ArentFox Schiff LLP
Attorneys

Jennifer A. Yelen

PARTNER

Jennifer is a Partner in the firm's Complex Litigation practice, concentrating in employment law. She is also a member of the Health Care group.



Industries

Health Care

Practices

Complex Litigation
Labor, Employment & OSHA
— Workplace Investigations & Audits

Education

Northeastern University School of Law, JD, 1993

State University of New York at Binghamton, BA, 1989

Offices

Boston

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In her employment law practice, Jennifer represents both employees and employers in all types of employment matters, including those involving discrimination, sexual harassment, retaliation, breach of contract and enforcement of restrictive covenants. As outside counsel for several Massachusetts employers, Jennifer advises clients on personnel policies, compliance with state and federal laws, harassment and discrimination complaints and investigations, hiring and termination issues, performance management and discipline of employees, and drafting of employee handbooks, employment agreements and severance agreements. Jennifer conducts workplace discrimination and harassment trainings for clients. She also regularly represents employers and employees in the negotiation of employment contracts, non-competition covenants, and severance packages.

As a member of ArentFox Schiff's Health Care Practice, Jennifer defends mental health professionals in connection with complaints before licensing boards including the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Psychologists, the Board of Registration of Social Workers, and the Board of Registration of Allied Mental Health and Human Services Professionals. She also consults with and provides advice to mental health professionals regarding ethical and risk-management issues. Jennifer has represented hundreds of licensed mental health professionals in Board-related matters and practice consultations.

Jennifer's family law practice includes litigation of divorce, alimony, child support, custody, post-divorce and paternity matters, as well as negotiation and drafting of separation/divorce and prenuptial agreements.

Prior to joining the firm, Jennifer was a founding Partner of Shilepsky O'Connell Casey Hartley Michon Yelen LLP, an employment and litigation boutique, a Partner in the Litigation Department of Perkins Smith & Cohen LLP, and a Partner at Posternak Blankstein & Lund LLP.

Client Work

— Represented an international employer in a whistleblower retaliation case in federal court, resulting in the pre-trial dismissal of three of four counts and a jury verdict for the employer.

— Represented an international employer in a breach of contract case in state court, resulting in a

jury verdict for the employer.

- Represented employees and employers in cases involvement enforcement of non-competition provisions.
- Represented numerous employees in discrimination cases, resulting in multi-million dollar settlements.
- Represented the husband in a successful appeal to the Massachusetts Appeals Court, resulting in the Appeals Court's issuance of the seminal opinion on the treatment of Social Security benefits in the context of divorce.
- Represented high net worth individuals in complex divorce and post-divorce matters.

Awards & Recognition

- The Best Lawyers in America, *Best Lawyers* (2023-2027)
- "Top Female Attorney in Massachusetts" by Super Lawyers, 2016
- Massachusetts Super Lawyer every year from 2007 – 2020
- "Boston's Top 50 Women Attorneys" in 2007, 2013 and 2014 for her work in the field of Employment Litigation
- Massachusetts Super Lawyer – Rising Star in Employment Litigation in 2005, 2006 and 2007.

Memberships & Boards

- Boston Bar Association
- Massachusetts Bar Association
- Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education, Board of Trustees, 2006-2018
- Northeastern University School of Law, Alumni Association Board of Directors, Board Member, 2016 - 2018

Life Beyond the Law

Jennifer is an avid baseball fan and an avid, average golfer.

Bar Admissions

Massachusetts

Court Admissions

US Court of Appeals, 1st Circuit
US District Court, District of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court