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That the right to counsel is enshrined in the Bill of Rights speaks to the centrality of legal representation in a free and fair society.

Attorneys sit between the law and the people it protects, wielding the former in service to the latter. That function has taken on increased importance of late, as a rare confluence of social, economic and health challenges have befallen society. But New York's lawyers—a legion of defenders and advocates like no other—have proved remarkably nimble and relentless.

It is in the spirit of that recognition that Crain's selected these 103 honorees for its 2021 list of Notable Women in Law. These impressive attorneys were chosen not only for their skills and accomplishments, but also for their efforts to shore up the edifice of justice. In the public

and private sectors, domestically and abroad, and across industries and sectors, these lawyers—litigators, dealmakers, prosecutors, defenders and investigators—work to uphold the law as Thomas Hobbes described it: "the public conscience."

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. Ultimately, each notable lawyer was selected for her professional achievements and her pro bono work or involvement in industry and community organizations.

Read on to learn how these outstanding lawyers are championing justice and bolstering commerce each day.

## **NOTABLE WORK BUSINESS 2021**

## **TALEAH JENNINGS**

Partner Schulte Roth & Zabel

Taleah Jennings' New York Law Journal article, "Options When a Competitor Raids the Company," netted her the Burton Award for Distinguished Legal Writing—but winning awards for her legal expertise is something Jennings is rather used to. As a partner in Schulte Roth & Zabel's litigation group, she provides counsel on commercial litigation matters, such as trust and estates litigation and shareholder disputes. Jennings' clientele consists of fiduciaries of large trusts and estates, investment managers, private-equity firms, interdealer brokerage firms, multiemployer pension funds and commercial real estate firms. She has worked her litigation magic in both state and federal courts and in regulatory and arbitration forums. Jennings was named to Savoy magazine's Most Influential Black Lawyers list.

