HI SUPERMAN, I'M A LAWYER: A GUIDE TO ATTORNEYS (AND OTHER LEGAL PROFESSIONALS) PORTRAYED IN AMERICAN COMIC BOOKS: 1910-2007

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I. INTRODUCTION[1]

Quick, who is the most enduring fictional attorney, with a publication history spanning sixty-five years? Any guesses?

Could it be the most famous of the fictional attorneys, Perry Mason? Close, but while Mr. Mason is the most influential and most loved of the fictional attorneys, his adventures were chronicled for only sixty-two years, beginning in 1933 and ending in 1995.[2]

Here's a hint: this character was a former district attorney. Still stumped? Hint number two: this character had half of his face scarred beyond repair when a mobster he was prosecuting threw acid in his face. Are some lights going on now? If anyone reading this article is a fan of Batman, or has children who are fans of Batman, then they know that the character in question is Harvey Dent, otherwise known as the villain Two-Face. Introduced in 1942,[3] he has since appeared in multiple comic books, movies, television shows and video games.[4] Indeed, most Americans, whether or not

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1. All citations to comic books follow the format developed by Britton Payne for the Fordham Intellectual Property, Media, and Entertainment Law Journal, *available at* http://brittonpayne.com/Marvel/ComicBookFootnote.pdf.

2. THE CASE OF THE VELVET CLAWS (1933) (Creator Erle Stanley Gardner first introduced the character of Perry Mason). PERRY MASON: THE CASE OF THE KILLER KISS (Viacom 1993) (Mason's final appearance was in this television movie). Four movies based on the Perry Mason character, but not starring him, were produced after the death of Perry Mason actor, Raymond Burr. The final one of these was A PERRY MASON MYSTERY: THE CASE OF THE JEALOUS JOKESTER (Viacom 1995). *See* George Fergus, Perry Mason: A Titles and Air Dates Guide, http://epguides.com/PerryMason/ (last visited August 22, 2008).

3. Bill Finger & Bob Kane, *The Crimes of Two-Face*, DETECTIVE COMICS 66 (Detective Comics, Inc. Aug. 1942) (first appearance of Two-Face), *reprinted in* 100-PAGE SUPER SPECTACULAR DC-20, at 3 (National Periodical Publications, Inc. Sept. 1973). Harvey Dent was originally called Harvey Kent in this issue. His name was changed to Harvey Dent to avoid confusion with Clark Kent. Pat Curley, *Batman Villains of the 1950s, Part II*, THE WEEKLY PLANET, Apr. 18, 2004, http://www.dcindexes.com/planet/weeklyplanet.php?issue=55 (last visited May 3, 2009).

4. For a listing of appearances of Harvey Dent or his scar faced alter-ego Two-Face, see Wikipedia.org, Two-Face, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Two-face (last visited Dec. 4, 2008).

they have ever read a Batman comic book, recognize him at first sight.[5] He is, however, only one of the many attorney characters who have been introduced in comic books since the debut of the modern comic book in the late 1920s.[6] Beginning in the 1930s, these comic book attorneys were the first exposure to the legal community for many young boys (and a significant number of young girls), and just like the other superheroes these boys adored in their youth, these attorneys had an impact on them—long before they were introduced to Perry Mason, Atticus Finch or Ally McBeal, and long before they first watched *L.A. Law* or *Boston Legal*.[7]

Over the past two or three decades, many articles and books have dealt with the portrayal of lawyers and the legal profession in popular culture.[8] While these materials have discussed and analyzed the portrayal of the legal profession in movies, television, and popular literature, one area of popular culture has been left out of the discussion—the comic book. Given the fact that the fictional attorney with the longest publication history first appeared in a comic book, and literally dozens of lawyers have appeared as major characters in comic books, it is somewhat surprising that the portrayal of attorneys in this medium has never been explored. This article will attempt to do just that, beginning with the earliest legal professional shown in illustrated literature and continuing through attorneys as they appear in modern comic books. Legal professionals from newspaper comic strips and magazine cartoons are included, as are attorneys (and judges) who first appeared in other media such as television, but later appeared in comic books. Characters who have appeared on television or in cartoons, but who have never appeared in comic books or strips, will be excluded. The emphasis will be on characters that have had a recurring role in comic books, but many notable characters with only a single appearance are also mentioned.

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5. This is due in no small part to Tommy Lee Jones' portrayal of him in the movie BATMAN FOREVER (Warner Bros. Pictures 1995) and Aaron Eckhart's portrayal of him in THE DARK KNIGHT (Warner Bros. Pictures 2008).

6. *See infra* Part II for a short history of comic books.

7. By the 1950s, "90% of all children admitted they read and enjoyed comics." Robert Lee Beerbohm & Richard D. Olson, *The American Comic Book: 1929-Present: A Concise History of the Field as of 2006: The Modern Comics Magazine Supplants the Earlier Formats*, *in* ROBERT M. OVERSTREET, THE OFFICIAL OVERSTREET COMIC BOOK PRICE GUIDE 380, 388 (37th ed. 2007).

8. *See* Anthony Chase, *Lawyers and Popular Culture: A Review of Mass Media Portrayals of American Attorneys*, 1986 AM. B. FOUND. RES. J. 281 (1986); Michael M. Epstein, *For and Against the People: Television's Prosecutor Image and the Cultural Power of the Legal Profession*, 34 U. TOL. L. REV. 817 (2003); Jennifer Jaff, *Law and Lawyer in Pop Music: A Reason for Self-Reflection*, 40 U. MIAMI L. REV. 659 (1986); Rennard Strickland, *The Cinematic Lawyer: The Magic Mirror and the Silver Screen*, 22 OKLA. CITY U. L. REV. 13 (1997). *See also* Marlyn Robinson, The Lawyer in Popular Culture: A Bibliography, http://tarlton.law.utexas.edu/lpop/lpopbib2.html (last visited Aug. 19, 2008).

II. THE EARLY HISTORY OF COMICS

The concept of using illustrations to tell a story has existed since the dawn of history. Some of the earliest known "writings" are the pictures on the insides of caves drawn by early humans. Early great civilizations such as the Egyptians, Romans, and Greeks also used illustrations to tell the stories of their gods and heroes.[9] During the Middle Ages, hand copied manuscripts frequently contained illustrations in addition to text.[10]

The first known use of mass produced illustrations were broadsheets, printed first in Germany around 1460 then in the rest of Europe.[11] These illustrated poster size sheets were mainly used to convey religious stories or reports of newsworthy events to a populace with a low literacy rate.[12] The American colonists were familiar with these broadsheets, and introduced cartoons of religious significance into the colonies around 1646.[13] In 1837, illustrator David Johnston came up with the idea of dividing a broadsheet into panels and putting different illustrations in each panel which, when read in sequence, told a story.[14] This paved the way for the first comic book to appear in America. In 1842, the *Brother Jonathan* newspaper published, as a magazine sized special, a reformatted version of *The Adventures of Mr. Obadiah Oldbuck* from Swiss artist Rodolphe Töpffer.[15] The popularity of this illustrated magazine led *Brother Jonathan,* as well as other publishers, to begin printing more illustrated books in the United States.

The popularity of these books led to the introduction of illustrated humor magazines that dominated the medium until the introduction of *The Brownies* in 1883.[16] These elflike characters captured the imagination of children and, along with the popularity of the illustrated humor magazines, gave newspaper publishers the idea that an illustrated humor section might help sell

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9. BRIAN WALKER, THE COMICS BEFORE 1945, at 8 (Richard Slovak ed. 2004).

10. *Id.*

11. *See* David Kunzle, *The Early Comic Strip: Narrative Strips and Picture Stories in the European Broadsheet from c.1450 to 1825*, *in* 1 HISTORY OF THE COMIC STRIP 11 (1973); Eric C. Caren, *The Pioneer Age: The American Comic Book: 1500s-1828*, *in* ROBERT M. OVERSTREET, THE OFFICIAL OVERSTREET COMIC BOOK PRICE GUIDE 308, 309 (37th ed. 2007).

12. Caren, *supra* note 11, at 309; WALKER, *supra* note 9, at 8-9.

13. *See* Robert Lee Beerbohm, Richard Samuel West & Richard D. Olsen, *The Victorian Age: Comic Strips and Books: 1646-1900: A Concise History & Price Index of the Field as of 2007: Still More Origins of American Comic Strips Before the Yellow Kid*, *in* ROBERT M. OVERSTREET, THE OFFICIAL OVERSTREET COMIC BOOK PRICE GUIDE 318, 318-20 (37th ed. 2007).

14. *Id.* at 321.

15. *Id.* at 321-22; Rodolphe Töpffer, *The Adventures of Mr. Obadiah Oldbuck*, *in* BROTHER JONATHAN EXTRA [9], (Wilson & Co. 1842), *available at* http://scoop.diamondgalleries.com/scoop_article.asp?ai=2721&si=124 (part 1 of 4), http://scoop.diamondgalleries.com/scoop_article.asp?ai=2766&si=124 (part 2 of 4), http://scoop.diamondgalleries.com/scoop_article.asp?ai=2808&si=124 (part 3 of 4), http://scoop.diamondgalleries.com/scoop_article.asp?ai=2858&si=124 (part 4 of 4).

16. Robert Lee Beerbohm & Richard D. Olson, *The Platinum Age: The American Comic Book: 1883-1938: Further Concise History & Price Index of the Field as of 2007: Multitudes of Varied Formats Fight it Out in the Marketplace*, *in* ROBERT M. OVERSTREET, THE OFFICIAL OVERSTREET COMIC BOOK PRICE GUIDE 353, 353 (37th ed. 2007).

newspapers. In 1892, the *Chicago Inter Ocean* released the first cartoon section and the race was on to see which newspaper could have the most popular characters.[17]

In 1905, the first bound reprint of newspaper comics appeared and a new popular format was born.[18] For the next twenty-four years, new strips appeared first in newspapers and then were bound into a collection, but no new material appeared in these bound editions.[19] This changed in 1929 with the publication of *The Funnies* which contained all original material.[20] Although this publication failed, it gave newspaper comic supplement publisher, Eastern Color Printing, the idea of trying to sell bound comics to oil companies as promotional materials for their new service stations.[21] Both Standard Oil Company and Gulf Oil Company requested copies of newspaper sized comic tabloids for their stores in 1933.[22] Standard Oil only took a couple of issues, but Gulf Oil continued to ask for more and was shortly distributing three million copies a week.[23] Then, Proctor & Gamble requested a publication which made comic book history.[24] The company wanted thirty-two pages of material for their newest giveaway.[25] To make printing and distribution easier and cheaper, Eastern Publishing made the decision to fold the newspaper size sheets down to "dime novel" size, staple them and add a slick cover.[26] This became the standard for all future comic books. Due to the success of these giveaway issues, Eastern Publishing decided that trying to sell their own material might be worthwhile, and in 1934, they released the first comic to the newsstands.[27]

III. THE EARLIEST COMIC BOOK/STRIP ATTORNEYS

The first representation of a legal professional in illustrated form appears to be Judge Rummy, an anthropomorphic dog who held court in the sports section of the Hearst family of newspapers from 1910 until 1921.[28] Created by sports cartoonist Thomas A. "Tad" Dorgan,[29] the Judge Rummy character's

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17. *Id.* at 354.

18. *See id.* at 360 (identifying R.W. TAYLOR, BRAINY BOWERS AND DROWSY DUGGAN (1905) as the first hardbound book that reprinted newspaper comic strips).

19. *Id.* at 360-61; Beerbohm & Olsen, *supra* note 7, at 380.

20. Beerbohm & Olsen, *supra* note 7, at 380 (identifying THE FUNNIES (VOL. 1) 1 (Dell Publishing Co. 1929) as the first comic book that contained all original material).

21. *Id.* at 380-81.

22. *Id.* at 381.

23. *Id.*

24. *Id.* at 382.

25. *Id.*

26. Beerbohm & Olsen, *supra* note 7, at 382.

27. *Id.* at 383 (identifying FAMOUS FUNNIES (VOL. 2) 1 (Eastern Color Printing 1934) as the first comic book released to newsstands).

28. Donald D. Markstein, Don Markstein's Toonopedia: Judge Rummy's Court, http://www.toonopedia.com/jrummy.htm (last visited Aug. 19, 2007).

29. Lambiek.net, Comic Creator: Tad Dorgan, http://lambiek.net/artists/d/dorgan_t.htm (last visited Aug. 20, 2008).

cartoon ran under at least three different titles during its eleven year run: *Silk Hat Harry's Divorce Suit*, *Old Judge Rumhauser* and *Judge Rummy's Court*.[30] The strip was relegated to the sports pages so it would only be read by men who would not be offended by the hard drinking and crude habits of Judge Rummy and his friends.[31]

The first modern comic books took their cue from the pulp, or dime, novels that were popular at the time and focused their attention on fictional rough and tumble detectives.[32] It did not take long for other members of the law enforcement community to begin to appear as characters in comic book pages. This included police officers and, yes, attorneys, most often district attorneys. In fact, in 1936, the first masked superhero, The Clock, was created,his alter ego being former District Attorney Brian O'Brien.[33] The Clock predated the most famous masked superhero, Batman, by nearly three years and even predated Superman by over eighteen months, although he was not as long-lived, or ultimately as popular, as Clark Kent's beloved alter-ego.[34] As district attorney, Brian O'Brien grew frustrated with the ability of the law (or more accurately, the inability of the court system) to deal with criminals, so he decided to become a district attorney by day and a vigilante by night.[35] The Clock provided the basic blueprint for the majority of district attorney superheroes who appeared in succeeding years.

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30. 100 YEARS OF AMERICAN NEWSPAPER COMICS: AN ILLUSTRATED ENCYCLOPEDIA 345 (Maurice Horn ed., 1996) (hereinafter "100 YEARS").

31. Markstein, *supra* note 28.

32. *See* Beerbohm & Olsen, *supra* note 7, at 381-82.

33. Two comic books, published the same month, contain different stories featuring The Clock for the first time. *See* George E. Brenner, *The Clock Strikes*, FUNNY PAGES (VOL. 1) [6], at [28-29] (Comics Magazine Co., Inc. Nov. 1936), *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk /index.php?dlid=2082 (registration required); George E. Brenner, *Alias the Clock*, FUNNY PICTURE STORIES (VOL. 1) 1, at [1] (Comics Magazine Co., Inc. Nov. 1936), *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk/index.php?dlid=4742 (registration required). His secret identity was first revealed in George E. Brenner, *The Clock Strikes*, CRACK COMICS 1, at [1], [4] (Comics Magazines, Inc. May 1940), *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk/index.php?dlid=154 (registration required); *see also* Mark P. Steele & James Allen, The Clock, http://www.anerispress.com/ena/clock.html (last visited Aug. 20, 2008).

34. Robert Kane, *The Case of the Chemical Syndicate*, DETECTIVE COMICS 27, at [1] (Detective Comics, Inc. May 1939) (first appearance of Batman). Jerome Siegel & Joe Shuster, *Superman*, ACTION COMICS 1, at [1] (Detective Comics, Inc. June 1938) (introducing the version of Superman as we know him today). The Clock's last Golden Age appearance was George Brenner, [*untitled story*], CRACK COMICS 35, at [20] (Comics Magazine, Inc. Fall 1944), *available at* http://www.electro-comics.com/lists/crack_comics.htm, but he was revived temporarily in the 1990s by Malibu Comics for their series *Protectors* (*see* PROTECTORS (Malibu Comics Sept. 1992-May 1994) (comic book series)); Steele & Allen, *supra* note 33.

35. An International Catalogue of Superheroes: The Clock, http://www.internationalhero.co.uk/c/clock.htm (last visited Aug. 26, 2008).

IV. ATTORNEYS IN GOLDEN COMIC BOOKS: 1938-1946[36]

While The Clock was a relative success, the idea of a superhero in comic books was relatively new and very few publishers wanted to try a new concept when their humor comics were selling so well. With the introduction of Superman in 1938 this changed rapidly.[37] Superman was such a runaway success that every company wanted to introduce a superhero. While characters, who like Clark Kent were reporters in their other identities, were very popular, only so many reporter characters could attract the attention of young children. Because books featuring The Clock were selling moderately well, as were pulp novels starring detectives and other law enforcement personnel, nearly every comic book company decided to introduce a crusading, vigilante district attorney (or assistant district attorney). However, the first "copycat," The Black Bat, did not appear until almost three years after The Clock (one year after Superman).[38] Others who followed this mold in the next few years (in order of introduction) were The Laughing Mask (renamed The Purple Mask in his second appearance),[39] The Red Bee,[40] Mr. Scarlet,[41] The Mask,[42] The Falcon,[43] The Black Spider,[44] The Mouthpiece,[45] Air Wave,[46]

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36. This article is divided into sections roughly approximating the accepted ages of comic books. For a description of the ages of comic books, see J.C. Vaughn & Arnold T. Blumberg, *Comic Book Ages: Starting the Discussion*, *in* ROBERT M. OVERSTREET, THE OFFICIAL OVERSTREET COMIC BOOK PRICE GUIDE 866 (33rd ed. 2003) [hereinafter Vaughn & Blumberg, *Starting the Discussion*] and Arnold T. Blumberg & J.C. Vaughn, *Comic Book Ages: Defining Eras*, *in* ROBERT M. OVERSTREET, THE OFFICIAL OVERSTREET COMIC BOOK PRICE GUIDE 948 (34th ed. 2004) [hereinafter Blumberg & Vaughn, *Defining Eras*].

37. The introduction of Superman is widely accepted as the start of the Golden Age of the comic book. *See* Vaughn & Blumberg, *Starting the Discussion*, *supra* note 36, at 867.

38. *See* Phil Stephensen-Payne, Black Book Detective Magazine, http://www.philsp.com/mags/black_book_detective.html (last visited Aug. 26, 2008) (identifying G. Wayman Jones, *Brand of the Black Bat*, BLACK BOOK DETECTIVE MAGAZINE (VOL. 9) 2 (Better Publications, Inc. July 1939) as the first appearance of the Black Bat). The Black Bat was not technically a comic book hero, as he only appeared in the pulp detective magazine *Black Book Detective*, but he is included because he was one of the first costumed heroes to appear during the early days of comic books.

39. Will Harr & M. Gutwirth, *The Laughing Mask*, DARING MYSTERY COMICS 2, at [57] (Timely Publications Feb. 1940); Will Harr & Maurice Gutwirth, *The Purple Mask*, DARING MYSTERY COMICS 3, at [18] (Timely Publications Apr. 1940).

40. B.H. Apiary, *The Red Bee*, HIT COMICS 1, at 20 (Comics Magazines, Inc. July 1940), *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk/index.php?dlid=1027 (registration required).

41. France Herron & Jack Kirby, *Mister Scarlet*, WOW COMICS [1], at 1 (Fawcett Publications, Inc. Winter 1940-41), *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk/index.php?dlid=2373 (registration required).

42. Jess Nevins, The Golden Age Heroes Directory: M, http://ratmmjess.tripod.com/gold/goldm.html (last visited August 20, 2008) (entry for The Mask); Raymond Thayer, *The Mask Strikes*, EXCITING COMICS 1, at [1-3] (Better Publications, Inc. Apr. 1940), *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk/index.php?dlid=2662 (registration required).

43. Carl Burgos, *The Falcon*, THE HUMAN TORCH 2, at [34] (Timely Publications Fall 1940).

44. Jess Nevins, The Golden Age Heroes Directory: B, http://ratmmjess.tripod.com/gold/goldb.html (last visited Aug. 20, 2008) (entry for The Black Spider); The Grand Comics Database Project, Super-Mystery Comics vol.1, no.3, http://comics.org/details.lasso?id=1068

and the aforementioned Two-Face, who appears to have been the first attorney to become a villain in comic books.[47]

The most unique of the district attorney characters was #711, a district attorney who switched places with his best friend in prison (who looked exactly like him) so that his buddy could see the birth of his son.[48] The best friend was killed in a hit and run accident and Daniel Dyce became prisoner #711, who escaped from prison every night to battle criminals, only to return by morning roll call.[49] Another unique character was Jack Barrister, who, although not a superhero himself, was chosen by the supernatural entity, The Eye, to be the conduit for information so that criminals could be prosecuted.[50]

Along the way, some publishers decided to break with "tradition" and introduce some district attorney characters that did not wear masks or have a superhero identity, such as Steve Malone,[51] Dean Masters,[52] and Tom Kerry.[53] Other district attorneys were shown as single appearance supporting characters in on-going titles.[54] District attorneys from other media also began finding their way into comic books. Beginning in 1939, the popular radio

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(last visited Aug. 20, 2008). Both sources identify SUPER-MYSTERY COMICS (VOL. 1) 3 (Periodical House Oct. 1940) as the first appearance of The Black Spider.

45. Fred Guardineer, *The Mouthpiece*, POLICE COMICS 1, at 44 (Comic Magazines, Inc. Aug. 1941), *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk/index.php?dlid=437 (registration required).

46. Lee Harris, *Case of the Missing Evidence*, DETECTIVE COMICS 60, at [48] (Detective Comics, Inc. Feb. 1941).

47. Finger & Kane, *supra* note 3, at 4-6.

48. George E. Brenner, *#711*, POLICE COMICS 1, at 12-14 (Comic Magazines, Inc. Aug. 1941), *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk/index.php?dlid=437 (registration required); Donald D. Markstein, Don Markstein's Toonopedia: 711, http://www.toonopedia.com/711.htm (last visited Aug. 20, 2008).

49. *Id.*

50. Mark Schneider, *The Eye Sees*, KEEN DETECTIVE FUNNIES 24, at [28], [31] (Centaur Publications, Inc. Sept. 1940), *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk /index.php?dlid=755 (registration required); Donald D. Markstein, Don Markstein's Toonopedia: The Eye Sees, http://www.toonopedia.com/eyesees.htm (last visited Aug. 20, 2008); Geoffrey Tolle, Characters from the Centaur Comics Line, http://blaklion.best.vwh.net /centaur.html (last visited Aug. 19, 2008) (entry for Barrister, Jack).

51. *Steve Malone, District Attorney*, DETECTIVE COMICS 18, at [46] (Detective Comics, Inc. Aug. 1938) (first appearance of Steve Malone). *See also* Michael E. Grost, Classic Comic Books: Steve Malone, District Attorney, http://mikegrost.com/malone.htm (last visited Dec. 5, 2008).

52. Tolle, *supra* note 50 (entry for Masters, Dean) (identifying KEEN DETECTIVE FUNNIES 15 (Centaur Publications, Inc. Nov. 1939) as the first appearance of Dean Masters); The Grand Comics Database Project, Keen Detective Funnies v.2, no.11, http://comics.org/details.lasso?id=546 (last visited Aug. 19, 2008) (identifying Claire S. Moe, [*untitled story*], KEEN DETECTIVE FUNNIES (VOL. 2) 11 (Centaur Publications, Inc. Nov. 1939) as the first appearance of Dean Masters).

53. Jess Nevins, The Golden Age Heroes Directory: T, http://ratmmjess.tripod.com /gold/goldt.html (last visited Aug. 19, 2008) (entry for Tom Kerry) (identifying Ken Ernst, *The Weasel*, BIG SHOT COMICS 1 (Columbia Comics May 1940) as the first appearance of Tom Kerry).

54. *E.g. Payment in Full*, BATMAN 11, at [14], [16-17], [21-26] (Detective Comics, Inc. June-July 1942) in which Batman assists district attorney Lee Benson.

show, *Mr. District Attorney*, found its way into comic books.[55] It remained a popular comic book through two publishers, and lasted until 1959.[56]

Another variation on the theme of district attorney characters was individuals who, while not district attorneys themselves, were either related to, or worked for, district attorneys. There are at least three notable early examples. The best known was boy hero Little Boy Blue (aka Tommy Rogers) who, with friends Tubby and Toughy, helped catch criminals that his father, the local district attorney, was having trouble prosecuting.[57] The sons were not the only family members of attorneys to become costumed crime fighters. Miss X, one of the earliest known disguised female crime fighters, was also the daughter of a district attorney.[58] Finally, there was the Iron Skull, an android who responded to the telepathic call of the New York City District Attorney when it was needed to help fight crime.[59]

While the district attorney hero made up more than his (all of the district attorney characters at the time were male) fair share of attorney characters in comic books in the late 1930s and early 1940s, other attorney characters were also introduced during this period. The first lawyer introduced who was not a district attorney was Jeffrey Haines, who first appeared in April of 1940, as a young lawyer elected as mayor of Pittsburg.[60] He was framed for graft and corruption by the losing candidate (the incumbent mayor) and obtained the

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55. *See* ROBERT M. OVERSTREET, THE OFFICIAL OVERSTREET COMIC BOOK PRICE GUIDE 738 (37th ed. 2007) (entries for *Mr. District Attorney*).

56. *Mr. District Attorney* appeared in comic books beginning with THE FUNNIES (VOL. 2) 35 (Dell Publishing Co, Inc. Sept. 1939) and ran through THE FUNNIES (VOL. 2) 63 (Dell Publishing Co., Inc. Mar. 1942). The series also appeared in FOUR COLOR (VOL. 2) 13 (Dell Publishing Co., Inc. Oct. 1942) and later moved to its own title, MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY (National Comics Publications, Inc. Jan/Feb. 1948 - Jan./Feb. 1959) (comic book series). *See* OVERSTREET, *supra* note 55, at 613, 738 (entries for *Mr. District Attorney* & note following entry for *The Funnies* #35).

57. *See* Jon L. Blummer, *Little Boy Blue and the Blue Boys*, SENSATION COMICS 1, at [47], [49-50] (J.R. Publishing Co., Jan. 1942) (introducing Little Boy Blue); Jess Nevins, The Golden Age Heroes Directory: L, http://ratmmjess.tripod.com/gold/goldl.html (last visited Aug. 26, 2008) (entry for Little Boy Blue); Donald D. Markstein, Don Markstein's Toonopedia: Little Boy Blue and the Blue Boys, http://www.toonopedia.com/l-b-blue.htm (last visited Aug. 26, 2008).

58. Bernard Baily, *Introducing "Miss X"*, ACTION COMICS 26, at [33], [35] (Detective Comics, Inc. July 1940) (first appearance of Miss X). *See also* Posting of Mikishawm to Obscure DCU Characters: Round III, http://www.infiniteearths.org/dcu/obscurecharacters_files /ObscureChars3.htm (last visited Aug. 26, 2008); Jess Nevins, Who was that Masked Man?, http://ratmmjess.tripod.com/ga/masked.html (last visited Aug. 26, 2008) (entry for Miss X).

59. Carl Burgos, *The Iron Skull*, AMAZING-MAN COMICS 5, at [19] (Comic Corporation of America Sept. 1939) (first appearance of the Iron Skull), *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk/index.php?dlid=1765 (registration required); Sam Gilman, *The Iron Skull*, AMAZING-MAN COMICS 15, at [18-19], [21], [25] (Comic Corp. of America Aug. 1940) (revealing his telepathic connection to the District Attorney), *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk/index.php?dlid=2814 (registration required).

60. Steve [Jussen], *Zardi, The Eternal Man, Prince of Zandipore*, AMAZING-MAN COMICS 11, at [57], [59] (Comic Corp. of America Apr. 1940), *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk/index.php?dlid=3933 (registration required); Tolle, *supra* note 50 (entry for Haines, Jeffrey).

help of Prince Zardi to clear his name.[61] Being framed by crooked politicians was also the basis for stories about another lawyer turned hero named John Doyle (aka The Zebra).[62] Little else is known about this character.

Only one month later, attorney Sheldon Drake was introduced.[63] His daughter and secretary, Jane, who was the focus of all the stories, attempted to solve cases that came through her father's office, á la Nancy Drew.[64] The Jane Drake series appears to have run for only five issues,[65] but marks the appearance of both the first attorney engaged in private practice and the first private law office.[66]

Other unique lawyers soon followed. In October of 1940, the first female attorney, Betty Bates, Lady at Law, was introduced.[67] She remained the only female attorney in comic books until 1961.[68] Ms. Bates had a successful run in comic books, appearing in *Hit Comics* beginning with issue number four and continuing for sixty-one more issues spanning ten years.[69] The first minority lawyer was not quite as successful. Introduced in August of 1941, Jeff Dixon, better known as the Bronze Terror (a.k.a. Real American #1), was a full-blooded Apache Indian who protected his people as an attorney by day and transformed into the skull-masked terror who protected the Apache people by night.[70] He managed to last only ten issues, spanning less than one year.[71] A crime fighter who had yet to graduate from law school was also introduced in 1941. When his father was murdered by the mob, law student Bill Waring

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61. *Id.* at [61-62].

62. Jess Nevins, The Golden Age Heroes Directory: X-Z, http://ratmmjess.tripod.com/gold/goldx.html (last visited Aug. 28, 2008) (entry for the Zebra) (identifying POCKET COMICS 1 (Harvey Publications Aug. 1941) as the first appearance of The Zebra); The Grand Comics Database Project, Pocket Comics #1, http://comics.org/details.lasso?id=1572 (last visited Aug. 28, 2008) (identifying the first appearance of The Zebra as *John Doyle Convicted of Murder*, POCKET COMICS 1 (Harvey Publications Aug. 1941)).

63. Jess Nevins, The Golden Age Heroes Directory: J, http://ratmmjess.tripod.com/gold/goldj.html (last visited Aug. 28, 2008) (entry for Jane Drake); Matt Robertson, *Jane Drake Detective*, CRASH COMICS ADVENTURES 1, at [51] (Tem Publishing Co. May 1940), *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk/index.php?dlid=6171 (registration required).

64. Nevins, *supra* note 63; Robertson, *supra* note 63.

65. OVERSTREET, *supra* note 55, at 523 (entry for *Crash Comics*).

66. Robertson, *supra* note 63; Nevins, *supra* note 63.

67. Stanley Charlot, *The Case of the Crooked Eights*, HIT COMICS 4, at 15 (Comic Magazines, Inc. Oct. 1940). *See also* Nevins, *supra* note 44 (entry for Betty Bates).

68. This was until the introduction of Jean Loring, the girlfriend of Ray Palmer (aka The Atom). *See* Fox, Kane & Anderson, *infra* note 111.

69. *See* OVERSTREET, *supra* note 55, at 648 (text next to entry for *Hit Comics* #4); *See generally* various issues of *Hit Comics* from Golden Age Comics, *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk//index.php?cid=76.

70. Dick Briefer, *Real American #1*, DAREDEVIL COMICS 2, at [36], [39-40] (Your Guide Publications, Inc. Aug, 1941), *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk/index.php?dlid=1971 (registration required).

71. *See* OVERSTREET, *supra* note 55, at 536 (text next to entry for *Daredevil Comics* #2) (indicating that Real American #1 (also known as Bronze Terror) appeared from *Daredevil Comics* #2 thru *Daredevil Comics* #11).

became The Challenger.[72] Evidently, either a law student alter ego was not as popular as that of a practicing lawyer or studying for finals cut into his crime fighting time, because The Challenger only made six appearances during the early 1940s.[73] He later reappeared in two comic books during the early 2000s.[74]

By the mid-1940s, the interest in masked superheroes was waning and new concepts such as horror and true crime were beginning to be introduced.[75] As a result, only four more attorney characters were introduced in the Golden Age of comics. Needing a new twist on the attorney character, Detective Comics, Inc. (later known as DC Comics), introduced the first villain who had been an attorney, the above-mentioned Two-Face.[76] Two-Face appeared to be so popular that one of the sister companies to Detective Comics, Inc., Jolaine Publications, decided to introduce its own attorney villain, The Thinker, as a foe of The Flash.[77] The Thinker was not as popular as Two-Face and appears to be the last major attorney villain to appear until 1970.[78]

In addition to the villains, two additional heroes were introduced. The first was simply known as The Judge.[79] Introduced by Rural Home Publications in 1945, The Judge was a lawyer by day and a crusading hero by night.[80] The final attorney superhero to appear in the Golden Age of comics was The Mad Hatter.[81] The Mad Hatter, as Grant Richmond, was a junior

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72. Nick Karlton, *Meet The Challenger*, DARING MYSTERY COMICS 7, at [The Challenger Story 3-6] (Timely Publications Apr. 1941).

73. *Id.*; Al Bare, *Killed! Killed! Killed!*, MYSTIC COMICS 6, at [49] (Timely Comics, Inc. Oct. 1941); *A Fight to the Death!*, MYSTIC COMICS 7, at [29] (Timely Comics, Inc. Dec. 1941); Neel Nats, *League of Crime*, MYSTIC COMICS 8, at [57] (Timely Comics, Inc. Mar. 1942); Stan Lee & M. Sekowsky, *Horror Mansion*, MYSTIC COMICS 9, at 57 (Timely Comics, Inc. May 1942); *The Challenger*, MYSTIC COMICS 10, at [57] (Timely Comics, Inc. Aug. 1942). *See also* An International Catalogue of Superheroes: Challenger, http://www.internationalhero.co.uk/c/challenger.htm (last visited Aug. 20, 2008).

74. Mark Millar, Terry Dodson, Rachel Dodson & Ian Hannin, "*Last Stand" Part I of IV*, MARVEL KNIGHTS SPIDER-MAN 9, at [15] (Marvel Comics Feb. 2005) (featuring The Challenger in a flashback sequence); Dan Slott, Paul Pelletier, Rick Magyar & Dave Emp, *Imbalance of Power*, SHE-HULK (VOL. 1) 11, at [13] (Marvel Comics Mar. 2005).

75. *See* LES DANIELS, COMIX: A HISTORY OF COMIC BOOKS IN AMERICA 17, 61-67 (1971); WILLIAM W. SAVAGE, JR., COMIC BOOKS AND AMERICA, 1945-1954, at 12-13 (1990).

76. *See supra* text accompanying note 3.

77. Gardner F. Fox & E. E. Hibbard, *Tumble Inn to Trouble*, ALL-FLASH 12, at 1A-5A, 14B (Jolaine Publications, Inc. Fall 1943).

78. *See infra* text accompanying note 120.

79. *The Judge and the Jury*, RED CIRCLE COMICS 1, at [32] (Rural Home Publishing Co. Jan. 1945), *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk/index.php?dlid=7527 (registration required); *Little Black Book Murder*, RED CIRCLE COMICS 2, at [31] (Rural Home Publishing Co. Feb. 1945), *available at* http://goldenagecomics.co.uk/index.php?dlid=5481 (registration required). The Judge only appeared in two stories. OVERSTREET, *supra* note 55, at 797 (entry for *Red Circle Comics*) (identifying RED CIRCLE COMICS 1 (Rural Home Publishing Co. Jan. 1945) and RED CIRCLE COMICS 2, (Rural Home Publishing Co. Feb. 1945) as the only appearances of The Judge); *See infra* text accompanying note 283 for a second character (also an attorney) who was called the Judge.

80. *The Judge and the Jury*, *supra* note 79.

81. Nevins, *supra* note 42 (entry for Mad Hatter) (identifying THE MAD HATTER (VOL. 1) 1 (O.W. Comics Corp. Jan-Feb. 1946) as the first appearance of The Mad Hatter).

partner at the law firm of Fuddy and Bustle.[82] The next attorney superhero did not appear for another thirteen years.[83] Fuddy and Bustle is believed to be the first law firm appearing in the pages of a comic book.

V. THE DOWNFALL AND REBIRTH OF COMIC BOOKS: 1946-1955[84]

By 1946, the Golden Age of comic books was over. Costumed superheroes were out and war stories, horror, and true crime stories were all the rage. The overexposure of costumed superheroes during the early 1940s had caused their downfall faster than exposure to kryptonite. Superheroes did not come back into vogue until 1956 and no new recurring lawyer characters were introduced in comic books until 1959; however, there was no shortage of lawyers in comics. The only known lawyer to be introduced in comic books during this period was a supporting character in a horror/crime story in 1952.[85] Some of the characters listed above continued to make appearances and attorneys from other media, such as *Mr. District Attorney*, got their own comic books.[86] Even Perry Mason showed up in the occasional comic book during the 1940s.[87] Also filling the gap were the newspaper strips, *Judge Wright* and *Judge Parker*.[88] Both were soap opera style strips that told the stories of their title characters in their roles as judges, as well as providing daily glimpses into their private lives.[89] *Judge Wright* lasted only three years, but *Judge Parker* became extremely popular and still runs in 175 newspapers today.[90]

The popularity of the true crime and horror publications actually proved to be their undoing. By relying on more graphic stories to sell comic books, comic book publishers set themselves up to become the fall guys for groups of individuals wanting to place blame for the social ills of the late 1940s and early

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82. *Id.*

83. *See infra* text accompanying note 105.

84. This period is also known as the Atom Age of Comic Books. *See* Vaughn & Blumberg, *Starting the Discussion*, *supra* note 36, at 867.

85. The lawyer was known only as Mr. Greyle. Jeff Christiansen et al., The Appendix to the Handbook of the Marvel Universe: Clutching Hands, http://www.marvunapp.com /Appendix2/clutchinghandsjim.htm (last visited Aug. 20, 2008) (identifying the only appearance of Mr. Greyle in JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY 1, story #3); The Grand Comics Database Project, Journey Into Mystery #1, http://comics.org/details.lasso?id=9716 (last visited Aug. 20, 2008) (identifying the only appearance of Mr. Greyle as Cal Massey, *The Clutching Hands*, JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY 1, at [8] (Atlas Magazines June 1952)).

86. *See supra* notes 55 & 56.

87. Erle Stanley Gardner & Vernon Greene, *The Case of the Lucky Legs*, FEATURE BOOK (VOL.1) 49 (David McKay Publications 1946); Erle Stanley Gardner & Paul Norris, *The Case of the Shoplifter's Shoe*, FEATURE BOOK (VOL. 1) 50 (David McKay Publications 1947). Perry Mason also appeared in newspaper comic strips during the early 1950s and two comic books during the1960s. *See* Kevin Burton Smith, The Thrilling Detective Web Site: Perry Mason, http://www.thrillingdetective.com/mason.html (last visited Aug. 20, 2008); PERRY MASON MYSTERY MAGAZINE (Dell Publishing Co. June/Aug. 1964 - Oct./Dec. 1964).

88. 100 YEARS, *supra* note 30, at 158-59.

89. *Id.*

90. King Features Syndicate, Judge Parker, http://www.kingfeatures.com/features/ comics/jparker/about.htm (last visited Aug. 20, 2008).

1950s. Articles blaming comic books for social ills had appeared as early as 1940.[91] The impact on the industry was limited until the early 1950s when religious organizations, educational institutions, and elected officials joined the attack on comic books.[92] Beginning in 1948, comic books came under assault by Dr. Fredric Wertham and others.[93] Over the next six years, Dr. Wertham became the main spokesman against comic books. In 1954, he published a best-selling book that put the blame for all the perceived social ills facing America at that time, from juvenile delinquency to homosexuality, squarely on comic books.[94] A subsequent investigation by the United States Senate further tarnished the image of the comic book.[95] To restore their wholesome image, comic book publishers created an independent group, the Comics Code Authority (usually known as the C.C.A.), to regulate the content of comic books.[96] The C.C.A. expressly refused to approve the horror and true crime comic books, and without the seal of approval, newsstands refused to carry the books.[97] With the most popular books removed from newsstands, publishers knew they had to do something to survive. This meant bringing back the superhero comics that had enjoyed good reputations during the early 1940s. While some unsuccessful attempts were made to bring back Golden Age heroes,[98] the first successful restart of the hero genre was in 1956.[99]

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91. BART BEATY, FREDRIC WERTHAM AND THE CRITIQUE OF MASS CULTURE 113 (2005).

92. *See generally id.* at 104-66; Jamie Coville, Seduction of the Innocents and the Attack on Comic Books: The Comic Book Villain, Dr. Fredric Wertham, M.D., http://www.psu.edu /dept/inart10_110/inart10/cmbk4cca.html (last visited Aug. 20, 2008).

93. *See, e.g.*, Judith Crist, *Horror in the Nursery*, COLLIER'S, Mar. 27, 1948, at 22 (interview of Fredric Wertham); Frederic Wertham, *Comic Books - Blueprints for Delinquency*, READER'S DIGEST, May 1954, at 24; GEOFFREY WAGNER, PARADE OF PLEASURE: A STUDY OF POPULAR ICONOGRAPHY IN THE USA 71-112 (1954). For a slightly more neutral discussion which at least separates crime and horror comic books from less graphic material, see JOSETTE FRANK, PUBLIC AFFAIRS PAMPHLET NO. 148: COMICS, RADIO, MOVIES - AND CHILDREN 1-12 (1949). For a list of articles written on the censorship of comic books, see Comic Book Legal Defense Fund, Research: Censorship of Comics Bibliography, http://www.cbldf.org/research /biblio-50s.html (last visited Aug. 20, 2008).

94. *See* FREDERIC WERTHAM, SEDUCTION OF THE INNOCENT 147-71, 187-93 (1954).

95. COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, COMIC BOOKS AND JUVENILE DELINQUENCY, S. REP. NO. 84-62 (1955) (interim rep.), *available at* http://www.geocities.com/Athens /8580/kefauver.html?200825.

96. For more information on the Comics Code Authority, see AMY KISTE NYBERG, SEAL OF APPROVAL: THE HISTORY OF THE COMICS CODE (1998).

97. Coville, *supra* note 92.

98. *Id. See also The Return of...The Human Torch*, YOUNG MEN 24, at [1] (Interstate Publishing Co. Dec. 1953), *reprinted in* MARVEL SUPER-HEROES (VOL. 1) 20, at [34] (Magazine Management Co. May 1969); *Back from the Dead!*, YOUNG MEN 24, at [12] (Interstate Publishing Co. Dec. 1953), *reprinted in* MARVEL SUPER-HEROES (VOL. 1) 20, at [44] (Magazine Management Co. May 1969); [*untitled story*], *in* YOUNG MEN 24, at [18] (Interstate Publishing Co. Dec. 1953), *reprinted in* MARVEL SUPER-HEROES (VOL. 1) 20, at [52] (Magazine Management Co. May 1969).

99. *Mystery of the Human Thunderbolt!*, SHOWCASE 4, at [1] (National Comics Publications, Inc. Sept.-Oct. 1956) (first appearance of the silver age version of The Flash).

VI. SILVER AGE ATTORNEYS: 1956-1969

In 1956, National Comics Publications, a company created by the 1940s merger of sister companies Detective Comics, Inc., and National Allied Publications, decided that, while it might be possible to bring back the 1940s superheroes, it would be better to reinvent them with new alter egos, new costumes, and often, new powers.[100] The first character reintroduced, The Flash, sparked a resurgence of the superhero genre and touched off what has come to be known as the Silver Age of comic books.[101] During the decade, a cornucopia of new superheroes was introduced including such recognizable characters as Spider-Man,[102] The Fantastic Four,[103] and The Incredible Hulk.[104] In addition to these recognizable characters, several new attorney characters

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100. National Comics Publications would also later buy out co-owners of other sister publishers such as All-American, Joliane, and J.R., and integrate the comic book titles from these publishers into their own line. Detective Comics, Inc. had long been unofficially known as DC Comics. While the merged company continued this tradition, its official name became National Comics Publications, Inc. In 1961, the official name of the company changed to National Periodical Publications, Inc., although the unofficial designation remained. National Periodical Publications officially changed its name to DC Comics, Inc. in 1976. Bob Hughes, DC Timeline: 1835-1945, http://www.supermanartists.comics.org/dchistory/DCHISTORY-1.htm (last visited Aug. 24, 2008); Bob Hughes, DC Timeline: 1946-1955, http://www.supermanartists.comics.org/dchistory/DCHISTORY-2.htm (last visited Aug. 24, 2008); Bob Hughes, DC Timeline: 1960-1965, http://www.supermanartists.comics.org/dchistory/DCHISTORY-3a.htm (last visited Aug. 24, 2008); Bob Hughes, DC Timeline: 1976-1979, http://www.supermanartists.comics.org/dchistory/DCHISTORY-6.htm (last visited Aug. 24, 2008).

101. Vaughn & Blumberg, *Starting the Discussion*, *supra* note 36, at 867.

102. *See* Stan Lee & S. Ditko, *Spider-Man!*, AMAZING FANTASY (VOL. 1) 15, at [1] (Atlas Magazines, Inc. Aug. 1962) (first appearance of Spider-Man). He has subsequently appeared in ten television series, three movies, and numerous other books. For more information on the Spider-Man's appearances in other media, see Wikipedia.org, Spider-Man Television Series, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spider-Man_television_series (last visited Aug. 21, 2008); Wikipedia.org, Spider-Man (Film Series), http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spider-Man_film_series (last visited Aug. 24, 2008).

103. Stan Lee & Jack Kirby, *The Fantastic Four!*, THE FANTASTIC FOUR (VOL. 1) 1, at [1] (Canam Publishers Sales Corp. Nov. 1962) (first appearance of the Fantastic Four). Like Spider-Man (*see supra* note 102), The Fantastic Four have also appeared on television and in movies. For information on the four television programs and the two movies starring The Fantastic Four, see Wikipedia.org, Fantastic Four, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fantastic_Four (last visited Aug. 24, 2008).

104. Stan Lee & J. Kirby, *The Hulk*, THE INCREDIBLE HULK (VOL. 1) 1, at [1] (Zenith Publishing May 1962) (introducing the Incredible Hulk). Although a 2003 movie starring Eric Bana, Jennifer Connelly, Sam Elliot, and Nick Nolte was a success at the box office (HULK (Universal Pictures 2003)), the Incredible Hulk is probably best known from the late 1970s and early 1980s television show starring Bill Bixby & Lou Ferrigno. (*The Incredible Hulk* (CBS television series 1978-1982)).

were also introduced. The first of these, The Fly, appeared in 1960.[105] He was identified as Thomas Troy, who ran his own law office.[106]

In addition to recreating its heroes with new costumes, powers, and identities, National Comics Publications stood out as the only company that directly reintroduced the majority of their Golden Age (1930s and 1940s) heroes. The first Golden Age character to reappear was the original Flash (Jay Garrick).[107] In order to explain the existence of both the newer characters and the older characters, the concept of additional planes of existence was introduced. The "new" characters occupied one reality, known as Earth-I (sometimes identified as Earth-one or Earth-1), while the heroes from the 1930s and 1940s occupied Earth-II (often identified as Earth-two or Earth-2).[108] In comic book chronology, the heroes on Earth-II began appearing in the 1930s, while on Earth-I heroes did not begin appearing until the 1950s. The heroes of Earth-II were physically older; and younger characters, such as Robin, The Boy Wonder, had grown up and were now adults.[109] Others had married and had children who later became heroes, some of whom also became attorneys in their other identities.[110]

During the rest of the late 1950s and the 1960s, several other notable attorney characters were introduced. The first of these was Jean Loring, the first female attorney to appear in comic books since *Betty Bates, Lady at Law* ceased publication in 1950.[111] Unlike Ms. Bates, Jean Loring was not the title character in her own feature. Instead, she was introduced as the girlfriend of the newly reinvented character, The Atom.[112] Next came Harvard trained former lawyer, Matt Liebowicz, who left his Boston law practice (circa 1870), changed his name to Matt Hawk, and moved to Tombstone, Texas (often incorrectly identified as the more famous Tombstone, Arizona) to become the gun-fighter, the Two-Gun Kid.[113] The Two-Gun Kid was the first comic

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105. *The Strange New World of the Fly*, THE FLY 1, at [1], [1-6] (Radio Comics, Inc. Aug. 1959) (introducing The Fly as a young orphan). But only four issues later his alter ego was shown opening his own law office in *Return of the Spider*, THE FLY 5, at [1] (Radio Comics, Inc. Mar. 1960).

106. *Return of the Spider*, *supra* note 105.

107. Gardner Fox, Carmine Infantino, & Joe Giella, *Flash of Two Worlds!*, THE FLASH (VOL. 1) 123, at [1], 6-13 (National Comics Publications, Inc. Sept. 1961).

108. *Id.* at 9-10 (first mentioning of alternative earths). The first time the alternate earth featuring the Golden Age heroes was named Earth-2 was in *Crisis on Earth-One!*, JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA (VOL. 1) 21, at 15 (National Periodical Publications, Inc. Aug. 1963).

109. Gardner Fox, [Mike] Sekowsky & [Sid] Greene, *The Super-Crisis that Struck Earth-Two!*, JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA (VOL. 1) 55, at 4 (National Periodical Publications, Inc. Aug. 1967).

110. *See infra* text accompanying notes 163-165.

111. Gardner Fox, Gil Kane & Murphy Anderson, *Birth of the Atom!*, SHOWCASE 34, at [1] (National Periodical Publications, Inc. Sept.-Oct. 1961), *reprinted in* SECRET ORIGINS (VOL. 2) 2, at [15], [18] (National Periodical Publications, Inc. Apr.-May 1973). For the final appearance of Betty Bates, see John Forte, [*untitled story*], HIT COMICS 65 (Comic Magazines, Inc. July 1950).

112. Fox, Kane & Anderson, *supra* note 111.

113. Stan Lee, J. Kirby & [Dick] Ayers, *The Beginning of the Two-Gun Kid*, TWO-GUN KID 60, at 3, 7 (Non-Pareil Publishing Co. Nov. 1962). There was an earlier Two-Gun Kid, named Clay Harder; he appeared from TWO-GUN KID 1 (Timely Comics Mar. 1948) through

book attorney to have gone to a law school that actually existed outside of the pages of the comic book.

The most well known Silver Age attorney was introduced by Olympia Publications (one of several affiliated companies which would later become Marvel Comics) shortly thereafter.[114] Matt Murdock, otherwise known as the hero Daredevil, and his law partner Franklin "Foggy" Nelson had their first stories told in 1964.[115] Matt Murdock was the first physically disabled practicing attorney in the history of comic books, as he was blind.[116] Following in the tradition of the Two-Gun Kid, the law schools attended by both Matt Murdock and Foggy Nelson also existed in the real world.[117] It was later revealed that unlike Matt Murdock, Foggy Nelson had a parent who was

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TWO-GUN KID 59 (Non-Pareil Publishing Apr. 1961), and was not an attorney. MarvelDirectory.com, Two-Gun Kid, http://www.marveldirectory.com/individuals/t/twogunkid.htm (last visited Aug. 24, 2008).

114. The company currently known as Marvel Comics was originally founded in 1939 by Marvin Goodman as Timely Publications (subsequently Timely Comics). Goodman ceased publishing under the Timely name in 1950 and began releasing comic books through his distribution company, Atlas Comics, in 1951. While all of the comic book titles released through this distributor were colloquially known as Atlas Comics, in reality they were actually published by fifty-nine separate Goodman owned shell companies. Atlas Comics ceased distributing Goodman produced comics in 1957, but the colloquial name stuck until 1961. Beginning in 1961, all Goodman produced comics began featuring the "MC" designation on the cover and these comic books began being colloquially (and collectively) known as Marvel Comics. Although Atlas folded in 1956, Goodman's army of publishing companies remained in place until Goodman sold his entire publishing interests to Perfect Film and Chemical Company in 1968. Perfect Film combined all of these publishers into one subsidiary, the Magazine Management Company, and in 1973 renamed this subsidiary Marvel Comics Group. This was later shortened to Marvel Comics. Nationmaster.com, Encyclopedia: Atlas Comics (1950s), http://www.nationmaster.com/encyclopedia/Atlas-Comics-(1950s) (last visited Dec. 6, 2008).

115. Stan Lee & Bill Everett, *The Origin of Daredevil*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 1, at [1] (Olympia Publications Inc. Apr. 1964). In addition to appearing in comic books, actor Ben Affleck also played Daredevil in the 2003 movie and his partner, Foggy Nelson, also appeared played by Jon Favreau. DAREDEVIL (20th Century Fox 2003). Daredevil is the only attorney superhero character to have appeared as the title character in a movie.

116. While Daredevil was the first blind practicing attorney, he was not the first attorney to be blinded or the first blind superhero. The 1940s attorney hero, The Mask, was the first attorney to lose his sight in comics, but regained it before he started to fight crime. Thayer, *supra* note 42, at [2]. The first blind superhero in comic books was Dr. Mid-Nite, who was a doctor before he was blinded. *How He Began*, ALL-AMERICAN COMICS 25 (All-American Publications Apr. 1941), *reprinted as The Origin of Dr. Mid-Nite*, JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA (VOL. 1) 95, at [25] (National Periodical Publications, Inc. Dec. 1971).

117. Official sources have both Matt Murdock and Foggy Nelson graduating from Columbia Law School. *See* Mark Gruenwald, Peter Sanderson, David Mazzucchelli & Josef Rubinstein, *Daredevil*, THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE (VOL. 2) 3, at 34 (Marvel Comics Group Feb. 1986); Marvel Universe, The Definitive Online Source for Marvel Super Hero Bios: Daredevil (Matthew Murdock), http://marvel.com/universe/Daredevil_%28Matthew_Murdock%29 (last visited August 19, 2008). Other sources have both Murdock and Nelson attending Columbia, but transferring to and graduating from Harvard. *See* Marvel Database, Franklin Nelson (Earth-616), http://www.en.marveldatabase.com/Franklin_Nelson%28Earth-616%29 (last visited Aug. 28, 2008); ComicVine, Foggy Nelson, http://www.comicvine.com/foggy-nelson/29-3124/ (last visited Aug. 19, 2008).

a lawyer.[118] At various times during the *Daredevil* series, Foggy Nelson served as both a private attorney and a district attorney.[119] While Foggy was a district attorney, one of his assistant D.A.'s became, and was later unmasked as the crime lord, Crime-Wave.[120] As Marvel Comics introduced the concept of additional planes of existence in their publications during the 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s, Foggy Nelson also turned up as an attorney on other "worlds" as well.[121]

During the 1960s, Superman was accused of murder at least twice while visiting other planets. He was first accused of murdering Lex Luthor while they both visited the planet Lexor.[122] Evidently, the American system of justice was alive and well on Lexor, as a prosecutor was chosen and a defense attorney was appointed from the roster of available attorneys.[123] This appointment of a defense attorney marked the first instance in comic books of an attorney being appointed for someone who could not pay—a sure sign that both the comic book industry, as well as the people of Lexor had read the then recent United States Supreme Court opinion in *Gideon v. Wainwright*.[124] A defense attorney was again appointed for Superman when he was accused of murdering Dyno-man, the hero of the planet Sorrta.[125] In that case, the defense attorney was a woman, Rilora Dorc, who appears to be the first female defense attorney shown in comic books.[126]

Two other attorney supporting characters were introduced during the late 1960s. One of these was the father of the Vietnam War era heroes Hawk and Dove (brothers Hank and Don Hall).[127] Their father, Irwin Hall, was a judge and actually appears to be the first character who was both an attorney and a

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118. Foggy's parents, Edward and Anna Nelson, were first introduced in Steve Gerber, Bob Brown, Paul Gulacy & P. Goldberg, *Cry...Beetle!*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 108, at 22 (Marvel Comics Group Mar. 1974); however, in Karl Kesel, Cary Nord, Matt Ryan & Christie Scheele, *Alone Against the Absorbing Man!*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 360, at [7] (Marvel Comics Jan. 1997), it was revealed that Anna Nelson was Foggy's step-mother and his real mother was his and Matt Murdock's new boss, Rosalind Sharpe. Rosalind Sharpe first appeared in 1996. Karl Kesel, Cary Nord, Matt Ryan & Christie Scheele, *The Devil's Work!*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 353, at [21] (Marvel Comics June 1996).

119. Stan Lee, Gene Colan & George Klein, *Farewell to Foggy!*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 48, at [20] (Perfect Film & Chemical Corp. Jan. 1969) (Foggy Nelson becomes a District Attorney, leaving his law practice).

120. Roy Thomas, Gene Colan & Syd Shores, *Showdown at Sea*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 60, at 19 (Magazine Management Corp., Inc. Jan. 1970).

121. Tom DeFalco, Pat Olliffe, Al Williamson & Christie Scheele, *Turning Point..!*, SPIDER-GIRL 17, at [2], [16] (Marvel Comics Feb. 2000).

122. *The Death of Luthor!*, ACTION COMICS 318, at 7-9 (National Periodical Publications, Inc. Nov. 1964).

123. *Id.* at 11.

124. 372 U.S. 335 (1963). In *Gideon*, the Supreme Court mandated that defense counsel be provided (at government expense) to criminal defendants who could not afford their own attorneys. *Id.* at 339-40.

125. *The Day Superman Became an Assassin!*, SUPERMAN (VOL. 1) 206, at 6 (National Periodical Publications, Inc. May 1968).

126. *Id.*

127. Steve Skeates & Steve Ditko, *In the Beginning...*, SHOWCASE 75, at 3 (National Periodical Publications, Inc. June 1968).

family member of a superhero who also actively disapproved of vigilantism.[128] While Judge Hall was portrayed as an extremely ethical individual, the other supporting attorney introduced during the late 1960s was exactly the opposite. Caesar Cicero was the first attorney to be introduced who had a major fictional New York organized crime family as his sole client.[129] Comic book readers later met other attorneys who specialized in representing members of organized crime.[130]

Also during the mid-1960s, one very well known character that had existed for years was finally revealed as an attorney. He appeared as a character in a *New Yorker* cartoon since the 1930s and did not even have a first name, let alone a profession, until he began appearing on television. This character was the patriarch of *The Addams Family*. Originally drawn by Charles Addams, *The Addams Family* was adapted for television in 1964 and all of the family members were given names.[131] The patriarch of the family was given the name of Gomez, and revealed to be an attorney, albeit not a very good or serious one.[132] While he first appeared as a comic strip character, he eventually appeared in comic books in the 1970s.[133] Another comic strip attorney, who first appeared during the 1960s, was the unnamed barrister from the comic strip the *Wizard of Id*.[134]

Other lawyers from television also made appearances in comic books during the 1960s. Perry Mason was featured in a two issue series in 1964.[135] Other lawyer characters that made the transition from television to comic book were Bentley Gregg of the television show *Bachelor Father* (a sole practitioner),[136] Jarrod Barkley from *The Big Valley* (former prosecutor, turned private practitioner),[137] and Lawrence and Kenneth Preston from *The Defenders*.[138]

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128. *Id.*; Len Wein, Denys Cowan & Dick Giordano, *Hawk and Dove*, WHO'S WHO: THE DEFINITIVE DIRECTORY OF THE DC UNIVERSE 10, at 9 (DC Comics Inc. Dec. 1985).

129. Stan Lee, John Buscema, John Romita & Jim Mooney, *The Web Closes!*, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (VOL. 1) 73, at [1], 9 (Magazine Management Co. June 1969).

130. *See* John Ostrander, Tom Lyle, Chris Ivy & John Kalisz, *Family*, PUNISHER (VOL. 3) 2, at [6] (Marvel Comics Dec. 1995). *See also* text accompanying note 292.

131. *The Addams Family: The Addams Family Goes to School* (ABC television broadcast Sept. 18, 1964).

132. *Id.*; *The Addams Family: The Addams Family in Court* (ABC television broadcast Feb. 12, 1965).

133. *See* THE ADDAMS FAMILY (Western Publishing Co. Oct. 1974-Apr. 1975) (comic book series).

134. 100 YEARS, *supra* note 30, at 396-97.

135. *See* PERRY MASON MYSTERY MAGAZINE, *supra* note 87.

136. *See* OVERSTREET, *supra* note 55, at 439 (entry for *Bachelor Father*) (identifying the only two comic books based on the *Bachelor Father* television show: FOUR COLOR (VOL. 2) 1332 (Dell Publishing Co. Apr.-June 1962) and BACHELOR FATHER 2 (Dell Publishing Co. Sept.-Nov. 1962)); *see also Bachelor Father* (CBS television series 1957-1959); *Bachelor Father* (NBC television series 1959-1961); *Bachelor Father* (ABC television series 1961-1962).

137. *See* THE BIG VALLEY (Dell Publishing Co. June 1966-Oct. 1967; Oct. 1969); *The Big Valley* (ABC television series 1965-1969).

138. *See* THE DEFENDERS (Dell Publishing Co. 1962) (comic book series); *The Defenders* (CBS television series 1961-1965).

VII. COMIC BOOK ATTORNEYS OF THE BRONZE AGE: 1970-1985

The 1970s marked the beginning of an era in which multiple new attorneys were introduced in supporting roles. It was also an era in which many new types of attorneys (other than prosecutors and defense attorneys) first appeared.

The first lawyer to appear during this period was Kronin Krask, who tried to take over the body of Thor to gain immortality.[139] Instead, his body was converted into living energy.[140] He later reappeared and it was revealed that his sons, Kevin and Kenneth, both lawyers, had taken over his law practice.[141] This is believed to be the first instance of family succession in a law office shown in comic books.

District Attorney William (Bill) Carver was also introduced in 1970.[142] He was the first African-American to be identified as an attorney in comic books. He later became the costumed hero Thunderbolt in 1977, making him the first African-American to be both lawyer and superhero.[143] The next African-American legal professional to appear in comic books came as part of a television show which was adapted as a comic book. This series, *The Young Lawyers*, was significant as it featured the first female African-American legal professional (a law student) to appear in comic books.[144] Pat Walters, who played in the television series by Judy Pace, also stands out as the only African-American woman to be shown actively engaged in legal practice in comic books as of 2007.[145] "Big Ben" Donovan rounds out the list of early African-American attorneys in comic books. His earliest appearance featured him as a lawyer working in Harlem, but after his brother was arrested and died in

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139. Stan Lee, Jack Kirby & Bill Everett, *The Immortal and the Mind-Slave!*, THOR (VOL. 1) 172, at 8 (Magazine Management Co. Jan. 1970) (first appearance of Mr. Krask). During that story his profession was not revealed. It was not until much later that readers found out that he had been an attorney. *See* Roy Thomas, R.J.M. Lofficier, Larry Alexander, Grant Miehm, Charles Barnett & Paul Becton, *Krask Force*, MARVEL DOUBLE FEATURE . . . THUNDERSTRIKE/CODE BLUE 16, at [Code Blue Story 8] (Marvel Comics Jan. 1995). This book is a "flip" book with stories starting from both the "front" and "back" of the book. As traditional page numbering would be useless, pages are counted from the first page of each story.

140. Thomas, Lofficier, Alexander & Miehm, *supra* note 139.

141. *See* Roy Thomas, Jean-Marc Lofficier, Larry Alexander, Charles Barnett & Paul Becton, *The Thermal Man is Back!*, MARVEL DOUBLE FEATURE . . . THUNDERSTRIKE/CODE BLUE 15, at [Code Blue Story 20] (Marvel Comics Dec. 1994) (This book is also a "flip" book, see note 139, *supra,* for explanation of how pages numbers were determined); Thomas, Lofficier, Alexander & Miehm, *supra* note 139.

142. Roy Thomas, Gene Colan & Syd Shores, *A Life on the Line*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 69, at 20 (Magazine Management Co., Inc. Oct. 1970).

143. Marv Wolfman, Lee Elias, Tom Palmer & George Roussos, *Thunderbolt and Goldbug!*, POWER MAN 41, at 3 (Marvel Comics Group Mar. 1977).

144. *See* THE YOUNG LAWYERS 1 (Dell Publishing Co. Jan. 1971) and THE YOUNG LAWYERS 2 (Dell Publishing Co. Apr. 1971); *The Young Lawyers* (ABC television series 1970-1971).

145. *See* THE YOUNG LAWYERS 1 (Dell Publishing Co. Jan. 1971) and THE YOUNG LAWYERS 2 (Dell Publishing Co. Apr. 1971), *but see infra* text accompanying notes 284-286 discussing an African-American female who was a lawyer before becoming a masked vigilante.

prison, he became a criminal obsessed with killing those who had wronged him.[146] He was the first African-American attorney in comics to become a villain. Other minorities were also represented in the 1970s. The first Asian-American to be shown as an attorney was Bill Hao (an assistant district attorney) in the pages of a 1976 issue of the comic book *Iron Fist*.[147]

When Matt Murdock (Daredevil) left New York to move to San Francisco in 1973, several new lawyers were introduced.[148] While in San Francisco, Murdock joined the law firm of Broderick, Sloan & Cranston (later Broderick, Sloan & Murdock).[149] One of the junior partners, Larry Cranston, had been a classmate of Murdock (and Nelson) and later became a professor at Columbia University.[150] Hatred of Murdock and Daredevil drove him to become the third criminal known as Mr. Fear.[151] Also at Murdock's new firm was, senior partner, Kerwin J. Broderick.[152] Broderick was slightly more power mad than the average senior partner. His goal was to run a criminal empire, and to further that goal, he ultimately used alien technology to create several villains with super powers, such as the Dark Messiah[153] and Angar The Screamer.[154] While Broderick and Cranston ended up on the wrong side of the law, one partner in the law firm, Jason Sloan, although he was written to appear arrogant and manipulative, did at least manage to stay on the correct side of the law, but was ruined due to the actions of his partners.[155]

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146. Steve Englehart, Billy Graham & Petra Goldberg, *Retribution!*, HERO FOR HIRE 14, at 11 (Marvel Comics Group Oct. 1973); *see also* Jo Duffy, Kerry Gammill & G. Wein, *One Must Die!*, POWER MAN 62, at 22-23 (Marvel Comics Group Apr. 1980).

147. Chris Claremont, John Byrne, Dan Adkins & Bonnie Wilford, *Like Tigers in the Night!*, IRON FIST (VOL. 1) 8, at 14 (Marvel Comics Group Oct. 1976).

148. Gerry Conway, Gene Colan, & Tom Palmer, *From Stage Left, Enter: Electro!*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 87, at [1] (Magazine Management Co., Inc. May 1972) (featuring Murdock's move to San Francisco).

149. Gerry Conway, Gene Colan & Tom Palmer, *Bullfight on the Bay!*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 95, at 6 (Magazine Management Co., Inc. Jan. 1973).

150. Gerry Conway, Gene Colan & Tom Palmer, *Fear is a Man*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 90, at 9-10 (Magazine Management Co., Inc. Aug. 1972); Joe Kelly, Gene Colan, Al Williamson & Christie Scheele, *Prison Without Walls*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 366, at [1-3] (Marvel Comics Aug. 1997).

151. Gerry Conway, Gene Colan & Tom Palmer, *Fear is the Key!*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 91, at 17, 22, 26-28, 30-31 (Magazine Management Co., Inc. Sept. 1972).

152. Broderick first appeared only as a shadowy unnamed figure. *See* Gerry Conway, Steve Gerber, Gene Colan & Ernie Chua, *He Who Saves*, DAREDEVIL (VOL.1) 97, at 9, 11-12 (Magazine Management Co., Inc. Mar. 1973). His name appears on the door of the law firm (listed first) in Conway, Colan & Palmer, *supra* note 151, at 18. Sloan is credited as the senior partner in the same issue, but later calls Broderick his mentor and boss. Steve Gerber, Bob Brown, Sal Buscema & P. Goldberg, *Blind Man's Bluff!*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 107, at 7, 26-27 (Marvel Comics Group Jan. 1974) [hereinafter Gerber et al., *Blind Man's Bluff!*]

153. Gerber et al., *Blind Man's Bluff!*, *supra* note 152, at 17-19, 21; Kuljit Mithra, Daredevil: Man Without Fear (entry for Kerwin J. Broderick), http://www.manwithoutfear.com/characters/ character.cgi?id=Kerwin%20J.%20Broderick (last visited Aug. 27, 2008).

154. Steve Gerber, Gene Colan, J. Tartaglione & Stan G., *Mind Storm!*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 100, at 28 (Marvel Comics Group June 1973); Mithra, *supra* note 153.

155. Gerber et al., *Blind Man's Bluff!*, *supra* note 152. Sloan first appeared in Conway, Colan & Palmer, *supra* note 150. He was not seen again after DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 107.

While district attorney characters remained popular, different aspects of the legal profession were also introduced during the 1970s.[156] The first public defender superhero (and later villain) appeared in 1975.[157] Public defender Mark Shaw became the third character known as the Manhunter, then shed this identity to become the Privateer, and finally became the villain known as the Star-Tsar.[158] The only paralegal to become a superhero and the first Hispanic legal professional to appear in comics was Marcos Zapata, otherwise known as the hero, Relampago, whose adventures were published by independent comic book publisher Azteca Productions.[159] Also first appearing in 1976 was lawyer Emerson Bale, who specialized in very wealthy clients, and first appeared as the lawyer for Warren Worthington III, also known as the Angel.[160] He was the first attorney featured who specialized in high-end clients and later represented many other wealthy superheroes and super-villains in various Marvel Comics.[161] The first civil/human rights lawyer, Crystal Carpenter, appeared in 1978 as she sought to have the robots, the Metal Men, declared citizens instead of movable property.[162]

The late 1970s revealed that the grown up Robin of Earth-II had not only taken over the role of preeminent crime fighter of Gotham City after Batman had retired, but had also gone to law school and was now a partner with the public interest law firm of Cranston & Grayson (later Cranston, Grayson, &

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156. Several district attorneys were introduced in the 1970s and early 1980s entirely as supporting characters. Among those were Sam Bullit (Stan Lee, Gil Kane & John Romita, *To Smash the Spider!*, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (VOL. 1) 91, at 5-9 (Magazine Management Co., Inc. Dec. 1970)), Blake Tower (Len Wein, Marv Wolfman, Gene Colan, Klaus Janson & Michelle W., *In the Coils of the Copperhead!*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 124, at 14 (Marvel Comics Group Aug. 1975) (Tower's face appearing on the election poster only), David Pearson (Gerry Conway, Martin Pasko & Mike Royer, *The Freedom Fighters*, FREEDOM FIGHTERS 1, at 9-11 (National Periodical Publications, Inc. Mar.-Apr. 1976)), Frank Fitzsimmons (Marv Wolfman, George Pérez, Romeo Tanghal & Carl Gafford, *Kidnapped!*, THE NEW TEEN TITANS (VOL. 1) 23, at 4-5 (DC Comics, Inc. Sept. 1982)), and Maxine Levander (Frank Miller, Klaus Janson & Glynis Wein, *Lady Killer*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 173, at [9] (Marvel Comics Group Aug. 1981)). *See also infra* notes 168, 183 and accompanying text.

157. Stan Woch & Bob Smith, *Privateer*, WHO'S WHO: THE DEFINITIVE DIRECTORY OF THE DC UNIVERSE 18, at 20 (DC Comics, Inc. Aug. 1986). For the first appointed defense attorney, see *supra* text accompanying notes 122-23.

158. Jack Kirby & D. Bruce Berry, *Manhunter*, FIRST ISSUE SPECIAL 5, at 9-11, 13-14 (National Periodical Publications, Inc. Aug. 1975); Steve Englehart, Dick Dillin, Frank McLaughlin & Anthony Tollin, *A Tale of Two Satellites!*, JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA (VOL. 1) 143, at 4-6 (DC Comics, Inc. June 1977); Woch & Smith, *supra* note 157 (identifying Steve Englehart, Dick Dillin, Frank McLaughlin & Anthony Tollin, *The Face of the Star-Tsar!*, JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA (VOL. 1) 149, at [1] (DC Comics, Inc. Dec. 1977) as the first appearance of Mark Shaw as the Star-Tsar).

159. An International Catalogue of Superheroes: Azteca Production's Relampago, http://www.internationalhero.co.uk/a/aztrelam.htm (last visited Apr. 14, 2009).

160. Tony Isabella, Don Heck, John Tartag & J. Cohen, *The Economy is so Bad that...*, THE CHAMPIONS 5, at 2 (Marvel Comics Group Apr. 1976).

161. *See* Jeff Christiansen et al., The Appendix to the Handbook of the Marvel Universe: Emerson Bale, http://www.marvunapp.com/Appendix/baleem.htm (last visited Nov. 7, 2008) (biography and list of appearances).

162. Gerry Conway, Joe Staton & Liz Berube, *The Inheritor Kills!*, METAL MEN (VOL. 1) 56, at 11-15 (DC Comics, Inc. Feb.-Mar. 1978).

Wayne), along with partner Arthur Cranston.[163] Comic book readers soon discovered that he was not the only attorney in the Wayne family of Earth-II. Bruce Wayne married a reformed Selina Kyle (Catwoman) and the two of them had a daughter, Helena.[164] Helena both masqueraded as the heroine, The Huntress, and eventually joined her "step-brother" as a partner in his law firm.[165] Helena Wayne was the first female, superhero attorney introduced in comic books and remained one of the few recurring female attorneys until her death in 1985.[166] Several other attorneys were introduced as members of Cranston, Grayson & Wayne. These were associates Roger Demarest, Tyler Van Dyne, Frances DeVito, and Charles Bullock.[167] Also introduced was District Attorney Harry Sims, who later became Helena's boyfriend and confidant.[168] The adventures of The Huntress also inspired one of her colleagues, African-American attorney Charles Bullock, to become the hero Blackwing.[169] After being beaten and captured during his first outing as a superhero, Bullock decided that being a junior associate provided enough

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163. Paul Levitz, Joe Staton, Bob Layton & Adrienne Roy, *A Choice of Destinies*, BATMAN FAMILY 18 (DC Comics, Inc. June-July 1978), *reprinted in* PAUL LEVITZ et al., THE HUNTRESS: DARKNIGHT DAUGHTER 20, 20-21 (2006). Cranston, Grayson, & Wayne appears to be the first public interest law firm shown in comic books.

164. Paul Levitz, Joe Staton, Bob Layton & Anthony Tollin, *From Each Ending...A Beginning!*, DC SUPER STARS 17 (DC Comics, Inc. Nov.-Dec. 1977), *reprinted in* PAUL LEVITZ et al., THE HUNTRESS: DARKNIGHT DAUGHTER 7-9 (2006).

165. *Id.* at 16; Levitz, Staton, Layton & Roy, *supra* note 163, at 20.

166. Marv Wolfman, George Pérez, Jerry Ordway & Tom Ziuko, *Final Crisis*, CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS (VOL. 1) 12, at 23, 40 (DC Comics, Inc. Mar. 1985). The Huntress is shown again during the recreation of the multi-verse (the collection of alternative universes) in the recent comic book series *52*. Geoff Johns et al., *A Year in the Life*, 52 Week Fifty-Two, at [13] (DC Comics July 2007). While it is currently unknown if this reintroduced version of the Huntress is an attorney in the recreated Earth-2 universe, it is possible, if not probable, that the reintroduced character will retain the same history.

167. Levitz, Staton, Layton & Roy, *supra* note 163, at 20-21 (introducing Roger Demarest). Demarest appears again in Paul Levitz, Joe Staton, Bob Layton & Adrienne Roy, *Gotham Town is Burning Down!*, BATMAN FAMILY 19 (DC Comics, Inc. Aug.-Sept. 1978), *reprinted in* PAUL LEVITZ et al., THE HUNTRESS: DARKNIGHT DAUGHTER 30, 33-35, 37-38 (2006), but has not been seen since then. Paul Levitz, Joe Staton, Steve Mitchell & Adrienne Roy, *Always Leave 'Em Laughing*, WONDER WOMAN (VOL. 1) 281 (DC Comics, Inc. July 1981) (introducing Van Dyne, DeVito, and Bullock), *reprinted in* PAUL LEVITZ et al., THE HUNTRESS: DARKNIGHT DAUGHTER 132, 134 (2006).

168. Paul Levitz, Joe Staton, Steve Mitchell & Gene D'Angelo, *Into Darkness Once More*, WONDER WOMAN (VOL. 1) 271 (DC Comics, Inc. Sept. 1980), *reprinted in* PAUL LEVITZ et al., THE HUNTRESS: DARKNIGHT DAUGHTER 52, 57 (2006); Paul Levitz, Joe Staton, Steve Mitchell & Adrienne Roy, *The Lion Roars at Midnight*, WONDER WOMAN (VOL. 1) 278 (DC Comics, Inc. Apr. 1981), *reprinted in* PAUL LEVITZ et al., THE HUNTRESS: DARKNIGHT DAUGHTER 108, 109-110 (2006); Paul Levitz, Joe Staton, Jerry Ordway & Anthony Tollin, *Out of the Darkness*, WONDER WOMAN (VOL. 1) 295 (DC Comics, Inc. Sept. 1982), *reprinted in* PAUL LEVITZ et al., THE HUNTRESS: DARKNIGHT DAUGHTER 215, 222 (2006).

169. Joey Cavalieri, Joe Staton, Sal Trapani & Carl Gafford, *Go Save the World!*, WONDER WOMAN (VOL. 1) 297, at [18], [22-23] (DC Comics, Inc. Nov. 1982); Blackwing – Who was He?, http://meltingpot.fortunecity.com/egypt/235/page13.html (last visited Nov. 5, 2008).

abuse to satisfy him and was not seen in costume again.[170] Bullock is also the first (and appears to be the only) attorney in comic books to be shown using an online legal research service.[171]

Three other attorney characters that appeared during the 1970s deserve mention, however none first appeared in American comic books (although all three later had stories printed in American comic books). The first two originally appeared together as part of a comic strip in *The Brooklyn Paper*.[172] Their strip moved to *The National Law Journal* in 1983 and became a comic book beginning in 1994.[173] These two attorneys, Alanna Wolff and Jeff Byrd, took legal cases involving the supernatural and are some of the very few attorneys in comic books who are actually shown in the courtroom.[174] The third character that deserves mention is Judge Dredd, the anti-hero from the twenty-second century. He serves as one of the police officers, judges, jurors, and often executioners in the totalitarian system that has replaced the government in the eastern part of North America. While most Americans, even those who read comic books, had never heard of Judge Dredd until the 1995 movie starring Sylvester Stallone,[175] he had already been a fixture in British comics for nearly twenty years.[176] Although he is more a police officer than lawyer or judge, the character is notable as an example of legal professionals in science fiction strips and of how Europeans perceive the future of the American legal system. While Judge Dredd eventually appeared

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170. Cavalieri, Staton, Trapani & Gafford, *supra* note 169, at [23]; Joey Cavalieri, Joe Staton, Frank McLaughlin & Tony Tollin, *The Squeeze on Gotham!*, WONDER WOMAN (VOL. 1) 298, at [17-19] (DC Comics, Inc. Dec. 1982); Joey Cavalieri, Joe Staton, Frank McLaughlin & Anthony Tollin, *Stranglehold!*, WONDER WOMAN (VOL. 1) 299, at [17], [19] (DC Comics, Inc. Jan. 1983).

171. Paul Levitz, Joe Staton, Bruce Patterson & Adrienne Roy, *Karnage is the Name*, WONDER WOMAN (VOL. 1) 286 (DC Comics, Inc. Dec. 1981), *reprinted in* PAUL LEVITZ et al., THE HUNTRESS: DARKNIGHT DAUGHTER 173, 181 (2006). The service is misnamed as "Lexus," but it is pretty obvious the authors were referring to LexisNexis.

172. Batton Lash & Exhibit A Press, Who are Wolff and Byrd?, http://www.exhibitapress.com/pages/w&b.html (last visited Nov. 6, 2008); Batton Lash & Exhibit A Press, Batton Lash, http://www.exhibitapress.com/pages/batton.html (last visited Nov. 6, 2008).

173. *Id.*

174. The adventures of Wolff and Byrd are chronicled in WOLFF & BYRD, COUNSELORS OF THE MACABRE (Exhibit A. Press May 1994-Aug. 1999) (comic book series); SUPERNATURAL LAW (Exhibit A. Press Oct. 1999-present) (comic book series); SUPERNATURAL LAW SECRETARY MAVIS (Exhibit A. Press 2001-present) (comic book series). Strips from *The Brooklyn Paper* and *The National Law Journal* are collected in two volumes: BATTON LASH, WOLFF & BYRD, COUNSELORS OF THE MACABRE (1987) and BATTON LASH, WOLFF & BYRD, COUNSELORS OF THE MACABRE: SUPERNATURAL LAW (1992). *See* Batton Lash & Exhibit A Press, Wolff and Byrd and Supernatural Law Book Collections, http://www.exhibitapress.com /pages/books.html (last visited Aug. 22, 2008).

175. JUDGE DREDD (Hollywood Pictures 1995).

176. Peter Harris, Michael McMahon & Carlos Ezquerra, *Judge Dredd*, 2000 A.D. 2, at [24], [28] (IPC Magazines Ltd. Mar. 1977) (introducing Judge Dredd).

in American comic books, the majority of his early appearances were in the British comic book *2000 A.D.*, in which he still appears.[177]

Even more attorney characters appeared in the early portion of the 1980s. The most famous female attorney/superhero, She-Hulk, debuted in February 1980.[178] Attorney Jennifer Walters, cousin to Bruce Banner, was shot by the henchmen of a mob boss who was framing one of her clients.[179] In order to save her life, Banner, who became The Incredible Hulk when under stress, gave her a blood transfusion of his own blood.[180] Of course, Banner's blood contained the radioactive enhancements that caused him to become The Hulk under stress and, because Jennifer received his tainted blood, she also transformed into a large, powerful green creature when she faced a stressful situation.[181] Unlike Banner, her normal personality eventually took control despite her transformation into the She-Hulk.[182] In the first She-Hulk series, *The Savage She-Hulk*, Jennifer Walters generally took the side of the defense, while the prosecution was normally handled by District Attorney Buck Bukowski.[183] She-Hulk also had many later experiences as an attorney, including becoming an assistant prosecutor and a private attorney.[184] A second recurring female character, Bernadette (Bernie) Rosenthal, who became Captain America's girlfriend and later broke off an engagement with him to go to law school and become a lawyer, also made her first appearance in 1980.[185] She left New York to go to law school at the University of Wisconsin, but later returned to take the New York bar and open a practice in

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177. 2000 A.D., http://www.2000adonline.com/ (last visited Aug. 22, 2008); Judge Dredd also appears in the British comic JUDGE DREDD MEGAZINE (Rebellion Developments Oct. 1990-present) (comic book series). His American comic book appearances include JUDGE DREDD (Eagle Comics Nov. 1983-Sept. 1986) (comic book series), JUDGE DREDD (S.Q.P., Inc. Oct. 1986-Oct. 1991) (comic book series), and JUDGE DREDD (DC Comics Aug. 1994-Jan. 1996) (comic book series), among others. *See* OVERSTREET, *supra* note 55, at 448, 674-75, 693 & 917, for a complete list of Judge Dredd's American appearances.

178. Stan Lee, John Buscema & Chic Stone, *The She-Hulk Lives*, THE SAVAGE SHE-HULK 1, at [1] (Marvel Comics Group Feb. 1980).

179. *Id.* at 6-7.

180. *Id.* at 11.

181. *Id.* at 19-28.

182. *See* Marvel Universe, The Definitive Online Source for Marvel Super Hero Bios: She-Hulk, http://www.marvel.com/universe/She-Hulk (last visited Sept. 2, 2008).

183. David Anthony Kraft, Mike Vosburg, Chic Stone & [Bob] Sharen, *Deathrace!!*, THE SAVAGE SHE-HULK 2, at 6 (Marvel Comics Group Mar. 1980) (first appearance of Buck Bukowski).

184. *See infra* text accompanying notes 269-270.

185. Roger Stern, John Byrne, Josef Rubinstein & Bob Sharen, *Dragon Man!*, CAPTAIN AMERICA (VOL. 1) 248, at 14 (Marvel Comics Group Aug. 1980) (introducing Bernie Rosenthal). [Marc] Gruenwald, [Paul] Neary, [Dennis] Janke & [Ken] Feduniewicz, *Creatures of Love*, CAPTAIN AMERICA (VOL. 1) 316, at 2 (Marvel Comics Group Apr. 1986) [hereinafter Gruenwald et al., *Creatures of Love*] (Bernie decides to go to law school); Mark Gruenwald, Paul Neary, Dennis Janke & Ken Feduniewicz, *Death-Throws*, CAPTAIN AMERICA (VOL. 1) 317, at 5-7, [23] (Marvel Comics Group May 1986) (Bernie leaves New York). *See also* David Medinnus, Bernie Rosenthal, http://web.archive.org/web/20011211052101/www.winghead.org/cast/bernie.html (last visited Dec. 6, 2008) (biography).

the city.[186] While she did not continue her romantic relationship with Steve Rodgers (Captain America), she remained his friend and appeared often in the *Captain America* comic book as well as other titles.[187]

A second Marvel character also had a romantic relationship with an attorney during the early 1980s. Alison Blaire, also known as the Dazzler, hired lawyer Ken Barnett to defend her from murder charges.[188] After being acquitted, she and Barnett began a romantic relationship.[189] While the relationship did not last, they remained friends and he continued to appear in stories about Alison.[190] Former law student Becky Blake also joined Nelson & Murdock as an intern.[191] She, like Murdock, was physically handicapped; although she had her sight, due to an accident she was confined to a wheelchair.[192]

DC Comics reintroduced the district attorney/vigilante concept in the aptly named series *Vigilante*.[193] Adrian Chase, as the title character, resorted to becoming a hunter of criminals after his wife and child were murdered by a bomb sent to kill him.[194] Also appearing in the series was Adrian's girlfriend Marcia King, another attorney.[195] While Adrian started as a district attorney, he was eventually appointed to the bench, prompting him to throw away his costume and weapons.[196] Fellow judge, Alan Welles, retrieved the costume from the garbage and assumed the mantle of the Vigilante.[197] While Adrian

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186. *See* Gruenwald et al., *Creatures of Love*, *supra* note 185; Mark Gruenwald, Ron Lim, Danny Bulanadi, [Christie] Scheele & [Steve] Bucc[alleto], *With Friends Like These*…, CAPTAIN AMERICA (VOL. 1) 380, at 13, 15 (Marvel Comics Dec. 1990) (Bernie finishes law school and returns to New York).

187. For a list of appearances, see Jeff Christiansen et al., The Appendix to the Handbook of the Marvel Universe: Ros-Roz, http://www.marvunapp.com/master/rosroz.htm (entry for Rosenthal, Bernadette) (last visited Aug. 25, 2008).

188. Danny Fingeroth, Frank Springer, Vince Colletta & Don Warfield, *Trial…and Terror!*, DAZZLER 13, at [18] (Marvel Comics Group Mar. 1982).

189. *Id.* at [23]; Danny Fingeroth, Frank Springer, Vince Colletta & Don Warfield, *Black Magic Woman!*, DAZZLER 16, at [5] (Marvel Comics Group June 1982).

190. *See, e.g.*, Frank Springer, Vince Colletta, & Andy Yanchus, *Vendetta!*, DAZZLER 28, at [5-7] (Marvel Comics Group Sept. 1983).

191. R. McKenzie, F. Robbing, F. Springer & B. Sharen, *The Man Without Fear?*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 155, at 21-22 (Marvel Comics Group Nov. 1978).

192. *Id.*

193. *See generally* THE VIGILANTE (DC Comics, Inc. Oct. 1983-Feb. 1988). For the first appearance of Adrian Chase as a district attorney, see Wolfman, Pérez, Tanghal & Gafford, *supra* note 156, at 6.

194. Marv Wolfman, George Pérez, Pablo Marcos & Adrienne Roy, *The Murder Machine*, THE NEW TEEN TITANS (VOL. 1) ANNUAL 2, at 5, 38-41 (DC Comics, Inc. 1983).

195. *See, e.g.*, Marv Wolfman, Paul Kupperberg, Denys Cowan, Rick Magyar & Tatjana Wood, *Ups…and Downs!*, VIGILANTE (VOL. 1) 19, at 5 (DC Comics, Inc. July 1985).

196. *Id.* at 5, 23.

197. Wolfman, Kupperberg, Cowan, Magyar & Wood, *supra* note 195, at 23; Judge Welles first appeared in Marv Wolfman, Chuck Patton, Mike DeCarlo & Tom Ziuko, *Origin!*, VIGILANTE (VOL. 1) 7, at 4 (DC Comics, Inc. June 1984) [hereinafter Wolfman et al., *Origin!*]. The new Vigilante appeared in Marv Wolfman, Paul Kupperberg, Tod Smith, [Rick] Magyar & Tatjana Wood, *A Dream that Just Won't Die...*, VIGILANTE (VOL. 1) 20, at 18 (DC Comics, Inc. Aug. 1985), but the fact that Alan Welles was the one who had adopted the identity was not

was content simply beating criminals into confessing, Alan was much more violent and preferred executing anyone he felt was engaged in or aided criminal activities, or preventing his idea of justice from being implemented.[198] He even went so far as to execute a criminal defense attorney who he believed won too often on the basis of what he considered to be technicalities.[199] After Judge Welles was killed, a third person, Dave Winston (a bailiff), assumed the role of the Vigilante.[200] After he, too, was killed, Adrian reassumed the role of the Vigilante.[201] The inherent conflict between being a judge on the side of law and order and a vigilante dedicated to wiping out criminals without a trial finally caught up to him. Adrian became mentally unstable and eventually committed suicide.[202]

Defense attorneys also made appearances in DC Comics. After causing the death of the villain Professor Zoom, The Flash faced charges for manslaughter.[203] Over the course of the trial he had extremely bad luck with lawyers. His first defense attorney, Peter Farley, was seriously injured in a bomb blast in his office.[204] His second attorney, Peter's law partner Cecile Horton, was caught in an avalanche caused by another attorney who wanted to represent The Flash in order to resurrect his declining career, and also repeatedly told The Flash how much she despised him.[205] Finally, the attorney who caused the avalanche committed suicide.[206]

Before the two mini-series *Marvel Super Hero Secret Wars*[207] and *Crisis on Infinite Earths*[208] brought the Bronze Age of comic books to a close, two more defense attorneys were introduced.[209] The first was the spectral public defender Sean Knight, introduced in the pages of the independent comic,

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revealed until Paul Kupperberg, Denys Cowan, [Dick] Giordano, [Arne] Starr & Genè D'Angelo, *Insanity's End!*, VIGILANTE (VOL. 1) 27, at [25] (DC Comics, Inc. Mar. 1986).

198. *See, e.g.*, Wolfman et al., *Origin!*, *supra* note 197, at 1-2, 17-18.

199. Paul Kupperberg, Tod Smith, Steve Mitchell & Tatjana [Wood], . . . *Many Unhappy Returns!*, VIGILANTE (VOL. 1) 23, at 19-20 (DC Comics, Inc. Nov. 1985).

200. Paul Kupperberg, Tod Smith, Rick Magyar & Tatjana Wood, *Rebirth*, VIGILANTE (VOL. 1) 28, at [20] (DC Comics, Inc. Apr. 1986); Paul Kupperberg, Denys Cowan, Kyle Baker & Tatjana Wood, *Mask of Death*, VIGILANTE (VOL. 1) 36, at 1, 22-24 (DC Comics, Inc. Dec. 1986) [hereinafter Kupperberg et al., *Mask of Death*].

201. *See* Kupperberg et al., *Mask of Death*, *supra* note 200, at 19-24.

202. Paul Kupperberg, Steve Erwin, Jack Torrance & Liz Berubé, *A Life!*, VIGILANTE (VOL. 1) 50, at 23-25 (DC Comics, Inc. Feb. 1988).

203. Cary Bates, Carmine Infantino, Dennis Jensen & Carl Gafford, *The Slayer and the Slain*, THE FLASH (VOL.1) 324, at 22-23 (DC Comics, Inc. Aug. 1983); Cary Bates, Carmine Infantino, Frank McLaughlin & Carl Gafford, *Murder on the Rocks*, THE FLASH (VOL. 1) 336, at 18 (DC Comics, Inc. Aug. 1984) [hereinafter Bates et al., *Murder on the Rocks*]

204. Cary Bates, Carmine Infantino, Frank McLaughlin & Carl Gafford, *Defend The Flash...and Die?*, THE FLASH (VOL. 1) 332, at 5-6 (DC Comics, Inc. Apr. 1984).

205. *Id.* at [23]; Bates et al., *Murder on the Rocks*, *supra* note 203, at 5-13.

206. Bates et al., *Murder on the Rocks*, *supra* note 203, at 18-23.

207. MARVEL SUPER-HEROES SECRET WARS (Marvel Comics Group May 1984-Apr. 1985) (comic book series).

208. CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS (VOL. 1) (DC Comics, Inc. Apr. 1985-Mar. 1986) (comic book series).

209. *See* Blumberg & Vaughn, *Defining Eras*, *supra* note 36, at 951.

Mage.[210] Sean had actually passed away in the 1950s, but did not realize it and kept on defending his clients.[211] He was appointed to defend title character Kevin Matchstick after he broke into a sports stadium.[212] The second attorney character introduced in the mid-1980s was World War II concentration camp survivor and one time romantic interest of both X-men leader Charles Xavier and nemesis Magneto, Gabrielle Haller.[213] She later became defense counsel for Magneto when he surrendered to authorities and was placed on trial for his various crimes.[214]

A new Native American character was also introduced in the early 1980s and acted as legal counsel for the Dakota tribes.[215] Michael Blackfeather was a normal attorney until his latent mutation was mechanically triggered and he gained the ability to turn into the flying creature, The Werehawk.[216]

VIII. THE ATTORNEY IN MODERN COMIC BOOKS: 1985-2007[217]

After the major changes to characters by both DC and Marvel Comics in their mini-series *Marvel Super Heroes Secret Wars* and *Crisis on Infinite Earths*, a few years passed before new attorney characters appeared. Only a few attorneys were introduced for the rest of the 1980s and all but two of them were non-super powered supporting characters. Readers were introduced to the lawyer for the super team, The Avengers, one Mr. Costello, in 1986.[218] Two years later readers met Felix Alverez, a lawyer who was promoted to Chief Operating Officer of Stark Enterprises, home of Iron Man.[219] Mr. Alverez is believed to be the first corporate counsel shown in comic books. In 1988, the father of the teenage character Speedball appeared as the town

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210. Matthew Wagner, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern*, MAGE (VOL. 1) 5, at [22-27] (Comico the Comic Co. Jan. 1984).

211. An International Catalogue of Superheroes: Sean Knight, http://www.internationalhero.co.uk/s/seannite.htm (last visited Aug. 25, 2008).

212. Wagner, *supra* note 210.

213. Chris Claremont, Dave Cockrum, Bob Wiacek & Glynis Wein, *Gold Rush!*, THE UNCANNY X-MEN 161, at [8-14] (Marvel Comics Group Sept. 1982) (Gabrielle Haller's first appearance in a flash back story).

214. Chris Claremont, John Romita, Jr., Dan Green & Glynis Oliver, *The Trial of Magneto!*, THE UNCANNY X-MEN 200, at [1-3] (Marvel Comics Group Dec. 1985).

215. Dave Cockrum & Paty [Cockrum], *The Futurians!*, MARVEL GRAPHIC NOVEL 9, at [15-19] (Marvel Comics Group 1983).

216. *Id.* at [17-19].

217. The time period covered by this section actually contains two recognized comic book ages, the Copper Age (1984-1992) and the Modern Age (1992-present). *See* Blumberg & Vaughn, *Defining Eras*, *supra* note 36, at 951. For convenience, both of these ages are discussed in a single section.

218. Roger Stern, John Buscema, Tom Palmer & Christie Scheele, *Wild in the Streets!*, THE AVENGERS (VOL. 1) 270, at [21] (Marvel Comics Group Aug. 1986) (introducing Mr. Costello).

219. David Michelinie, Bob Layton, Jackson Guice & Bob Sharen, *Two Live or Die in L.A.!*, IRON MAN (VOL. 1) 238, at 17-18 (Marvel Comics Jan. 1989) (first appearance of Mr. Alvaraez).

district attorney.[220] Without realizing that his son was a superhero, he spearheaded a crackdown on vigilante activities, especially the activities of costumed superheroes.[221]

Several criminal defense attorneys showed up as minor characters in various stories throughout the late 1980s and early 1990s. Defense lawyer, Charles Blackwater, was killed by one of his clients, but was resurrected and served as one of the members of The Legion of Night, an organization committed to battling the forces of the occult.[222] The award for the most unlikely defense attorney goes to Lieutenant Worf of *Star Trek, The Next Generation* as he discovered that, in an alternate timeline in which the Klingons were peaceful, he became a defense attorney.[223] The overall oddest defense attorney was Anne Weying, the ex-wife of Eddie Brock before he merged with the creature Venom.[224] When she was injured, Brock sent Venom to merge with her and heal her, but merging with Venom turned her into a killer.[225] The experience did lasting damage to her mental condition and she ended up committing suicide.[226] Other defense attorneys also appeared in limited roles.[227] In the late 1980s, another woman went from being a lawyer to being a

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220. Roger Stern, Steve Ditko, Jackson Guice & Tom Vincent, *Speedball the Masked Marvel*, SPEEDBALL 1, at 2, 15 (Marvel Comics Sept. 1988).

221. *See generally* SPEEDBALL (Marvel Comics Oct. 1988–July 1989) (comic book series).

222. Steve Gerber, Whilce Portacio, Scott Williams & Paul Mounts, *Messenger from the Dead*, THE LEGION OF NIGHT 1, at [6-35] (Marvel Comics Oct. 1991).

223. Howard Weinstein, Rob Davis, Arne Starr & Matt Webb, *Seems Like Old Times*, STAR TREK (VOL. 2) 57, at 23 (DC Comics Feb. 1994).

224. David Michelinie, Mark Bagley, Randy Emberlin & Bob Sharen, *The Bride of Venom*, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (VOL. 1) 375, at 8-9 (Marvel Comics Mar. 1993) (first appearance of Anne Weying). Roger Stern, Tom DeFalco, Ron Frenz, Brett Breeding & Glynis Wein, *Homecoming!*, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (VOL. 1) 252, at 4 (Marvel Comics Group May 1984) (Venom's first appearance in Spider-Man's black costume). Venom and Eddie Brock also have prominent roles in the *Spider-Man 3* movie; however, Anne Weying does not appear in the movie. SPIDER-MAN 3 (Columbia Pictures 2007).

225. Larry Hama, Greg Luzniak, Scott Koblish & Tom Smith, *Redeemable Upon Request*, VENOM: SINNER TAKES ALL 2, at [12-13], [16-17], [22] (Marvel Comics Sept. 1995).

226. Howard Mackie, Erik Larsen, John Beatty & Gregory Wright, *Mirror Mirror*, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (VOL. 2) 19, at [22-23] (Marvel Comics July 2000).

227. Spider-Man's friend, Flash Thompson, had to get a defense attorney (Tom DeFalco, Peter David, Jo Duffy, Mike Harris, Vince Colletta & J. Ferriter, *If This Be Justice*, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (VOL. 1) 278, at [6] (Marvel Comics Group July 1986)) as did the heroes the Sub-Mariner (John Byrne & Glynis Oliver, *Out of Sight Out of Mind*, NAMOR, THE SUB-MARINER 6, at [11] (Marvel Comics Sept. 1990)), Marvel Boy (Fabian Nicieza, Mark Bagley, Larry Mahlstedt & Joe Rosas, *The Folding Circle*, THE NEW WARRIORS (VOL. 1) 21, at [8-10] (Marvel Comics Mar. 1992) (his lawyer was Foggy Nelson), Mr. Muscle (Bob Rozakis, Stephen DeStefano, Kurt Schaffenberger & Bob Ro, *Bombs Away!*, HERO HOTLINE 4, at 23 (DC Comics, Inc. July 1989), and the Scarlet Spider (J.M. DeMatteis, Mark Bagley, [Larry] Mahlstedt, [Sam] DeLaRosa & Bob Sharen, *The Trial of Peter Parker, Part Two: Judgment at Bedlam*, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (VOL. 1) 403, at [8] (Marvel Comics July 1995)). Also introduced was the lawyer for gang leader Lotus Newmark, Auggie Slater (Steve Gerber, Al Milgrom, Don Heck & Paul Becton, *Hit and Run*, AVENGERS SPOTLIGHT 31 (Marvel Comics, Apr. 1990)) (as identified by Jeff Christiansen et al., The Appendix to the Handbook of the Marvel Universe: Stone Perfs (gang, Hawkeye Foes), http://www.marvunapp.com/Appendix3/stoneperfsgang.htm#slater

green monster, but unlike the She-Hulk, the Ogress remained essentially mindless.[228]

The 1990s brought about the introduction of dozens of new lawyers in addition to the defense attorneys already noted. While many new lawyers were introduced in the pages of comic books, others found their way into comic books after appearing in movies or on television.

Three new African-American lawyer heroes were introduced during the early 1990s. The first of these, Shadowhawk, alias Paul Johnstone, was also the first HIV-positive character in comic books; his infection was contracted from being injected with an infected syringe in retaliation for prosecuting a mobster.[229] The next, Augustus Friedman, was actually a shape changing alien who had crashed in the American south in 1839 and taken on the appearance of the first person he saw.[230] A young friend talked him into becoming the hero Icon.[231] Finally, the character of B-Sting (former African-American District Attorney Jonathan Riker) also appears to have originated in the 1990s, but no information regarding the date or location of his first appearance could be located.[232] One other minority attorney was also introduced during the late 1990s. Attorney Billy Honanie and his cousin, artist Drew Quyatt, both full blooded Native Americans with a mix of both Hopi and Pueblo Indian blood, were granted superpowers by mystical forces and battled crime in the American southwest as the Peace Party.[233]

Other comic book attorneys also appeared as superheroes, as well as villains, for the first time during the 1990s. Foggy Nelson's great-great grandson became the first Daredevil in the year 2099.[234] Foggy Nelson also

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(last visited Aug. 27, 2008)). Attorney Stuart McPhee assisted Spider-Man's friend, Joseph "Robbie" Robertson, in getting a presidential pardon by working with Robertson's defense counsel. Gerry Conway, Sal Buscema, Mike Esposito & Bob Sharen, *These Shattered Senses or A Tale of the Brothers Grimm*, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN (VOL. 2) 159, at 9-11 (Marvel Comics Dec. 1989).

228. *See* Peter David, Todd McFarlane, Jim Sanders, Chris Ivy & Petra Scotese, *Closing Curtain*, THE INCREDIBLE HULK (VOL. 2) 345, at 2, 17 (Marvel Comics July 1988) (introducing Diane, who later became the Ogress); Peter David, Jeff Purves Marie Severin & Glynis Oliver, *Countdown…The Leader*, THE INCREDIBLE HULK (VOL. 2) 366, at 24 (Marvel Comics Feb. 1990) (first appearance of the Ogress in her green form).

229. Jim Valentino, Paul Johnstone, http://www.valentinocomics.com/shadowhawk2b.html (last visited Aug. 27, 2008).

230. An International Catalogue of Superheroes: Icon, http://www.internationalhero.co.uk/i/icon.htm (last visited Aug. 27, 2008); Dwayne McDuffie, M. D. Bright, Mike Gustovich, Rachelle Menashe, James Sherman & Noelle Giddings, *By Their Own Bootstraps*, ICON 1, at 3-4, 7 (DC Comics May 1993).

231. An International Catalogue of Superheroes, *supra* note 230.

232. Wm. Joseph Warner, An International Catalogue of Superheroes: B-Sting, http://www.internationalhero.co.uk/b/bsting.htm (last visited Aug. 27, 2008).

233. Rob Schmidt, Ron Fattoruso & Mike Kelleher, *Beginnings*, PEACE PARTY 1, at 3-7 (Blue Corn Comics July 1999), *available at* http://www.bluecorncomics.com/pp1pages.htm.

234. *See* Warren Ellis, Dale Eaglesham Scott Koblish & Mike Thomas, *Mid Day Sun*, 2099 A.D. GENESIS 1, at [13-14], [19-23], [35-37] (Marvel Comics Jan. 1996) (the only appearance of Eric Nelson (unnamed)); Jeff Christiansen et al., The Appendix to the Handbook of the Marvel Universe: Dara-Dark C, http://www.marvunapp.com/master/daradrkc.htm (last visited Aug. 25, 2008) (entry for Daredevil 2099 (Eric Nelson)). When the *Daredevil 2099* series

plays a role in stories about a second attorney hero. In a second comic book devoted to the actions of heroes in one possible future, Foggy Nelson hired Reilly Tyne to work for his firm.[235] Reilly was the son of the Spider-Man clone, the Scarlet Spider, and was changed by the spirit of Daredevil and the demon Zarathos into the hero called Darkdevil.[236] During the late 1990s, DC Comics introduced Resurrection Man, a former attorney who had been subjected to an experiment involving nanotechnology.[237] The nanotechnology organisms in his bloodstream resurrected him each time he was killed and gave him a new superpower.[238] Also during the late 1990s, a villain known as Reverend Achebe, a nemesis of the hero Black Panther, was revealed to have gone to Yale Law School where he earned a Ph.D. in Law.[239] Thus, a villain is the only attorney in comic books to be shown as having earned an advanced degree in law.

Non-superhero attorneys also appeared in force during the 1990s. Insomniac Don Weiderman came first in 1990, as he discovered during his sleepless nights that his neighbors had the ability to change into a talking six-foot cat and an extra large talking rat (with glasses).[240] After following them, Don became friends with them and got involved as they went on their adventures.[241] *The Protectors* comic book series in 1992 reintroduced Golden Age hero Brian O'Brien (The Clock).[242] Time had been good to him and while he was still an attorney, he had given up his district attorney job to

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began, the new Daredevil of the year 2099 had a different identity and was not an attorney. *See* Robert Kirkman, Karl Moline, Mike Perkins, Rick Magyar & Nick Bell, *Daredevil 2099*, DAREDEVIL 2099 1 (Marvel Comics Nov. 2004). *See supra* text accompanying notes 115-21 for information regarding Foggy Nelson.

235. Tom Defalco, Pat Olliffe, Al Williamson & Christie Scheele, *Bedeviled?*, SPIDER-GIRL 2, at [5-7] (Marvel Comics Nov. 1998) (first appearance of Reilly Tyne as Darkdevil);Tom Defalco, Pat Olliffe, Al Williamson, Christie Scheele & Heroic Age, *Overkill!*, SPIDER-GIRL 34, at [14] (Marvel Comics July 2001) (first showing Tyne out of costume when it was revealed that Reilly was working for Foggy Nelson).

236. *See* Tom Defalco, Ron Frenz, Al Milgrom & Bob Sharen, *The Cursed!*, DARKDEVIL 2, at [8-9] (Marvel Comics Dec. 2000).

237. *See* Andy Lanning, Dan Abnett, Butch Guice & Carla Feeny, *Resurrection Man*, RESURRECTION MAN 1, at 5, 7, [24] (DC Comics May 1997).

238. *See generally* RESURRECTION MAN (DC Comics May 1997-Aug. 1999) (comic book series).

239. Marvel Universe, The Definitive Online Source for Marvel Super Hero Bios: Achebe, http://www.marvel.com/universe/Achebe (last visited Aug. 25, 2008). Special Note: Yale University Law School does not actually offer a Ph.D. in law. Yale Law School, Degree Programs, http://www.law.yale.edu/academics/degreeprograms.asp (last visited Aug. 25, 2008).

240. Diane M. Piron, Hannibal King & Mike Gustovich, *Odds 'n Even*, BATS, CATS & CADILLACS 1, at [1]-5 (Now Comics Oct. 1990) [hereinafter Piron et al., *Odds 'n Even*]. Although Don's profession was alluded to in this issue (*id.* at [1]), it is not confirmed until issue 2 in Diane M. Piron, Hannibal King, Mike Gustovich & Suzanne Dechnik, *On the House*, BATS, CATS & CADILLACS 2, at [1] (Now Comics Nov. 1990).

241. *See* Piron et al., *Odds 'n Even*, *supra* note 240.

242. R.A. Jones, Thomas Derenick, [Mike] Deodato & Tom O'Connor, *When Heroes Gather*, PROTECTORS 1, at 6-7 (Malibu Comics Sept. 1992); *See generally* PROTECTORS (Malibu Comics Sept. 1992-May 1994) (comic book series).

become President of the United States.[243] As in prior decades, the district attorney was the most represented legal profession, with six district attorneys making recurring appearances in various titles.[244] Other district attorneys made single appearances but did not reappear. During the 1990s, many other attorneys also appeared in various supporting roles. The first series of *Strangers in Paradise* introduced the character of Freddie Femur, an attorney who was the boyfriend of one of the main characters until he broke off the relationship with her in the first issue.[245] He continued being a regular character through all three of the incarnations of the *Strangers in Paradise* title.[246] Female attorney Darcy Conroy was introduced in the pages of *Kurt Busiek's Astro City* series,[247] while the character of Lucille (no last name ever revealed) from Frank Miller's *Sin City* series changed from being a parole officer to a lawyer.[248] Lucille was the first homosexual attorney in comic books and currently is the only lesbian character to work as an attorney.[249] The new secret identity of Thor was Eric Masterson, a divorced architect, who needed the services of divorce attorney

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243. *Id.*

244. The recurring district attorney characters were (first known appearance in parenthesis): a female district attorney known only as Guillermo (Danny Fingeroth, Al Milgrom, Kerry Gammill, Mike Machlan & Paty Cockrum, *The Price of Justice*, DEADLY FOES OF SPIDER-MAN 2, at [16], [24] (Marvel Comics June 1991)), Kathy Malper (D.G. Chichester, Lee Weeks, Al Williamson & Max Scheele, *Last Rites, Part Three: Regicide*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 1) 299, at 12-17 (Marvel Comics Dec. 1991)), Olivia Lentz ([Dan] Slott, [John] Calimee, [Greg] Adams & [Mark] Bernardo, *Trial Run: Past the Bars*, VENOM: SINNER TAKES ALL 2, at [23-24] (Marvel Comics Sept. 1995)), Gracia Hidalgo (Larry Hama, Josh Hood, Derek Fisher & Tom Smith, *Law & Order*, VENOM: ON TRIAL 1, at [20] (Marvel Comics Mar. 1997)), Assistant Attorney General Vivian Raintree (Larry Hama, Derec Aucoin, Ralph Cabrera, Rich Faber & Tom Smith, *Dr. Yes!*, VENOM: LICENSE TO KILL 1, at [6-7] (Marvel Comics June 1997)), and Janice Porter (Jeph Loeb, Tim Sale & Gregory Wright, *War*, BATMAN: DARK VICTORY (VOL.1) 1, at 19-22 (DC Comics Dec. 1999)).

245. Terry Moore, *Breaking Up is Hard to Do*, STRANGERS IN PARADISE (VOL. 1) 1, at [5-8], [21-23] (Gold Series Reprint Abstract Studio, Inc. May 1997).

246. Terry Moore, The Strangers in Paradise Website: Freddie, http://www.strangersinparadise.com/characters/freddie.html (last visited Aug. 25, 2008). *See also* STRANGERS IN PARADISE (VOL. 1) (Antarctic Press Nov. 1993-Feb. 1994) (comic book series); STRANGERS IN PARADISE (VOL. 2) (Abstract Studio Sept. 1994-July 1996) (comic book series); STRANGERS IN PARADISE (VOL. 3) (Image Comics/Abstract Studio Oct. 1996-May 2007) (comic book series).

247. Kurt Busiek, Brent Anderson, Steve Buccellato & Electric Crayon, *Safeguards*, KURT BUSIEK'S ASTRO CITY (VOL. 1) 4, at [6] (Image Comics Nov. 1995).

248. Frank Miller, *Sin City Episode Three*, DARK HORSE PRESENTS 52, at [23-27] (Dark Horse Comics, Inc. July 1991) (first appearance of Lucille as the parole officer of the character Marv); Frank Miller, [*untitled story*], SIN CITY: THAT YELLOW BASTARD: PART FOUR OF SIX, at 3-12 (Dark Horse Comics, Inc. May 1996) (revealing Lucille was the lawyer for former police officer, John Hartigan). Lucille, played by Carla Gugino, appeared in the *Sin City* movie only in her role as Marv's parole officer. SIN CITY (Dimension Films 2005).

249. *See, e.g.*, Gay League, Characters, http://www.gayleague.com/wordpress/category/lgbt-characters/ (last visited Mar. 30, 2009). Lucille is not listed on this page; however, the page lists only major gay, lesbian, and bisexual characters from comic books. One could assume that because she was only a supporting character, she is not considered important enough to list; however, none of the other lesbian or female bisexual characters listed are attorneys.

Samantha Joyce to fight a custody battle.[250] The mother of the young superhero Darkhawk was attorney Grace Powell.[251] During the 1990s, Captain America and his girlfriend, Bernadette Rosenthall, broke off their relationship and he began dating another attorney, Connie Ferrari.[252] Attorneys in the employ of the United States government (other than prosecutors) made their first appearances in the 1990s. Everett Ross was employed by the United States Department and Sachi Yama was assigned to a federal commission to supervise the activities of the villain the Juggernaut.[253] In the alternate future world of Spider-Girl, Sachi Yama was shown as an assistant district attorney who had married Juggernaut, and became the mother of the hero J2.[254]

For the first time since the 1960s, attorneys from movies and animated television shows made the move to comic books. Lawyers Lionel Hutz, Gil Gunderson, and the unnamed head of the law firm representing Mr. Burns' interests appeared not only in *The Simpsons* television show, but also made appearances in various issues of *Simpsons Comics*.[255] Cher Horowitz and her attorney father, Mel, from the *Clueless* movie and television show were also featured in a single comic book in 1997.[256]

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250. Tom DeFalco, Ron Frenz, Joe Sinnott & George Roussos, *Beyond Courage, Must I Strive!*, THE MIGHTY THOR (VOL. 1) 414, at 2-3 (Marvel Comics Feb. 1990) (first appearance of Samantha Joyce).

251. Danny Fingeroth, Mike Manley & Joe Rosas, *Dawn of the Darkhawk*, DARKHAWK 1, at [5-6] (Marvel Comics Mar. 1991).

252. Mark Waid, Andy Kubert, Jesse Delperdang & Chris Sotomayor, *First Gleaming*, CAPTAIN AMERICA (VOL. 3) 15, at [12-13] (Marvel Comics Mar. 1999) (first appearance of Connie Ferrari); Mark Waid, Andy Kubert, Jesse Delperdang & Gregory Wright, *Danger in the Air!*, CAPTAIN AMERICA (VOL. 3) 20, at [4-7] (Marvel Comics Aug. 1999) (Connie and Steve Rogers (Captain America) begin dating). *See supra* notes 185 & 187 and accompanying text.

253. Christopher Priest, Kenny Martinez, Anibal Rodriguez & Matt Hicks, *Misery*, KA-ZAR (VOL. 3) 17, at [5], [7-9] (Marvel Comics Sept. 1998) (first appearance of Everett Ross). Ross also made appearances in various other titles. See Christiansen et al., *supra* note 187 (entry for Ross, Everett Kenneth), for a list of appearances in other titles. Fabian Nicieza, Kevin Maguire, Andrew Pepoy & Paul Mounts, *Tomorrow Begins Today*, X-MEN FOREVER 6, at [33] (Marvel Comics June 2001) (first appearance of Sachi Yama).

254. *See* Tom Defalco, Ron Lim, Al Milgrom & Bob Sharen, *Call the Kid…J2!*, J2 1, at [3] (Marvel Comics Nov. 1998).

255. For a list of all of the appearances of Lionel Hutz and Mr. Burns' unnamed lawyer, see Haynes Lee, The Simpsons Archive: The Lionel Hutz File, http://www.snpp.com/guides/hutz.file.html (last visited Aug. 21, 2008). Appearances of Lionel Hutz in *The Simpsons* television show are listed in section 3 ("Case History"). Lionel Hutz's comic book appearances are listed in section 8 ("Bongo Comics"). Appearances (both television and comic book) of Mr. Burns' lawyer appear in section 4 ("Who is this Other Lawyer"). Jordan Eisenberg & Wesley Mead, The Simpsons Archive: The Gil File, http://www.snpp.com/guides/gil.file.html (last visited Aug. 21, 2008) identifies three episodes of the Simpsons television program and one issue of *Simpsons Comics* in which Gil Gunderson works as a lawyer. *See generally The Simpsons* (Fox television series 1989-present) and SIMPSONS COMICS (Bongo Comics Nov. 1993-present) (comic book series).

256. Jack Enyart, S.M. Taggart & Ben Sean, *The Girl Mousse Likely*, CLUELESS SPRING SPECIAL 1, at 6, 9-12 (Marvel Comics May 1997); Jack Enyart, Dave Hoover & Ben Sean, *The Dudette Ranch*, CLUELESS SPRING SPECIAL 1, at 40 (Marvel Comics May 1997); CLUELESS

The turn of the century saw another character from animated television and comic books become an attorney. The Hanna-Barbera character Birdman gave up crime fighting and became defense attorney Harvey Birdman, who specialized in defending characters from other animated television shows (many of whom had also appeared in comic books), such as Jonny Quest,[257] Scooby-Doo and Shaggy,[258] and Fred Flintstone,[259] in addition to many others.[260] Also appearing in the series as an attorney is the 1970s hero, The Blue Falcon (along with his pal Dynomutt).[261] While both Birdman and The Blue Falcon did appear in comic books as superheroes, neither has appeared in their attorney roles as of the time of this writing.[262]

Both DC Comics' Josiah Power and Marvel Comics' Evangeline Whedon were practicing attorneys until their superpowers emerged.[263] Neither wanted

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(Paramount Pictures 1995); *Clueless* (ABC television series 1996-1997); *Clueless* (UPN television series 1997-1999).

257. *Harvey Birdman: Attorney at Law: Bannon Custody Battle* (Cartoon Network television broadcast Dec. 30, 2000). Jonny Quest has appeared in two television series, as well as three comic book series. *See Jonny Quest* (ABC television series 1964-1965); *Jonny Quest* (Syndicated television series by Hanna-Barbera Productions 1986); JONNY QUEST (Western Publishing Co. Dec. 1964) (comic book series); JONNY QUEST (Comico, the Comic Company June 1986-Dec. 1988) (comic book series); JONNY QUEST CLASSICS (Comico, the Comic Company May 1987-July 1987) (comic book series).

258. *Harvey Birdman: Attorney at Law: Shaggy Busted* (Cartoon Network television broadcast July 7, 2002). Scooby-Doo has appeared in numerous movies, television and comic book series. For a list of the movies and television shows starring Scooby-Doo, see Wikipedia.org, Scooby-Doo, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scooby-Doo (last visited Aug. 25, 2008). For information on the various comic book titles that have starred Scooby-Doo, see OVERSTREET, *supra* note 55, at 819.

259. *Harvey Birdman: Attorney at Law: The Dabba Don* (Cartoon Network television broadcast July 28, 2002). Fred Flintstone appeared in the television show *The Flintstones* (ABC television series 1960-1966) as well as at least twenty-one television movies (*see* Internet Movie Database, Flintstones, http://www.imdb.com/keyword/flintstones/ (last visited May 15, 2007). In addition, he has appeared in at least seven different comic book series. *See* OVERSTREET, *supra* note 55, at 594.

260. *See, e.g.*, *Harvey Birdman: Attorney at Law* (Cartoon Network television series 2000-present).

261. *Harvey Birdman: Attorney at Law*: *Deadomutt* (pts. 1 & 2) (Cartoon Network television broadcast May 25 & June 1, 2002).

262. *See* An International Catalogue of Superheroes: Birdman, http://www.internationalhero.co.uk/b/birdman1.htm (last visited June 21, 2007). Birdman appeared, in his non-attorney guise, in HANNA-BARBERA SUPER TV HEROES (Western Publishing Co. Apr. 1968-Oct. 1969) (issues 1-5 only), Terrance Griep, Peter Gross & Noelle Giddings, *Act of Kindness*, CARTOON NETWORK PRESENTS 5, at [2] (DC Comics Dec. 1997), and Michael Kraiger, J.J. Birch, Mike DeCarlo & Kevin Somers, *Birdman in a Gilded Cage*, CARTOON NETWORK PRESENTS 9, at [15] (DC Comics Apr. 1998). The Blue Falcon and Dynomutt have appeared in three comic book series: DYNOMUTT (Marvel Comics Nov. 1977–Sept. 1978), LAFF-A-LYMPICS (Marvel Comics Mar. 1978-Mar. 1979), and SCOOBY-DOO (Marvel Comics Oct. 1977-Feb. 1979).

263. Kurt Busiek, Tom Grummett, Wade Von Grawbadger & Alex Sinclair, *The Power Principle*, JLA 61, at The Power Company Preview Insert [8-10] (DC Comics Feb. 2002) [hereinafter Busiek et al., *The Power Principle*] (first appearance of Josiah Power) (The Power Company Preview is inserted between pages 22 & 23 of the main story); Kurt Busiek, Keith Giffen, Al Milgrom & Carla Feeny, *Career Opportunities*, THE POWER COMPANY: JOSIAH POWER

their powers, nor did they want to give up being attorneys.[264] However, prejudice against super-powered individuals drove Mr. Power from his law firm and almost cost Ms. Whedon her life.[265] Josiah founded a firm of superheroes for hire,[266] while Evangeline became the attorney for the X-men.[267] Josiah was also the first gay male attorney to be shown in comic books.[268]

Attorney superheroes did not all face discrimination for their powers in the new century. Although she lost her job as an assistant prosecutor due to her celebrity status, She-Hulk was quickly offered a new job by the prestigious law firm of Goodman, Lieber, Kurtzberg & Holliway because she was a good attorney, not because she was a superhero.[269] Several attorneys regularly appeared in *She-Hulk* comic books as members of this firm.[270] The most predominant of these are Mallory Book, Augustus Pugliese, and firm partner Holden Holliway.[271] The firm of Goodman, Lieber, Kurtzberg & Holliway, much like Harvey Birdman, specializes in representing superheroes and has been know to use comic books as legal precedent.[272]

Attorneys also appeared in other capacities during the decade. Both Kate Spencer (the newest incarnation of the Manhunter) and her friend Damon Matthews serve as federal prosecutors.[273] The movie *Batman Begins* introduced a close childhood friend of Bruce Wayne who became an attorney, Rachel

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1, at [1-4], 5-7 (DC Comics Mar. 2002) [hereinafter Busiek et al., *Career Opportunities*] (revealing Powers' history); Chris Claremont, Salvador Larroca & Tom Orzechowski, *Schism Part 2: Broken Faith*, X-TREME X-MEN 21, at [6] (Marvel Comics Apr. 2003) (first appearance of Evangeline Whedon).

264. *See* Busiek et al., *Career Opportunities*, *supra* note 263; Claremont, Larroca & Orzechowski, *supra* note 263.

265. Busiek et al., *Career Opportunities*, *supra* note 263, at 7; Claremont, Larroca & Orzechowski, *supra* note 263, at [6-11].

266. Busiek et al., *The Power Principle*, *supra* note 263.

267. Marc-Oliver Frisch, Eric J. Moreels & Brian E. Wilkinson, X-MEN: THE 198 FILES 1, at [44] (Marvel Publishing, Inc. Mar. 2006).

268. Gay League, Josiah Power, http://www.gayleague.com/gay/characters /display.php?id=120 (last visited Aug. 18, 2008). For the first homosexual attorney character (a lesbian), see Miller, *supra* note 248.

269. Dan Slott, Juan Bobillo, Marcelo Sosa & Chris Chuckry, *The Girl from Gamma Gamma Gamma*, SHE-HULK (VOL. 1) 1, at [17], [20-21] (Marvel Comics May 2004).

270. *See* SHE-HULK (VOL. 1) (Marvel Comics May 2004-Apr. 2005) (comic book series); SHE-HULK (VOL. 2) (Marvel Comics Dec. 2005-present) (comic book series); *see also* Marvel Universe, The Definitive Online Source for Marvel Super Hero Bios: Goodman, Lieber, Kurtzberg, & Holliway, http://www.marvel.com/universe/Goodman%2C_Lieber%2C _Kurtzberg%2C_%26_Holliway (last visited Aug. 15, 2008).

271. *See* Slott, Bobillo, Sosa & Chuckry, *supra* note 269, at [8], [20-21]; SHE-HULK (VOL. 1), *supra* note 270; SHE-HULK (VOL. 2), *supra* note 270. All three characters first appeared in Slott, Bobillo Sosa & Chuckry, *supra* note 269, at [8].

272. SHE-HULK (VOL. 1), *supra* note 270; SHE-HULK (VOL. 2), *supra* note 270; Marvel Universe, *supra* note 270.

273. *See* Marc Andreyko, Jesus Saiz, Jimmy Palmiotti & Steve Buccellato, *Shedding Skin*, MANHUNTER (VOL. 4) 1, at [4-9], [14], [16] (DC Comics Oct. 2004). Like Josiah Power, Damon Matthews is gay. Matthews is also the boyfriend of the superhero Obsidian. *See* Joe Palmer, Gay League, Damon Mathews, http://www.gayleague.com/gay/characters/ display.php?id=210 (last visited Nov. 4, 2008).

Dawes (played by Katie Holmes).[274] Rachel also appeared in the comic book adaptation of the movie.[275] In 2005, Chicago lawyer Luke Gabriel was inspired by an elderly client to take the client's place as the replacement Mr. Smoke.[276] It was also revealed that X-men associate, Madrox, the Multiple Man,had a duplicate that had become a lawyer.[277] Again in the new century, several new attorney characters were introduced in the pages of the *Daredevil* comic book. These include defense attorney Kate Vinokur who defended Daredevil,[278] prosecuting attorney Mr. Delacourt,[279] egotistical attorney Claude Unger who blames his clients when he loses,[280] and Alton Lennox, a lawyer who was caught up in the attempted assassination of Foggy Nelson.[281] Another well known character consulted an attorney during the decade; Professor X of the X-men consulted attorney Jack White when faced with the possibility of having a court order him to surrender all young mutants to the authorities.[282]

Several vigilantes, who first appeared during this period, also had ties to the legal system. The character of the Judge was formerly Michael Hart, a lawyer and criminal court judge before he was killed and brought back to "life" as a ghostly killer of criminals.[283] The new Crimson Avenger was an African-

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274. BATMAN BEGINS (Warner Brothers Pictures 2005).

275. Scott Beatty, Kilian Plunkett, Serge Lapointe & José Villarrubia, BATMAN BEGINS: THE OFFICIAL MOVIE ADAPTATION, at [3-4], [29-31], [48] (DC Comics June 2005).

276. Charles William Satterlee, Claude St. Aubin, Kevin Breyfogle & Lovern Kindzierski, [*untitled story*], SMOKE & MIRROR (VOL. 1) 1, at [11-12], [18], [20-21] (Speakeasy Comics Aug. 2005); Tonya Crawford, Seeing Through the Smoke and Mirror, http://www.brokenfrontier.com/lowdown/p/detail/seeing-through-the-smoke-and-mirror (last visited May 2, 2009).

277. Jeff Christiansen et al., The Appendix to the Handbook of the Marvel Universe: Madb-Madz, http://www.marvunapp.com/master/madbmadz.htm (entry for Madrox) (last visited May 11, 2009).

278. Bob Gale, Phil Winslade, James Hodgkins & Chris Chuckry, *Legal Questions*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 2) 22, at [6-11] (Marvel Comics Oct. 2001); Jeff Christiansen et al., The Appendix to the Handbook of the Marvel Universe: Kate Vinokur, http://www.marvunapp.com/Appendix/vinokurk.htm (last visited Sept. 3, 2008).

279. Brian Michael Bendis, Manuel Gutierrez & Matt Hollingsworth, [*untitled story*], DAREDEVIL (VOL. 2) 38, at [22-23] (Marvel Comics Dec. 2002).

280. Bob Gale, Phil Winslade, James Hodgkins & Chris Chuckry, *Playing to the Camera Part 1*: *Redsuit Lawsuit*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 2) 20, at [7-9] (Marvel Comics Sept. 2001); Jeff Christiansen et al., The Appendix to the Handbook of the Marvel Universe: Claude Unger, http://www.marvunapp.com/Appendix/ungercld.htm (last visited Sept. 3, 2008).

281. Ed Brubaker, Michael Lark, Stefano Gaudiano & Frank D'Armata, *The Devil in Cell-Block D: Part Three*, DAREDEVIL (VOL. 2) 84, at [16] (Marvel Publishing, Inc. June 2006) (introducing Alton Lennox). The complete story of the attempted assignation of Foggy Nelson and Alton Lennox's involvement is detailed in DAREDEVIL (VOL. 2) 83 (Marvel Publishing, Inc. May 2006) thru DAREDEVIL (VOL. 2) 92 (Marvel Publishing, Inc. Feb. 2007). Jeff Christiansen et al., The Appendix to the Handbook of the Marvel Universe: Alton Lennox, http://www.marvunapp.com/Appendix4/lennoxalton.htm (last visited May 11, 2009).

282. Chuck Austen, Ron Garney, Mark Morales & J.D. Smith, *Rules of Engagement: Part 2 of 2*, UNCANNY X-MEN 422, at [12], [28], [34-36] (Marvel Comics June 2003).

283. Bill Rosemann, Guy Davis & Dave Stewart, *Deadline*, DEADLINE 1, at [12-13], [19-20] (Marvel Comics June 2002). *See supra* note 79 and accompanying text for an earlier character also known as The Judge.

American lawyer from Detroit who chose to take the law into her own hands when a cop killer went free.[284] She purchased two revolvers originally owned by the original Crimson Avenger and used them to execute the murderer who went free.[285] Unbeknownst to her, the guns were cursed and forced her to relive and avenge the death of innocents.[286] Catalina Flores, sister of a district attorney, also became the criminal-killing vigilante, the Tarantula.[287]

Some outright villains who were also attorneys were introduced in the new century as well. Sharon Ginsberg first appeared as the lawyer for agent Soloman O'Sulivan in the series *X-Statix*.[288] Her first function was to serve a cease and desist order on X-Force to prevent one of Soloman's clients from appearing on television with the superhero group, but after losing her wings (her superpower) she turned against the legal system.[289] The newest incarnation of The Flash encountered Gregory Wolfe, a sadistic prison warden who had been a prosecutor.[290] Wolfe had the ability to cause pain through mentally inducing muscle spasms and frequently tortured the prisoners under his jurisdiction.[291] Attorney Arkady Dread was a member of the supernatural beings known as The Others who operated in groups like crime families.[292] Finally, a recent retelling of the Captain Marvel story has recast long time Captain Marvel nemesis, Dr. Sivana, as the United States Attorney General.[293]

As of 2008, the most recent attorney who was connected with a superhero mentioned in comics is the parent of the new heroine, Slingshot.[294] In her first

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284. Geoff Johns, Don Kramer, Keith Champagne & John Kalisz, *Blinded*, JSA 53, at [1] (DC Comics Dec. 2003) [hereinafter Johns et al., *Blinded*]. This new version of the Crimson Avenger first appeared in Geoff Johns, Scott Kolins, Dan Davis, and Heroic Age, *The Final Hour for the 7 Soldiers of Victory*, STARS AND S.T.R.I.P.E. 9, at [22] (DC Comics Apr. 2000).

285. *See* Johns et al., *Blinded*, *supra* note 284.

286. *See id.*

287. Devin Grayson, Rick Leonardi, Jesse Delperdang & Gregory Wright, *Something About Mary*, NIGHTWING 71, at 4 (DC Comics Sept. 2002) (introducing Catalina Flores); Devin Grayson, Rick Leonardi, Jesse Delperdang & Gregory Wright, *Judgment Day*, NIGHTWING 75, at 16 (DC Comics Jan. 2003) (first appearance of Flores as the Tarantula).

288. Peter Milligan, Michael Allred & Laura Allred, *Good Omens Part 2 of Four: How the Super-Hero Business Works*, X-STATIX 2, at [22] (Marvel Comics Oct. 2002).

289. *Id.*; Peter Milligan, Mike Allred & Laura Allred, *X-Statix: The Movie*, X-STATIX 9, at [7-8] (Marvel Comics May 2003).

290. Geoff Johns, Ethan Van Sciver, Prentis Rollins & Chris Chuckry, [*untitled story*], THE FLASH: IRON HEIGHTS, at [13] (DC Comics Aug. 2001); Geoff Johns, Bryan Talbot & Tom McCraw, *Gregory Wolfe*, FLASH: SECRET FILES 3, at 35 (DC Comics Nov. 2001).

291. Kelson Vibber, Flash: Gregory Wolfe, http://www.hyperborea.org/flash/wolfe.html (last visited Sept. 3, 2008).

292. Robert Weinberg, Tom Derenick & Avalon Studios, *Ikkyu's Skull Part 1: Hostile Takeover*, NIGHTSIDE 1, at [15-16] (Marvel Comics Dec. 2001); Jeff Christiansen et al., The Appendix to the Handbook of the Marvel Universe: The Others, http://www.marvunapp.com/Appendix/nsothers.htm (last visited Sept. 3, 2008).

293. Jeff Smith & Steve Hamaker, *Chapter 2: NZIB GZPVH GSV XZPV!**, SHAZAM! THE MONSTER SOCIETY OF EVIL 2, at [4] (DC Comics May 2007).

294. Jay Faerber, Mahmud A. Asrar & Ron Riley, [*untitled story*], DYNAMO FIVE 1, at [20] (Image Comics, Inc. Jan. 2007), *available at* http://www.imagecomics.com/onlinecomics.php (choose Dynamo 5 #1) [hereinafter Faerber et al., DYNAMO FIVE 1]. Note: the title of this comic book series is Dynamo 5. In this and other notes referencing this series,

appearance, Slingshot (Olivia Lewis) was revealed to be one of the illegitimate children of hero, Captain Dynamo.[295] She was also identified as the daughter of a high-priced Washington, D.C. lawyer.[296] The attorney turned out to be the father who actually raised her (and thought that she was his real daughter).[297]

The popularity of comic books has also led to two comic books specifically about attorneys. The comic book *Attorney Man* was recently created by a Boston attorney and is a tongue-in-cheek look at billing and sales in the modern law firm.[298] The Wisconsin Bar Association has also produced a comic book designed to inform children and young adults about the world of legal practice.[299]

IX. CONCLUSION

In any project which involves identifying literary characters matching a certain criterion, it is inevitable that some will be omitted. The sheer number of comic books produced over the last seventy plus years precludes checking each issue to see if an attorney was introduced; much reliance must be placed on databases or other materials that identify comic book characters. The characters identified in this article provide an overall sense of how comic books and strips portray lawyers. Obviously the details of legal work were not the first priority of attorney characters, especially in the early days of comic books. On the other hand, comic book lawyers frequently appeared in court scenes or performed duties one would normally expect a lawyer to perform. These lawyerly duties have been appearing with increasing frequency in the pages of comic books, with some comic books featuring stories that focus on legal procedures.[300]

But how exactly are attorneys treated in comic books? Until the 1960s, attorney characters were portrayed as the alter egos of vigilantes who beat

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the number five in the title of the comic book is spelled out in order to avoid confusion with the issue number.

295. *Id.* In *Dynamo Five* 1, Slingshot's alter ego is given as Olivia Lews, In subsequent issues of *Dynamo Five*, her alter ego is given as Olivia Lewis. *Id.*; Jay Faerber, Mahmud A. Asrar & Ron Riley, [*untitled story*], DYNAMO FIVE 4, at [10-11] (Image Comics June 2007) [hereinafter Faerber et al., DYNAMO FIVE 4]; Jay Faerber, Mahmud A. Asrar, Yildiray Cinar & Ron Riley, [*untitled story*], DYNAMO FIVE 14, at [7-8] (Image Comics June 2008) [hereinafter Faerber et al., DYNAMO FIVE 14]. As she has been more recently identified as Olivia Lewis, that version of her name is being used instead of Lews.

296. Faerber et al., DYNAMO FIVE 1, *supra* note 294.

297. Faerber et al., DYNAMO FIVE 4, *supra* note 295; Faerber et al., DYNAMO FIVE 14, *supra* note 295.

298. Karen Katz & Raul Gonzalez, Attorney Man, http://www.attorneyman.org/ (last visited Aug. 29, 2008); Sacha Pfeiffer, *Superhero Accepts a Brief: Cartoon Teaches Sales to Introverted Lawyers*, THE BOSTON GLOBE, Oct. 16, 2006, at D1, *available at* http://www.boston.com/business/globe/articles/2006/10/16/superhero_accepts_a_brief.

299. State Bar of Wisconsin, Adventures in Law - Comic Book, http://www.wisbar.org/am/template.cfm?section=cle_books1&template=/ecommerce/productdisplay.cfm&productid=1576 (last visited Dec. 8, 2008).

300. *See supra* text accompanying notes 172-174; *supra* text accompanying notes 269-272.

confessions out of those criminal defendants who were lucky enough to be released on such technicalities as illegal searches, coerced confessions, and other pesky civil rights. If one chooses to ignore the obvious ethical problems inherent in being an officer of the court (a judge or district attorney), while at the same time acting as a vigilante who happily committed such crimes as breaking and entering, assault, battery, and even murder, attorneys were actually treated very well in comic books. Attorney villains were portrayed as having been highly moral and law-abiding citizens until circumstances and mental illness caused them to break with their prior roots and turn to crime.

During the 1960s and extending into the modern era, a new breed of comic book attorney began appearing. While the attorney/vigilante was still popular, attorneys began to appear who were actually on the side of the accused. In the 1960s and 1970s, public defenders, civil rights and public interest attorneys not only appeared, but also became superheroes.[301] Also during this era, attorneys who were not superheroes began to appear en masse for the first time. While the majority of these attorneys were district attorneys, a significant number were not and by the 1990s, defense attorneys were appearing almost as often as prosecutors. Attorneys who are not district attorneys are shown in a variety of settings including law firms and individual private practice.

In the past thirty years, the attorney has shifted from merely being a secret identity to an actual profession in comic books, as more non-superhero attorneys have appeared and many have been shown doing actual legal work instead of merely occupying a law office while waiting to shift into their costume.

301. *See supra* text accompanying notes 122-125, 157-158 & 162-170.