

Daniel H. Braff and Joseph R. Bjarnson Named Recipients of *LIBN*'s "Leadership in Law" Award

Sahn Ward Coschignano attorneys Daniel H. Braff and Joseph R. Bjarnson will each receive *Long Island Business News*' Leadership in Law Award. Mr. Braff will be honored in the category of Partner and Mr. Bjarnson will be honored in the category of Associate. The ceremony will take place November 19 from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury.

Mr. Braff has spearheaded the firm's expansion into New York City over the past two years. He concentrates his practice in zoning and land use planning, real estate, environmental and corporate law, with a particular emphasis on regulations governing the use and development of real property within the City of New York. He provides zoning analyses, counsels clients in connection with development rights transfers (a/k/a "air rights" transfers), advises on environmental matters, and represents clients before various City agencies, including the Board of Standards and Appeals, the City Planning Commission, the Department of Buildings and the Landmarks Preservation Commission. He also regularly provides guidance to resolve zoning and code-related issues in connection with approvals from the Department of Buildings.

In 2014 and 2015, Mr. Braff was chosen as a New York Metro area "Rising Star" by Super Lawyers in the practice area of Land Use/Zoning.

Mr. Braff graduated from Lehigh University (B.A., Environmental Sciences, 2000) and New York University School of Law (J.D., 2003). Mr. Braff is a current member of the Housing & Urban Development Committee and a former member of the Land Use Planning and Zoning Committee of The Association of the Bar of the City of New York. He is an active member of the New Leadership Division (NLD) at the North Shore-LIJ Health System, which raises funds for the Child Life Program at Cohen's Children's Medical Center, and is a Weinfeld Associate and active alumni at New York University School of Law, where he sponsors its annual Public Service Auction.

Mr. Bjarnson concentrates his practice in litigation and appeals. In July, he was named 2015 Trial Lawyer of the Year by the Public Justice Foundation for his work as pro bono counsel in *David, et. al. v. Signal International, LLC, et al., No. 08-cv-1220* (E.D. La.). Since joining Sahn Ward Coschignano in 2012, Mr. Bjarnson has devoted hundreds of hours pro bono to this case, acting as lead counsel for the firm and working with attorneys from the Southern Poverty Law Center, the American Civil Liberties Union, Crowell & Moring LLP, the Asian-American Legal Defense and Education Fund and the Louisiana Justice Institute.

In 2014 and 2015, Mr. Bjarnson was chosen as a New York Metro "Rising Star" by Super Lawyers in the practice area of Business Litigation.

Mr. Bjarnson graduated from Brigham Young University (B.A., Middle East Studies/Arabic, 2005) and Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University (J.D., 2009). Mr. Bjarnson is admitted to practice in New York State and before the United States District Court for the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York, and the United States Supreme Court. He is a member of the Nassau County Bar Association and the New York State Bar Association.

The Leadership in Law Award recognizes those attorneys who carry the following qualities in their profession: dedication, hard work, skill, tenacity and excellence. The award is dedicated to

those individuals whose leadership — both in the legal profession and in the community — has had a positive impact on Long Island.