



Employer: Rothberg Logan & Warsco LLP
Title: Attorney

Education: Bachelor's in Computer Science, Indiana University Bloomington; J.D., Indiana University Bloomington, Maurer School of Law

Community organizations with which you are involved:

- Allen County Bar Association, chair, bankruptcy and creditor's rights section
- Mustard Seed Furniture Bank, vice president, board of directors
- Risk Management Association, Northern Indiana Chapter, board member
- St. John Chrysostom Orthodox Church, secretary, parish council
- Matthew 25 Health & Dental Clinic, former board member

High School: South Side High School

Hobbies: While I wouldn't call it a hobby, I study and sing Byzantine chant through my church. I also play tennis when I get the chance, I'm in too many fantasy football leagues, and I'm always in search of the latest, greatest software to improve my life. If I can find someone to help me lift the heavy sofa in my basement and make some room, I might set up my drums for the first time in too long.

Why are you in northeast Indiana?

My wife and I are both from Fort Wayne, but we were living in the Chicago area before law school. After a lot of soul-searching, we decided that Indiana suited us best, and we came back to Bloomington for law school. Between the collegial legal community, our relatives located nearby, and the exciting growth going on downtown, I couldn't be happier to be back in Fort Wayne to grow my career and my family.

What is it about your profession that you enjoy the most and why?

The practice of law gives me the chance to learn something new with each project, and to dig in and figure out creative solutions to difficult problems. Although it doesn't happen every day, I also enjoy the opportunity to connect with a person who is feeling vulnerable, give them confidence, and help resolve their problems.

About how many hours a week do you work on average?

Unless things really blow up, I average around 50 hours a week.

What has been your greatest mistake thus far and what did you learn from it?

After I finished my undergraduate work I went straight into a graduate computer science program. My mistake was that I failed to properly prepare for grad school. I was surrounded by very talented students who were focused on maximizing their school opportunity, but my mind was stuck in undergrad and I was overmatched by my classmates. It was kind of a lost year. However, that experience taught me that grad school is a serious investment that requires intense focus and a clear sense of purpose. When I returned to law school, I knew my goals, I understood the steps it would take to achieve them, and I was determined not to let anyone outwork me.

How do you stay energized to accomplish what you do at work, at home and in your community?

Both my faith and my family are very important to me. When my day-to-day activities support those priorities — work that provides for my family or community involvement that

allows me to serve others — it is easy to stay energized. Becoming a father two years ago gave me motivation to become a role model, not just live for myself.

What does success mean to you?

I believe success is about overcoming mistakes and weaknesses, setting challenging goals, and achieving those goals without regrets.

What is the newest piece of technology you own and what does it do?

My wife and I bought a Roku recently to stream internet TV channels. Not very cutting edge for 2017, but we're very happy with the money we save on cable.

What is a book you would recommend?

My reading has become too utilitarian; I need to read more for fun. However, the book that's had the biggest impact on our family recently is "The Total Money Makeover," by Dave Ramsey. Learning to focus our financial resources has allowed us to pay off an enormous amount of debt quickly, despite my wife's leaving her job after our son was born. I know many of my peers have similar challenges with large student loans, and I heartily recommend this book to help gain control.

Where did your first paycheck come from? What was your job then?

Starting when I was 9, I teamed with my older brother to deliver the News-Sentinel to the good people of 46807.

What kind of support did you receive along the way to help you advance in your career?

Before law school, I worked for Discover Card, which taught me a lot about working in a corporate setting. At Rothberg, I have been treated as a professional since my first day as an intern. I have been given top-quality projects that stretch me, mentorship from a variety of successful attorneys, and the firm's support in all of my community activities. I am blessed and grateful for my opportunities.

What is your biggest accomplishment thus far in your career?

I've been proud to support clients in many interesting and important projects. Over the past few years, Rothberg has been fortunate to be involved in several significant and high-profile downtown developments. Meeting the challenges of closing those transactions has been professionally fulfilling.

What lessons did you learn from it?

I have seen that despite public scrutiny, time and cost pressures, many competing interests, and parties involved across several cities and states, it is still possible for a development group to pull together and accomplish a huge project collegially. Being involved in those developments has made me optimistic for Fort Wayne's future.