



Mitzi and Michelle Wyrick

After going through elementary school, high school, college and law school together, it's hardly surprising that Mitzi and Michelle Wyrick ended up practicing the same type of law at the same firm. For the past 27 years, the identical twin sisters have concentrated on labor and employment, business litigation and mass tort defense at Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP.

Their mutual interest in becoming lawyers jelled in college where they both majored in political science and graduated with the same GPA. They each applied to several different law schools but after learning they had both been accepted at Harvard, they agreed to enroll together. "We decided we shouldn't pass that up," said Michelle.

Being mistaken for one another is something they've dealt with throughout their lives. "You always have some people who can tell us apart right away, some who learn as they're around us more and others who just never see the difference," explained Mitzi.

This has led to some amusing encounters with colleagues and clients. As law students, they both interned in the Kentucky Attorney General's Office, albeit in different divisions. One day a supervising attorney who had met Mitzi but was unaware she had a twin approached Michelle in the library and began discussing a case with her. When she told him "I'm not Mitzi," the attorney walked away bewildered, probably wondering whether his protégé was having an identity crisis.

Another time Michelle was involved in a mediation at the office when a client stopped Mitzi in a hallway to query her about the case. "I had no idea what was going on or even who the client was," Mitzi mused.

While they have similar work habits and devote comparable hours to their careers, they do not typically work together on client matters. "Over the years we've been here, there have been only a handful of cases that we've worked on at the same time," noted Michelle.

Nevertheless, having a double who can stand in for you comes in handy. Sometimes when they have a scheduling conflict, the sisters cover motion hour for each other. "I've never misrepresented who I am," Mitzi hastened to add. "But if no one asks, they might not know the difference."