

# MAIER CERTIFIED AS AN ESTATE PLANNING LAW SPECIALIST



Attorney Joe Maier is newly certified as an Estate Planning Law Specialist by the Estate Law Specialist Board, Inc., an organization accredited by the American Bar Association and affiliated with the National Association of Estate Planners & Councils.

To become Board-certified as an Estate Planning Law Specialist, an attorney must have devoted at least one-third of his or her practice to estate planning for a minimum of five years. In addition to passing a comprehensive examination in estate planning law, the attorney must also receive recommendations from five colleagues and must establish that he or she has at least 36 continuing legal education credits within the last three years.

Joe assists businesses, their owners and investors with employee benefit design and ERISA issues, executive compensation planning, income tax planning surrounding the creation, operation and liquidation of business entities and the creation, formation, merger and acquisition of businesses. Joe assists business owners and families in succession planning and estate planning.

O'Neil, Cannon, Hollman, DeJong & Laing S.C., founded in Milwaukee in 1973, is a full-service legal practice that primarily focuses on providing business law and civil litigation services to closely-held businesses and their owners. The firm represents corporations, institutions and partnerships at all stages of the business life cycle, helping them start, grow and transition from one generation to the next. We also assist business owners with their personal legal needs including tax and estate planning, family law and litigation-including personal injury litigation.

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## MORE HONORS FOR OUR ATTORNEYS



The new lists of *Super Lawyers*® and *Rising Stars* are out and O'Neil, Cannon, Hollman, DeJong & Laing S.C. is proud to announce that 12 (approximately 40%) of our lawyers made the lists. The lists are published in the December 2011 edition of *Milwaukee Magazine*. Our lawyers making the list are:

## Super Lawyers

- James G. DeJong
- Seth E. Dizard
- Peter J. Faust
- John G. Gehringer
- Carl D. Holborn
- Dean P. Laing
- Gregory W. Lyons
- Patrick G. McBride
- Randall L. Nash

## Rising Stars

- Chad J. Richter
- John R. Schreiber
- Jason R. Scoby

The lists of *Super Lawyers* and *Rising Stars* are limited to 5% and 2.5%, respectively, of the lawyers practicing in Wisconsin.

*Milwaukee Magazine* also published lists of the Top 50 Lawyers in Wisconsin and the Top 25 Lawyers in the Milwaukee area, and both [Mr. Laing](#) and [Mr. Faust](#) made those lists as well. This is the sixth consecutive year that Mr. Laing has made the list of the Top 50 Lawyers in Wisconsin, making him the only commercial litigator in Wisconsin to have done so.

As described in the *Milwaukee Magazine* article, the process used for assembling the *Super Lawyers* and *Rising Stars* lists is as follows:

First, we ask lawyers across the state to name the top attorneys they've personally observed in action. We also perform our own research to find outstanding attorneys who may have been overlooked by their peers. Once we have our candidate pool assembled, we access the background, credentials and experience of each lawyer. Specifically, we look at 12 indicators of peer recognition and professional achievement—things like experience, verdicts and settlements, transactions, clients, honors and awards.

The lawyers are then evaluated by a blue ribbon panel of peers within their primary area of practice. Before final selections are made, we divide the lawyers by firm size and chose the top lawyers from each group until we have a list that represents 5 percent of the lawyers in

the state (*Rising Stars lists are limited to 2.5 percent*).

The list of Top 50 Lawyers in Wisconsin is comprised of the 50 lawyers in Wisconsin receiving the highest point totals in the nomination, research and blue ribbon review process. The list of Top 25 Lawyers in the Milwaukee area consists of the 25 lawyers in the Milwaukee area receiving the highest point totals in that same process.

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## ATTORNEY HOLBORN PRESENTED AT FPA FINANCIAL PLANNING SYMPOSIUM



Attorney Carl Holborn presented at the Financial Planning Association of Southern Wisconsin symposium titled “Planning for Change: Putting the Right Pieces Together” at the Country Springs Hotel & Conference Center in Pewaukee on October 27, 2011.

Attorney Holborn discussed the importance of tax returns as a source document in the financial planning process. Two tax returns were used as case examples and were analyzed and dissected to find planning opportunities for a financial planner. He also reviewed other financial planning topics which included maximizing benefits of Capital Gain/Loss transactions, minimizing Alternative Minimum Tax, benefits of paying off a mortgage, considering pre-tax opportunities, IRA planning, using income properties for your benefit, identifying municipal bond needs, funding educational costs, benefits of tax sensitive dividends and minimizing tax costs.

The mission of The Financial Planning Association of Southern Wisconsin is to promote the financial planning process and advance the financial planning profession in accordance with the highest ethical standards by providing education, association, and leadership for the financial services community and the public it serves.

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# ATTORNEY SCOBY REAPPOINTED TO SECOND TERM AS CHAIR OF MBA'S CORPORATE, BANKING & BUSINESS SECTION



Attorney Jason Scoby of O'Neil, Cannon, Hollman, DeJong & Laing S.C. was recently reappointed to serve as Chair of the Corporate, Banking & Business Section of the Milwaukee Bar Association ("MBA"). In this role, Attorney Scoby focuses on providing continuing legal education presentations and resources, as well as networking opportunities for attorneys and other professionals in the corporate, banking, and business field.

Some of the topics to be addressed in upcoming presentations may include:

- Choice of Business Entity and the Associated Business and Tax Implications
- Various Subjects in Mergers and Acquisitions
- Lending Issues
- Ethical Issues Involved in Business Transactions
- Contract Drafting

If you would like further information regarding an upcoming MBA event, or if you are interested in making a presentation for the MBA's Corporate, Banking & Business Section, please contact Jason at [jason.scoby@wilaw.com](mailto:jason.scoby@wilaw.com).

Attorney Scoby is an associate at O'Neil, Cannon, Hollman, DeJong & Laing S.C., where he assists clients on a wide variety of corporate and business-related issues, including commercial transactions, mergers and acquisitions, general corporate law, franchising, contract preparation and negotiation, business entity selection, and regulatory compliance.

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# LAING RECOGNIZED BY BEST LAWYERS AS MILWAUKEE'S PERSONAL INJURY LITIGATION LAWYER OF THE YEAR



*Best Lawyers®*, the oldest and most respected peer-review publication in the legal profession, has named Dean P. Laing as the “Best Lawyers 2012 Milwaukee Personal Injury Litigation Lawyer of the Year.”

After more than a quarter of a century in publication, *Best Lawyers* is designating “Lawyers of the Year” in high-profile legal specialties in large legal communities. Only a single lawyer in each specialty in each community is being honored as the “Lawyer of the Year.”

*Best Lawyers* compiles its lists of outstanding attorneys by conducting exhaustive peer-review surveys in which thousands of leading lawyers confidentially evaluate their professional peers. The current, 18th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* (2012) is based on more than 3.9 million detailed evaluations of lawyers by other lawyers.

The lawyers being honored as “Lawyers of the Year” have received particularly high ratings in our surveys by earning a high level of respect among their peers for their abilities, professionalism, and integrity.

Attorney Dean P. Laing has been with the law firm of O’Neil, Cannon, Hollman, DeJong & Laing S.C. for 28 years and leads the Firm’s litigation practice. In addition to representing Fortune 500 companies and other companies in their business litigation needs, he represents severely injured persons in prosecuting their personal injury claims.

Throughout his legal career, Mr. Laing has been frequently recognized by members of the Wisconsin bar and judiciary as one of the top trial attorneys in Wisconsin. He is board certified as a Civil Trial Specialist by the National Board of Trial Advocacy and a frequent author and speaker on various legal issues.

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# ATTORNEY HOLBORN EXPERT GUEST SPEAKER ON WISN 1130 AM RADIO



Attorney Carl Holborn was the guest speaker on the “Business Solutions” program hosted by Diane Chamness” on Saturday, June 18, 2011 on WISN 1130 AM radio. Carl discussed several aspects of business succession planning to include:

- Can the business be transferred?
- To whom should the business be transferred?
- How can the business be transferred and preserve family harmony?
- How can the business owner receive retirement income and transfer the business?

To learn more about these business succession planning topics and more, [click here](#) to listen to the full broadcast.

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## O'NEIL, CANNON, HOLLMAN, DEJONG & LAING WELCOMES MEGAN EISCH



Attorney [Megan Eisch](#) recently joined the Firm’s Business Law and Banking and Creditors’ Groups. She assists secured and unsecured corporate or individual creditors and other entities with the work out of loans, leases and other obligations. Eisch also regularly represents receivers in state Chapter 128 Receivership proceedings, real estate foreclosures, the wind-up of corporations, collection matters, and with the acquisition or disposition of business assets. She is a recent graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School, J.D., *cum laude*, and is the senior Articles Editor of the *Wisconsin International Law Journal*.

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closely-held businesses and their owners. The firm represents corporations, institutions and partnerships at all stages of the business life cycle, helping them start, grow and transition from one generation to the next. We also assist business owners with their personal legal needs including tax and estate planning, family law and litigation—including personal injury litigation.

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## ATTORNEYS LAING AND MCBRIDE PUBLISH ANNUAL EVIDENCE CHAPTER



The 2011 edition of the *Annual Survey of Wisconsin Law* published by the State Bar of Wisconsin CLE Books has recently been released for circulation and this year's work includes another contribution by Attorneys [Dean P. Laing](#) and [Patrick G. McBride](#) in the area of evidence. The *Annual Survey* reviews significant Wisconsin judicial and legislative developments from 2010 and is organized by individual chapters addressing recent developments in a specific area of law. Attorney Laing has been the author or co-author of the "Evidence" chapter of the *Annual Survey* for the past 23 years and Attorney McBride has been the co-author for the past 10 years.

This year's chapter on evidence addresses issues regarding the use of expert testimony, including whether the statutory prohibition to the admission of preliminary breath test results was trumped when the results were used as a basis for an expert's opinion, and whether expert testimony was required at summary judgment in a breach of contract action regarding a computer-services agreement. The Wisconsin courts also determined whether the state could play an edited portion of a child's video statement during closing argument in a sexual-assault trial without making the child available for cross-examination after showing the video, and whether the state needed to preserve apparently exculpatory evidence consisting of threatening cell-phone voice messages for use by the defendant in establishing the self-defense standard in a homicide trial. In a civil action, the court of appeals considered whether an affiant demonstrated the requisite personal knowledge to establish the admissibility of account statements under the hearsay exception for records of regularly conducted activity.

The "Evidence" chapter summarizes these decisions and others as they impact the development of the law of evidence in Wisconsin. A full copy of the "Evidence" chapter

appearing in the *Annual Survey* can be found [here](#). A copy of the *Annual Survey of Wisconsin Law* can be obtained through the State Bar of Wisconsin CLE Books at [www.wisbar.org](http://www.wisbar.org)

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## ATTORNEY KRAWCZYK EXPERT GUEST SPEAKER ON WISN 1130 AM RADIO



Attorney [Claude Krawczyk](#) was the guest speaker on the "Business Solutions" program hosted by Diane Chamness" on Saturday May 21, 2011 on WISN 1130 AM radio. Claude discussed basic intellectual property issues to include trademark and copyright registration, patents and trade secrets. In case you missed it live, click [here](#) to listen to the full broadcast.

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## ATTORNEY DIZARD APPOINTED RECEIVER FOR TRI-STAR TOOL & MACHINE INC.



The Waukesha County Circuit Court appointed Attorney Seth Dizard as receiver of Tri-Star Tool & Machine Inc. Dizard will oversee the business and sell the 20,000 square foot facility located in the Sussex Corporate Center. Read article [here](#).