family leave policy, which provides up to 16 weeks of paid leave following the birth or adoption of a child; as well as alternative work schedules and remote work offerings. The firm also has a Women's Professional Development Group in each of its offices, comprised of female attorneys and professionals that provide training and seminars to address the unique challenges women face in their business development as well as individualized guidance and support.

"It can be difficult for working parents to find a balance between their personal and professional lives, something that has become even more evident in light of the global pandemic and many districts utilizing virtual schooling," said Kelly Fortier, Former Chair of the Women's Development Group. "It is incredibly helpful to work for a firm that not only values a work-life balance but also offers a wide range of flexible options for doing so."

The winning firms will be honored at a virtual conference, Working Mother Best Law Firms for Women: Winning in a Virtual World, on Tuesday, September 22, 2020. According to *Working Mother*, the event will bring together lawyers from leading firms to delve into conversations on how to overcome the current landscape in order to lead and win in the workplace. For more information or to register for the virtual event, please [click here](#).

### Related People

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