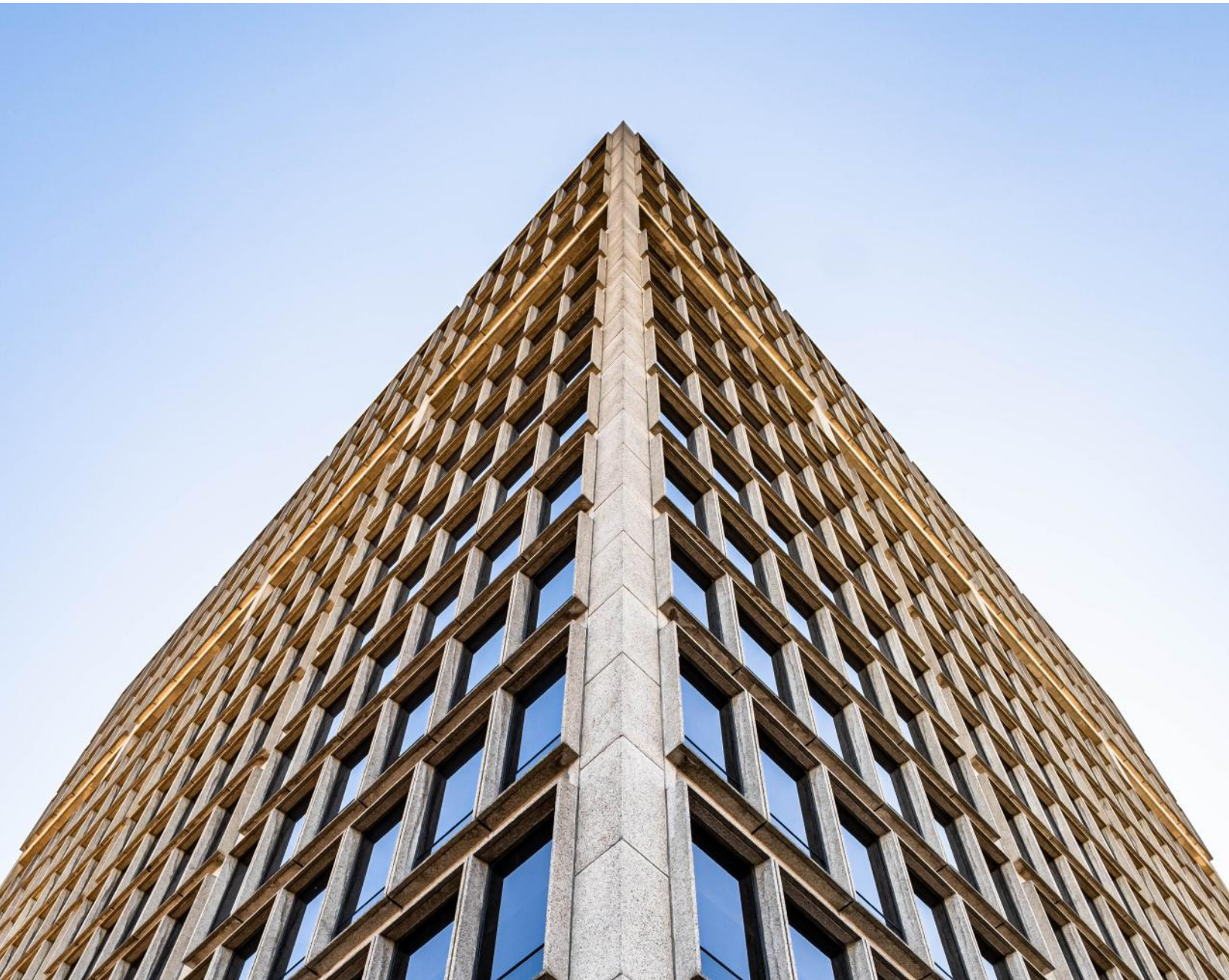


RUTH A. BINGER

President & Principal Attorney



DANNA MCKITRICK, P.C.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Ruth A. **BINGER**

President & Principal Attorney,
Danna McKitrick, P.C.

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Ruth Binger provides strategic legal counsel to entrepreneurs and businesses ranging from family-owned startups to multi-national corporations. She advises clients across a range of industries on matters involving corporate governance, employment, intellectual property, digital law, and cybersecurity.

Known for her forward-thinking approach, Ruth helps clients structure their businesses, negotiate complex agreements, and implement proactive strategies that minimize risk and support long-term growth. She also facilitates independent business owner peer advisory boards, offering insight and support for executives navigating key decisions.

A leader within Danna McKitrick, Ruth heads the firm's transactional group. She is a member of the firm's Executive Committee and has served as marketing co-chair. Her clients rely on her broad experience and practical guidance to navigate the legal challenges of running and scaling a successful business.

Education

J.D., 1983

DePaul University School of Law
DePaul Law Review

B.A., 1980

Northern Illinois University

Admissions

Missouri, Illinois, U.S. District Court (Eastern District)

Practice Areas

Business Advisory; Cybersecurity & Data Protection; Employment Law; Franchise Law; Health Care Law; Intellectual Property

Associations

American Bar Association: Business Law Section, Intellectual Property Section, Labor & Employment Section; The Missouri Bar; Illinois State Bar Association; Associated Industries of Missouri, board member; St. Louis RCGA, former director



Trusted Guidance. **TAILORED FOR YOU.**

When you think of Danna McKittrick's culture of practicality, support, and excellence, you think of Ruth. With over four decades of legal experience, Ruth has become one of the region's most respected voices in business law, and a decisive force behind our firm's continued growth and strength. Her approach is direct, clear, and focused on delivering what matters to her clients: solutions grounded in strategy, not just theory. As firm president, Ruth mentors attorneys at every level, champions inclusion and collaboration, and leads with the steady assurance of someone who's navigated nearly every legal challenge a business might face. For clients, colleagues, and young attorneys alike, Ruth doesn't just lead — she makes things better.



"With experience, you don't just solve problems, you learn how to help clients avoid them entirely. That's the real value: not just getting it right, but getting ahead of it."

— Ruth A. Binger

40+ Years of Legal Expertise

Ruth brings unmatched experience in business, intellectual property, employment, and franchise law to every matter she handles.

Hundreds of Legal Matters Represented

She has advised business owners, boards, and executives across industries, from start-ups to multinational enterprises.

Firm President & Culture-Setter

Ruth mentors across generations and exemplifies the clarity, practicality, and inclusion that define Danna McKittrick.



Focused Legal Solutions for You

The following pages offer a deeper look at Ruth's areas of focus, and how she helps clients move forward with confidence.

The choice of a lawyer is an important decision and should not be based solely upon advertisements.

Business ADVISORY

Business decisions come with legal implications, whether you're signing a contract, protecting your brand, managing employees, or planning for growth. Proactive legal guidance helps businesses operate with confidence, avoid costly mistakes, and seize new opportunities.

Business advisory services support companies at every stage, from formation to expansion. That includes navigating employment issues, protecting intellectual property, and resolving day-to-day legal concerns before they escalate.

With the right legal partner, you can stay focused on what matters most: running and growing with purpose. We help you make smart, strategic decisions that position your business for long-term success.





Business Structuring

Helping you select the best legal structure to support your goals and limit your risk.

Corporate Governance & Compliance

Supporting your business with sound governance practices and up-to-date compliance with state and federal laws.

Contracts & Agreements

Drafting, reviewing, and negotiating contracts that protect your interests and keep your business relationships running smoothly.

Employment Law Guidance

Advising on hiring, policies, compliance, and dispute prevention to support a productive and legally sound workplace.

Intellectual Property

Safeguarding your intellectual property, key personnel, and financial interests with smart, forward-thinking legal strategies.

Succession Planning

Structuring leadership transitions and exit strategies that protect your business and ensure long-term continuity.

Cyber SECURITY

Every business, regardless of size or industry, is at risk for cyberattacks and data breaches. As companies store and share increasing amounts of sensitive information, the need for robust cybersecurity policies and legal safeguards has never been greater. A breach can expose financial data, client information, and trade secrets, leading to regulatory penalties, legal liability, and reputational damage.

Cybersecurity and data protection laws are evolving rapidly, and staying compliant is a moving target. Proactive legal guidance helps businesses assess risk, strengthen defenses, and prepare for the unexpected. Whether you're building a privacy policy from the ground up or responding to a breach, the right legal strategy protects both your data and your future.





Identifying Cybersecurity Risk

Assessing vulnerabilities in systems, processes, and third-party relationships to reduce exposure before a breach occurs.

Data Protection

Developing and reviewing privacy practices, security protocols, and employee training tailored to your operations and industry.

Regulatory Compliance

Guiding businesses through state, federal, and industry-specific data protection laws to avoid penalties and build trust.

Incident Response Planning

Establishing action plans and notification procedures that allow your business to act quickly and compliantly in the event of a cyberattack or data breach.

Breach Response & Defense

Providing legal support during cyber incidents, from coordinating with forensic experts to managing regulatory investigations and potential litigation.

Ongoing Legal Strategy

Building long-term cybersecurity frameworks that evolve with changing threats, technology, and legal requirements.

Employment **LAW**

Employment law shapes how businesses hire, manage, and protect their teams, impacting everything from HR decisions to high-stakes legal disputes. With an ever-changing landscape of federal and state regulations, employers must take proactive steps to stay compliant and reduce legal risk.

Whether you're developing policies or responding to a complaint, legal missteps can lead to costly consequences. Even well-run workplaces face challenges, making experienced legal counsel essential.

Danna McKitrick helps employers manage these complexities, drafting sound policies, ensuring compliance, and responding strategically when issues arise, so you can stay focused on what matters most: running your business.





Workplace Compliance

Advising on federal and state employment laws to help meet legal requirements and reduce the risk of costly violations.

Policy Development

Creating and updating employee handbooks, hiring practices, and workplace policies tailored to each business's size, structure, and needs.

Employment Agreements

Drafting and enforcing non-compete, non-disclosure, and independent contractor agreements to protect your business interests.

Dispute Resolution & Defense

Defending employers in claims involving discrimination, harassment, wrongful termination, and wage-related disputes.

Regulatory Investigations

Representing businesses in matters before the EEOC, DOL, MCHR, and other agencies during audits and complaints.

Workers' Compensation

Defending employers and insurers in claims involving workplace injuries, disability disputes, and employer liability.

Franchise LAW

Franchisees must navigate strict agreements, brand standards, and operational rules, all while running a business. Smart legal guidance from day one helps you avoid costly missteps and protects your long-term investment.

Franchise ownership blends independence with structure, but with that structure comes a complex web of legal obligations. From startup to exit, every stage involves contracts, compliance, and financial risk that can shape the success of your business.

At Danna McKitrick, we support franchise owners with practical counsel, from evaluating opportunities and negotiating contracts to resolving disputes and planning a smooth exit. We're here to help you every step of the way.





Franchise Agreement Review

Analyzing disclosure documents and contracts to ensure fair terms and a clear understanding before you commit.

Entity Formation & Setup

Advising on structure, asset protection, financing documents, and commercial leases to set the foundation for success.

Operational Support & Compliance

Helping franchisees stay compliant with franchisor rules, vendor contracts, and regulatory requirements.

Growth & Expansion

Assisting with multi-unit and area development agreements while maintaining compliance and flexibility.

Franchise Dispute Resolution

Representing franchisees in contract disputes, territory conflicts, termination challenges, and brand enforcement issues.

Exit & Transition Planning

Guiding franchise sales, transfers, and succession strategies to ensure a smooth and legally sound transition.

Health Care **LAW**

In the healthcare industry, legal compliance isn't just a necessity; it's foundational to protecting your practice, your reputation, and your ability to serve patients. From employment and licensing to data privacy and regulatory investigations, providers face a constant wave of legal obligations that demand clear, informed guidance.

Whether you're launching a new practice, managing complex staffing needs, or responding to a dispute, the right legal support keeps your operations running smoothly and securely.

At Danna McKittrick, we help healthcare providers make confident decisions in an industry where the rules never stop changing. With experienced counsel, you can move forward protected, prepared, and in control.





Employment Agreements & Policies

Drafting and advising on physician contracts, compensation structures, and workplace policies to ensure legal compliance and reduce disputes.

Regulatory Compliance

Providing guidance on HIPAA, patient data privacy, and federal and state healthcare regulations to minimize liability.

Licensing & Disciplinary Defense

Representing providers before state boards and regulatory agencies in licensure matters and professional disciplinary actions.

Stark Law & Anti-Kickback Compliance

Structuring business arrangements and referral relationships that comply with Stark Law, Anti-Kickback statutes, and fraud prevention laws.

Practice & Risk Management

Helping providers proactively manage risk through policies, training, and operational strategies tailored to healthcare settings.

Intellectual PROPERTY

Your ideas, creations, and brand are among your business's most valuable assets, and protecting them is essential to long-term success. Whether you're launching a new product, building a name, or expanding into new markets, securing your intellectual property is crucial.

Intellectual property services help safeguard the unique elements that set your business apart, including your logos, slogans, inventions, content, designs, trade secrets, and more. Proactive, smart legal guidance ensures your work stays protected and your competitive edge remains sharp.

We help businesses secure, manage, and defend the intellectual property that drives their brand forward, because your ideas deserve to be more than just ideas.





Identifying Your Assets

Helping businesses recognize the full scope of their intellectual property, from logos and branding to trade secrets and proprietary processes.

Securing Ownership Rights

Registering trademarks, copyrights, and patents to establish legal ownership.

Drafting Agreements

Creating licensing, confidentiality, and non-disclosure agreements that prevent misuse and control how your IP is shared.

Protecting Trade Secrets

Advising on internal policies and contracts to safeguard confidential information and reduce the risk of leaks or misappropriation.

Preventing Infringement

Building proactive legal strategies that minimize risk and protect your IP from threats.

Enforcing IP Rights

Litigating infringement, misappropriation, and contract disputes to help businesses defend their ideas and maintain control of their assets.

About **DANNA MCKITRICK**

Since our founding, we've built a reputation for delivering strategic, comprehensive legal counsel across a wide range of practice areas. Our attorneys combine deep experience with forward-thinking insight to support businesses, individuals, and organizations navigating today's complex legal environment.

We bring the depth of a larger law firm with the responsiveness and personal attention that set us apart. Clients trust us to offer not just legal answers, but sound strategies, practical solutions, and steady guidance in high-stakes moments.

For more than 25 years, we've helped clients meet challenges, seize opportunities, and protect what matters most.





We're trusted across industries for legal insights that protect, defend, and empower. Our full list of practice areas includes:

Business & Corporate Law

- Banks & Financial Institutions
- Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights
- Business Advisory
- Cybersecurity & Data Protection
- Employment Law
- Franchise Law
- Health Care Law
- Insurance Law
- Intellectual Property
- Real Estate
- Tax & Accounting
- Workers' Compensation

Life & Legacy Planning

- Education Law
- Estate Planning
- Guardianships & Conservatorships
- Probate

Litigation & Dispute Resolution

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Litigation
- Professional Liability Defense
- Public Pensions & Government Litigation

Trusted Advisors. Tailored Solutions.
Exceptional Results.



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