

## Miller Canfield Attorneys Speak at IFA Franchise Seminar for Women and Minorities

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November 18, 2008

Miller Canfield franchise attorneys P. Rivka Schochet and Irene Bruce Hathaway will speak on "Legal Aspects of Franchising: What You Should Know, Questions You Should Ask Before Signing on the Dotted Line" at the International Franchise Association (IFA) *Franchise Opportunities for Women and Minorities Seminar*, scheduled for November 19 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the McGregor Memorial Conference Center at Wayne State University in Detroit.

Minority entrepreneurs will have the opportunity to learn about business format franchising, as well as the fundamentals of franchising, who franchisors are looking for as prospective franchisees, the legal aspects of franchising and how to obtain funding and technical assistance.

"The one-day seminar is designed for professionals seeking to learn more about franchising and how to help bridge the gaps impeding their paths for small-business ownership," said Miriam Brewer, director of diversity for the IFA Educational Foundation. "Participants will learn all they need to know about how to be in business for yourself, but not by yourself."

The seminar is sponsored by Coca-Cola and hosted by the IFA, the U.S. Small Business Administration, Michigan Minority Business Enterprise Center/MBDA, Michigan Minority Business Development Council, Detroit Economic Growth Corporation, Wayne County Business Development Division/Department of Economic and Neighborhood Development and the City of Westland.

Registration for the seminar is \$20 and includes a continental breakfast, lunch and session materials. Space is limited. To register and pay, contact Tracy Taylor at 313.262.7516 or [trtaylor@mmbdc.com](mailto:trtaylor@mmbdc.com). To learn more about franchising, visit [www.franchise.org](http://www.franchise.org).

At Miller Canfield, P. Rivka Schochet's special areas of practice include class action defense, franchise law and dispute resolution, constitutional and fair housing act claims, commercial arbitration and consumer financial actions. She received her J.D. from Columbia University School of Law. Irene Bruce Hathaway has been involved in an incredible variety of cases in more than a quarter century of practice as a litigator, involving numerous industries from manufacturing to health care to software sales. She has handled many franchise litigation matters, including terminations, contract disputes and intellectual property matters. She received her J.D. from Michigan State University College of Law. Both Schochet and Hathaway are principals in the Detroit office.