

KATHERINE OTTO

Recht Kornfeld, P.C.

1600 Stout Street, Suite 1400 • Denver, CO 80202 88

30 Broad Street, Suite 1402 • New York, NY 10004

Cell (720) 233-8187 • katherine@rklawpc.com

CURRENT RECOGNITIONS

2025 Colorado Top 50 Women – Super Lawyer

2025 Colorado Top 100 – Super Lawyer

2025 Colorado Super Lawyer

2025 Denver's 5280 Magazine Top Lawyer

2025 Best Lawyers in America

2025 Rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York, 2017

Colorado, 2007

District of Colorado, Southern District of New York, Eastern District of New York, and Western District of New York; Misc. *pro hac* admissions: Wyoming, California, Nebraska, Nevada

LEGAL EDUCATION

J.D., University of Denver Sturm College of Law, 2007

- Law Review, Senior Staff Editor
- Denver Journal of International Law and Policy, Editorial Board
- Criminal Representation Clinic, Student Attorney
- Scholastic Excellence Awards, Torts and Discovery Practicum

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Shareholder, Recht Kornfeld, P.C.

June 2024 - Present

- Lead counsel for Colorado and New York professional liability trial teams
- First-chair experience defending licensed professionals in jury trials
- Defense of healthcare professionals in malpractice claims and lawsuits
- Defense of healthcare professionals in regulatory, administrative, and disciplinary actions
- Representation of healthcare professionals in rulemaking and legislative activity
- Consulting advice to healthcare professionals, clinics, and facilities
- Defense of attorneys in malpractice claims and lawsuits
- Defense of attorneys in grievance, administrative, and disciplinary actions
- Consulting advice to attorneys regarding ethics and professionalism compliance
- Consulting advice to licensed individuals regarding regulatory, administrative, and disciplinary actions
- Representation of licensed professionals in appellate proceedings, including appellate briefing and oral argument

Partner, Messner Reeves LLP

July 2017- May 2024

Of Counsel, McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP

September 2008 – July 2017

*Law Clerk, Honorable Gerald J. Rafferty, 18th Judicial District (Arapahoe County)
August 2007 – September 2008*

*Intern, Honorable Stephen M. Munsinger, 1st Judicial District (Jefferson County)
January 2006 – May 2006*

APPELLATE OPINIONS

Benavidez v. Lucero, DDS, No. 22CA001816 (Colo. App. Dec. 7, 2023) (cert. denied)
Klein v. Hansen, DC, No. 21CA1546 (Colo. App. Feb. 23, 2023)
Kayla Fox v. William Alfini Jr., DC and Brady Chiropractic Group, P.C., No. 2018CO94 (Colo. 2018)
Foster et al. v. Structural Integrity Associates, Inc. et al., No. 12CA0402 (Colo. App. Div. 6 2013) (cert. denied)
Alice Casias v. Interstate Brands Corp. and Ace American Ins. Co., W.C. No. 4-740-818-02 (I.C.A.O. 2013)
David Cortese v. Kaiser Space Products and Home Insurance Co. c/o Colorado Insurance Guaranty Association, W.C. No. 4-171-138 (I.C.A.O. 2010)
Barnett v. Elite Prop. of America, Inc., 252 P.3d 14 (Colo. App. Div. 2 2010) (cert. denied)
Clements DPM v. Davies DPM, 217 P.3d 912 (Colo. App. 2009) (cert. denied)
Holly Hand v. Peterson Contractors Excavation, Inc. W.C. No. 4-392-766 (I.C.A.O. 2009)

ARTICLES

Katherine Otto, *Embracing Social Media Investigation: Five Steps to Optimize Admissibility at Trial*, FOR THE DEFENSE (May 2018).

John Zen Jackson and Katherine Otto, *The Lack of Insurance Coverage and Reimbursement for Medical Marijuana*, MD ADVISOR, Vol. 6, Issue 4 (2013).

HONORS

Martindale-Hubbell rated A.V. Preeminent, 2018 - Present
Colorado Super Lawyer Rising Star 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018
Top 50 Women Lawyers in Colorado – Super Lawyer
Colorado Super Lawyer 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
Recognized in *Law Week Colorado*, Aug. 30, 2023 for chiropractic defense specialty, “Specialty Spotlight: Cracking the Chiropractic Defense.”
Recognized in *Law Week Colorado*, Nov. 17, 2021 for defense victories in trial, “Messner Reeves Partner Wins Malpractice Marathon.”
Recognized in DRI’s *The Voice*, Vol. 13, Issue 37 for defense victory in catastrophic personal injury case

PRESENTATIONS

“When Worlds Collide: The Intersection of Attorney Malpractice and OARC Investigations,” Colorado Defense Lawyers Association CLE, December 2024, Denver, Colorado

“Mining Social Media: Evidentiary Tips and Ethical Guidance,” Montana Defense Trial Lawyers Annual Conference, October 2024, Missoula, Montana

“Boundary Issues in the Chiropractic Profession,” Northwestern Health Sciences University Homecoming Seminar, February 2024, Bloomington, Minnesota

“Effective Social Media: Mining for Malpractice Cases,” NCMIC Panel Counsel Meeting, October 2023, Scottsdale, Arizona

“Boundary Issues in the Chiropractic Profession,” ACC/RCC Conference, March 2023, New Orleans, Louisiana

“Before You Slide Into the DM’s: Ethical Pitfalls in Social Media Investigation,” DRI Senior Living and Long Term Care Litigation Seminar, September 2022, Nashville, Tennessee

“Colorado Case Law Updates,” Colorado Defense Lawyers Association Annual Conference, August 2022, Snowmass, Colorado

“Challenges of Electronic Medical Record Charting in Litigation,” Colorado Defense Lawyers Association CLE, January 2021, Denver, Colorado

“Protecting Yourself and Your Client,” Colorado Defense Lawyers Association Ethics CLE, June 2020, Denver, Colorado.

“Strategies for Men and Women to Address Sexism in the Workplace,” Colorado Defense Lawyers Association CLE, January 2020, Denver, Colorado

“Social Media Investigation and Admissibility,” DRI Medical Liability Seminar, March 2019, Nashville, Tennessee

“A Tale of Two Advocates: How Investigation of Employment Claims Differs Among Plaintiff and Defense Lawyers,” Colorado Bar Association Employment Law Conference, September 2018, Vail, Colorado

“Fluidity of Power: Power Plays in the Legal Profession,” Colorado Defense Lawyers Association Annual Conference, July 2018, Telluride, Colorado.

“Ethics & Boundaries in Chiropractic Practice: Documenting Appropriate Practice,” 4 CE Credits Approved by Colorado State Board of Chiropractic, March 2018, Boulder, Colorado

“Ethics Opinion 130: Sharing Litigation Materials,” Colorado Defense Lawyers Association Ethics CLE, October 2017, Denver, Colorado

“Women in the Law: Strategies to Avoid Sexism in the Workplace.” Colorado Defense Lawyers Association CLE, April 2017, Greenwood Village, Colorado

“Instawhat? Social Media For Lawyers.” Colorado Defense Lawyers Association Ethics CLE, October 2016, Denver, Colorado

“Effective Communication...Real Expectations,” Colorado Foot and Ankle Society Annual Meeting of Podiatric Surgeons, October 2016, Greenwood Village, Colorado

“The Interplay of Worker’s Compensation and Medical Malpractice: Synergies and Strategies,” Colorado Defense Lawyers Association Annual Conference, July 2016, Snowmass, Colorado

“Demonstrating and Documenting Careful, Competent and Caring Treatment,” Colorado Foot and Ankle Society Annual Meeting of Podiatric Surgeons, October 2015, Greenwood Village, Colorado

“Lessons Learned From Practicing in Front of Different Boards,” Colorado Defense Lawyers Association Annual Conference, July 2015, Steamboat Springs, Colorado

“Work Life Balance,” University of Colorado Law School Women In the Law Day, April 2015, Boulder, Colorado

“Bring Your Own Device: Risks of Electronic Communications,” Colorado Foot and Ankle Society Annual Meeting of Podiatric Surgeons, October 2014, Greenwood Village, Colorado

“Taking the Medical Malpractice Plaintiff’s Deposition,” Colorado Defense Lawyers Association Annual Conference, August 2014, Telluride, Colorado

PRO BONO WORK

Representation of veterans in claims for benefits before Veterans’ Administration
Indigent domestic, misdemeanor criminal and civil cases
Big Dogs Huge Paws Rescue, Colorado 501(c)(3) non-profit
Colorado Feline Foster Rescue

MENTORING/LEGAL COMMUNITY

Mentor, Colorado Attorney Mentoring Program
Mentor, CDLA Trial Academy, November 2014, April 2015, April 2016, April 2017
Delegate, Pledge to Diversity Program, 2013 - 2016

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Defense Research Institute, Annual Seminar Chair, Medical Liability Committee, 2022-2023
Colorado Defense Lawyers Association Board of Directors, Communications Director 2014 – 2018
Colorado Defense Lawyers Association, Vice-Chair of Medical Malpractice Substantive Law Committee, 2014
Colorado Defense Lawyers Association, Chair of Membership Committee, 2011 – 2014
Colorado Pledge to Diversity Board of Directors, 2016 - 2017
Defense Research Institute
Colorado Bar Association
Denver Bar Association
New York State Bar Association
New York State Medical Defense Bar Association
Association for Healthcare Risk Management of New York
American Bar Association
National Association of Chiropractic Attorneys