

Jennifer Ellis Burke

Partner

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Practices

Business Litigation
 Employment Law and Litigation
 General Litigation
 Health Care Litigation and Risk Management
 Insurance Coverage and Bad Faith Litigation
 Nursing Home/Assisted Living Litigation
 Premises Liability and Tort Defense

Bar Admissions

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
 United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit
 United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts

Education

Harvard University, J.D., 1989
 University of Virginia, B.A., *with honors*, 1986

Overview

Jennifer's civil litigation practice focuses on the defense of employment claims, medical malpractice claims, nursing home matters, premises liability cases, and professional liability matters. In addition, she has extensive experience analyzing insurance coverage claims and litigating insurance matters.

Jennifer frequently represents employers faced with discrimination claims. She has represented numerous employers in state and federal court and before administrative agencies including the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, the EEOC, the U.S. Department of Labor, and the Massachusetts Department of Unemployment Assistance. Jennifer approaches each case with determination but without losing sight of the end goal, which is always the successful resolution of the matter.

In addition to defending employers in litigation matters, Jennifer also acts as a resource to her clients by providing them with valuable advice and counsel with a focus on preventing claims.

Jennifer also has extensive experience representing insurers in declaratory judgment actions regarding policy coverage. She also provides insurers with out-of-court advice, including insurance coverage analysis and the avoidance of bad faith claims.

From the beginning of her career, Jennifer has also enjoyed defending medical professionals and nursing homes against malpractice claims. She has successfully defended, at trial, physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, hospitals, and long-term acute care hospitals.

The variety of matters that Jennifer has handled and successfully resolved throughout her career has helped her develop the ability to analyze and evaluate a broad range of matters. Jennifer brings experience, intelligence, instinct and insight to each of her cases.

Affiliations

- Defense Research Institute

- Massachusetts Bar Association
- Boston Bar Association
- American Bar Association

Articles & Seminars

Jennifer is an experienced lecturer, having spoken to numerous employers about effective employment policies and practices, as well as to health care professionals and nursing home administrators on managing medical malpractice risks. She has also lectured to insurance professionals about avoiding bad faith claims and handling M.G.L. c. 93A claims.

Representative Cases

- *Diane Madden and Parke Madden, Executors of the Estate of Paul H. Madden v. Albert Loerinc, M.D., et. al.*, Suffolk Super. Ct. (defense verdict March 4, 2016 in medical malpractice trial).
- *Talia Lauria v. R.W. Sullivan*, Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (defense finding 2014 at public hearing in discrimination case).

Interests

Jennifer enjoys spending time with her family and playing with her Labrador Retrievers on Cape Cod where she was born and raised. She is a proud member of *The General Society of Mayflower Descendants*. When she is not walking or swimming with her dogs, she can be found searching for antiques and treasures throughout New England.