



2021 Franchise Times Legal Eagles

Chris Bussert

John Jett

Marc Lieberstein

Kitt Shipe

Four Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named 2021 *Franchise Times* Legal Eagles

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton is proud to announce that attorneys [Chris Bussert](#), [John Jett](#), [Marc Lieberstein](#), and [Kitt Shipe](#) were named *2021 Franchise Times Legal Eagles*, a recognition of accomplished attorneys who have a deep understanding of legal and business issues impacting the franchise industry.

Franchise Times Legal Eagles are selected based on nominations from clients, peers, and other legal professionals. The nominations are then judged by Franchise Times editors.

This is Mr. Bussert's eighth time, Ms. Shipe's fifth time, Mr. Lieberstein's fourth time and John Jett's first time receiving this recognition, highlighting the strength and depth of Kilpatrick Townsend's franchising practice.

Chris Bussert is Co-Chair of the firm's Franchise team, which is part of the firm's Trademark & Copyright team. He has more than 35 years' experience in representing franchisors in franchise and intellectual property litigation including proceedings before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, and in licensing and trademark clearance and prosecution matters. Chris is the former Editor in Chief of the Franchise Law Journal and formerly served on the Governing Committee of the ABA Forum on Franchising.

John Jett has helped national franchisors prevail in bet-the-company single-party and class action litigation, at trial, and in arbitration. While representing plaintiffs he has helped franchisors recover millions of dollars; and while representing defendants, he has helped franchisors defeat claims in the many tens of millions of dollars. He also serves as an advisor to several franchisors in their pre-litigation efforts to reduce risk in their franchisee and vendor relationships.

Marc Lieberstein is Co-Chair of the firm's Franchise team and its Retail & Consumer Goods Industry team. His practice focuses on franchising and intellectual property licensing in the retail/consumer goods and services areas and food and beverage industry, including the drafting, negotiation, and enforcement of franchise and license agreements and documents. In conjunction with the services above, Marc counsel's clients on how to implement their branding and commercialization objectives and creating effective strategies for procuring, protecting and enforcing their global intellectual property assets.

Kitt Shipe has assisted dozens of companies in structuring, forming, launching, and growing successful franchise programs in numerous industries for over 20 years. She routinely counsels franchise companies and private equity on the purchase and sale of franchise systems, and represents individual owners in the purchase and sale of existing businesses. In addition, she counsels clients on the purchase of franchise rights, assisting in the review of franchise disclosure documents, franchise agreements, development agreements, area representative agreements, and master rights agreements.

Listen to the team's interviews with Jim Blasingame:

[The Difference Between Franchise Council and Franchise Associations](#)

[How the American Relief Act Helps All Restaurants](#)

For more information on Kilpatrick Townsend's Franchise Team, please click [here](#).

Follow the firm on Twitter: [@KTS_Law](#).

If you have any questions, please contact:

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