

## **OCTOBER 2021 MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**



## Elise A. Fialkowski Partner, <u>Klasko Immigration Law Partners, LLP</u>

# Tell us about your firm or business including history, specialization, and years in business.

Klasko Immigration Law Partners (KILP) provides creative solutions to complex immigration problems. The firm has a reputation for finding a path to clients' immigration goals especially when other firms and lawyers have said there is no way forward. The KILP team assists employers in managing complex corporate immigration programs to meet their talent needs; assists startup companies through all phases of growth; assists investors and entrepreneurs in creating investment-based immigration projects; and assists individuals of extraordinary ability, academic researchers, professors, international medical graduates, and physicians, as well as individuals whose immigration in is the national interest, in obtaining immigration benefits. KILP assists employers with internal audits and training to ensure I-9, H-1B LCA, and E Verify compliance. The firm has also established itself as leading the efforts in litigation options for corporate clients, individuals, and specifically, EB-5 investors.

#### What's an interesting fact about you or your firm that most people don't know?

Our firm has recently grown to 109 employees and 90 of those employees are female! We also pride ourselves on diversity and have 29 diverse females.

#### What's a favorite moment of your career so far?

It was a pivotal moment when our firm grew to 100 employees, all dedicated to immigration. We have an amazing group of employees, and it is a joy to work with such a talented group who deeply care about our clients and producing top quality work.

#### What challenge are you most proud of overcoming?

This past year has been incredibly challenging for immigration, especially as the world faced global travel bans and restrictions. Despite these challenges, I have been able to assist university

and corporate clients to overcome travel bans and obtain National Interest Exception Waivers to bring key talent to the United States in critical infrastructure areas like healthcare, research, technology, and pharmaceuticals.

#### Tell us about a recent professional accomplishment of yours?

I just learned that I have been named the Best Lawyers<sup>©</sup> 2022 Immigration Law "Lawyer of the Year" in Philadelphia. I have been included in Best Lawyers in America<sup>©</sup> since 2018, but it is an incredible honor to be named "Lawyer of the Year" especially as the world faces incredible immigration challenges and travel bans due to the pandemic.

#### Tell us about a recent personal accomplishment of yours?

I was recently asked to join the board of the John F. Peto Studio Museum in Island Heights, New Jersey. I have always loved the arts and it is an honor and pleasure to volunteer for the board seeking to preserve John Peto's legacy as a leading American artist.

#### What advice would you offer new business owners?

Seek out mentors and surround yourself with leading women in the field. Join organizations like WOL to meet key talent and learn how to manage and grow your business.

#### How can you help other Women Owned Law members improve their businesses?

I am happy to provide examples of things that I have done to grow my business and my team. WOL is an amazing organization, and I am still learning from colleagues as well.

### How has Women Owned Law been of value to you and your career?

I have met amazing and wonderful women attorneys who have helped me and provided valuable guidance, support and friendship. I recently participated in Ivy Slater's Mastermind group sponsored by WOL. Ivy was wonderful and she helped the group connect and learn from each other.

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### About Women Owned Law

Women Owned Law is a ground-breaking group created to connect and advance women legal entrepreneurs. WOL supports its members and other women entrepreneurs in the law in their business endeavors at every point in the business lifecycle. We advocate on behalf of women legal entrepreneurs and have been instrumental in raising the profile of women entrepreneurs in the law.

For additional information about Women Owned Law visit <u>www.womenownedlaw.org</u>