Jeffrey Fromknecht, Esq. is a lawyer, author, and speaker who has a passion for helping others. Fromknecht is licensed to practice law in both Pennsylvania and Florida. He holds graduate degrees in both social work and law and has more than 15 years of experience working at nonprofit organizations in a variety of direct-service and management roles. He is the co-founder and currently the managing attorney of Side Project Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote social justice and social change by incubating and developing grassroots projects. Since 2012, he has helped more than fifty small grassroots nonprofit organizations establish a strong foundation by helping them with legal and operational challenges. At Side Project, Fromknecht is responsible for the nonprofit incubator program, the charitable compliance service division, and the nonprofit legal practice area. His legal work focuses on the corporate, tax and fundraising compliance issues that tax exempt nonprofits face. Fromknecht also regularly provides resources, training, and technical assistance to nonprofit leaders and social change agents as they try to navigate the rules, regulations and laws impacting their work.

Lisa L. Garrett, Esq. is a director in the labor and employment law group at Cohen & Grigsby, P.C. She concentrates her practice in representing for-profit and not-for-profit clients in a broad array of employment related matters. The scope of her representation includes day-to-day legal counseling, employment litigation defense, affirmative action compliance, drafting and reviewing policies, handbooks and agreements, directing internal investigations, and conducting management training. Garrett’s legal counseling includes advice on hiring, performance and conduct issues, data security and privacy, FMLA compliance, ADA accommodations and compliance, conducting layoffs and group reductions in force, wage and hour compliance, conducting background checks, drug and alcohol testing and unemployment compensation claims. She has been elected to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Bar Association’s Labor & Employment Law Section Council for over five years and presently serves as its treasurer. She is also member of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Commerce’s Labor and Employment Law Work Group. Garrett regularly speaks on workplace investigations, social media and technology at work, employee discipline and performance, and FMLA and ADA compliance.

Christie Tillapaugh, Esq. is a director the business transaction services group at Cohen & Grigsby, P.C. Tillapaugh regularly works with and advises non-profit organizations with respect to corporate matters, corporate governance and corporate transactions, including a variety of recent mergers and strategic transactions among local non-profits in the Pittsburgh area. Having worked at a large international firm, and as in-house counsel for a local publicly traded company, she often serves as an outside general counsel combining her legal and business acumen to solving client’s problems. Within the firm, she serves as the chair of the talent management team leading various firm programs and strategic initiatives. In the community, she serves on the Council for the Allegheny County Bar Association Women in the Law Division and co-chair of the Allegheny County Bar Association Gender Equality
Committee, a strategic advisory committee. She regularly speaks and is a course planner for local programming to advance women and diversity initiatives within the legal profession. She also regularly speaks and writes on matters of corporate governance and best practices for her for-profit and not-for-profit clients. Tillapaugh was selected as one of the 2016 Lawyers on the Fast Track printed by The Legal Intelligencer and named to Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Rising Stars lists for Business/Corporate Law.

Dr. Jacob H. Rooksby is an associate dean and an associate professor of law at Duquesne University School of Law. His research, writing, and teaching interests involve tort law, non-profit and higher education law, and intellectual property law. Rooksby is Of Counsel to the intellectual property practice group at Cohen & Grigsby, P.C., where he represents clients in a variety of industries in efforts to protect and defend their intellectual property. Recognized as a leading expert on higher education law and intellectual property policy, Rooksby is the author of The Branding of the American Mind: How Universities Capture, Manage, and Monetize Intellectual Property and Why It Matters. Johns Hopkins University Press published the book in 2016. It is currently available on Amazon.com. Rooksby serves on the board of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History and has past and ongoing experience advising nonprofits on intellectual property protection and management.