

Michigan's First Family of Law

Three generations of Bernstein lawyers helping families.

SAM BERNSTEIN LAW FIRM

Michigan's First Family of Law

Three Generations of Attorneys: A Bernstein Family Tradition



ur success is measured not in days or weeks or even years, but over decades.

Three generations of Bernstein attorneys have fought to make things right for our clients after an accident.

Today, we honor those earlier generations by upholding their guiding principles of excellence, honesty, diligence and treating our clients like family.







Attorney Mandell Bernstein (1899 – 1965)



Attorney Estelle Koblin Nelson (1913 – 2005)

The First Generation

The Sam Bernstein Law Firm story begins at the end of the 19th Century with Sam's father, attorney Mandell Bernstein. Mandell was born in 1899 in Detroit, the first generation of his family born in the United States. He was a leader in the Detroit legal, civic, political and Jewish communities. Mandell attended the Detroit College of Law and was admitted to the Michigan Bar. He and his brothers, David and Jacob Bernstein, developed a successful legal practice that represented labor unions, community leaders, and businesses. Mandell was a highly

respected counselor to civic and political leaders.

Mandell and his brother, David, hosted a popular radio program in both English and Yiddish that was an important part of Detroit Jewish life during the 1930s and 40s. He was married to Hazel Bernstein and raised two children, Diane and Sam.

Attorney **Estelle Koblin Nelson** was one of the first female lawyers in the state of Michigan. She attended the University of Detroit Law School, and was admitted to the Michigan Bar in 1936. Estelle was a life long learner who also earned a graduate degree in Library Sciences from Wayne State University. She was an accomplished multi-media artist, affiliated with Cranbrook, The Scarab Club, and Arts and Crafts.



Attorney Sam Bernstein

The Second Generation

Attorney **Sam Bernstein** honors the legacies of his father, attorney Mandell Bernstein and mother-inlaw, attorney Estelle Koblin Nelson by championing the cause of the seriously injured with dignity and integrity.

Many people throughout Michigan and the United States are familiar with the warmth and professionalism of Sam and his firm.

Sam was raised in Detroit where he attended Mumford High School. He attended Michigan State University where he graduated with a B.A. in education and political science. After college, Sam received his law degree at Wayne State University in Detroit.

In 1970, he established his own practice. Today, The Sam Bernstein Law Firm is one of the leading personal injury firms in the United States. Attorneys at his firm serve in leadership positions in the Michigan legal, civic, educational, and political arenas.

Sam is a frequent lecturer on the law and legal practice at numerous law schools, bar associations, and community organizations. He is licensed to practice law in Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Florida, and New York. He serves as founder, of-counsel, and a retired shareholder of the firm.

Mandell Bernstein hosted a popular radio show in English and Yiddish.





Attorney Sam Bernstein and attorney Bernard Zaffern in the 1980s.





Attorneys Mark Bernstein and Beth Bernstein

The Third Generation

The third generation of
Bernstein lawyers include
attorney **Mark Bernstein** and
attorney **Beth Bernstein**.

Mark and Beth serve together as
partners in The Sam Bernstein
Law Firm. Together, they honor
their family's tradition of fighting

for justice in court and the community.

Attorney Beth Bernstein follows in her grandmother Estelle's footsteps. Beth is a graduate of the University of Michigan (Phi Beta Kappa and Summa Cum Laude) and Northwestern University School of Law.

As a partner at the Sam Bernstein Law Firm and key member of the law firm's leadership team, Beth helps set the strategic priorities of the law firm. She is a tough, strong advocate for clients who turn to her for help—trusting her to listen with compassion and understanding.

Attorney Mark Bernstein works with Beth in courtrooms and communities across Michigan to make sure everyone gets a fair shake — not just powerful corporations and insurance companies. He continues the Bernstein family commitment to public service, work in government, business and the law.

Mark serves on the Executive Board of the Michigan Association for Justice. He was elected by leading defense and plaintiff attorneys from across Michigan to serve on the State Bar of Michigan Negligence Section Council. He was recently honored as a Fellow of the Michigan State Bar Foundation and a Leader in the Law by *Michigan Lawyers Weekly*. Mark is recognized as a Super Lawyer for excellence in the practice of law.

Mark helps educate future lawyers and leaders. He has lectured at the University of Michigan Law School and the University of Michigan College of Literature, Science & the Arts on tort and civil rights law.

In 2012, Michigan voters elected Mark to serve on the University of Michigan Board of Regents. Over 2.3 million voters in the state-wide election supported his campaign to make college affordable and accessible for Michigan families.

Mark is among the longest serving members of the Michigan Civil Rights Commission. He was appointed to serve on the Commission by Governor Jennifer Granholm in 2004 and served until 2012. In his work on the Commission, Mark was a strong voice for fairness and equality. Mark also served as Director of Press Pool Operations in the White House during the Clinton administration.

Law is engrained in the history of our family. Because of our long history and leadership in the law, the Bernstein family is considered by many to be 'Michigan's First Family of Law.'

Attorney Mark Bernstein and attorney Beth Bernstein in a Michigan courtroom.

The Sam Bernstein Law Firm's first offices were located in the Congress Building.



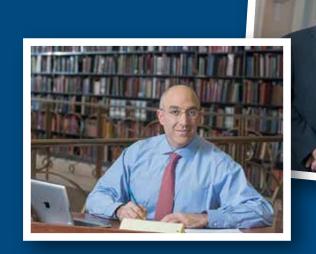


Early photo of the Law Offices of Samuel I. Bernstein in the 1970s.



Our Family Fights and Wins in Courtrooms and Communities Across Michigan.







MICHIGAN'S FIRST FAMILY OF LAW®

THE

SAM BERNSTEIN

LAW FIRM

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Sam Bernstein is the founder, of-counsel and retired shareholder of The Sam Bernstein Law Firm[®], PLLC

This material should not be a substitute for legal counsel from an experienced attorney.