

# Shannon Wilkinson, Expert Witness

## Shannon Wilkinson

Founder & CEO, Reputation Communications

Expert Witness



---

## REPUTATION MANAGEMENT

### Reputation Communications – Founder & CEO

Shannon Wilkinson is a nationally recognized expert in online reputation management. Her New York City-based firm Reputation Communications advises clients on all aspects of reputation management. She serves as an Expert Witness in defamation and related types of lawsuits.

Founded in 2009, Reputation Communications was one of the first companies to specialize in online reputation management. It is the only online reputation management firm to specialize in the needs of influencers: individuals with newsworthy or industry-wide impact in business, politics, or social issues.

Clients we have served include Forbes 400 philanthropists, Fortune 500 leaders, Investment, FinTech & financial services firms, Silicon Valley tech founders and others.

---

## REPRESENTATIVE REPUTATION MANAGEMENT CASE STUDIES

- **Business Icon:** A business icon sought a plan for a range of potential crisis scenarios that could damage his reputation. We developed a comprehensive plan that could be enacted at any time and are on call to execute a crisis management plan if one is needed.
- **Industry veteran:** An industry veteran suffered reputation damage. We implemented an online reputation repair program over a period of three months and recommended communications strategies for his crisis advisors to take for SEO reasons.
- **International Organization:** This organization sought an analysis of online accusations against it. We delivered an analysis that included a comprehensive PR plan for strategically developing content that would replace the negative content.
- **Luxury Brand:** A luxury brand engaged us to create a crisis response plan and conduct online reputation repair. We ensured the crisis did not impact their Google search results or reputation.
- **Company Founder:** A company founder was the focus of “fake news.” We developed and implemented a content creation and SEO program to expand the founder’s online presence with appropriate material. It minimized the incorrect information and relegated it to a minimal position online.
- **Professional:** A professional faced inappropriate personal issues reported in the news that dominated his search results. We provided a strategic plan for his SEO consultant to implement that resolved the issue.

---

## MEDIA COVERAGE

### INTERVIEWS

Ms. Wilkinson's thought-leadership has attracted interviews with many media outlets on issues relating to reputation management, celebrity and corporation scandals, and other crises.

#### **Reputation Management Webinar** May 2024

##### **Interfor Academy**

Shannon Wilkinson, CEO of Reputation Communications, and Don Aviv, President of Interfor International, discuss all aspects of reputation management and reputation monitoring in this 30-minute webinar.

#### **Models In Mentoring** January 2024

##### **SHRM, the HR Platform**

SHRM's new article on the importance of mentoring includes an interview with Sandi Webster, board member of the New York City chapter of NAWBO, and CEO Shannon Wilkinson about their successful mentorship during the start-up years of Reputation Communications.

#### **Beverly Hills Bar Association** September 2021

##### **Online Reputation Management: Litigator's Corner Interview**

Hillary Johns, Trial Lawyer and Beverly Hills Bar Association Litigation Committee Chair, interviewed Reputation Communications CEO Shannon Wilkinson about what attorneys and law firms need to know; and Wilkinson's work as an expert reputation witness.

#### **Canadian Family Offices** July 2021

##### **Family reputation is everything: How to keep yours intact**

CanadianFamilyOffices.com, a thought leader in topics of interest to ultra-high-net-worth Canadians, interviewed Shannon Wilkinson about how high net worth individuals can proactively protect the family name.

#### **Boston Private Podcast** October 2020

##### **Family Office Connections: Managing Your Online Reputation**

Edward Marshall, Managing Director, is joined by Shannon Wilkinson, CEO at Reputation Communications, to discuss Boston Private's family office risk survey findings.

#### **The Guardian** February 2020

Commentary about the Harvey Weinstein trial

#### **Journal of Media Ethics** July 2019

Evaluating the Reputation Management Industry through the Lens of Public Relations Ethics

#### **CNBC** October 2017

Fallout from Harvey Weinstein scandal

#### **BravoTV/NBC Universal** September 2017

How celebrities are successfully managing divorces

#### **Huffington Post** April 2017

The nuances and importance of modern reputation care; the lack of "right to be forgotten" laws in the U.S.; privacy issues that can result in personal security threats

#### **Philadelphia Inquirer** September 2015

Examining Volkswagen reputation troubles

#### **The Wall Street Journal** April 2015

The risks and rewards that social media poses to executives; best practices; making social media an important addition to brand and media management strategies

---

## EXPERT COMMENTARY

### **The Wall Street Journal** – “Crisis of the Week” Commentator

As a featured expert in the column “Crisis of the Week,” Ms. Wilkinson assessed how well leading corporations were managing their public relations and reputation crises. Corporations covered include:

- Equifax
- Ohio State University
- Purdue Pharma
- Sanofi
- Uber
- Whisper
- Korea Air
- Biogen Inc.
- AbbVie
- APA Group
- LendingClub
- NBC
- AOL
- Lululemon
- Mozilla
- Microsoft
- NFL

---

## ARTICLES AND PUBLICATIONS

### **You(Online): The Magazine** – Chief Blogger

*You(Online): The Magazine* is published by Reputation Communications to help educate CEOs, C-Suite executives, rising stars, and high net worth individuals about all aspects of digital reputation management with regular blogs, articles, and resources.

### **Reputation Reboot: What Every Business Leader, Rising Star & VIP Needs to Know**

Ms. Wilkinson is the author of this 50-page guide that shares insights about the Internet and social media cultures and the distinct ways they impact high-profile individuals.

## OTHER WRITINGS

Ms. Wilkinson has contributed her writing to many other journals, online magazines, and news outlets:

### **New York Law Journal** November 2021

#### **When Deep Fakes and Online Defamation Attack You and Your Practice**

How attorneys are among those whose names, work and reputations may be attacked by deep fakes, online defamation, and domain squatting.

### **New York State Bar Association Journal** August 2019

Online Reputation Management for Attorneys and Law Firms

### **Risk Assistance Network & Exchange (RANE)** June 2018

#### **Online Reputation Management: The Essential Internet “Digital Defense”**

A comprehensive overview of what every risk professional needs to understand about what online reputation resolves and why it is in such demand

### **Security Management Magazine** December 2017

**A New Social World** (co-author: Interfor International COO Don Aviv)

The importance of corporate social media policies

### **Police One Magazine** September 2017

**Coptics: The optics of policing in the digital age** (co-authored with Hetty Group COPTICS Team)

How law enforcement professionals can be more effective in connecting with a digital media savvy public

**Risk Management Magazine/Blog** January 2015

**The New Reputation Risks: What You Need to Know for 2015**

Changes to the Online Reputation Management landscape in 2014; predictions for 2015's biggest potential reputation-related crises

**National Cybersecurity Institute Journal** September 2014

**The New Demands of Online Reputation Management**

An overview of the current state of online reputation management; the leading online reputational threats faced by U.S. companies; explaining how reputation threats unfold, the motivations behind them, and how they can be protected against and resolved.

**Forbes** June 2014

**Crisis Communication 2.0: Mary Barra Strong In Adversity**

GM CEO's Mary Barra's strategies she has brought to crisis management, integrating multiple digital media platforms into her communications initiatives

**Forbes** April 2014

**Image Rx: Online Reputation Management For Rising Executives**

Strategies for making photographs an effective part of your online image

**Forbes** March 2014

**From Mocking To Hacking: How To Protect Your Digital Reputation**

The challenges celebrities, industry leaders and such public figures as politicians and philanthropists face in managing their digital footprints

---

**PUBLIC SPEAKING**

**Podcast Interview: The First Business Series** June 2022

Sandi Webster Podcast

*The First* is a podcast by Sandi Webster that features founders and innovators who have unknowingly paved the way for others without knowing it, or acknowledging it. They share their stories to help others walk in their footsteps.

In Episode 32, Shannon Wilkinson discusses being among the first in the industry to establish an online reputation management (ORM) firm, and how she shares her knowledge by publishing extensive thought-leadership to educate the greater public and new prospects about how Google and online reputation management work.

**Risk Assistance Network & Exchange (RANE) Webinar** May 2019

Reputational Diligence in the Digital Economy

Discussed the evolving landscape of reputational diligence; ways organizations can mitigate risks to their brand

**Global Security Exchange Conference** Las Vegas, NV September 2018

Presented on social media risk at annual conference attended by over 22,000 security professionals

**Podcast: Komando on Demand** August 2018

How to Restore a Ruined Online Reputation from the Ground Up

Finding solutions to the problem of destroying someone's reputation

**Online Panel: Business Insurance** March 2013

Social Media Crucial to Corporate Risk Management

---

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

### **Reputation Risks Facing High Net Worth Families** August 2020

A three-part series of live, 30-minute briefings with reputation management, Internet law, investigations, due diligence and risk mitigation experts, hosted by Reputation Communications and moderated by Ms. Wilkinson.

**Participants included:** Don Aviv, President of Interfor International; Tim Murphy, President & CEO of Consortium Networks; David Niccolini, Co-Founder of TorchStone Global; Christine Rafin, Associate General Counsel – Media and Compliance at American Media in New York City; Dan Shefet, Individual Specialist to UNESCO, and Adviser to the Council of Europe on the Internet Ombudsman; and an expert in Internet law; and Arun Rao, President of IGI.

---

## PRIOR POSITIONS

**Public Relations Consultant** – President, Cultural Communications 1990-2009

---

## EDUCATION

**Streetwise MBA** – NYU Business School 2014-2015

Business program offered to entrepreneurs through the New York City Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment

**BFA, Communication Design** – Parsons School of Design 1984

### **Contact:**

Shannon Wilkinson, Founder & CEO  
Reputation Communications

Direct: 212-505-1253

Mobile: 917-340-6538

[office@reputation-communications.com](mailto:office@reputation-communications.com)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/in/shannonwilkinsonnyc/](http://www.linkedin.com/in/shannonwilkinsonnyc/)