

Franchise & Distribution



Our Services

Structuring Franchise Programs

Registration and Compliance

Franchise Mergers
and Acquisitions

Litigation and Dispute
Resolution

Underreporting and Franchise
Audits

Employment

IP, Internet, and eCommerce

Data Privacy and Security

Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights

International Development

Franchisors Entering U.S. Market

Franchise Finance

With one of the leading franchise and distribution practices, Lathrop GPM attorneys serve franchisors throughout the world from offices in Minneapolis, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles and Denver.

About Us

Our energetic and diverse group of 25 full-time attorneys and paralegals is one of the largest franchise practices in the world. We represent many of the most famous brands in all aspects of franchising. Our experience ranges from counseling the smallest of startups to handling the most complex of lawsuits and everything in between. Franchising is a core practice not just of our group but of our entire firm, so we also offer the full range of services provided by tax, bankruptcy, corporate, IP and employment lawyers who work extensively with our franchisor clients and understand their business.

Recognitions and Honors

It is no wonder that many of our attorneys have been recognized in the leading national and international publications:

- Recognized as one of the top 4 franchise law firms globally by Chambers Global since 2021 and as a top firm nationally by Chambers USA since 2007.
- Named 2021, 2024 and 2025 Best Franchise Law Firm in the World and Category Finalist in 2022, 2023 and 2026 by Global Franchise Magazine.
- Gaylen Knack is ranked among the top 5 Franchise lawyers in the world and Liz Dillon is ranked among the top 25 in the world (2025) by Chambers Global.
- Ranked for legal services in the "Top Franchise Suppliers" by Entrepreneur magazine (2025).
- 4 members listed as Thought Leaders and 7 as Recommended in Lexology Index Franchising, formerly Who's Who Legal (2026).
- 13 members listed in "Best Lawyers in America," with Mark Kirsch named D.C. Franchise "Lawyer of the Year" (2025) and Dave Katalinas named Denver Franchise "Lawyer of the Year" (2026).
- 5 members listed as "Legal Eagles" by Franchise Times (2026).

