HUSCH BLACKWELL



Kristina Minor

SENIOR COUNSEL

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OVERVIEW

Kristina advises higher education clients on athletics-related compliance.

A former NCAA Division I tennis player, Kristina firmly believes that college athletics made her who she is today, teaching her life skills she still relies on. Out of a desire to protect that experience for future generations, she embarked on a decades-long career in collegiate athletics administration, which included a postgraduate internship at the NCAA National Office, and positions at the Big Ten Conference, Rutgers University Athletics and Northwestern University's Department of Athletics & Recreation.

Seeking an opportunity for a broader impact nationally, Kristina joined the firm in 2024. She assists clients with athletics compliance reviews, NCAA infractions, student athlete eligibility waivers, Title IX questions, policy and procedure revisions, and various hot topics in university athletics, such as name, image, and likeness (NIL). Kristina finds it immensely rewarding to support those still in the daily trenches of intercollegiate athletics.

In addition to her university experience, Kristina also served as Vice Chair of the NCAA Division I Committee for Legislative Relief, which reviewed and ruled on hundreds of NCAA waiver appeals. She offers a unique perspective on the complexities and inner workings of the athletics industry, and her time on campus enables her to counsel clients on the practical impact of compliance regulations. Kristina has been in clients' shoes, and she understands how difficult their work is. Kristina's goal is always to apply a solutions-based approach, provide value-add, and ensure that clients leave each conversation feeling encouraged.

Industry

Education

Service

Collegiate Athletics

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Experience

WHILE ON STAFF AT NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

- Coordinated risk management initiatives in collaboration with Office of Government Relations, Office of General Counsel, and University Compliance.
- Led Athletic Compliance Office and managed compliance matters for 500+ student-athletes and 200+ staff.
- Led the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Assessment & Evaluation Advisory Group, focusing on ongoing assessment and evaluation of department climate, practices, and policies.
- Served as the sport administrator for men's and women's tennis, and men's soccer, which included managing policy decisions, budget, and disciplinary issues involving student-athletes and/or staff.
- Led department name, image, and likeness (NIL) efforts, which included creating a cross-campus NIL Task Force and drafting Northwestern's NIL Policy and strategic plan.

Recognition

- NAAC Rising Star, 2017

Education

- M.B.A., Rutgers Business School
- J.D., Marquette University Law School
    - Sports Law Certificate, National Sports Law Institute
    - Alternative Dispute Resolution Certificate
    - *Marquette Sports Law Review*
    - CALI Excellence for the Future Award, Alternative Dispute Resolution

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Admissions

- Wisconsin
- Illinois

Community Leadership

Kristina and her family administer the Kevin Minor Legacy Fund, an annual scholarship fund established in honor of Kristina's late father. The fund supports the training and travel for a female, Midwest-based tennis player under the age of 14. Kristina has greatly enjoyed the opportunity to give back and promote girls' participation in sport.

In 2024, Kristina and her family were honored as Family of the Year by the United States Tennis Association.



2026 NCAA Compliance Report

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