

CRAIN'S

NEW YORK BUSINESS

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Despite the gains for women in the legal field in both representation and pay, they still lag their male counterparts by a wide margin. The pandemic has made the situation worse.

The effects on women lawyers, especially those with children, during the pandemic were documented in a number of surveys in the past couple of years. Although all lawyers worked from home, women reported taking on a much larger share of child care and housework during that time, making it even harder than usual to rack up billable hours and shine in the boardroom.

It is against this challenging backdrop that the women chosen for Crain's 2022 Notable Women in Law list are even more remarkable.

This group of 119 women are exemplary in every way. These impressive

attorneys were chosen not only for their skills and accomplishments in the courtroom, but for their leadership outside of it. In addition to their long hours representing everyone from executives at Fortune 500 companies to immigrants seeking asylum, our honorees this year shored up morale among their colleagues during the pandemic and found ways to keep business going in the face of turmoil.

To find these honorees, Crain's consulted with trusted sources in the legal industry and in the general New York business world. The many nominations submitted by organizations and individuals in the metropolitan area were carefully vetted. Each notable lawyer was selected for her outstanding professional achievements and her pro bono work or involvement with industry and community organizations.

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NOTABLE

WOMEN IN LAW

LAURA BUTZEL

Partner and Chair of the Firm's Tax-exempt Organizations Department

Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP

Laura Butzel leads Patterson Belknap's tax-exempt organization group, one of the largest in the country devoted to serving not-for-profits. Her extensive client list includes foundations, public charities, nonprofit theaters, universities and advocacy groups. This past year Butzel advised on a consolidation of two women's health organizations and on a university joint venture. Butzel, deeply committed to the nonprofit sector, mentors rising attorneys who are interested in that field. She is a trustee at Teachers College at Columbia University and a director of the Mertz Gilmore Foundation, among other board positions.

