



MELISSA A. FEDERICO
Associate
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EDUCATION:
Roger Williams University School of Law, J.D.
Stonehill College, B.A.

DESCRIPTION:

Melissa Federico is a trial attorney practicing in the areas of commercial litigation and insurance coverage and recovery. She has litigated and advised clients in complex commercial disputes, including breach of contract, unfair trade practice claims, violations of the Lanham Act, shareholder disputes, and other various business tort cases. She counsels policyholders to obtain insurance coverage under a wide array of insurance products including general liability, D&O, excess and umbrella and reinsurance. She has also counseled corporate risk managers regarding their insurance portfolios. She has tried cases in both federal and state courts, and has represented clients in arbitration and mediation.

Representative matters include:

- Won a bench trial awarding insurance coverage to a Roman Catholic diocese for settlements of negligent supervision claims involving sexual abuse by clergy. *Hartford Roman Catholic Diocesan Corp. v. Interstate Fire & Cas. Co.* (2016).
- Won arbitration judgment in favor of former franchisee on grounds that the franchise agreement was unenforceable due to the claimant's prior material breaches, obtaining fees and costs for the arbitration as well as reimbursement of attorneys fees for defending related injunction.
- Blocked preliminary injunction in federal court case in which plaintiff alleged breach of restrictive covenants, violations of the Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act and violations of the federal Lanham Act.
- Successfully negotiated full indemnification funding from reinsurer on behalf of hospital's captive excess insurer.
- Counseled bankruptcy trustee to obtain insurance coverage in suit against officers of debtor corporation.
- Counseled bankruptcy trustee of pharmaceutical company to obtain maximum insurance coverage for creditor claims.
- Represented municipalities to obtain insurance recovery under various property and casualty policies.
- Counseled environmental client regarding insurance coverage for contaminated site remediation and demolition.

Melissa is also a volunteer attorney for Lawyers for Children America, a child advocacy organization protecting the rights of children who are victims of abuse, abandonment and neglect.

RECOGNITION:

- Connecticut Law Tribune 2014 New Leader in the Law
- Super Lawyers 2013 - 2016 Connecticut Rising Star in Insurance Coverage
- Feinstein Institute for Legal Service Public Service Award

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

- October 2016 - "In the Workers' Compensation Arena, Are Dispositive Motions Ever Dispositive?," *AppellateInsights.com*
- August 2016 - "What Community Bank Board Members Need to Know about D&O?," *CommunityBankingInsights.com*
- December 2015 - "The Policyholder's Right To Select Defense Counsel," *Connecticut Law Tribune*, November 2015, Vol. 41, No. 48 (co-author)
- May 2014 - "Health Law: Data Breaches in Health Care," *Connecticut Law Tribune*

RECENT SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS:

- Speaker, "Litigating Managed Care Contract Disputes," Healthcare Financial Management Association - Connecticut Chapter (November 2014)
- Speaker, "Insurance Discovery In Motion," 2014 Connecticut Bar Association Annual Meeting (June 2014)
- Speaker, Construction Law Annual Update CLE, Connecticut Bar Association (May 2014)