



Jessica Erickson

Counsel

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Jessica is part of the firm's Insurance Department. She has substantial courtroom experience including settlement conferences, jury selection, and first chair trials to verdict. She engages in trial preparation, including expert and lay witness preparation and motions in limine. She has appeared for oral argument on dispositive and discovery motions before the First and Second Department, and various New York Supreme Courts. She has developed and implemented litigation defense strategies for high exposure personal injury and property damage claims involving New York Labor Law, premises liability, and automobile liability. Jessica has significant writing experience, including multiple appellate briefs for the First and Second Department, dispositive motions, and comprehensive reports to claims professionals. She has routinely drafted pleadings, correspondence, tender demands, discovery demands, and discovery responses and conducted and defended depositions. Jessica has also collaborated with insurance claims representatives on litigation strategy.

Prior to joining the firm, Jessica was an associate at two law firms in New York. At the beginning of her legal career, she focused on estate administration including letters of administration, death compromise petitions, and distribution of estates assets. She performed litigation preparation and support on medical malpractice lawsuits including initial research, correspondence, drafting motions, responding to discovery demands, pre-trial negotiations, and negotiation of Medicare and Medicaid liens.

Jessica earned her bachelor's degree, *cum laude*, from The College of New Jersey and her law degree from New York Law School. While in law school, Jessica was a legal intern at the Rackets Bureau, King's County District Attorney's Office in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Experience

Successfully moved for summary judgment in a matter where the plaintiff claimed that he sustained injuries when he slipped and fell on an oily substance on an interior stair on the client's property. The plaintiff testified that his relative, who lived in the building, told him that she had complained to the superintendent about the substance. After the relative failed to appear in response to multiple subpoenas, the court granted our motion to preclude her testimony at trial. The court then granted summary judgment and dismissed all claims, accepting the argument that the plaintiff could not make out his prima facie case without evidence that the client had notice of the claimed dangerous condition.

Obtained summary judgment dismissal of all claims in a premises liability matter where the plaintiff claimed she sustained career-ending elbow injuries in a fall down the steps on the client's property. The plaintiff alleged that she fell because the rises were uneven and that she could not grasp the handrail due to its design. The appellate division affirmed the dismissal of the case, accepting the argument that the stairs complied with accepted standards and were open and obvious, and not inherently dangerous.

Secured dismissal of all claims in a case of first impression in New York venued in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. A third-party seller on Amazon that operates on the "grey market" brought claims sounding in trade libel and tortious interference with business relationships against co-defendant Fjallraven, a Sweden-based outdoor clothing and equipment company, and our

Practice Areas

- Insurance Coverage
- Strategic Risk & Complex Litigation

Industry Sectors

- Insurance

Education

- New York Law School, J.D., 2010
- The College of New Jersey, B.S., *cum laude*, 2007

Bar Admissions

- New Jersey
- New York

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court -- New Jersey

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client, which is an authorized distributor of Fjallraven products that also provides brand protection services. The claims were based on a complaint the client filed with Amazon that the products being sold by the plaintiff were counterfeit. In dismissing all claims with prejudice, the court accepted our novel argument that Amazon's complaint process was quasi-judicial, and further ruled that statements made to Amazon in connection with those complaints were subject to New York's absolute litigation privilege. Prior to this ruling, no New York State or federal court in New York had considered litigation privilege in the context of pre-litigation complaints to platforms like Amazon.

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