Kelley Kronenberg
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Ejola Christlieb Cook

Partner

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Biography

Ejola Cook serves as a Partner and Business Unit Leader at Kelley Kronenberg, overseeing a comprehensive practice in corporate transactions and private equity, complex commercial litigation, intellectual property (copyright, trademark, and IP litigation), social media representation, and entertainment and sports law. Her practice is enhanced by extensive experience across multiple industries including automotive, equestrian, yachting, and marine manufacturing, enabling her to provide sophisticated legal counsel informed by deep industry and transactional knowledge.

From 2015 to 2019, Ejola served as Chief Legal Officer and General Counsel for one of the largest privately owned boat manufacturers in the country, overseeing complex business transactions, regulatory compliance, and litigation across commercial and consumer issues. Concurrently, from 2015 to 2022, she held executive legal positions including Chief Legal Officer, Vice President, Chief Administrator Officer, and Senior Vice President at one of the nation's largest privately owned automotive dealerships. In these roles, she managed all aspects of litigation, regulatory compliance, and business operations, developed and implemented comprehensive compliance programs, and created an in-house legal department that handled 90% of all litigation, significantly reducing outside legal expenses. Her in-house experience provides her with practical understanding of operational, compliance, and transactional issues that inform her external counsel work.

Prior to her in-house roles, from 2005 to 2015, Ejola served as Junior Partner at a respected law firm in Deerfield Beach, Florida, where she represented clients in federal and state courts, overseeing complex commercial litigation matters and intellectual property issues. Her work included significant consumer protection and regulatory compliance matters across multiple industries.

Ejola's extensive experience includes advising on federal and state regulatory compliance, including consumer protection laws, fair lending practices, truth in lending regulations, and various industry-specific requirements. She has maintained active involvement in industry associations, providing legal assistance and insight on regulatory matters. She has participated in legislative initiatives and policy discussions at both state and federal levels, contributing to the development of industry standards and practices.

Her private equity practice encompasses the full spectrum of transactional work across multiple industries. Experience includes complex business acquisitions and dispositions, financing arrangements, regulatory compliance in major transactions, contract negotiation and development, sales transactions, and business operations management. She has advised on transactions ranging from asset purchases to equity investments, demonstrating versatility across deal structures and industries. Her in-house counsel

background provides her with practical understanding of transaction execution, post-closing integration, and operational considerations that inform her transactional advice.

In trademark and copyright litigation, Ejola has extensive experience including federal trademark prosecution and enforcement. She has litigated trademark rights before federal courts and successfully argued appeals before the United States Trademark Board. Her practice includes Lanham Act litigation, copyright enforcement, and protection of intellectual property across multiple industries. She has represented high-profile clients in trademark enforcement matters, including international brand protection and grey market product litigation. Her team also handles related intellectual property matters including design rights, trade dress, and other IP enforcement matters.

Ejola's practice also includes social media litigation and representation, including influencer contracts and social media-related disputes. Entertainment and sports law encompasses contract negotiation, regulatory compliance, and litigation matters for entertainment and sports industry clients. Her team includes attorneys with extensive entertainment and sports industry backgrounds, providing comprehensive capabilities across talent representation, sports client matters, and entertainment transactions.

Complex commercial litigation matters in federal and state courts are handled across multiple industries. Her litigation experience encompasses consumer protection issues, regulatory compliance disputes, and sophisticated commercial disputes.

An avid equestrian since childhood, she owns and operates a highly successful equestrian facility in South Florida. This hands-on industry experience enhances her understanding of equestrian business operations and related legal considerations. Her work has earned her numerous accolades, including recognition as a Lawyer of Distinction in 2020, a Top-Rated Lawyer in 2021, and a place among the Power Lawyers featured in the New York Times in 2021. She has also held leadership positions in educational non-profits and local chambers of commerce.

A Bachelor of Arts in International Business from Northwood University provided the foundation for her legal education at Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad Law Center, where she obtained her Juris Doctor. This combination of business acumen and legal expertise has been instrumental in her approach to solving complex legal and business challenges.

Born in The Netherlands, she is fluent in Dutch.

Admissions

- Florida
- United States District Court, Northern District of Florida
- United States District Court, Middle District of Florida
- United States District Court, Southern District of Florida

Education

- Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad College of Law, J.D., 2004
- Northwood University, B.A., 2002

Industry Updates

- Step Up for Students, Advisory Board Member, October 2021 – Present
- Tamarac North Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, Chairman/Board Member, December 2019 – 2022
- National Association of Dealer Counsel, Member
- Florida Independent Automotive Dealer Association, Member
    - Board Member, October 2000 – February 2022