

IN THE NEWS

Butzel Long Names Two New Shareholders

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DETROIT — Butzel Long attorneys Ziyad I. Hermiz and Paul M. Mersino have been elected shareholders to the law firm. Previously, they were associates with the firm.

Based in the firm's Detroit office, Hermiz, far left, will concentrate his practice in the area of business litigation. Previously, Hermiz interned for the Hon. Judge Avern Cohn for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Hermiz served as the vice president of the Chaldean American Bar Association from 2011-2013. He is a member of the State Bar of Michigan and the American Bar Association.

Hermiz is a graduate of The University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, where he was the executive editor of the University of Detroit Mercy *Law Review* and received the dean's scholarship for academic excellence. He also was inducted into the Justice Frank Murphy Honor Society, honoring graduates with outstanding academic achievement. He completed his undergraduate business studies at Michigan State University.

Mersino is also based in the firm's Detroit office. He concentrates his practice on commercial litigation, contract disputes, construction litigation, automotive supplier disputes, non-competition and trade secret disputes, and landlord-tenant disputes. He also represents and advises several startup companies, assisting them with their legal needs and matching them with potential venture capital funding and serves as a mentor to startup business incubators and accelerators in the region.

Mersino is the vice president of the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association, Barrister's Section and serves as an adviser to the Institute of Continuing Legal Education's Litigation Advisory Board. He is a member of the current class of Leadership Oakland and recently graduated from the Detroit Chapter of the American Inns of Court. He also is a member of the Detroit Historical Society.

Mersino is a graduate of Ave Maria School of Law, where he graduated *magna cum laude* and was a member of Law Review and the State Championship Moot Court team. He earned his undergraduate degree in business administration from Northwood University.

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