



## NEWS RELEASES

### Barnes & Thornburg Welcomes New Attorneys And Legal Professionals

October 2, 2023 | [Atlanta](#) | [Chicago](#) | [Indianapolis](#) | [Los Angeles](#) | [Raleigh](#) | [South Bend](#)

Barnes & Thornburg has added labor and employment, corporate, litigation, intellectual property and real estate attorneys and legal professionals to its Atlanta, Chicago, Indianapolis, Los Angeles, Raleigh, and South Bend offices.

A patent agent in the Atlanta office, [Elizabeth Daugherty](#) is focused on mechanical and electrical technologies with nearly a decade of experience preparing and prosecuting U.S. and international patents. She earned her M.S. in electrical engineering and her B.S. in aerospace engineering from Iowa State University.

[Amanda Gallagher](#), an associate in the Indianapolis office, focuses her practice on litigation and dispute resolution. She drafts motions and discovery, and assists with witness interviews and trial preparation, as well as with internal investigations and reviews in a variety of contexts. Gallagher earned her J.D. from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 2015 and her B.S. from Oklahoma City University in 2012.

An immigration coordinator in the South Bend office, [Breanna Giles](#) supports firm attorneys and paralegals as an immigration coordinator. Prior to joining the firm, she worked as a systems administrator developing optimized procedures, workflow processes and employee training.

[Sonya McNeil](#) is a paralegal in the Atlanta office and assists attorneys and clients on a range of litigation matters. She offers a solid understanding of court processes and legal proceedings. McNeil earned her B.S. in legal studies from South University.

## RELATED PEOPLE



### Elizabeth Daugherty

Patent Agent  
Atlanta

P 470-832-7529  
F 404-264-4033  
[Elizabeth.Daugherty@btlaw.com](mailto:Elizabeth.Daugherty@btlaw.com)



### Amanda Gallagher

Associate  
Indianapolis

P 317-229-3114  
F 317-231-7433  
[Amanda.Gallagher@btlaw.com](mailto:Amanda.Gallagher@btlaw.com)



### Sonya McNeil

Paralegal  
Atlanta

P 470-832-7528  
F 404-264-4033  
[Sonya.McNeil@btlaw.com](mailto:Sonya.McNeil@btlaw.com)



### Laura Tannous

Immigration Coordinator  
Chicago

P 312-214-8822  
F 312-759-5646  
[Laura.Tannous@btlaw.com](mailto:Laura.Tannous@btlaw.com)

An immigration coordinator in the Chicago office, [Laura Tannous](#) supports firm attorneys and paralegals on maintaining and managing a range of immigration case files. She assists with visa and other immigration application processes and procedures. Tannous earned her B.A. in political science from St. Olaf College in 2018.

[Sarah Trankiem](#) is an of counsel in the Los Angeles office who focuses her practice on defending pharmaceutical and medical device companies in high-stakes litigation. She earned her J.D. from the University of Southern California Gould School of Law in 2004 and her B.A. in sociology, business and administration from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2001.

[Johonna Veloso](#), a paralegal in the Los Angeles office, has over 10 years of litigation experience working on a wide range of matters on behalf of corporations, government entities and consumers. She earned her paralegal studies certificate from Pasadena City College.

As a business transaction advisor in the Chicago office, [Yuhei Watanabe](#) provides counsel on a broad range of general and commercial corporate issues. He also represents clients in transactions such as mergers and acquisitions and those involving capital markets. Watanabe earned his LL.M. from the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School in 2023 and his Bachelor of Law from Keio University in 2017.

[Barbie Whitley](#), a paralegal in the Raleigh office, offers deep experience in preparing and managing complex employment-based non-immigration and immigration cases. She earned her paralegal studies certificate from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2011 and her B.S.W. from Meredith College in 2004.

*With more than 800 attorneys and other legal professionals, Barnes & Thornburg is one of the largest law firms in the country. The firm serves clients worldwide from offices in Atlanta, Boston, California, Chicago, Delaware, Indiana, Michigan, Minneapolis, Nashville, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Philadelphia, Raleigh, Salt Lake City, South Florida, Texas, and Washington, D.C. For more information, visit us online at [www.btlaw.com](http://www.btlaw.com) or on Twitter [@BTLawNews](https://twitter.com/BTLawNews).*



**Sarah Trankiem**

Of Counsel

Los Angeles

P 310-284-3887

F 310-284-3894

[Sarah.Trankiem@btlaw.com](mailto:Sarah.Trankiem@btlaw.com)



**Johonna Veloso**

Paralegal

Los Angeles

P 310-284-3891

F 310-284-3894

[Johonna.Veloso@btlaw.com](mailto:Johonna.Veloso@btlaw.com)



**Yuhei Watanabe**

Business Transaction Advisor

Chicago

P 312-214-8829

F 312-759-5646

[Yuhei.Watanabe@btlaw.com](mailto:Yuhei.Watanabe@btlaw.com)



**Barbie Whitley**

Paralegal

Raleigh

P 919-536-6236

F 919-536-6201

[Barbie.Whitley@btlaw.com](mailto:Barbie.Whitley@btlaw.com)

## RELATED PRACTICE AREAS

Corporate

Intellectual Property

Labor and Employment

Litigation

Real Estate