



## Jessica M. Baquet

### Partner

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Jessica M. Baquet is a partner in the Litigation, Appellate, Labor and Employment and Trusts and Estates Practice Groups of Jaspán Schlesinger LLP. She focuses her practice in the areas of employment law, commercial and business litigation and contested Surrogate's Court proceedings.

Ms. Baquet represents both public and private clients in all phases of complex litigation in state and federal courts. Her employment law practice involves the defense of employers against claims of discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and wage and hour violations. She also defends municipal employers in lawsuits alleging constitutional violations, and represents school districts in cases challenging their employment decisions. Ms. Baquet also represents employers in investigations and proceedings involving government agencies, including the New York State Department of Labor and the Industrial Board of Appeals.

In addition to litigating on their behalves, Ms. Baquet routinely counsels employers regarding policy, procedure, and compliance issues. She also drafts employment contracts and separation agreements, employee manuals and handbooks, and prepares affirmative action plans for federal contractors.

In her commercial practice, Ms. Baquet has specific experience in representing businesses and individuals in cases involving contractual disputes, partnership disputes, insurance coverage litigation, fraud claims, breaches of restrictive covenants and unfair competition claims.

Ms. Baquet also represents clients in contested Surrogate's Court proceedings, including those involving probate, accountings, the removal and surcharge of fiduciaries and the spousal right of election. Many

#### CONTACT:

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#### PRACTICE AREAS:

Trusts & Estates

Appellate

Municipal

Litigation

Labor and Employment Law

Surrogate's Court cases also involve commercial, business and employment issues. In 2017 alone, Ms. Baquet acted as lead counsel in three trials before the Surrogate's Courts of New York and Kings counties.

Ms. Baquet has substantial appellate experience, having briefed and argued numerous appeals and motions before the Appellate Divisions of the New York State Supreme Court, the New York State Court of Appeals and the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Ms. Baquet is a sought-after writer on various legal topics. Her work has been published in the New York Law Journal and various New York State Bar publications. One of her articles, *Aiding Avarice: The Inequitable Results of Limited Grounds for Spousal Disqualification Under EPTL 5-1.2*, was published in the Fall 2008 edition of the St. John's Journal of Legal Commentary, and was subsequently cited as authority by the Appellate Division of the New York State Supreme Court, Second Department, in its landmark decision in *Campbell v. Thomas*, 73 A.D.3d 103 (2d Dep't 2010).

Ms. Baquet has been named to the New York Metro Area Super Lawyers Rising Stars lists every year from 2014-2018. She also received Hofstra University School of Law's 2016 Outstanding Women in Law Award.

Ms. Baquet is a graduate of St. John's University School of Law and New York University. She is admitted to practice law in the State Courts of New York and New Jersey, the United States District Court for the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and the United States Supreme Court. She is also a member of the New York State and Nassau County Bar Associations, as well as the Long Island and National Hispanic Bar Associations.

#### Representative Matters and Published Decisions

- Matter of Berk, 2488-2006, NYLJ, July 2, 2018 at p. 31
- Matter of Koeppel, 4098-1996/A, NYLJ, May 25, 2018 at p. 23
- Matter of Koeppel, 4098-1996/C, NYLJ, Feb. 28, 2018 at p. 22
- Matter of Berk, 2488-2006, NYLJ, May 30, 2017 at p. 29

- Lawrence v. Sol G. Atlas Realty Co., Inc., 841 F.3d 91 (2d Cir. 2016)
- Matter of Koeppel, 4098-1996/A, NYLJ, Nov. 28, 2016 at p. 31
- Matter of Berk, 133 A.D.3d 850 (2d Dep't 2015)
- Glacken v. Vill. of Freeport, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 63871 (E.D.N.Y. 2014)
- Rose v. Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., 4322/2009, NYLJ, Oct. 2, 2014 at p. 22
- Lancaster v. Vill. of Freeport, 22 N.Y.3d 30 (2013)
- Lancaster v. Vill. Of Freeport, 92 A.D.3d 885 (2d Dep't 2012)
- Powell v. Westbury Union Free Sch. Dist., 91 A.D.3d 955 (2d Dep't 2012)
- Barrella v. Vill. of Freeport, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 174461 (E.D.N.Y. 2012)
- Matter of Berk, 71 A.D.3d 883 (2d Dep't 2010)
- Glacken v. Vill. of Freeport, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 146272 (E.D.N.Y. 2010)

## EDUCATION

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- B.A., New York University - 2005
- J.D., St. John's University School of Law - 2008

## BAR ADMISSIONS

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- New Jersey
- New York
- United States District Court for the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York
- United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- United States Supreme Court