# IN THE NEWS

## Butzel Long attorneys featured during Startup Week

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Geaneen M. Arends, Mark R. Lezotte, and Paul M. Mersino will highlight organizational and tax considerations during June 19 panel program

DETROIT, Mich. – Butzel Long attorneys Geaneen M. Arends, Mark R. Lezotte and Paul M. Mersino will be among several attorneys participating in the fourth Small Business Legal Academy Detroit in conjunction with Startup Week June 18–19. Mersino will moderate a panel on June 19 featuring Arends and Lezotte discussing organizational and tax considerations for small businesses.

#### **Geaneen Arends**

Arends concentrates her practice on general business law and commercial real estate. She assists business clients with general business planning, entity formation and maintenance, mergers, acquisitions, private placements, woman-owned/minority-owned/disadvantaged business certification, insurance and risk management issues and general business contracts. She also has advised business clients on a variety of real estate transactions, including acquisition, development and leasing of multi-family residential, retail, office and industrial properties throughout the United States.

#### **Mark Lezotte**

Lezotte has substantial experience in corporate, healthcare, tax, and exempt organization matters, including start-up tax and legal issues, corporate and nonprofit governance, board duties and responsibilities, regulatory investigations, tax aspects of business acquisitions and dispositions, and a wide range of business and commercial transactions.

### **Paul Mersino**

Mersino is a member of the firm's Commercial Litigation Practice Group where he represents companies in a number of areas including complex commercial litigation, contract disputes, and non-competition and trade secret disputes. He also represents and advises a number of Startup companies, assisting them with their legal needs and matching them with potential venture capital funding, and has represented and been on the Board of Advisors for a Venture Capital fund.

