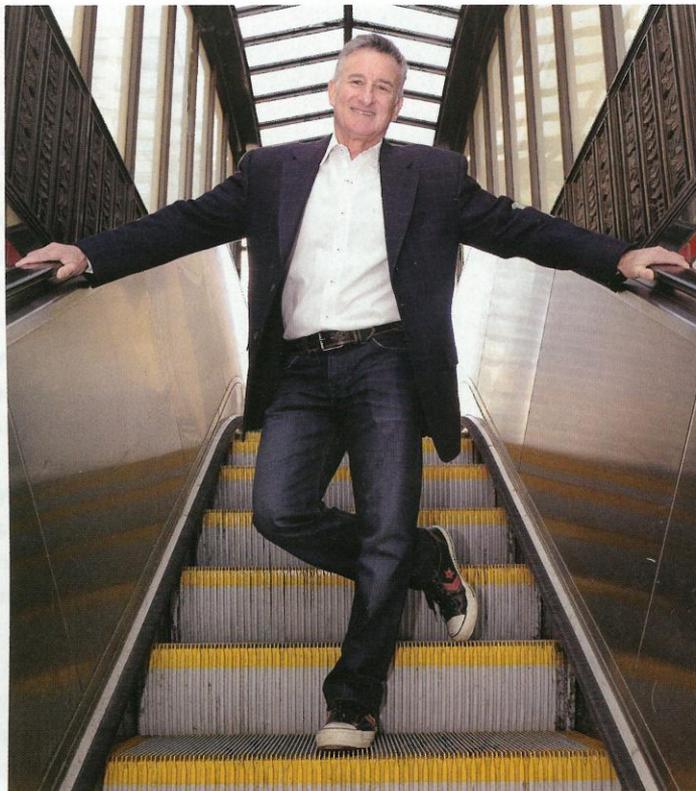


# Lawyers with Style > department



Photos by David Durochik.



Joe Yastrow has practiced labor and employment law since 1978 and has been with Laner, Muchin since 1981.

He is a partner, executive committee member and president of the firm. His expertise includes employment discrimination and harassment matters, employment litigation, mediations, collective bargaining, wage-and-hour matters, OSHA investigations and arbitrations.

**1. What's your favorite store to shop for work clothes?**

Barneys, Nordstrom, Haberdash and E-Street Denim in Highland Park, but I buy most of my suits, ties, dress shirts and accessories from Executive Wardrobe, a private tailoring firm in the West Loop owned by my friend, Lou Deal.

**2. If you are meeting with a new client or have your first day in court, what's your favorite "power suit?"**

Subtle pinstripe suit (charcoal or navy), white shirt, white pocket square and a tie that projects a sense of style without saying "Hey, look at me."

**3. What is your favorite accessory?**

Socks. This is my newest thing. I have really been having fun spicing up my wardrobe with pattern socks.

**4. In one or two words, how would you describe your style?**

"Flairly" conservative (get it?)

**5. What brand is your watch?**

I have several, but my favorites are Chronoswiss and Girard-Perregaux. I also have a beautiful Patek Philippe antique watch that was originally an engagement gift given to my dad by my grandparents 60 years ago.

**6. What do you wear on weekends?**

Sweats, khakis, jeans, flannel shirts, vintage T-shirts and rugby jerseys (I used to play).

**7. Whose style do you admire?**

My friend, renowned criminal defense attorney and fashion icon, Michael Monico, and my nephew, Chuck Lutz.

**8. What was the first expensive piece of clothing that you purchased when you became a lawyer?**

A navy blue pinstripe suit from the Fell Company in Highland Park. I could barely scrape together the \$179 to pay for it.

**9. What's your favorite brand of jeans?**

I still think Levi's are cool. I also like Gardeur and Joe's Jeans.

**10. What advice do you have for a lawyer trying to improve his or her professional style?**

Do what good lawyers do — research thoroughly, connect with a great mentor and make sure to prepare in great detail.

**11. What is your No. 1 style pet peeve?**

Too much black.

**12. Who is your favorite designer?**

Ralph Lauren and Stefano Ricci.

**13. What's your favorite brand of shoes?**

Fratelli Rossetti, Magnanni and Nike.

**14. What accessory are you most sentimental about?**

My wedding ring. Thirty-three years and counting.

**15. Why should lawyers care about their style?**

Because whether you like it or not, people do judge books by their covers. If you can't manage your appearance and wardrobe, you can't expect people will trust you to manage more complicated concerns such as their legal affairs. Plus, having a little style is fun. ■

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