

## SPEAKER INFORMATION

**Date:** *Tuesday, November 5, 2019*  
**Event:** *Human Resources and Workforce Development Panel*  
**Time:** *10:45 am – 12:00 pm*

**Keith James**  
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Keith James, PLLC, was founded with a single mission in mind: work hard and work smart. The firm offers crisis management, high-profile investigations, HR advisory and complex litigation services.

As a thought leader at Masco Corporation, a Fortune 500 home improvement products company, Mr. James led the company's global labor & employment practice. He has managed a portfolio of cases ranging from multi-million dollar complex wage & hour class actions to individual claims of harassment, wrongful termination and discrimination.

Prior to Masco, he successfully tried cases before juries, judges, arbitrators and administrative agencies, including the National Labor Relations Board & the Michigan Employment Relations Commission. He has served as a lead labor negotiator working with the SEIU, the IBEW and other labor unions. His award-winning in-house legal department collaborative efforts and thought leadership include working with cross-functional teams in HR, legal, audit and corporate communications to develop a variety of tools to enhance the provision of legal services.

A frequent public speaker, Mr. James furthers his scholarship interests by speaking to judges, fellow lawyers & HR executives on labor law matters. In 2017, he was chosen by the Michigan Judicial Institute to speak on a panel to a conference of Michigan trial judges on mediation strategies. On the faculty of the American Conference Institute, he has led numerous discussions on topics such as wage and hour class actions and employment discrimination.

For his in-house innovative efforts, he has been recognized both locally and nationally. In 2018, he was recognized as a Top Corporate Counsel by DBusiness Magazine. Nationally, in 2012, 2014 and 2016, he was named Top Employment Counsel by First Chair, an organization that recognizes excellence in in-house legal departments.

**Education:** University of Wisconsin Law School, J.D. - Juris Doctor, 1989 | Albion College, B.A. - Bachelor of Arts, 1986

**Bar Licenses:** Wisconsin | Michigan