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## **A Welcome Introduction to the Finer Symphonic Notes of FGMC**

By Mikhail Laskin

The active and hard-working atmosphere at Foster Graham initially instills a visceral reaction akin to entering a bustling Acropolis at the mountain top of multi-faceted legal representation. On a macro level FGMC is one unit functioning at a blistering pace with a high level of efficiency. But look deeper and the care and concentration each and every instrumental organ of the symphony shows in every note, is more reminiscent of the detailed brush strokes of da Vinci's own beard in his self-portrait. And much like da Vinci's familiarity with every strand of his seemingly ubiquitous mane, the team at FGMC is keenly aware of every advantage and pitfall of every case that comes across its welcoming front door. It is truly an art form to be able to trim the fat and present such a lean and powerful work product time and time again in such a wide-array of legal subjects.

Although never satisfied, the FGMC team walks on to the elevator at the end of everyday knowing that she or he has done the best they could, and is excited to pick up where they left off the next morning. The source of the high level of care exhibited my new colleagues here at FGMC, are my colleagues themselves. There is an understanding among the group that we only rise by lifting others. The end result has shown to be the magnetic attraction of some of the best clients an attorney might have the pleasure of serving.

It seems FGMC has searched far and wide with a fine-tooth comb and picked out the best and brightest attorneys, paralegals, and support staff, to match just about every need a person can have in navigating the oft trepid waters of the legal system. If you need a top tier litigation attorney, look no further. Estate and tax planning? Right down the hall. Employment law... just around the corner. Personal injury... right next door. Real estate, business, licensing, and anything you can think of... we truly have our clients covered from every angle. Best of all, we're all on the same floor of the same building.

I have had the honor however, of joining the firm's first rate criminal defense team. To join a team comprised of Lindsay Richardson, Lara Baker, and Gary Lozow has been a humbling and unreal experience. To find myself shoulder to shoulder with these intelligent, creative, award winning, and frankly legendary lawyers is a young attorney's dream. The criminal team embodies the idea that "one should be humble for they are made of earth, but noble for they are made of stars."

After spending the last three plus years working as a public defender alongside some of the hardest working lawyers, who are fully dedicated to the cause of fighting tooth and nail on behalf of their clients, I find myself in the next step of my legal career. I can only hope that the tireless effort, care, and optimism I have always put into my representation of each and every client, will continue to serve the team and clients at FGMC well into the future.

In just my first month at FGMC I have hit the ground running with my first trial win, as David Canter and I obtained a verdict of “Not Guilty” on all three drunk driving charges for our client in Jefferson County. I hope this will only be one of many trial victories to come in my future here at FGMC.

I feel both privileged and grateful for being a part of the team and look forward to demonstrating every day why our clients continue to put their trust and their lives in the hands of the lawyers at FGMC.

With anticipation for things to come,

Mikhail Laskin