

GRAVES GARRETT NEWS

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Ben Tompkins returns to roots, aims to help firm expand services

Benjamin Tompkins' law education and career took him to both coasts of the United States, but eventually, the heartland called him back home.

This past October, the experienced and accomplished attorney made the move after accepting a position as counsel for Graves Garrett. The environment at the firm and Tompkins' legal experience perfectly meshed, and he continues his work to help build up a burgeoning tax practice for the Kansas City litigation firm.

Tompkins graduated from Shawnee Mission Northwest High School in Kansas, but he hadn't lived in the Midwest for 20 years.

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TODD GRAVES FEATURED IN ABA JOURNAL

The ABA Journal recently used Graves Garrett founding partner Todd Graves as the focus of a story highlighting attorneys with other interests outside of the legal industry.



Todd Graves

Graves describes himself as a "seventh-generation rancher" in addition to his duties with the firm. The dual roles on his farm in Edgerton, Missouri, and at his office in downtown Kansas City are detailed in the lengthy feature. The article focuses on various attorneys but opens with an observation that Graves "learned early on that his cows don't care about his day job."

The full article is on attorneys who "have essentially built second careers — making money, gaining recognition, building brands and reporting a level of

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GRAVES GARRETT PARTNER FISHER NAMED TO 20TH INGRAM'S CLASS OF "40 UNDER FORTY"

Ingram's Magazine named Graves Garrett partner Kathleen Fisher to its annual "40 Under Forty" list published this week.

In the 20th anniversary class, Fisher was recognized as an individual in the Kansas City metro area under 40 who has demonstrated commitment to leadership in both her career and her community. Noting Fisher's accomplishments, Ingram's states she is "flat-out getting it done in a legal career that has spanned criminal, civil, prosecution and defense work."

Ingram's annually selects the 40 Under Forty list from nominations throughout the metro area. Candidates are judged based on ethics, integrity, commitment to entrepreneurial thinking, record of achievement in business, leadership skills, professional affiliation and community service.

Fisher's practice at Graves Garrett

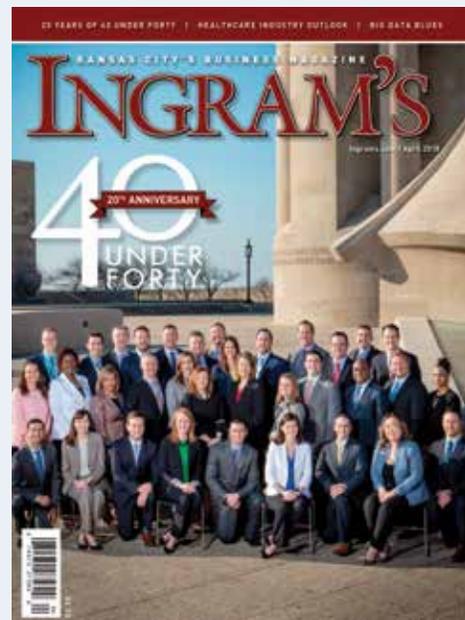
focuses on defense of civil, criminal and regulatory investigations, as well as qui tam claims and False Claims Act/healthcare cases. She has experience representing individuals and businesses in a variety of complex government investigations, including healthcare fraud, civil and criminal tax matters, civil and criminal forfeitures, FDIC and SEC violations, environmental violations, mail fraud, wire fraud, and other financial and white-collar crime cases.

Fisher joined Graves Garrett in 2008, bringing extensive trial experience from her stint as a state prosecutor in St. Joseph, Missouri.

Fisher's community involvement includes volunteering with the Adopt-a-Family program and the



Kathleen Fisher



Early Education Trike-A-Thon at St. Therese North, the largest school in the diocese. She also currently serves as president of St. Therese North's advisory council. ■

KCMBA APPOINTS RAITINGER TO PAIR OF COMMITTEES

Graves Garrett associate attorney Callie Pippin Raitinger has been selected to serve on two different committees for the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association (KCMBA). She will be a part of the organization's inaugural Wellness Committee in addition to the Communication Advisory Committee.



Callie Pippin Raitinger

KCMBA is the largest and oldest bar association in the Kansas City area, founded in 1884. The organization uses its platform to provide current, innovative and relevant service to its 5,000 members in its nine-county service territory in Missouri and Kansas.

Raitinger will serve with eight others on the Wellness Committee, and its focus will be to address physical, mental and emotional well-being of attorneys engaged in the often stressful practice of law.

The Communication Advisory Committee helps develop content and review incoming article proposals for the KC Counselor. This committee works with KCMBA to create a robust editorial calendar for the magazine, with members helping to write articles, as needed.

KCMBA credits its continued success to the vibrant dedication and volunteerism of its members, who

generously give their time and talents to projects and other pro bono and community-based organizations. KCMBA has 40 committees and eight sections.

"I'm honored to have the chance to serve on these committees alongside other talented professionals," Raitinger said. "This is a tremendous opportunity to help others in the local legal community, and I look forward to producing positive results for KCMBA in these roles."

Raitinger's practice at Graves Garrett includes representing clients in a variety of litigation cases, with her background ranging from intellectual property and business disputes to contract law and employment-related matters. She currently serves as a councilmember on the Missouri Bar Young Lawyers' Section, where she also serves as chair and editor of the YLS Blog and chair of its Public Service Committee. ■

HUNKINS ELECTED TO THE MISSOURI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION KANSAS CITY CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Graves Garrett attorney Garrett Hunkins was recently elected to the Kansas City chapter of the Missouri Alumni Association's (MAAKC) board of directors.

In this role, Hunkins will help manage MAAKC and support the University of Missouri and its alumni association through fundraising and by providing services and programming for alumni. The chapter represents all Mizzou alumni members in the five-county Kansas City metropolitan area (Clay, Jackson, and Platte in Missouri; Johnson and Wyandotte in Kansas). MAAKC comprises more than 4,100 members.

MAAKC promotes Mizzou in the metro area and supports local students in attending the University of Missouri through scholarships as well as highlighting the University's values, diversity, and academic and athletic traditions of excellence.

MAAKC hosts two major fundraising events each year — Tiger Ball and Tiger Tailgate. Tiger Ball is a gala held in the spring and Tiger Tailgate is a family-friendly event held in the fall at Silverstein Eye Centers Arena. In addition to his service to the board, Hunkins also serves on MAAKC's Tiger Tailgate Committee.

Hunkins is an associate at Graves Garrett and supports the firm's Commercial and Business Litigation, White Collar Criminal Defense, and Free Speech & Election Law practice groups. He focuses his practice on litigation involving both corporate and political clients. ■



Garrett Hunkins

WASHINGTON POST FEATURES COMMENTS FROM MARTIN IN RECENT ARTICLE

The Washington Post recently published an article featuring the work of Graves Garrett LLC and quoting attorney Dane Martin on the significance of a preliminary approval for settlement in the NorCal Tea Party Patriots, et al v. IRS.

Graves Garrett represents more than 400 entities in a class-action lawsuit against the IRS arising from its targeting of Tea Party cases. The preliminary total for compensation is \$3.5 million, and Martin spoke to The Washington Post on the importance of the compensation to eligible groups. Final approval of the settlement is scheduled for this summer.

Martin and Graves Garrett partner Eddie Greim have worked on the case, which is now in its fifth year. The Tea Party groups filed suit against the IRS in 2013 asserting that it targeted certain applicants for tax-exempt status on the basis of their ideological and political viewpoints.

At Graves Garrett, Martin has experience in a broad range of business litigation matters, representing businesses and individuals throughout the country. He has substantial experience defending class actions and other complex litigations against companies nationwide. In addition, Martin is also able to call on his experience in prosecuting class actions, such as in the NorCal lawsuit. He also represents clients in matters including breach of contract disputes, constitutional law, product liability, breach of fiduciary duty, regulatory compliance and investigations, securities law, and consumer protection law. ■



Dane Martin

KANSAS CITY BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS ELECTS GARRETT AS PRESIDENT

Graves Garrett partner Nathan Garrett recently accepted the position of president of the Kansas City (Mo.) Board of Police Commissioners. The other four board members elected Garrett.



Nathan Garrett

Appointed to the board on July 27, 2017, Garrett previously served as vice-president. The Board of Police Commissioners is responsible for overseeing the operations of the KCPD, its nearly 2000 employees and \$250 million-dollar annual budget.

Prior to entering private practice, Garrett served stints as a municipal police officer, Missouri state trooper, state prosecutor, FBI special agent and federal prosecutor. As a federal prosecutor, Garrett served as chief of the Terrorism and National Security Unit in the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Missouri and as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Texas. He also served as a special assistant U.S. attorney while serving as a special agent for the FBI.

Recipient of the 2018 Lawyer of the Year recognition, Garrett's law practice focuses on federal civil and criminal enforcement defense, complex commercial litigation and false claims act (qui tam) prosecution and defense. ■

TODD GRAVES FEATURED IN ABA JOURNAL

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satisfaction they think wouldn't be possible working in law alone."

The ABA Journal is the flagship magazine of the American Bar Association, one of the world's largest voluntary professional organizations with over 400,000 members and more than 3,500 entities. ■



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KCMB A SELECTS ALEXANDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BAR LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Graves Garrett attorney Andrew Alexander will participate in the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association's 2018 Bar Leadership Academy. The KCMB selected Alexander from a distinguished group of applicants. The Bar Leadership Academy ("BLA") is a special program designed to help emerging attorneys in Kansas City become leaders in both the profession and the community. The seven-month program features interactive leadership training sessions with prominent speakers, instructors and discussion facilitators.

Alexander's practice focuses on complex business and commercial litigation; competition litigation and antitrust counseling; federal enforcement actions; trademark and copyright litigation; and healthcare regulatory matters. He began his legal career as a judicial clerk to the Hon. J. Thomas Marten, then chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas. During law school, Alexander interned for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Missouri in the Fraud and Corruption Unit and for the Hon. Fernando J. Gaitan Jr., then chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri. ■

BEN TOMPKINS RETURNS TO ROOTS, AIMS TO HELP FIRM EXPAND SERVICES

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"With a daughter about ready to start high school, it's either now or never," Tompkins said. "It was the right time to come back."

Over the past eight months, Tompkins has focused on growing his practice while also acclimating himself to the Kansas City legal community. He's put an emphasis on meeting people, making professional presentations and finding outlets to publish articles to showcase his legal abilities.

Tompkins built his reputation during two separate and unique government stints. Before coming back to Kansas City, he spent three years at the U.S. attorney's office in Los Angeles, and prior to that, he served almost eight years as a trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice Tax Division in Washington, D.C. Tompkins wants his emphasis areas — tax controversies, white collar criminal defense, internal investigations and corporate compliance — to complement the already respected work at Graves Garrett.

"I wanted to find a place where my experience gelled with the practice," he said. "I was immediately attracted to Graves Garrett, and it was just a great fit."

Tompkins met his wife Sara Tompkins during his undergraduate studies at Pepperdine University in California, and they reconnected while he was working in Washington, D.C., and she was finishing law school in Houston. They have three children, most recently welcoming Isaac to the family this past February.



Isaac Tompkins

"He's been a blessing," Tompkins said.

Life can be hectic right now in the Tompkins household with children ranging in age from a soon-to-be freshman in high school to just a couple of months old. In addition to readjusting to an infant in the house, there are plenty of activities — cross-country and swimming for his oldest daughter, Kate, and horseback riding and swimming for his other daughter, Claire, a rising sixth-grader — plus involvement in church and the community.

But Tompkins has found home again, and he's enjoying the opportunity to live and work in the Kansas City area, planting the seeds of his envisioned practice at Graves Garrett and expecting them to sprout very soon. ■