

# Legal Eagle

A successful commercial litigator for corporate clients, Matthew Wild, 39, says his job is really about “devising the best strategy to achieve the client’s objectives.”

While growing up in the New York suburbs, Wild had a close view of litigation since both his parents are lawyers. “My dad’s a litigator and my mother specializes in matrimonial law,” he says. “I can’t remember not wanting to be a lawyer.”

Wild earned his law degree from New York University and launched a career at top firms. Over the years, he has achieved impressive results for such clients as financial services firms, banks, pharmaceutical manufacturers and more. Along the way, he started a family. Wife Elizabeth was a fashion designer for Ralph Lauren and now looks after the couple’s kids, daughter Madeline, 3, and Thomas, six months.

But last summer, Wild began to feel something was missing from his career. Independence. “At a big firm, my freedom was sharply curtailed. I wanted to be able to represent anyone I chose. I also wanted to do more pro bono work.” After planning and talking with Elizabeth, this winter, Wild launched his own practice. He wouldn’t have considered it without the changes technology has brought to his profession. “Everything is electronically organized now and there’s been an explosion of documents because of email. With the improvements in technology, it’s possible to handle large cases as effectively as when I was at a big law firm. There’s a lot more freedom.”

Not to mention mobility. Weekdays, Wild makes the roundtrip drive from his home in New Rochelle to his Manhattan office with the mobile within easy reach. If he’s not on the hands-free headset talking strategy with a client or receiving legal briefs via email attachments, then he’s listening to jazz tunes from Miles Davis. And when he gets home, there’s now time not only for the kids, but for his dog, Maggie. **S**

After years at large New York and Washington law firms, litigator Matthew Wild decided to join a three-lawyer boutique. “With today’s technology, you don’t have to be at a big firm to handle big cases,” he says.

## Matthew Wild

### What’s in your phone?

A DAILY COMMUTER, WILD RELIES ON HIS MOBILE FOR MISSION-CRITICAL CLIENT CONTACT AND HIS FAVORITE JAZZ MUSICIANS.

#### TIME ZONE

New York

#### SCREENSAVER

Photo of Maggie, the “mostly Lab” dog

#### WALLPAPER

Photo of Madeline on a boat during last summer’s vacation

#### CALENDAR

Depositions, court appearances and meetings

#### MUSIC

Miles Davis’ “A Night at Birdland,” Dizzy Gillespie’s “Bird & Diz,” Van Morrison’s “Moondance,” Talking Heads’ “True Stories”

#### SPEED DIAL

- 5 Clients
- 2 Wife, landline and mobile
- 1 Best friend and college roommate Brian
- 1 Mom in Larchmont, NY
- 1 Dad in Warwick, NY
- 1 Mother-in-law Mary in Winston-Salem, NC

#### ADDRESS BOOK

286 contacts and expert legal consultants

#### PICS

Baby Thomas, daughter Madeline, wife Elizabeth, parents, dogs Maggie, Sausages and Hugo

#### RINGTONES

“Mission Impossible” theme—“It’s like some of my cases”



**Matthew Wild** About to head out for the 40-minute drive from his new office in Manhattan to his home in the suburbs. Wild keeps his mobile close during the drive in his BMW, in case clients need his input or a change in the next day’s depositions and court appearances.