

CATHERINE I. R. PONTORIERO, ESQ.

cpontoriero@nfclegal.com

Of Counsel



Catherine I. R. Pontoriero has extensive experience representing management in all aspects of employment law. Catherine's practice focuses on counseling clients on a broad spectrum of employment issues, including hiring, performance management, terminations and separation agreements, employment policies and handbooks, changes in employment laws, leaves of absence, accommodations, and discrimination and harassment. Additionally, she conducts internal investigations of employee claims and advises clients on best practices relating to workplace investigations. Catherine is pragmatic and solution-oriented and regularly collaborates with clients to find creative solutions to employment issues.

Catherine relies on her background in employment litigation in counseling clients. Catherine has represented financial services, pharmaceutical, media, and higher education clients in labor and employment matters before federal and state courts, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. Some of her representative cases have involved causes of action under the Family Medical Leave Act, Title VII, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination, and the Conscientious Employee Protection Act, as well as breach of employment contracts and non-competition clauses, and trade secret matters. She also has traditional labor law experience and defended an unfair labor dispute before the National Labor Relations Board, and an arbitration based on a grievance arising from the collective bargaining agreement.

Catherine was a law clerk to The Honorable Joel A. Pisano, United States District Court, District of New Jersey, and The Honorable Clarkson S. Fisher, Jr. of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Appellate Division. She graduated from Georgetown University and Seton Hall University School of Law and proudly serves as a board member of the Georgetown Club of Northern New Jersey and her Georgetown Class Committee. Catherine was recognized by New Jersey Super Lawyers and speaks Italian.

AWARDS & HONORS:

- Selected to the New Jersey Rising Stars List (2016 - 2020)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- Proskauer Rose LLP, Newark, New Jersey
 - Associate (2015 - 2019)
- McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP, Morristown, New Jersey
 - Associate (2011-2012, 2013 - 2015)

EDUCATION:

- Seton Hall University School of Law, Newark, NJ (J.D., 2010)
- Georgetown University, Washington, DC (B.A., 2007)

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

- The Honorable Joel A. Pisano, United States District Court, District of New Jersey (2012 – 2013)
- The Honorable Clarkson S. Fisher, Jr., Superior Court of New Jersey, Appellate Division (2010 – 2011)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Georgetown Club of Northern New Jersey, Vice President
- Georgetown University Class of 2007 Class Committee
- New Jersey State Bar Association, Labor & Employment Section
- New Jersey Women Lawyers Association
- Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey

BAR ADMISSIONS:

- State of New Jersey
- United States District Court – District of New Jersey
- State of New York
- United States District Court, Southern District of New York
- United States District Court, Eastern District of New York

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- NJFLA in Transition – What Employers Need to Know Before July 2026, NJICLE/NJSBA Webinar (May 2026)
- NJFLA 2026 Amendments: Compliance Guide & Employer Roadmap, Lawline, Webinar (May 2026)
- NJFLA in Transition – What Employers Need to Know Before July 2026, Nukk-Freeman & Cerra, P.C., Webinar (April 2026)
- Leveraging ESI in Employment Litigation, Nukk-Freeman & Cerra, P.C., Webinar (September 2025)

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

- Catherine contributes to NFC's e-Alerts, blog, and newsletters, sharing analysis on emerging legal issues and industry trends

LANGUAGE FLUENCY:

- Italian

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