



Insights: News

Kilpatrick Attorneys Named 2025 Illinois Super Lawyers and Rising Stars

February 6, 2025

CHICAGO (February 6) — [Kilpatrick](#) announced today that five of the firm's attorneys in Chicago, Illinois, were recognized as 2025 Super Lawyers or 2025 Rising Stars.

The distinction honors attorneys who attain a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement as some of their region's preeminent lawyers. *Super Lawyers* is a rating service of lawyers across more than 70 practice areas. The selection process includes independent research, peer nominations, and peer evaluations, all of which result in a comprehensive and diverse listing of the top five percent of attorneys in each state.

The following Kilpatrick attorneys were recognized as either a Super Lawyer or as a Rising Star (*):

[**Jeri Baran**](#) focuses her practice on labor and employment law. She assists clients in resolving employment issues and implementing best practices to better focus their business and achieve their personal goals

[**Nate Delman**](#) focuses his practice on bankruptcy and insolvency matters including business reorganization, committee representation, and the protection of secured and unsecured creditors' rights in insolvency situations.

[**Payal Patel**](#)* focuses her practice on business and finance, mergers and acquisitions, financing transactions, and other complex commercial transactions.

[**Rob Smeltzer**](#) has represented clients for more than 30 years in all phases of complex commercial, intellectual property, and labor and employment counseling and litigation. Rob's business and intellectual property law experience includes extensive trade secrets, restrictive covenants, breach of fiduciary duty and related tort litigation and counseling, contract, warranty, and officer and shareholder suits, as well as non-patent intellectual property litigation and counseling, and acting as an outside general counsel for mid-market companies, including drafting contracts and commercial agreements.

[**Jeff Zaluda**](#) is co-leader of the firm's Private Client practice. He focuses his practice on wealth preservation, estate planning and administration, fiduciary counsel and litigation, business planning, asset protection planning, and philanthropic planning and deployment of capital for social impact

Follow the firm on [LinkedIn](#) for the latest updates.

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