



BROWN & BROWN CAMP TEAM ALLIES



Glen Feinberg, Esq.

Partner – Feinberg, D’Avanzo & Gasbarro

Glen has represented summer camps in cases alleging serious physical and emotional injuries for more than thirty years, including sexual abuse and molestation. His understanding of camping standards and the needs and goals of camp directors makes him uniquely qualified to defend summer camps in litigation. Glenn has been an integral part of our camp program and has defended some of our most difficult and challenging liability claims with great success. Glen’s forward-looking approach makes him uniquely qualified to provide world-class counsel to the most vulnerable defendants.

Glen focuses his practice on the defense of individuals and institutions sued for claims involving severe emotional distress and psychiatric injury. This work often implicates New York’s Child Victims Act and similar laws throughout the country. In handling these ultra-sensitive matters, Glen invokes his network of esteemed local counsel, as well as his knowledge of neurobiology and cutting-edge psychotherapy techniques.

Glen began his legal career as an Assistant District Attorney under Robert Morgenthau in Manhattan.



Lee J. Sacket, Esq.

Partner - L’Abbate, Balkan, Colavita & Contini

Mr. Sacket has extensive experience in the camping industry. After spending his childhood at camp, he worked at day camps and residential camps as a counselor, group leader, sports specialist, sports director and staff recruiter. As an attorney, Mr. Sacket has counseled and represented camps for more than 20 years. These services include drafting and negotiating contracts, representation in litigation and mediation and risk management counseling. Mr. Sacket has presented at the Tri-State Camp Conference and authored numerous articles focused on issues in the camping industry.

Mr. Sacket has practiced in the areas of commercial litigation, professional liability litigation, environmental liability, including asbestos related matters, general liability, insurance defense litigation and medical malpractice. He is presently the Co-Chairperson of the Design Professional Group, which focuses on the defense of architects, engineers, and related design professionals.

Lee was named to the 2015, 2016, and 2017 New York Metro Area "Rising Star" lists. Each year, no more than 2.5% of the lawyers in the state are selected by the research team at Super Lawyers to receive this honor. Mr. Sacket has also been rated as one of New York’s Top Ranked Lawyers by ALM and Martindale-Hubbell every year since 2015.



Scott R. Green, Esq.
Partner - Goldberg Segalla

Scott R. Green is an experienced employment litigator and trusted counselor to a diverse array of employers, including publicly traded corporations, small businesses, multinational corporations, nonprofit organizations, and individuals. His practice involves defending management against employment discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and wage and hour claims in federal and state courts and before various federal, state, and local administrative bodies, as well as defending employers against class action lawsuits and multidistrict lawsuits involving employment issues. Scott also routinely litigates restrictive covenant and non-competition disputes and handles traditional labor law matters, including negotiating collective bargaining agreements and handling National Labor Relations Board charges and union arbitrations. In addition to litigation, Scott regularly counsels employers with respect to employment agreements, employee handbooks, and employment policies, practices & procedures. Scott has handled several camp employment matters.



Gwenn Kudler Gelfand, LCSW
Licensed Certified Social Worker - Camp Team Mental Health Director

Gwenn has worked on the staff of Brown & Brown, for over a decade. As the Camp Mental Health Director, she works as a consultant to various Directors, Staff and Campers. In this capacity, she provides support, guidance and crisis intervention. She has authored dozens of articles, has lectured and trained staff at various camps throughout the country as well as providing critical support during crisis situations. She is a long-time camper, counselor, and group leader at residential and day camps and has three adult children all of whom attended day camp and residential camp.

Gwenn has more than thirty-five years of experience in the field of eating disorders and child, adolescent, and adult psychotherapy. For 30 years she was on staff at the Cohen's Children's Hospital, a division of the Northwell Health Systems, where she worked in their departments of Psychiatry and Adolescent Medicine. Gwenn is currently in full-time private practice on the Upper East Side of Manhattan and sees clients on a virtual platform.

Gwenn received a Bachelor of Social Work from Cornell University, a Master of Social Work from Columbia University and has extensive specialized training in the field of eating disorders and in cognitive and behavioral therapies.



Praesidium (Latin. to guard or protect from harm)

We know what works. We know how to prevent the sexual abuse of children and vulnerable adults by employees, volunteers, and other program participants. Using current research and root cause analyses of thousands of cases of abuse across a diverse range of organizations, Praesidium has identified eight organizational operations that provide opportunities to decrease the risk of abuse by employees, volunteers, or other program participants. Together, these eight operations make up the Praesidium Safety Equation[®]. Praesidium has a several solutions including: ARMATUS[®] learn to protect system, *know your score!* online self-assessment, praesidium risk assessment and accreditation, praesidium guardian certification, anonymous reporting helpline, praesidium’s screening and selection toolkit, crisis management, litigation support.



Gregory S. Love, Esq.

Managing Partner - Love & Norris

Greg is the co-founder of MinistrySafe Institute and Abuse Prevention Systems. His clients include camps, churches, universities, private schools, public and private charities, child-serving non-profits and youth sport organizations. Greg has worked with Brown & Brown on sex abuse prevention training as well as participating in several webinars for the camp community. An expert in legal standards of care related to child sexual abuse, he has consulted with organizations such as the U.S. Olympic Committee, U.S. Center for Safe Sport, WinShape, Awana International and Trail Life USA.



PM Pediatric Care

Providing Resources to Support a Healthy + Happy Summer Camp Experience



PM Pediatric Care is a national leader in comprehensive pediatric care, including treatment of injuries, illnesses, and mental and behavioral conditions in children, teens, and young adults. With a national telemedicine presence, as well as nearly 100 urgent care locations in more than 15 states,

our team of dedicated pediatric experts has gained a reputation for delivering compassionate, top-quality care to help children thrive.

As experts in pediatric physical and mental health, PM Pediatric Care proudly partners with camps to provide services that support camp infirmaries, staff, counselors, and campers. PM Pediatric services can include:

Physician health services through telemedicine, supporting care for campers 7 days a week from 8am to midnight.

Mental and behavioral health through telemedicine, supporting children dealing with anxiety, separation anxiety and homesickness, grief, and sadness. Individual and group therapy available.

Healthcare consulting services to help camps establish a gold-standard for organized infirmary, sick protocol, and education for camp leaders.

Pre-Camp Services to provide virtual education and training for parents or staff related to mental and behavioral health awareness, bullying, gender identity and sexuality, and preparing children for camp, to ensure a more successful summer experience.



Erik Bernstein
President - Bernstein Crisis Management

Erik Bernstein is President of Bernstein Crisis Management, Inc. an international crisis and reputation management firm providing solutions for both organizations and individuals. Erik and his team have extensive experience working with leadership from camps, schools, sports organizations, and youth groups in all aspects of creating, building, and maintaining their readiness for – and resilience against – threats to operations or reputation that might impact the bottom line. His expertise bridges from back-end crisis management, including planning, preparedness, and training, to outbound crisis communications and media relations, ensuring a cohesive, holistic approach to protecting clients’ interests.

Before making the move to full time crisis consulting, Erik operated a social media and online marketing company providing both reputation management and marketing services to clients. This position provided an unusual level of daily exposure to the types of online issues organizations of all shapes and sizes face, and kickstarted his career in crisis management.

Crisis management is a fast-paced field, and the rules of engagement can shift with the tide of public opinion. Through supporting clients in a wide range of industries, Erik has developed proven methods to prevent, prepare for, and reduce damage taken from crisis situations, continuing to share that knowledge with a steady stream of speaking engagements, training sessions, guest lecturing for universities including NYIT and USC’s Annenberg School, and media interviews for outlets like the Wall Street Journal, Business Insider, and Bloomberg, as well as the award-winning Bernstein Crisis Management blogs.



Jake Mendlinger
Vice President of ZE Creative Communications

Jake Mendlinger is Vice President of public relations agency ZE Creative Communications and works alongside Brown and Brown to help camps effectively communicate with families, communities and media in emergency scenarios. Mendlinger has more than 15 years of experience providing strategic-communication counsel and crisis management support for camps, public school districts and independent schools to create and maintain an empowering narrative within their communities and directly engage with families and faculty.

For more than 35 years, ZE Creative Communications has represented a range of camps, schools and educational programs to generate positive news coverage, produce award-winning marketing collateral and effectively interact with media amid a myriad of crises. Through this partnership, Brown and Brown's camp clients have direct access to the agency's full suite of copywriters, public relations specialists and graphic designers as well as company's co-president Ron Edelson and executive vice president David Chauvin who have decades of experience in crisis management strategy, government relations and marketing.



Michael Mellen, PCC, Rabbi
President Iron and Sage

Mike is an executive and organizational coach and facilitator, who works with individuals and values-driven organizations to create space for growth, innovation, and possibility. Mike has led pre camp orientation talks for Brown & Brown camps for many years. His work with top executives, high potential team members, entrepreneurs, clergy, educators, camp teams, and boards moves people to see their work, organizations, and lives more holistically,

enabling them to better tap into the strengths that can propel them towards a vibrant, equitable, and impactful future. Michael is interested in the knotty problems of leadership, the power of vision, and the joy of creativity. With many years of camp and youth program experience, his current work with summer camps includes executive coaching for camp leaders, staff training, speaking about risk management, and coaching and facilitation related to mission, program, and strategy. Prior to launching his company, Iron and Sage, Michael served as a congregational educator and rabbi, as Director of Youth Programs and Director of NFTY for the Reform Movement, and as an innovation consultant with the Jewish Education Project.



Bobby Audley

Speaker/Facilitator/Coach – BobbyAudley.com

Coach Bobby Sports for Kids – Bobby.Coach

Bobby is keynote speaker, retreat facilitator, executive coach and summer camp professional. As a speaker, facilitator and coach, Bobby helps organizations, sports teams and camps create positive energy Cultures of Connection. His vision is a world in which people feel connected wherever they are. As a speaker Bobby has given two TEDx talks, presented at the ACA Tri-State CAMP Conference, presented at the USA Lacrosse Convention and has served as the keynote speaker at conferences for multiple Fortune 500 organizations. As a facilitator Bobby has worked intimately with some of the best athletic programs in the world including teams at UNC, Purdue, the University of Maryland and Team USA. On Bobby's popular podcast, "50 Cups of Coffee with Bobby Audley," Bobby has shared coffee and conversation with some of the best leaders in the world, including coaches from the NBA, MLB and NFL as well as leaders from Marriott and of course summer camp! Bobby's episode with Jay Jacobs (Founder of the TLC Family of Camps) is a must listen for camp pros. As a camp professional Bobby has worked at private day camps, county rec run sports camps, not-for-profit camps, STEM camps and many more. Most recently Bobby was an Owner/Director at Timber Lake West camp, a premier short session sleep-away summer camp and member of the TLC Family of Camps.



Patrick Connelly

Connelly Consulting Group, LLC

Patrick Connelly has been recognized as a pioneer in the camping industry. For 30 years, he has been a leader and innovator of large YMCAs, Camps, and Girl Scout outdoor centers. Patrick has provided camp orientation sessions for Brown & Brown camps and consulted on camp topical issues. Patrick has presented and been a keynote speaker at numerous ACA and YMCA camp conferences and has traveled across the country providing training and program support to hundreds of organizations and thousands of staff. Patrick served on the task force that created the YMCA Day Camp Director Manual, authoring the chapter on Character Development. A proud UCONN Husky, Patrick has a Masters in Energy and Environmental Sciences from UCONN. Since 2007, Patrick has been providing consulting services; and in 2018 he created the Connelly Consulting Group, a team of industry professionals that provide best in class trainings, program assessments and recommendations, master planning services and more. With a long and distinguished list of clients the Connelly Consulting Group is "Teaming With Excellence!"



Michael V. Cardone

Executive General Adjuster - Crawford & Company - Global Technical Services

Michael is a multi-line insurance adjuster who began his insurance adjusting career in 1988. He has been working with Brown & Brown and their insurance company partners to address the property claims of their camp clients for over 30 years. Michael understands that the needs and requirements of Camps vary due to the type of Camp, Camp operations as well as the time of year they may find themselves submitting and addressing a claim. Several Camp owners know Michael for having addressed their claims over the years in a fair, prompt, and expedient manner. Michael has assisted Brown & Brown camps in settling the largest property claims, including one more than \$30 million.

Michael currently holds adjuster licenses in 16 states where independent adjuster licensing is required. He specializes in large loss property and casualty claims and continues to handle claims of various causes, complexities, and dollar amounts.

Michael is committed to providing the best possible customer service.



Evan Heltay

Expert Online Training - Co-Founder and Chief Operations Officer

EOT passionately supports our clients' efforts to create healthy, safe, and successful summer camp programs. As part of that commitment, Brown & Brown has cultivated a partnership with Expert Online Training (EOT), the camping industry's leading staff training and performance program.

Professional staff training helps reduce accidents and injuries, and with that in mind, Brown & Brown has secured a 20% discount with EOT for all Brown & Brown clients.

Through EOT you can initiate your staff training remotely with over 120 professional videos and interactive quizzes created by some of the most respected educators in the camping world.

General topics include leadership, mental health and behavior, physical and emotional safety, and supervision. In addition, you can create your own videos and quizzes. Camp staff can access everything on their own schedule from a computer or smartphone anywhere and your camp can track their participation and comprehension. Camp administrators and staff receive online and toll-free customer service support from a helpful team of tech and camp professionals. In addition, a course completion certificate issued by EOT may be a helpful tool in defending litigation in the future.

Staff quality is a primary factor separating good camps from great camps, and we all know the myriad staff issues many camps faced this past summer. Give your team the opportunity to be great!



Jay L. Toporoff

Director Emeritus - Camp Danbee for Girls

Director of Community Building and Philanthropy - CampGroup LLC

Jay enjoyed a 32-year tenure as the Director of Camp Danbee for Girls. In addition, Jay has served on numerous American Camp Association conference planning committees and presented many content workshops at a variety of camp conclaves. His expertise includes crisis management, culture creating, homesickness, risk management, staff supervision, grief counseling, and community service programming.

In addition, Jay's resume features numerous philanthropic endeavors including:

- Founding Director of America's Camp, a one week, free of charge camp program, for children impacted by the events of 9/11. America's Camp enjoyed a ten-year run.
- Founding Director of Camp Sea Stars North, a short session program for 250 children of Newtown, CT who were students at Sandy Hook Elementary School.

Jay completed his bachelor's degree from Bentley University, a master's degree (M. Ed) and Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study from Springfield College and has completed all doctoral level course work in Educational Leadership from Vanderbilt University. Jay is also an avid soccer fan. He played varsity soccer for his university and enthusiastically supports the Liverpool Football Club.