

# CONNELL FOLEY

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**C**ONNELL FOLEY LLP represents employer clients in federal and state court litigation and agency proceedings for wrongful discharge, breach of employment contracts, restrictive covenants and trade secrets, alleged discrimination and retaliation under the various federal and state anti-discrimination and whistle-blower statutes. Partners in the firm's Labor and Employment Law practice group are accomplished trial lawyers in this field, taking difficult cases successfully to jury verdicts for employer clients. This group also has achieved highly successful results short of trial, including awards of summary judgment dismissing whistle-blower suits, discrimination and retaliation actions and common-law wrongful discharge claims. The firm's Labor and Employment Law practice group also represents employers in traditional labor matters, such as NLRB proceedings, union organizing campaigns, collective bargaining, labor arbitrations, and enjoining strike misconduct and unlawful picketing. This group also represents employers sued by individuals, labor organizations and government agencies for terminating or altering employee benefits, including retiree-medical benefits, withdrawing from or terminating multi-employer plans, and other denials of benefits under various federal and state laws.

The firm regularly counsels clients in making employment-related decisions in order to reduce the risk of litigation. Its lawyers are versed in the utilization of innovative ADR processes to resolve employment disputes in an expeditious and cost-effective manner and in enforcing employers' ADR agreements with their employees. The firm also is experienced in conducting internal investigations in response to various complaints or potential claims in the workplace. This group also represents domestic and foreign corporations in their employment-related immigration matters, including obtaining work visas for foreign nationals and permanent residence status for key employees.



## JOHN K. BENNETT

John K. Bennett has 28 years' experience devoted entirely to representing employers in all areas of labor and employment-related matters. Mr. Bennett chairs Connell Foley's Labor and Employment practice. He is well-versed in handling employment-related litigation in federal and state courts and administrative agencies, including trying employment cases to successful jury verdicts, negotiating and enforcing employment agreements and restrictive covenants, enforcing employer-promulgated alternative dispute-resolution programs, handling the ensuing mediation and arbitration proceedings, trying difficult arbitration cases before arbitrators under collective bargaining agreements and receiving favorable awards, handling traditional labor matters before the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), bringing and defending against injunctive matters in federal and state courts, and representing employers in all other aspects of labor relations and employment law.

Mr. Bennett has been named in *Best Lawyers in America*® from 2006-2009, in New York Area's *Best Lawyers* from 2007-2009, and selected for *New Jersey Super Lawyers*®. He is ranked by Chambers & Partners as a leader in Labor and Employment Law. Mr. Bennett's representation of some of America's top 500 companies has resulted in Connell Foley being named a "Go-To Firm" in *Corporate Counsel* magazine for the past several years. For further information contact: [jbennett@connellfoley.com](mailto:jbennett@connellfoley.com).



## TRICIA B. O'REILLY

Tricia B. O'Reilly has extensive experience in employment related matters. Her practice largely focuses on employment litigation and employer counseling. Ms. O'Reilly has represented clients in a number of industries, including pharmaceuticals, grocery and specialty foods, construction, paper manufacturing, insurance, healthcare, chemical, energy, computer software, real estate development, and higher education.

Ms. O'Reilly has litigated cases in federal and state court involving commercial contract disputes, shareholder oppression claims, intellectual property rights, professional liability claims, trade secrets, restrictive covenants, franchise disputes, wrongful discharge claims, breach of employment contracts, and alleged discrimination and retaliation under Title VII, ADA, NJLAD, and other federal and state anti-discrimination and whistle-blower statutes. She regularly counsels clients in making employment-related decisions to avoid or to reduce the risks of litigation. Ms. O'Reilly also has conducted a number of corporate internal investigations. For further information contact: [toreilly@connellfoley.com](mailto:toreilly@connellfoley.com).



## PETER J. PIZZI

Peter J. Pizzi is a business litigator with substantial experience in a broad range of workplace issues. His practice focuses on corporate internal investigations, business and employment litigation, restrictive covenant litigation, and workplace privacy law. In 2008, Mr. Pizzi lead a team which succeeded in enforcing non-compete agreements against California-based employees of an international chemical company, overcoming that state's policy against enforcement of such agreements and leading to a published decision favorable to the protection of corporate intellectual property. Mr. Pizzi has lead teams conducting sensitive internal investigations of alleged whistle-blowing in the financial services and other industries. The Board of Trial Attorney Certification of the Supreme Court of New Jersey designated Mr. Pizzi a Certified Civil Trial Attorney. Mr. Pizzi has been selected for inclusion in the 2009 *New Jersey Super Lawyers*®. For further information contact: [ppizzi@connellfoley.com](mailto:ppizzi@connellfoley.com).