

2020 Ones to Watch: Nathalia Bernardo, Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP

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Name: Nathalia Bernardo

Company: Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP

Title: Partner

Education: Boston College Law School, J.D., cum laude, 2004; The George Washington University,

B.B.A., summa cum laude, 2001

What led you to your current profession?

I took a business law course in college and loved it. When I got to my first law firm, I was a corporate attorney, but I was brought into a number of real estate deals to help out (this was right before the Great Recession, and there just weren't enough hands to tackle the sheer volume of real estate transactions). Joint Venture Agreements were particularly fascinating to me – I loved taking the clients' business terms and turning them into practical, functional agreements that would live well beyond my involvement in the deals. I was hooked!

What do you like most about your job?

I very much enjoy the mental aerobics that accompany the complex real estate transactions on which I work. None of them are easy or plain vanilla, which suits me just fine. It's incredibly satisfying to distill complicated concepts into "plain English" that clients can understand and that achieves their business goals.

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