



## Suzanne M. Messer

### Member

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### Profile

**Suzanne's clients turn to her for experience in handling complex litigation matters in areas critical to their success.**

She represents and counsels a wide variety of clients throughout New York State as both plaintiffs and defendants, including:

- Colleges and universities
- Corporations
- Health care providers
- Not-for-profit organizations
- Manufacturers
- Municipalities
- Small business owners and individuals
- Professionals

Suzanne counsels and litigates cases for these clients on issues concerning:

- Breach of contract
- Trade secret matters
- Complex collective and class actions under FLSA and ERISA
- Complex environmental litigation
- Group Self-Insured Workers' Compensation Trusts (GSITs) formed under the New York State Workers' Compensation Law
- Violations of restrictive covenants and confidentiality provisions of employment contracts

In addition, Suzanne counsels and litigates cases and proceedings for a variety of higher education institutions concerning claims brought under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and New York State's Enough is Enough law.

Suzanne also has significant experience handling proceedings that arise under Article 78 of the New York Civil Practice Laws and Rules for organizations, municipalities and higher education institutions.

In addition to trying suits in diverse venues in New York federal and state courts, Suzanne has extensive experience resolving disputes through alternative dispute resolution procedures, including mediations and arbitrations.

### Education

- Syracuse University College of Law (J.D., *summa cum laude*, 2006)
- University of Scranton (B.S., *magna cum laude*, 2001)

### Bar/Court Admissions

- New York
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of New York

### Practices

- School Law
- Toxic Tort and Environmental Litigation
- Litigation
- Environmental and Energy
- Higher Education
- Class and Collective Action Litigation

## Honors & Affiliations

- Listed in:
  - *New York Super Lawyers 2017*<sup>®</sup>, Upstate New York Rising Star, General Litigation
- New York State Bar Association
- Onondaga County Bar Association
- Northern District of New York Federal Court Bar Association
- Central New York Women's Bar Association
- Justinian Honorary Law Society, Secretary, 2005-2006
- Order of the Coif
- Executive Editor, *Syracuse Law Review*

## Representative Publications

- Suzanne M. Messer, Brian J. Butler and Clifford G. Tsan, "E-Discovery and Information Management - Can Clicking 'Like' Make or Break a Lawsuit?," *Intellectual Property & Technology Law Journal*, April 2016

## Representative Presentations

- Class Action Refund Lawsuits Against Higher Educational Institutions, CICU Webinar, May 14, 2020