

# 2020 AVENUE OF THE STARS

The Century City law firm specializing in  
**Sports & Entertainment**



**One-Hour Drama Series**

**Created By**

**Diane L. Robison & Charles Floyd Johnson**

© 2020

## INTRODUCTION ~

### *2020 Avenue of the Stars*

The Premiere Law Firm Specializing in Sports & Entertainment

In today's celebrity infused society, it is from this elite address that four very savvy lawyers tackle the headline cases that land on their doorstep in the City of the Angels.

Understanding the complexity of today's culture, they and their team handle it all ... their clients' legal machinations, their private lives, and the lives of everyone who inhabit their orbit.

To the rich, the powerful, the famous, and infamous — worldwide — the partners of 2020 AVENUE OF THE STARS soon become the powerhouse firm that is the best their money can buy.

---

---

### *Jonathan McGuire, Sr. Partner*

If you already know the lawyers in Century City or Chicago,  
on Madison Avenue or Wall Street —  
This is *not* that type of law firm.

And for one reason only . . .

**T**his rising firm is under the guidance of an ex-NBA super-star named *Jonathan McGuire*.  
A star, a Rhodes scholar, and a man who's been in the glare of the spotlight since he was 22.

As an black man in America, he has seen it all.

He knows about the white-hot light of fame —  
and the oppressive violations of privacy that cause bad choices to be made.

He understands the fear of failure. Knowing that with the exhilaration of greatness comes the unspoken acceptance ... “from here the only way is down.”

He has watched the useless dismantling of lives around him — peers wholly unequipped to deal with the price of mega-fame.

He vowed that with his power of stardom, and now position as a lawyer, he would take on cases that are influenced by the seduction of a world others watch fanatically.

*Continue*

Jonathan understands the crippling need for attention so many celebrities suffer from.

He understands the false power money buys.

He understands the choices that are made in a split second that can influence a life forever.

Jonathan has walked in the shoes of each client he accepts.

He has called the tough calls.

And ... “but for the grace of God,” each of them might have been him.

He knows by second nature where the real value lies in a client ...

or if there is no hope in saving those who just don't want to be saved.

So he formed a law firm that — through providence and luck — has turned into handling the most *explosive* cases in the entertainment and sports world.

Like the consummate player on the court, his physical and mental training as an athlete prepared him to approach law far differently than others who have never suffered that kind of discipline.

He coaches his team to see what no one else is seeing. The law is their tool ... but Jonathan's experience — 15 years immersed in the world of rarified air — is the key to unlocking doors other lawyers never even see.

Knowing the “inside game,” Jonathan runs his firm like he's practicing for the championship with every case.

*And* — the affect of Jonathan's guidance has turned each unique partner into something better than even they expected.

# # #

**Today's voyeuristic climate sensationalizes cases of  
the famous —  
splashing them across headlines  
and saturating electronic cyberspace.**

**Today's provocative media culture demands  
a sleek, savvy, and effective law firm,  
with abilities far greater  
than knowing the law.**

**The antidote:**

## **2020 AVENUE OF THE STARS**

**The Century City law firm specializing in  
Sports & Entertainment**

*One-Hour Drama Series*

<b>CONCEPT</b>	<b>Page 2</b>
<b>BACKSTORY</b>	<b>Page 3</b>
<b>CHARACTERS</b>	<b>Page 5</b>
<b>PILOT SYNOPSIS</b>	<b>Page 13</b>
<b>FUTURE EPISODES</b>	<b>Page 17</b>

~ CONCEPT ~

**2020 AVENUE OF THE STARS**

*The Century City law firm specializing in Sports & Entertainment*

**JONATHAN ABRAHAM McGUIRE, MICHAEL FLANNIGAN, DEVON MORENO,** and **CYNTHIA O'NEAL** are a force to be reckoned with — a modern “dream team” for an attention-deficit culture obsessed by fame and electronics. These lawyers are bold, innovative, fearless and able to outsmart the media while mastering the legal gymnastics these cases require to win ... w-i-n ... *win*.

A relatively young firm, they came together and made their name in a headline making case that the media deemed “unwinnable” [Opening pilot]. Exploding into the forefront of the legal world with an undeniable celebrity status, these formidable individuals have now forged one of the premiere sports and entertainment law firms in the country.

Several wins, and scores of headlines later, they are the “go to” firm for tough litigation involving high profile celebrities — definitely the best your money can buy. Shrewd as they are, they’re also riding high on Lady Luck’s coattails — and they know it.

**I**n our “Ripped from Headlines” culture, today's society has become obsessed with “celebrity” in every form. The media’s ability to transform those who achieve that “15 minutes of fame” into tabloid personalities is constantly harnessing the public’s attention 24/7 through traditional media and every electronic device that consumes our lives.

These savvy lawyers understand the delicate synergy that exists between the law ... the feeding frenzy created by the media's “right to know” ... and the public's insatiable desire for information. And while conducting the legal proceedings at the highest skill level — they are all-to-aware they must protect their ultra-high profile clients from being tried in today’s glaring court of public opinion.

It is a balancing act they handle with great success. The growing expertise and bold firebrand approach of the law firm of *McGuire, Flannigan, Moreno, and O'Neal* makes them well equipped to handle sensationalized cases whose notoriety outflanks the very law surrounding their clients’ infractions.

*2020 Avenue of the Stars* is the perfect address that mirror today’s world — and as a result, is appropriately centered in one of L.A.’s most strategic vantage points. It is from here that this firm tackles the cases that land on their doorstep in today’s litigious society. Understanding the complexity of today’s culture, these fantastic four attorneys and their team handle it all ... their clients' legal machinations, their private lives, and the lives of everyone who inhabit their orbit. To the rich, the powerful, the famous, and infamous . . . this world class powerhouse law firm has become the best your money can buy.

**A**nd in one of life’s ironic turns . . . their meteoric rise has made their success a prototype for the very tabloid culture they defend. . . and the good news is that they never disappoint.

# # #

## ~ BACKSTORY ~

Initially, the firm's greatest draw was the senior partner, Jonathan McGuire — a rare and unique combination of Rhodes Scholar, and ex-NBA All-Star. In the national sports spotlight for a decade, Jonathan experienced the corruption that ensued from living in that rarified air, along with the parasites who clung to the top players in the sport. Quitting cold-turkey and getting a law degree was a huge risk, but ultimately it paid off.

Jonathan always knew he could make a difference — precisely because he knew how the game at this level was played. He opened a small office in Century City, but soon realized that he needed more diverse resources and different expertise than he possessed. He approached two lawyers whom he had come to admire, and who had recently opened their own fledgling office in the same building. Michael Flannigan and Devon Moreno figured that they had nothing to lose ... and Jonathan was too much of a formidable personality to turn down. However, even with “name recognition,” this little group struggled hard to stay afloat.

Ten months later — a young star in the NBA, whom Jonathan had mentored, found himself in unimaginable trouble. In turning to Jonathan and his new team ... “the case of the century” was literally dropped in their lap. [Opening Pilot.] The three partners had no choice but to “jump off a cliff and build their wings on the way down.”

However, the prospect of becoming the laughing stock of the legal world was high. By sheer luck – or destiny – the only other person they could corral to come on board was a beautiful and smart litigator — Cynthia O’Neal.

Having started out together in the DA’s office with Jonathan, Cynthia became a respected legal consultant on television during two major Los Angeles trials. She knows the law, she knows how to read a jury, she has a flare for communication — and the camera loves her.

The four partners formed a strong alliance and together their combined resources proved invaluable. In their first trial-by-fire they rose out of the ashes, and in doing so recognized they had something unique. They also knew it could all disappear quickly if they deviated from a pattern of strength, trust, and collaboration.

As their success and reputation in the spotlight grew they kept themselves lean, adding only four crack associates and an investigator, PETER ROMA who had proved invaluable in their original case together.

Soon realizing that serving their clients often means delving into the darkest corners of law, the partners felt privileged to bring on an ex-Federal Prosecutor, JULIAN ANTHONY.

*(Continue)*

Quickly their meteoric reputation went into overdrive. Most law firms have an “entertainment division” — this entertainment firm now has a criminal division affectionally referred to as the “murder department.” This addition serves them well in today’s new marketplace.

As famous lives intersect with the law, the lawyers residing at *2020 Avenue of the Stars* go in prepared on every front ... but with each new case they face a hurdle that’s not easily bridged. DAVIS LOTT, the newly-elected *Los Angeles District Attorney* has become their nemesis determined to thwart them at every turn — he can’t work his way up to the California governorship if he keeps loosing cases to them that cost him political capital. In this town famous for high-profile trials, they’re all playing on the big stage — and the DA’s quest is to find a fatal flaw in the “dream team” before they bury him.

While Jonathan as the guiding light, keeping the firm grounded — it’s the legal expertise and exceptional instincts of his three partners that makes this team strong. And the theme that galvanizes their partnership is commitment.

Each partner traveled a different road to get where they are — but the specialized talents of Jonathan, Michael, Devon, and Cynthia now meet the challenge of handling the unpredictable lives of volatile sports stars and temperamental entertainers.

Today’s culture has forged a climate for lascivious actions, while pushing society’s limits in behavior ... but these four partners have stayed ahead of the “spin” while aggressively finding the best defense for their clients. But what is best for their clients is not always the elixir for their own personal lives — which they often find more perplexing than the law.

*Devon Moreno, Michael Flannigan, Cynthia O’Neal, and Jonathan McGuire  
made history together. When it was over they formed a  
partnership that continues to be a resource for front-page headlines —  
in a town that has seen it all.*

# # #

# **2020 AVENUE OF THE STARS**

*Specializing in Sports & Entertainment*

## **~ CHARACTERS ~**

- **The Partners — Page 6**
- **The Divisions — Page 10**
- **The Associates — Page 11**
- **The Los Angeles District Attorney — Page 12**



## The Partners of 2020 AVENUE OF THE STARS

**A** bold new team, these savvy partners together have specialized in sensitive high profile cases . . . how to handle the clients — how to dig for information using today’s resources — and how to define the case in the media.

### **JONATHAN ABRAHAM McGUIRE (41)**

A Notre Dame graduate; a Rhodes scholar and an African American with deep personal commitment to whatever he attempts. A top basketball player with the New York Knicks for eight years, McGuire, at 32, traded in a basketball court for a court of law.

Three years later, he graduated from the University of Southern California School of Law with one clear thought in mind: He was too old to work his way up the ladder ... so he’d better create an opportunity where he could start closer to the top.

During his sports career, Jonathan saw too many athletes squander their talent, money, and opportunity ... often due to advice given them by lawyers and the other “professionals” who surrounded them like vultures. By the end of his first year in law school, it was clear to him that he wanted to specialize in sports and entertainment; by the time he passed the California Bar exam, he knew that he was going to open his own firm. After spending two grueling years in the District Attorney’s office, he did just that.

By now, Jonathan had a wife who was divorcing him, and two small children he couldn’t conceive of living without. Even with a messy divorce and custody battle, he opened a small law office in Century City, with enough resources to last about five years.

A smart man who rarely let his ego get away from him, he joined forces with two other lawyers who had just open their doors — Michael Flannigan and Devon Moreno. When the “case of the century” was dropped in their lap, they rounded out the team by bringing in Cynthia O’Neal — and the “fantastic four” made history and headlines together ... and changed their lives forever.

Going forth into a stratosphere where the air is very thin and few dare to wonder, Jonathan’s strong leadership is important — however it’s his experience and “developed intuition” that serves as an indicator of whether a client can be defended. Always in the camera’s glare, this team is continually tested by the never ending infamous trials for which Los Angeles has become famous.

# # #

*(Continue)*

## MICHAEL FLANNIGAN (37)

### Brings to the Partnership:

- Detailed command of the law — and uses it to push the boundaries.
- Extraordinary communication with clients, judges, juries, and offensive officials.
- Alerts partners to all “technological information” needed for any crusade for their clients. Complete knowledge and execution of every gadget, Apps, and Internet device in existence.

**B**orn to a Jewish mother and Irish father, Michael was blessed by them both. He outdid his mother, who is also a lawyer, and passed the bar by the time he was 23. And, with his father’s good looks, charm, and gift of gab, he rarely has a problem communicating with *anyone*.

Of the four partners, Michael is by far the greatest risk taker ... and the most emotional. However, with his undisputed knowledge in law, his risks are far from wrong. Every member of the firm appreciates Michael’s dozen-plus years of experience ... and although he deserves to be listened to, he is almost irritating in his passion and confidence.

Although miles apart in personality, Michael and Jonathan share a strong mutual respect, as well as a love for sports. Michael played basketball in high school and college, so he usually gives Jonathan a run for his money on the court. However, the basketball court represents more than a place to relax for these two men ... it’s a place of safety and trust.

Jonathan often brings wisdom to Michael’s actions — and Michael continues to show Jonathan that intelligence and reasoning serve little purpose without action.

It’s almost five years ago that Michael’s wife died. Because of her death, his personal life is still shattered. But outside the law, his true passion is his dedication to his eight-year old daughter, Sabrina. The two of them live within blocks of his parents — and since his mother was recently appointed to the bench, his father has taken an early retirement from his construction company to be a stay-at-home grand-pop. For Michael, this is a gift for which he’ll be forever grateful.

# # #

(Continue)

**DEVON MORENO (33)****Brings to the Partnership:**

- Paralegal training and personal background forces her to look closely at the law - every detail - and then outside the box to see what's missing.
- “Commercial Awareness” — knows everything about the *business* of sports, and the *business* of entertainment. Added bonus: acutely aware of anything related to both fields in social media — including TMZ and tabloids.
- Created invaluable contacts through professional presence online and in social media.

**A**s a minority of Hispanic origin, Devon never had any of the advantages in life that Jonathan had. First in family to graduate college, proud of being from good stock, and knowing how to create opportunities from hard work — she became a top notch paralegal until she could afford law school. Her attention to detail, and going that extra mile for whatever she wants definitely serves the firm well.

A rare but necessary quality in today's legal world, Devon has a heightened “commercial acumen” — knowing the business of their clients almost better than they do. In today's age, this has lead her to an almost compulsive presence in social media - serving both professional interests and personal. Thus, Devon's contacts and resources have become highly regarded by her peers.

Attractive (actually, drop-dead gorgeous) and cunning, Devon has a terrific sense of humor that belies her first impression. Both Jonathan and Michael have great admiration for her as a lawyer, and enjoy her presence as a human being. Devon is perhaps the most easy-going personality in the firm, in spite of her anal tendencies. A natural ability to “lend an ear” certainly helps in manipulating their clients in spite of themselves ... and during investigations, this developed “radar” often leads her to uncover information others cannot.

# # #

(Continue)

**CYNTHIA O'NEAL (38)****Brings to the Partnership:**

- Strong and intuitive courtroom lawyer.
- Brilliant at selecting juries and handling the press — the camera *loves* her.
- Photographic memory — no detail of an ongoing case is forgotten.

As a crack litigator Cynthia seems to have an unerring sense of what to do in the courtroom. Unflappable, intuitive, and filled with a sense of drama, the firm usually relies on her to be the anchor in its most serious cases. Her fellow lawyers and the judges alike respect Cynthia for her wealth of knowledge, her tenacity, and her scrappiness.

Cynthia earned her way through law school as a bartender — where she heard and saw it all — and met Jonathan when they shared a closet size office for a year in the DA's office. Needing to find a new direction, and tired of office politics by the then Assistant District Attorney, Davis Lott, Cynthia left shortly before Jonathan to strike out on her own.

As a rising attorney, Cynthia became an expert in selecting juries and handling the press. With an outgoing personality and genuine good looks, her credibility was enhanced by becoming a guest lecturer at Loyola University Law School. She soon found that she was asked to appear on television news programs as a legal consultant — garnering quite a following.

It appears that everything Cynthia ever learns, sees, hears, or reads, she remembers. A healthy IQ and a photographic memory serve her and the firm well ... but they do nothing for her personal life. Cynthia has no life ... no hobbies ... no close friends outside the Los Angeles legal circle. Not even a plant to water. And, her inability to be on time for anything outside of work, makes her an even greater liability in the social world.

For a strong woman, she has a refreshing personality — with a healthy ability to laugh at herself outside of the courtroom. Cynthia problems appear to be minute ... if she had any idea what the word “prioritize” means.

Cynthia does have one small other problem. Her twin sister has been wrongfully serving a life-sentence for murder in New York for the last five years — a situation Cynthia is passionate to correct.

# # #

## The Divisions

### **JULIAN ANTHONY** — Oversees “Murder Division”

Someone they count on for an expertise much greater than that of the run-of-the-mill everyday homicide — and political contacts that reach far beyond the courtroom.

Under the Justice Department, Julian rose to the enviable level of a federal prosecutor who was a member of a select task force delving into trafficking, customs, organized crime families, and tax fraud. Though murder cases were not his only specialty — his many “wins” brought him national notoriety. He liked the spotlight, but it took its toll on him. Having met Jonathan and the partners when a national case led him to one of their clients, he was persuaded that his profile and knowledge were what the firm needed. The firm’s meteoric reputation went into overdrive when Julian came on board to help them navigate high-profile cases.

### **The honorable WILLIAM DOUGLAS BRYAN** — “Of Counsel”

A recently retired judge of California’s 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, and “of counsel” to the firm. Before he was appointed to the bench, Brian was a high priced Beverly Hills attorney who was an expert in labor law. This specialty also generated clients in movie studios and television networks. He worked the edges of politics, played scratch golf, and was rewarded with big retainers in the 70s and 80s from major corporations.

He is married to the daughter of a much revered and very famous clergyman - made that way by television. A life-long NBA fan and season ticket holder of the Lakers, Brian knows all the courtside patrons very well - and has never missed a play-off or championship game. He prides himself on his openness to new ideas — a personality trait that serves him well in concealing a “darkness” in his mid-west background.

### **PETER ROMA** — “Private Investigator”

It was during their initial life-changing case that the four partners met this private investigator. Peter Roma would have a major impact on the case, and ultimately their future. At 50, he had not only been around the block a few times... but knew just about where all the bodies in LA were buried.

###

## The Firm's Associates

### **SHARON RUSSELL**, Tax & Forensic attorney (29)

The firm's secret-weapon. A graduate of Columbia Law School, she's a whiz at tax law ... understanding the tax codes and knowing case law better than anybody Jonathan ever encountered. Born in New York City to two hard working religious parents, she discovered how right she was for this specialty when, as a child, she understood how to complete her parents complicated tax forms. Before joining the firm, she won several important tax cases for a well-known New York firm. Her desire to live in California brought her to the *Avenue of the Stars* firm. A devotee of the beach and all things water, Sharon truly loves to participate in any sport that takes place in or near her cherished Pacific Ocean. Not the usual pastime for a brainy African American woman.

### **MARK MOSES**, Entertainment Attorney (30)

He represents the heart and soul of what the firm has become. A smart, savvy, and charismatic attorney, he has been with the firm for only two years, but in that time has made his "mark." His personality attracts clients like magnets, and he keeps them satisfied by his unnerving sense of what is right for them — and how "best" to argue their causes when his legal expertise is called upon. He has that keen sense of "molding the law" as it applies to each situation with the creative and quixotic temperament of his clients.

### **ANDY NELSON**, Sports attorney (27)

Tempestuous, clever, and bright are perfect adjectives to describe a rising young lawyer who was also a crack baseball star in college. Andy is a tall (6'4"), handsome graduate of Villanova who would have gone on to the pros, but for a serious eye disease that limits his vision. However, his eye problems have not hindered his legal capability in that his handicap only fueled his desire to be the best attorney he could be. He and Mark Moses complement each other so well in their abilities to construct the right legal framework for their clients that Jonathan refers to them as his "k.o. hit-man squad."

# # #

## The District Attorney of Los Angeles

**DAVIS LOTT, (52)**

“Not a fan” of this legal team is an understatement.

Lott considers the firm of *McGuire, Flannigan, Moreno & O’Neal* headline grabbers who push the boundaries too much to play in *his* town. The brash lawyers residing at *2020 Avenue of the Stars* were different than the bloated corporate firms of yesterday ... the firms who knew how to follow the playbook, and understood that the control of the city was in his office.

With every case the firm at *2020 Avenue of the Stars* brings to trial, Lott has his office looking for a crack - any small weakness - in the team and the way they do business. With his resources, he keeps a close watch on them — even when the partners think they’re off the radar.

Lott is a strong political animal who was raised and “groomed” for office according to different rules than the team at *2020 Avenue of the Stars*. It almost rankles him daily to see someone of Jonathan’s sports stature, and Cynthia’s television following outshine him — especially since they started their careers under him when he was the Assistant District Attorney. Cynthia frequent criticism of him in the press when she was a legal commentator only added fuel to the growing angst.

Elected as DA only six months before Jonathan and his partners won the “case of the century” against him at a very public trial — the loss left a dark mark on the new DA’s record. There’s no love lost for him on their side of the courtroom — and now with each case, he’s out-for-blood from the brash new *Avenue of the Stars* team.

Being continually upstaged by these four partners, and with eyes on higher political office, Lott can’t afford Jonathan’s team to make him the fool — and his office incompetent. In this town famous for outrageous trials, he too is in the spotlight ... and needs to put the *2020 Avenue of the Stars* law firm in their place. Or better yet, squash them.

Davis Lott’s one refuge in this jungle is the love of his only child — a teenage son afflicted with severe Down Syndrome.

# **2020 AVENUE OF THE STARS**

*Specializing in Sports & Entertainment*



~ **PILOT CONCEPT** ~

(Full Treatment-Outline Available)



## 2020 AVENUE OF THE STARS

~ The Best Firm Money Can Buy ~

### Pilot Concept

#### “WEB OF DECEPTION”

The case that will command headlines from coast to coast  
and elevate the firm at *2020 Avenue of the Stars* to celebrity status.

In his last year with the NBA, Jonathan McGuire became friends with the new kid on the team, ANDRE YOUNG - the hottest player the game had seen since the emergence of Kobe Bryant to the sport. With a ten-year age spread between them, it was easy for McGuire to mentor this young and exciting player ..... although neither was aware, in the beginning, that their relationship would evolve into a lifelong friendship.

Now 32, Andre has made a name for himself that's rewriting the history books and, as a result, is receiving the fame, money and overwhelming accolades that kind of power affords-in no small part due to Jonathan's influence. Andre has since garnered deep respect within his field as he is now idolized by the press and an adoring public. However, as of ten hours ago, he is close to losing it all!

As dawn is breaking, Jonathan McGuire pulls into the black tower in Century City - an address he loves, but one for which the Firm is having difficulty paying the high cost rent that goes with the impressive location it represents.

Upstairs on the 25th floor, Michael Flannigan greets his partner with the news that their current case is about to collapse as evidence that they believed might exonerate their client has proven false and they are sorely in need of a “magic bullet” to pull themselves out of this one. To save the day, Flannigan suggests that they immediately seek out Cynthia O'Neal — a hotshot attorney who is an expert in salvaging cases, selecting juries, handling the press — and, most importantly, unearthing magic bullets.

As they begin to contact O'Neal, their partner, Devon Moreno enters carrying her computer, a small tape recorder, ear buds, surveillance equipment and an iPad. Devon's well-established and formidable contacts - along with an all-night session with a few “friends” from the hood - appear

*(Continue)*

to have yielded enough information to buy them some time; or at least enough 'wiggle room' to seek a postponement while they also try and secure Cynthia O'Neal's services.

A phone call interrupts their conversation and Jonathan picks up, listens and immediately utters the words, "Say nothing, I'll be right down!" He then turns to his partners. "Andre Young was arrested an hour ago. It appears that he has a mistress...and she was found beheaded late last evening next a cabin they've allegedly been using as their love nest."

The partners look at Jonathan with disbelief. First, who knew Andre had a mistress . . . and hadn't Jonathan and Andre met just last night for drinks?

Jonathan responded that they did meet but broke about 10 p.m. as Andre was planning on heading up the Coast. However, he was going for a little rest and relaxation and never mentioned meeting anyone. But the ticket he got just a mile from the murder scene gives the cops reason to be concerned, especially when it has been reported that he was seen with the victim only an hour or two before her headless body was discovered.

None of the partners can even begin to envision how Andre Young could ever be involved in such a heinous crime - but, as he departs, Jonathan speculates that the elements in this situation - an illicit relationship with the wife of an NBA owner - who is also a well-known architect and socialite in her own right - have all the ingredients of a volcanic eruption of major proportions and a disaster in the making for Andre.

\* \* \*

So starts the case that will eventually lead to the reveal of one of L.A.'s most corrupt sports' consortium deals, and the resulting fall from grace for one of the city's iconic pastimes. In the end, it will also bring to light an initial kidnapping plan gone terribly wrong.

As the firm unravels the facts, it becomes apparent that the NBA owner at the center of the story is Andrew Vincent - who had borrowed heavily from Capital Investments to cover a margin call on the Wall Street crap table. Capital's CEO, Scott Ridley, authorized the loan with the understanding that Vincent would repay the loan - with interest- and, simultaneously, guarantee Ridley that Vincent's basketball franchise would remain in the city.

Ridley made this gigantic investment with company money and also spent mega-millions of its dollars on both helping to secure the team's television rights as well as a hefty sum on research and development on a new basketball arena for the team.

When all was said in done, this cash outlay neared a billion dollars and could never be recouped if the franchise left L.A.

*(Continue)*

The loan to Vincent became an insurance policy held by a revengeful financier who didn't take kindly to surprises or premeditated double-crosses. Unfortunately, Andrew Vincent was equally duplicitous. Getting better offer, he decided to move the team in violation of the deal. This all led to the startling headlines and dizzying events surrounding this case . . . ensnaring Andre Young in a pernicious “web of deceit” and violently ending the life of Nicole Mason Vincent.

The fact that Andre's family life with his wife— a well known local sportscaster — presented a rosy picture of domestic bliss seemed to fade in the background of the lurid details surrounding this turn of events. Obviously, the allure of a woman who was his boss' wife and her femme fatale charms was too much to resist.

Facing a trial by fire, the partners at 2020 Avenue of the Stars take on Andre Young's defense and with the help of Cynthia O'Neal seek to maximize their best chances of getting a jury that hasn't been completely prejudiced by the many opinions tossed around by the press, 24/7.

The world will be lapping up every salacious detail in every news' cycle and that reality will not make this case easy to navigate.

These brilliant lawyers were in the midst of an existing case that was falling apart as they struggled to stay afloat ...when Andre Young's incident landed at their feet and presented them with the opportunity to make his defense the “case of the century.” They instantly realized that their success or failure with the facts as they were presented could make or break their firm.

Fortunately for them, they succeeded.

**A**s the series moves forward ... these attorneys at this prestigious address will stop at nothing to expose the underbelly of power. Their work becomes a constant struggle to deliver excellence and justice — without falling into the abyss that has entangled and destroyed so many of their famous and celebrated clients.

# # #

# 2020 AVENUE OF THE STARS

*The Best Team Money Can Buy*  
*Specializing in Sports & Entertainment*



~ FUTURE EPISODES ~

## 2020 AVENUE OF THE STARS: Future Episodes (5)

### #1 — “THE LIE THAT BINDS”

#### LOG LINE:

*In 1970 two first cousins attained fame — one in politics, the other in the highest of literary circles. After their deaths some 40 years later, their only children become embroiled in a very high-profile trial regarding plagiarism ... unleashing a mystery so dark it binds its confidants in a vortex of secrets and lies.*

#### COLD OPENING:

At 3 AM Jerry put down the new book written by his second cousin— a novella so moving it’s already at the top of all national lists after one week. Stunned to the core, his mind was reeling. As he pulled out his cell to dial one of his closest friends — a partner at *2020 Avenue of the Stars* — only one thing was clear: To protect the true legacy of his mother, he now must destroy the international literary career of his cousin.

#### SYNOPSIS:

With success in numerous headline trials as their calling card, *McGuire, Flannigan, Moreno, and O’Neal* now face an unprecedented situation. However, it is their savvy understanding and manipulation of today’s media-driven culture that makes them the perfect firm to handle this one-of-a-kind case that is about to challenge their resourcefulness.

The law firm at *2020 Avenue of the Stars* has earned its reputation as the “first and only stop” for clients living in the camera’s glare. These bold and skillful lawyers handle legal representation that often deals with unwanted notoriety, harmful sensationalism ... and even murder. In a few short years these four partners have become a unique collection of barristers with credentials that rival firms cannot match — and whose growing expertise becomes a thorn in the side of anyone who challenges them.

The lead in this case will be the brash, fearless partner Michael Flannigan. And the client, Jerry Mason, is a friend to which Flannigan owes more than just loyalty ... Dr. Mason saved the life of Michael’s young daughter.

It will take every bit of this team’s creativity in resolving the issues of their client, his only living relative, and his deceased parents — whose dark but mesmerizing story is at the center of this “made-for-TMZ” controversy.

Dr. Jerry Mason, famed Los Angeles pediatric cardiologist, late last night read the final page of his cousin Deborah Bradford's literary work, *My Secret Lover* — a short, but powerful novella. Although

*(Continue)*

a fairly successful mystery writer, Deborah's novella is being hailed in literary circles as something worthy of a Pulitzer. It's rising on the New York Times Best Seller List in record speed ... and is sure to be the subject of a bidding war for the film rights to the book.

**M**y *Secret Lover* is an engaging and exciting read, but Jerry knows what no one else does, that Deborah stole the manuscript and then published it as her own. Mason has come to *McGuire, Flannigan, Moreno, and O'Neal* to ascertain how he can stop the sale of the novella. He desperately needs to reveal his cousin's fraud as a lie, a revelation he knows will ruin her, but is the only way to honor to the true writer.

Deborah Bradford's father was Tom Stuart Bradford, a former Los Angeles Mayor during the 1970's who died just last year. Tom's first cousin was Jerry Mason's adoptive mother, Marjorie Mason — well-known poet laureate. Marjorie and Tom were once passionate lovers, and Jerry is actually their biological son. It is a secret that only he knows, and that both parents carried to their graves.

There were only two copies of an unpublished memoir that Marjorie wrote in fictional form as a love-letter to her cousin Tom many decades ago. The original was given to Tom, and the copy was in Jerry's possession. It was given to him shortly before Marjorie passed, feeling it was time that her actual son knew about his parents, and their unashamed love for each other.

As Jerry enters Michael's law firm in Century City, a deep sadness continues to surround him — knowing that from this point on, every family members' life will be ripped open and laid bare for history to judge. Sunset is spreading the first rays as Jerry sits across the partners in their conference room ... revealing a saga he thought he would take to his death. Jerry was just entering medical school when Marjorie made him the guardian of his "real parents" affair ... a pure love that also became the darkest secret in a family legacy. His mother and father's long-hidden secret changed Jerry's life. Knowing that he could never be tempted to have children, he never married — but chose a career where he could make a significant difference in children's lives. Now that secret will be unknowingly exposed to the world.

**U**pon her father's death, Deborah obviously discovered the original manuscript, and decided to appropriate it as her own. Naively — not a word was changed. Jerry now feels that he can't allow his cousin to get away with a theft and obvious fraud. More importantly, he deeply believes that the world needs to know that his mother was the true author of this literary gift. Michael is passionate in making sure Jerry understands the life-changing ramifications as they lay out a procedure for bringing this best-seller to a dramatic end.

Jerry acknowledges that in going forth with his lawyers at *Avenue of the Stars* the fall-out is irreversible for him, and the memory of both well-respected parents ... as well as the life-time public ridicule his cousin will face. Moreover ... as the partners quietly point out ... the case will become even more sensationalized since Jerry is not really suing his cousin, but in actuality, his half-sister.

Mendacity, secret liaisons, taboo lovers and greed are all ingredients for disaster without these lawyers ability to navigate the treacherous waters before them. The brilliance in watching Michael Flannigan and his fellow attorneys handle the challenges of this highly sensitive case turns out to be a "master class" in resourcefulness. And — without this team's skill in maneuvering an incendiary set of facts — the case could have imploded on itself. Gut instincts didn't hurt either.

# # #

## #2 “DANGEROUS SWINDLE”

### LOG-LINE:

*McGuire, Flannigan, Moreno, & O'Neal are in the midst of a case that presents them with a difficult dilemma and a potential conflict of interest — unlike anything they've previously seen. Involving multi-millions of dollars, the case also puts valuable reputations and established legacies on the line.*

*Helen Burnside, the “Grand Dame of American Film” and an American icon for almost six decades, wants to sue Judith Reingold for fraud and deceptive business practices for overcharging her for Reingold's jewelry creations. Many of the lavish designs won major awards and accolades — in large part because of Burnside's altruism.*

*The conundrum for the firm: They are both clients — and Burnside has threatened to leave the firm unless they release Reingold from their growing roster, making her their only client in this unseemly contretemps.*

### OPENING:

While the limousine pulls out of her luxury building, world famous actress, Helen Burnside, consumes her fourth pill since she awoke at 10 this morning. The beautiful jeweled watch on her wrist indicates that she will be arriving at the 2020 Avenue of the Stars' building in three minutes — and today she's determined to be at the top of her game. Only two miles away, in her private office in her Rodeo Drive jewelry shop, designer Judith Reingold hurries to place a much higher gambling wager than her usual limit — \$10,000. Within seconds the ultra-exclusive shop has a half-dozen police swiftly coming through the front door. Judith stands stunned as they enter her office and handcuff her — for the murder of Leslie Abbot, Helen's niece.

### SYNOPSIS:

The lawyers at 2020 Avenue of the Stars have had their share of prickly cases to deal with in their short history as a premiere entertainment and sports firm — but this set of facts challenges even their savvy and calm approach to litigious clients. Helen Burnside helped shape Judith Reingold's career by being one of the first well-known buyers to purchase her jewelry. Wearing them often in front of the international press, Burnside went a long way to making Reingold the successful enfant terrible that she has become ... with a label and logo in competition with Tom Ford. It's no coincidence that these two famous and accomplished women found their way to 2020 Avenue of the Stars — but now the law firm must choose one of these clients over the other ... or lose both their businesses entirely. An awkward, and very visible predicament, this is one case that will tests their mettle in resolving the issues.

*(Continue)*

**THE CASE:**

On the day that both women are due at *2020 Avenue of the Stars* to discuss how to proceed, Judith Reingold is arrested at her Beverly Hills' boutique emporium on Rodeo Drive for the murder of Leslie Abbott, the niece of Helen Burnside.

Abbott, a young and upcoming sculpture artist, has been in a very public feud with Judith Reingold over the accusations she defrauded her aunt. Abbott has been an aide and comfort for her Aunt Helen for several years, resulting in an extremely close relationship with the aging star.

Reingold is alleged to have been the last person to have seen Abbott alive — and is believed to have argued with her shortly before her body was discovered by a close friend coming to visit the artist in her skylight loft.

Receiving the call that Judith has been booked for murder, McGuire drops everything and heads for the Beverly Hills Police Department — barely staying at the speed limit in the tight streets of this iconic city. Jonathan McGuire and his team at *2020 Avenue of the Stars* now have their work cut out for them. They must decide how to extricate themselves from the dilemma this case presents — and in doing so, how to protect both clients — without throwing either of them “under the proverbial bus.”

Complicating the decision-making is the continual feeding frenzy of attention by swarming reporters prying into every aspect of the case. With both high profile clients having well-guarded secrets that could influence this case in the court of public opinion — the whole team is put into overdrive.

Once again, the expertise of this crack team working together at *2020 Avenue of the Stars* is a testimony to their command of the law, along with their savvy understanding of the world in which they live. It takes the diplomacy of McGuire, the expertise of O'Neal in handling the press, and the skills of Flannigan and Moreno to stave off the D.A.'s rush to judgment on the facts.

After a disastrous beginning fraught with unexpected events and secrets that deliver court room drama — the team ultimately succeeds by utilizing legal expertise enhanced by a “marketplace” savvy. They navigate this case brilliantly through the twists and turns in this fishbowl of celebrity culture.

This is why the partners at *2020 Avenue of the Stars* are not only the best their client's money can buy — but the most amazing set of legal minds available for cases that attract sensational headlines like moths to a flame.

# # #



### #3 A HOUSE OF INFIDELITY

#### LOG LINE:

**A** famous power couple on the Hollywood A List has is having their life splashed across the headlines from LA to New York. The world famous director has nowhere to hide when his wife, a former actress, is discovered brutally murdered. Blood on his hands, he turns himself over to the law team at 2020 Avenue of the Stars. Within hours, social media is abuzz, and the rag-sheets are alive with a ripe new scandal: The the murder victim was also the madam for an elite “invitation only” Hollywood prostitution ring.

#### OPENING:

Wife of Hollywood director — and new Oscar nominee — Reggie Hunter was found slain in her pool house office an hour ago, and news alerts have since been flashing continually all over the media regarding his whereabouts.

Devon Marino, the youngest partner at *McGuire, Flannigan, Moreno & O’Neal*, is gathering her things to leave their now empty office suite after a grueling day. Having just turned off cable news, she looks up to find a ruggedly good-looking and highly recognizable man standing in front of her.

“I had nowhere else to turn ... I didn’t ... couldn’t do it.”

Unable to stand, Reggie sits in the closest chair, and Devon sees the faint blood smeared against the inside palm of his right hand.

#### SYNOPSIS:

With that starts a new case for the rising defense team at *2020 Avenue of the Stars*. Seemingly unstoppable since their partnership was forged under fire a few years ago, this team’s success has captured the fascination of the city — and headlines throughout the nation.

However, as far as the new DA is concerned, their hot streak should be running out very soon. Right now, DA Davis Lott’s consternation goes far beyond his compulsive need to be recognized as a winner — and he’s become obsessed in finding a reason this team continues to grab attention at his expense.

Partner Devon Marino takes the lead on this notorious case — she has known the defendant’s family since her teen years, when her mother worked as a part-time nanny for the Hunter’s three children. Even with the preponderance of evidence against him, Devon convinces partners Jonathan, Michael, and Cynthia that Reggie could very well be innocent.

After hearing the whole story, the team is finally assured of their ability to defend him. This is an uphill journey that demands their unified strength and attention ... something at which they’ve become very good.

The afternoon of Ellen’s death, Reggie and she fought almost violently in her office in the pool house across the grounds from the main home. Reggie left for a major interview concerning his newest movie and the upcoming Oscars — and then found himself driving around throughout the evening.

*(Continue)*

Arriving home the house was empty, but Ellen’s car was in the driveway. Less than 10 minutes later, he had his dead wife’s blood on his hand. The pool house was dark when he entered. He slipped on her blood and hit the floor – putting one hand down to catch himself. What he saw he could barely describe to his lawyers ... but the crime scene photos eventually told it all in living color. Panic struck ... he dialed 911 and left. Knowing that he was desperately going to need a lawyer to speak for him, he headed for Century City.

A cohesive team, the partners and their skilled associates work with Julian Anthony — head of their firm’s “Murder Division” — who has an exceptional ability to seek out valuable yet unnoticed information. As a former federal prosecutor in the US Justice department, Julian has both the experience and razor-like focus, and wastes no move in putting clues together others gloss over. In this high-risk arena, that puts the team at a big advantage.

Taking Julian’s lead, Peter Roma, the *Avenue of the Stars*’ “Chief Investigator” does some extensive digging, and partners Michael and Devon help through their contacts in the cyberspace world. Cynthia moves in another, more old-fashioned direction ... going directly to Hollywood luminaries she’s cultivated during her “on-camera” years. The results offered a scandal teeming with suspects:

Ellen was running an illegal prostitution ring. The on-line site was restricted exclusively to the “Hollywood” industry and parallels the Ashley-Madison infidelity site – only worse. At first glance, the site gives the client a chance to have an “anonymous” affair — which is perfectly legal. However, for “special invitational clients,” Ellen has been acting as a madam and supplying high-end prostitutes to some of the most powerful men and woman in all areas of media and publishing. It was a small but thriving clientele. Now it has the potential to break Hollywood wide open — exposing some of its most notable citizens.

As the startling news of the prostitution ring breaks across the press, accusations are hurled and conspiracies mount. All this becomes a plethora of information to funnel through for Devon, Jonathan, Michael, Cynthia and their team. They must find the real killer — since “reasonable doubt” for Reggie is hard to prove. At least they have to shine the light in that direction — far away from their client.

Devon’s cultivated sources, deep in the social media world, helped them reach into areas far greater than normally accessed. Knowing people of significant influence intricately connected with every site the rich and powerful frequent, will prove to be the crack that finally opens the way for Reggie’s riveting defense.

As Jonathan consults with Reggie, he’s convinced that this man had no idea how deep into the underworld Ellen was dealing. Believing that it was only an innocent dating site created by a bored empty-nest wife, Reggie thought he knew the woman who shared his life. This “silly dating site” had consumed her — and resulted in the vicious fight they had the last time he ever saw her. Now she’s been brutally murdered.

Once the group at *2020 Avenue of the Stars* has built a strategic defense, a major advantage will be how this savvy law team defines their client to the press – a masterful opportunity often overlooked — or completely bungled by less resourceful lawyers.

Deputy Attorney Lott however, continues to create problems for them at every turn — which in this case is easily achieved based on the overwhelming physical evidence. Lott’s like a rabid dog ... convinced that Reggie’s guilt is a slam-dunk. With every resource in the city’s arsenal available to him, Lott’s determined that he will get a conviction — along with besting the team of *McGuire, Flannigan, Moreno & O’Neal*.

They, however, have other ideas. Let the games begin!

# # #

## #4 — “A QUESTION OF ETHICS: LOVE OR THE RULE OF LAW”

### LOG LINE:

**T**he lawyers at 2020 Avenue of the Stars undertake a unique case whose facts have been a decade in the making.

*A world-class tennis player and a top American model's love story ... is the stuff of “fairy tales.” After their whirlwind relationship, Alexia Wingate leaves the runway, enters medical school and becomes a well-known doctor — while her lover, tennis champion Rick Jordan, continues his dominance in the sport. A number of years later, Jordan collapses at a major charity event and never regains consciousness.*

*His illness is the “inciting incident,” that unravels a secret only Rick and Alexia know — ultimately leading to a wrongful death trial. To find a successful outcome, McGuire, Flannigan, Moreno and O'Neal must wade through a myriad of mysterious and complicated issues rarely put on trial.*

### OPENING:

The elevator doors open onto the eerie quiet of the Intensive Care floor of St. John's Hospital, and Cynthia O'Neal, Senior Partner at *McGuire, Flannigan, Moreno and O'Neal*, quickly moves down the hall toward what she perceives as an ever-growing chorus of hostile voices seemingly directed at someone in a room just beyond. Ahead is a cadre of medical personnel who rush to enter the suite two steps before Cynthia where they find Alexia Wingate bombarded by Rick Jordan's family, being mercilessly accused of murder. With the sound of a shrill monitor loudly indicating that he has flat-lined, Cynthia looks to the tennis champion lying in bed ... apparently only a moment after gasping his last-dying breath.

### SYNOPSIS:

Cynthia O'Neal, Alexia Wingate's first cousin and closest confidante, introduced Rick to Alexia a number of years ago — shortly after Rick won Wimbledon and Alexia had taken European runways by storm.

Fiercely protective of her friends and their relationship, Cynthia and her firm are faced with defending her relative, now their distinctly recognizable client, against a virulent and tabloid-like wrongful death lawsuit. It quickly becomes a lawsuit that is so controversial, so fragile, and so high profile, that without clever handling, can easily careen wildly out of control.

*(Continue)*

Complicating the facts are the discoveries that, unbeknownst to his family, Rick Jordan and Alexia Wingate were secretly married just after she finished medical school. At that point he was suffering from nascent symptoms of ALS — which they kept a close secret, but prompted his early retirement from the sport. It was his diagnosis that prompted Alexia to take her residency at St. John’s hospital in Santa Monica — changing her speciality to neurological disorders. From international runway to doctor’s scrubs ... the world loved her.

Moreover, a subsequent autopsy indicated that Jordan had substantial traces of uppers, downers, painkillers and experimental drugs in his system at the time of his death. His family is convinced that Alexia bears the most culpability for this set of circumstances ... and wants their pound of flesh for the loss of their loved one.

Cynthia and her partners of *McGuire, Flannigan, Moreno & O’Neal* must now resolve the issue of what actually stopped Rick Jordan's heart ... and the question of whether Dr. Alexia Wingate is responsible for his demise.

Along with her current legal savvy in handling both the law and overwhelming media involvement, this case demands every bit of Cynthia's past expertise as a legal consultant and jury wrangler — where she specialized in knowing how to read people far beyond the obvious.

The case is laced with the traps that today's TMZ culture presents, and forces our attorneys to push every legal boundary they know. Under a microscope and being unfairly tried by a 24/7-cable news cycle ... the case becomes a continuous slugfest. Both Alexia and her internationally adored husband are besieged by the ghoulish interest that being a celebrity endures.

*McGuire, Flannigan, Moreno and O'Neal* know there is no escaping the court of public opinion and, therefore, must find answers where none-seem-to-exist — inevitably establishing strategies that challenge the status quo; outsmarting a system that thwarts them at every turn.

However, this group of outstanding lawyers continues to expand their expertise exponentially ... protecting their client's innocence and integrity with impressive agility ... and creating a “new normal” when dealing with high profile cases in today’s obsessed culture.

In the end, their legal acumen — and savvy understanding of a modern world shaded with more gray than black and white — wins their case, and cements their reputation as practitioners whose excellence remains unparalleled.

# # #

## #5 — “ABSOLUTE POWER, CORRUPTS ABSOLUTELY”

### LOG LINE:

*A rising and powerful television executive is caught in the grips of one of the city’s most prominent businessman. When the executive refuses to play along with the illegal scheme of this unethical tycoon, he suddenly finds himself the victim of a cruel and dangerous ploy that strips him of all power — and renders him defenseless. To salvage his career, the lawyers at 2020 Avenue of the Stars will find themselves battling the dark underside of the City of Angels.*

### OPENING:

Home late to his penthouse, newly appointed CEO of MainLine Network, Eugene Norman pours himself a stiff drink and settles down to watch the only network that counts – his. With a smile born of arrogance and talent, he lets the warm scotch burn his insides.

A news flash interrupts the programing ... and the screen fills with a gurney being pushed through the uncontrollable crowd of reporters mixed with lights cameras and onlookers — followed by a voice-over announcing the near-death beating of one of the most powerful women in the entertainment industry. Just before the gurney is hoisted into the ambulance, a reporter is able to push a microphone next to what was once a very beautiful face. When he asks if she knew her attacker, she reaches weakly for the small mic, indicating she wants to speak.

Maya Armstrong’s battered face fills the screen as everyone around her is silent. She quietly announces to the world that the man responsible for this savage beating is her associate ... Eugene Norman.

Eugene drops his scotch, and time seemingly stands still — until the pounding on his exclusive residence door announces a large police presence.

### SYNOPSIS:

In a case that will solidify the growing status of *McGuire, Flannigan, Moreno & O’Neal*, CEO Eugene Norman is accused of a brutal rape by his beautiful and highly respected co-worker — and to prove his innocence seems all but impossible.

Finding himself cornered and facing charges that could land him in jail for much of his adult life, Eugene Norman turns to an old college acquaintance, Jonathan McGuire and his team at *2020 Avenue of the Stars*. The 3am call moves McGuire immediately into action — securing bail for Norman and getting his subsequent release within hours.

*(Continue)*

**W**hile Jonathan was a star on the NBA's basketball court, Eugene was a rising television executive — becoming a star of the corporate world. A year ago he was tapped for chief exec of the new MainLine Broadcast Network (MLB) — the entity designated to rival and surpass NETFLIX and HBO.

Now Jonathan and his partners at *2020 Avenue of the Stars* must use every resource they have available to defend Norman against almost foolproof charges. Not easy with Norman's highly publicized reputation in the tabloids and on social media. His business acumen and amazing corporate instincts have long co-existed with his playboy antics — which are widely acknowledged by his colleagues as Norman's Achilles' Heel.

Born of fire, this smart law team has learned to work as a cohesive unit — possessing more skills and abilities in today's world than the mandatory command of the law. Each member of the team now goes into overdrive ... and without fail, the more they uncover in this web of disaster, the more they have to stay at the top of their game.

The partners learn that Eugene Norman was with the alleged victim the night of the incident. He and Maya Armstrong — a talented and fast-rising African American Executive at the MLB Network — had been together several times before. However, Norman states emphatically to Jonathan that he left her hours prior to her assault where she was brutally violated.

Eventually this is corroborated when partners Cynthia O'Neal and Devon Moreno work their high profile contacts. Their findings don't prove Norman innocent of the rape, but it begins the journey of reasonable doubt.

**I**t's when two of the partners' valuable colleagues uncover a major fact that the case finally begins to make sense. *Peter Roma*, is their amazing investigator who can search out a lead better than most, and knows where all the bodies are buried in the City of Angels. He collaborates with the firm's incredible "Of Council" Consultant, former Judge of California's 9th Circuit, *William Bryan* ... a luminary who is only one degree of separation from anyone anywhere. The knowledge that they acquire provides a big advantage: Although it's a relationship that's kept tightly under wraps, it's discovered that Maya Armstrong is heavily involved with one of L.A.'s most prominent businessmen, Lenny Terranova. Terranova in polite — and not so polite — circles is reputed to be closely connected with the City of Angel's mafia crime bosses.

The investigations undertaken by the team at *2020 Avenue of the Stars* start to take a dark turn as they realize just how deep the tentacles of this case reach.

After intense questioning of Norman, it's ascertained that Terranova and his underworld

(Continue)

associates' agenda was to use Norman to accomplish a major land transaction — which would greatly benefit their coffers. But Norman refused to use his influence to get the MLB network to move their headquarters to Terrnova's mix-use multi-billion dollar development project in downtown, L.A. Norman was then pressured by the mob forces . . . first with blackmail for the kinky sex they know he had with high-priced call girls — and then with an expunged juvenile record for his own teenage prostitution infraction. No strong-arm tactics worked.

Armed with this knowledge, and intelligence gathered by individual resources, the law team now has substantial proof that the rape charge was a bogus way to make Norman come around. It appears that Maya Armstrong was under control of Terranova — having her beaten violently to further the mob's plan. Either she cooperated — or a false move would prove fatal.

After McGiure and Flannigan deduced the brutal scenario, their keen instincts lead them to strategically question Maya during the discovery phase of pre-trial hearings. Under pressure Maya breaks down, admitting her complicity. Although fearing for her life, she provides them with the critical information that propels the case forward. Once the floodgates are open, with their combined legal expertise they're able to powerfully combat the rigged evidence against Eugene Norman.

**B**y the time they go to trial, this rising law firm will have made some very powerful enemies — but the resourcefulness and relentless ingenuity of the team at *2020 Avenue of the Stars* ultimately exposes an insidious plan. Their aggressive investigatory and legal prowess trumps Terranova and his corrupt ilk by demonstrating — both in the courtroom and in the press — how savvy legal experience outwits illegal and ill-conceived power plays any day of the week.

# # #