

## **José A. Olivieri**

**Managing Partner, Milwaukee Office  
Industry Group Co-Chair, Higher Education**

### **Overview**

José is the founder of Michael Best's immigration law practice. Clients depend on his deep knowledge of and experience with U.S. immigration law and employment-based immigration matters, including:

- Immigration status
- Permanent labor certification
- National interest waiver
- Adjustment of status
- Consular processing
- Citizenship and naturalization
- I-9 compliance

José co-leads the firm's Higher Education Industry Group and counsels colleges and universities on issues including governance, Title IX, student discipline, and labor contract administration.

Employers also depend on José for advice and training on employment law issues such as:

- Federal and state discrimination law
- National Labor Relations Board (NLRB)
- Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission (WERC)
- Fair Labor Standards Act
- Employee termination and discipline
- Unemployment compensation

José has taught the Advanced Employment Law Seminar at Marquette University Law School and is a frequent speaker on an array of employment and immigration-related topics.



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### **Milwaukee**

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### **Legal Assistant**

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### **Industries**

Higher Education

### **Practices**

Employment Policies, Practices &  
Audits

Immigration

Labor & Employment Relations

Labor-Management Relations

Unfair Competition & Trade Secrets

## Experience

### Higher Education Know-How

José's extensive experience with higher education clients includes leading colleges through presidential succession planning and execution. José also helped a college develop a disciplinary process for employees after a major change in state law; represented a public college in processing employee termination appeals under a new system; and advised and litigated for a college regarding a claim by a student involving Title IX processing (the student dropped the lawsuit after an initial hearing). When an employee at another college fell out of immigration status, José advised the client on how to obtain new immigration status for the employee and continue employment after seeking a visa at a U.S. consulate. José has developed training programs in Title IX and Clery Act matters for several colleges, both private and public.

### Securing Visas in Difficult Circumstances

José obtained an H-1B visa for an individual working in security analysis for a technology client using various industry expert reports in face of a difficult request for evidence from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service. Additionally, José developed a training program which allowed a Spain-based company to send employees to the U.S. to receive training under the J visa waiver program.

### Handling Large-Scale Immigration Matters for Corporations

José handled the immigration portion of a multi-million dollar transaction involving the acquisition of a computer systems consulting firm by a financial services technology consulting firm. Working under tight pressure, José ensured that the purchaser had all appropriate immigration status for employees as of the date of the transaction's closing. José also advised an international investor in the U.S. in corporate, tax, immigration, and all other issues to establish a multi-million dollar food manufacturing operation in the United States.

### Employment Law Guidance

José guided a Board of Directors through an investigation and termination of a chief executive officer. Litigation of the matter included claims of discrimination, breach of contract, and constitutional due process. Both the trial court and court of appeals upheld the decision of the Board of Directors.

## Honors & Recognitions

- "Lawyer of the Year," Employment Law – Management (Milwaukee) – *The Best Lawyers in America* 2018
- Milwaukee-area Power Broker, *Milwaukee Business Journal*, 2017, 2018
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Administrative and Immigration Law, 2007-present
- Leading Immigration Lawyer, *Chambers USA*, 2008-present
- Robert H. Friebert Social Justice Award, Jewish Community Relations Council, 2017
- Top Latino Lawyers, *Latino Leaders* magazine, 2016, 2017, 2018
- Executive Leadership Award, Hispanic Professionals of Greater Milwaukee, 2016
- One of Wisconsin's 48 most powerful Latinos, Channel 3000, 2016

- Leaders in the Law, *Wisconsin Law Journal*, 2015
- NFL Hispanic Heritage Leadership Award, 2013
- "Lawyer of the Year," Administrative/Regulatory Law (Milwaukee) – *The Best Lawyers in America* 2012
- Leading Lawyers, Milwaukee's *M Magazine*, 2012, 2015
- "Wisconsin Super Lawyers" list, *Super Lawyers* magazine, 2006-2007, 2011-2013, 2016-2017

### **Professional Activities**

- Board Member, First Federal Bank of Wisconsin
- Member, National Association of College and University Attorneys (NACUA)
- Chair, Carroll University's Board of Trustees
- Member, American Immigration Lawyers Association
- Member, American Bar Association
- Founding Member and Past President, Wisconsin Hispanic Lawyers Association
- Board Member, Equal Justice Campaign
- Member, Senator Herbert Kohl's (D-Wisconsin) Task Force established to provide the Senator with advice on the nominations to the United States Supreme Court
- Judge, Central City Business Awards - Milwaukee
- Past Chair, Michael Best's Labor & Employment Relations Practice Group
- Past Chair, Labor and Employment Law Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin
- Past Board Member, Legal Action of Wisconsin

### **Education**

- Marquette University Law School, Juris Doctor (J.D.), 1981
- Carroll University, Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), *cum laude*, 1978

### **Admissions**

- Wisconsin
- United States District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin

### **Community Involvement**

- Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, Mount Mary University
- Chair, Carroll University's Board of Trustees
- Board President, United Community Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- Milwaukee Public Library Foundation, President, 2002-2004, Member, 1998-2008
- Past Board Member, Greater Milwaukee Foundation, Past President, 1997-1999
- Past Board Member, Milwaukee Art Museum

- Past Board Member, United Way of Greater Milwaukee
- Past Board Member, Milwaukee Community Service Corps

## **Related News**

### **PUBLICATION**

October 3, 2019  
ICE Begins Conducting Site Visits for STEM OPT Employees

### **PUBLICATION**

October 1, 2019  
NLRB Proposed Rule Seeks Clarity on Graduate Student Union Rights

### **PUBLICATION**

September 10, 2019  
FTC Holds For-Profit Higher Education Provider Accountable for Vendors' Lead Generation, Privacy, and TSR Violations

### **NEWS**

August 15, 2019  
Michael Best Attorneys Named The Best Lawyers in America© 2020

### **PUBLICATION**

August 1, 2019  
Title IX Claim Permitted To Proceed In Hazing Death

### **PUBLICATION**

July 29, 2019  
Higher Education Data Breaches Draw Response from Federal Agencies

### **NEWS**

July 24, 2019  
*Wisconsin Law Journal*  
Diversity becomes a Best practice

### **PUBLICATION**

July 22, 2019  
Department of Education's Financial Responsibility Standards and Reporting Requirements Apply to both Public and Private Institutions

### **EVENT**

May 21, 2019  
31st Annual Labor & Employment Relations Law Seminar

**NEWS**

April 26, 2019

Chambers USA Recognizes Twenty-Four Michael Best Partners in 2019 Rankings

**PUBLICATION**

April 16, 2019

Executive Order Requires Free Inquiry On College Campuses

**PUBLICATION**

April 8, 2019

Social Security No-Match Letters Return

**PUBLICATION**

February 26, 2019

*Law360*

Settlement Underscores DOJ Policy Of Encouraging FCA Suits

**PUBLICATION**

February 15, 2019

DOJ Settles Student Recruitment False Claims Act Case

**PUBLICATION**

February 4, 2019

Time to Start Preparing H-1B “Cap” Petitions for Filing on April 1

**NEWS**

January 14, 2019

*Fox 6 News*

‘Just getting started:’ Hispanic Collaborative aimed at addressing disparities, opportunities in Milwaukee

**NEWS**

December 21, 2018

Michael Best Recognized for 2018 United Way Workplace Giving Campaign

**NEWS**

November 30, 2018

Three Michael Best Attorneys Recognized As Top Latino Lawyers

**NEWS**

November 27, 2018

*Inside Higher Ed*

Olivieri quoted in, “What the DeVos Title IX Rule Means for Misconduct Off Campus”

**PUBLICATION**

November 19, 2018

The Department of Education Proposes New Regulations under Title IX

**EVENT**

November 14, 2018  
Milwaukee Higher Education Roundtable

**NEWS**

November 7, 2018  
*Milwaukee Business Journal*  
Olivieri Again Honored as Milwaukee-area Power Broker in 2018

**PUBLICATION**

September 20, 2018  
When is a College's Silence a Lie? False Claims and Financial Aid

**PUBLICATION**

September 6, 2018  
USCIS Suspends Premium Processing Service for Most H-1B Petitions

**NEWS**

August 15, 2018  
88 Michael Best Attorneys Named The Best Lawyers in America© 2019

**PUBLICATION**

June 7, 2018  
U.S. DOL Clarifies Overtime Pay for Higher Education Institutions in Recent Fact Sheet

**PUBLICATION**

May 31, 2018  
University of Denver to Pay More Than \$2.6 Million to Resolve Law School Professor Equal Pay and Title VII Claims

**EVENT**

May 10, 2018  
30th Anniversary Labor & Employment Relations Law Seminar

**NEWS**

May 3, 2018  
Chambers USA Recognizes Twenty-Six Michael Best Partners in 2018 Rankings

**NEWS**

February 14, 2018  
*Bloomberg Law*  
Olivieri quoted in, "Access to Skilled Visas Could Become Even More of a Long Shot"

**NEWS**

February 7, 2018  
*Law360*



Olivieri featured in Law360's Attys Brace For More Scrutiny Of H-1B Visa Applications

**PUBLICATION**

January 23, 2018

Time to Start Preparing for April 1st H-1B "Cap" Filings

**NEWS**

December 27, 2017

*Latino Leaders Magazine*

Leon & Olivieri Recognized Among Top Latino Lawyers

**NEWS**

December 14, 2017

Michael Best Recognized for 2017 United Way Workplace Giving Campaign

**NEWS**

December 6, 2017

*Wisconsin Law Journal*

Olivieri Strikes a Balance Between Practice, Community Work

**NEWS**

October 25, 2017

*Milwaukee Business Journal*

Olivieri honored as Milwaukee-area Power Broker