

Business Person Profile

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Ten words that describe your business: Business law firm. Nimble. Responsive. Cost-Effective. Loyal. Thorough. Creative. Dependable.

What was your first job? Lifeguard and swimming instructor.

What is your greatest business motivation? To build a strong law firm that continues long after I retire.

What was your best business decision? Relocating our main office from Dearborn to Birmingham. Not only is my commute down to 4 minutes, but it's a better location for the type of work we do.

What is the strangest request you have ever had? Setting up a trust to care for a pet after the owner's death.

How has your business evolved? Ten years ago, I split off from the firm I was with and started a solo practice. We have expanded as I needed help to keep up with the work. We now have five attorneys and four full-time staff.

What is one unique aspect about your business that people may not know? We have developed considerable experience in inverse condemnation (government interference with land use), including jury verdicts of \$4.0 and \$6.8 Million against the City of Detroit.

Who has been your role model or inspiration? I have had several mentors over the years, but learned the most from Bob Ufer when we were practicing together. Our firms collaborate on cases.

What is the best place you have lived or traveled? My Dad was in the Air Force when I was growing up. I was born in France. We later lived in Ankara, Turkey when I was in fourth and fifth grades.

When not working, I am That doesn't happen as often as I would like, but when I'm not at work I can often be found at a lacrosse field. Three of our kids played lacrosse in college. Kevin is currently the Captain of the University of Detroit Mercy's new Division I men's lacrosse team. Melissa has coached the Birmingham high school (Seaholm and Groves) girl's JV lacrosse team for several years. Ryan is now the defensive coach for the University of Michigan men's team. I am on the Board of Directors of U.S. Lacrosse Michigan.