

# Paley Rothman Elects Michelle Chapin Shareholder and Names Jessica Summers Principal

BETHESDA, MD (May 6, 2019) – Paley Rothman is pleased to announce that Michelle Chapin has been elected a Shareholder of the firm and Jessica Summers has been named a Principal.

“We are proud to recognize Michelle and Jessica for their outstanding performance and contributions,” said Paley Rothman Co-President James R. Hammerschmidt. “They are talented lawyers, committed to their clients and to improving our communities, and we look forward to their continued leadership and success.”

Michelle Chapin joined the firm in 2012 as an Associate, and she has earned a stellar reputation among her peers in the bar. Michelle concentrates her practice in estate planning and estate and trust administration and is accomplished in international estate planning. She works closely with her clients to create comprehensive and customized estate and business succession plans to achieve their tax and non-tax wealth preservation objectives. She also helps clients implement lifetime gifting and post-mortem wealth transfer strategies and counsels fiduciaries on estate and trust administration matters. She speaks regularly to bar associations, the World Bank, and community organizations and has received numerous accolades for her estate planning work, including recognition as one of the D.C. area’s “Top Lawyers” and “Washington’s Best Lawyers - Trusts & Estates” by *Washingtonian* magazine, “Top Estate Lawyers (Rising Stars)” by *Bethesda Magazine*, and named a “Rising Star” by Maryland and Washington D.C. *Super Lawyers* each year since 2014. She is a member of the Virginia, Maryland and D.C. bars. Michelle has been a Principal in the firm’s Estate Planning, Estate & Trust Administration, Tax, and Corporate practice groups. Michelle earned an LL.M. in Taxation and Certificate in Estate Planning, *With Distinction*, from Georgetown University Law Center. She received her J.D. from American University, Washington College of Law and her B.A., *With Honors* from the University of Florida.

Jessica Summers joined Paley Rothman as a law clerk in 2011 and became an Associate in 2012 after passing the Virginia bar. She is also a member of the Maryland and D.C. bars. Jessica works with companies and organizations on a wide range of matters, including establishing and implementing effective employment policies, drafting employment agreements, maintaining employee benefit plans, addressing corporate planning issues, and monitoring and advising clients on legislative and regulatory developments. She has been named a “Rising Star” by Maryland and Washington D.C. *Super Lawyers* each year since 2017. Jessica speaks frequently on leave, wage, hour, employee benefits, discrimination, and harassment issues and developments. Jessica is a member of the firm’s Employee Benefits, Employment Law, Retirement Plans, Litigation, and Government Relations practice groups. Jessica received her J.D., *Cum Laude*, from American University, Washington College of Law and her B.A., *Magna Cum Laude*, from Wheaton College in Massachusetts.

## About Paley Rothman

*Founded nearly 50 years ago, Paley Rothman is one of the leading law firms in the Washington, D.C.-area and is known for its outstanding client service and sophisticated practices. Paley Rothman has developed a loyal base of clients who appreciate its competitive pricing, efficiency, collegiality and knowledge.*

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