


Benchmark Top 250 Women in Litigation 2017

Monday, July 31, 2017

The Top 250 Women in Litigation publication's extensive research process, which encompasses six months of investigation into the individual litigators' professional activities as well as client feedback surveys and individual interviews, has culminated in the selection of the most distinguished women in the world of litigation. These women have earned their place amongst the leading female litigators by participating in some of the most impactful litigation matters in recent history as well as by earning the hard-won respect of their peers and clients. Though they hail from widely different practice areas, they all share the distinction of being recognized as top players in their respective fields.

Attorneys named to the 2017 publication were chosen through several phases of research: namely, the review of their recent case work, peer review in which we consider how attorneys at peer legal institutions might rank them, and a consideration of client feedback on their performances.

The Top 250 Women in Litigation in the US for 2017 as decided by the Benchmark Litigation research staff is listed below, with hyperlinks provided for those who provided bios. Also included is the Top 25 Women in Litigation in Canada, which are listed below the Top 250 in the US. Congratulations to all of the winners.

In addition, the editorials for the US nominees are available here:

The [Northeast](#)

The Midwest

The South

The West

TOP 250 WOMEN IN US LITIGATION

Samantha Adams - Adams + Crow Law, New Mexico

Mary Rose Alexander - Latham & Watkins, Illinois

Lori Alvino McGill - Wilkinson Walsh Eskovitz, DC

Labella Alvis - Christian & Small, Alabama

Catherine Amirfar - Debevoise & Plimpton, New York

Christa Anderson - Kecker Van Nest & Peters, California

Jennifer Anderson - Modrall Sperling, New Mexico

Natalie L. Arbaugh - Winston & Strawn, Texas

Cristina Arguedas - Arguedas Cassman & Headley, California

Kim J. Askew - K&L Gates, Texas

Lois Baar - Holland & Hart, Utah

Rebecca Bacon - Bartlit Beck, Illinois

Mindy Barfield - Dinsmore & Shohl, Kentucky

Alison Barnes - Robbins Russell Englert Orseck Untereiner & Sauber, DC

Judy Barrasso - Barrasso Usdin Kupperman Freeman & Sarver, Louisiana

Martine Beamon - Davis Polk & Wardwell, New York

Lisa Beckerman - Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, New York

Leora Ben-Ami - Kirkland & Ellis, New York

Robin Bergen - Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton, DC

Landis Best - Cahill Gordon & Reindel, New York

Rachel Bien - Outten & Golden, New York

Catharine Biggs Arrowood - Parker Poe, North Carolina

Sheila Birnbaum - Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, New York

Frances Bivens - Davis Polk & Wardwell, New York

Lisa Blatt - Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer, DC

Elise Bloom - Proskauer Rose, New York

Kim Boyle - Phelps Dunbar, Louisiana

Shari Brandt - Richards Kibbe & Orbe, New York

Leah Brannon - Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton, DC

Sara Brody - Sidley Austin, California

Juanita Brooks - Fish & Richardson, California

Heidi Brooks Bradley - Lane Powell, Washington

Susan Brune - Brune Law, New York

Susanna Buerger - Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison, New York

Angela Burgess - Davis Polk & Wardwell, New York

Jane Byrne - Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, New York

Elizabeth Cabraser - Lief Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, California

Theresa Canaday - Frost Brown Todd, Kentucky

Helen Cantwell - Debevoise & Plimpton, New York

Marinn Carlson - Sidley Austin, DC

Alice Carmichael Richey - Alexander Ricks, North Carolina

Jacqueline M. Carolan - Fox Rothschild, Pennsylvania

Kim Catullo - Gibbons, New Jersey

Dale Cendali - Kirkland & Ellis, New York

Sarah Chapin Columbia - McDermott Will & Emery, Massachusetts

Linda Chatman Thomsen - Davis Polk & Wardwell, DC

Victoria W. Chavey - Jackson Lewis, Connecticut

Lori Cohen - Greenberg Traurig, Georgia

Robin Cohen - McKool Smith, New York

Abby Cohen Smutny - White & Case, DC

Cassandra Collins - Hunton & Williams, Virginia

Jan M. Conlin - Ciresi Conlin, Minnesota

Shayna S. Cook - Goldman Ismail Tomaselli Brennan & Baum, Illinois

Nina Cortell - Haynes and Boone, Texas

Sandra A Crashaw-Sparks - Proskauer Rose, New York

Margaret A. Dale - Proskauer Rose, New York

Susan Davies - Kirkland & Ellis, Illinois

Cari Dawson - Alston & Bird, Georgia

Catherine Dearlove - Richards Layton & Finger, Delaware

Kelly Dermody - Lief Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, California

Bindu Donovan - Sidley Austin, New York

Martica S. Douglas - Douglas Denham Buccina & Ernst, Maine

Barbara Duffy - Lane Powell, Washington

Karen Dunn - Boies Schiller & Flexner, DC

Kimberly A. Dunne - Sidley Austin, California

Daralyn Durie - Durie Tangri, California

Patty Eakes - Calfo Eakes & Ostrovsky, Washington

Maja Eaton - Sidley Austin, Illinois

Barbara Edelman - Dinsmore & Shohl, Kentucky

Marci Eisenstein - Schiff Hardin, Illinois

Carol Elder Bruce - K&L Gates, DC

Nancy Erfle - Gordon & Rees, Oregon

Carolyn Fairless - Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell, Colorado

Jennifer Fletcher - Jennifer Wheatley Fletcher PC, Georgia

Frances Floriano Goins - Ulmer & Berne, Ohio

Laura Foggan - Crowell Moring, DC

Mary Beth Forshaw - Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, New York

Karen Frink Wolf - Verrill Dana, Maine

Kat Gallagher - Beck Redden, Texas

Deborah Garza - Covington & Burling, DC

Faith Gay - Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, New York

Martha Gaythwaite - Verrill Dana, Maine

Kathi Giddings - Akerman, Florida

Jeanne M. Gills - Foley & Lardner, Illinois

Amy Ginensky - Pepper Hamilton, Pennsylvania

Patricia Glaser - Glaser Weil Fink Jacobs Howard Avchen & Shapiro, California

Jessica Goldman - Summit Law, Washington

Marcia Goldstein - Weil Gotshal & Manges, New York

Sandra Goldstein - Cravath Swaine & Moore, New York

Celia Goldwag Barenholtz - Cooley, New York

Elaine Golin - Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz, New York

Sara Gourley - Sidley Austin, Illinois

Melanie Gray - Winston & Strawn, Texas

Helen Gredd - Lankler Siffert & Wohl, New York

Laura Grossfield Birger - Cooley, New York

Christine Guerola Sarchio - Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe, DC

Nina Gussack - Pepper Hamilton, Pennsylvania

Melinda Haag - Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe, California

Caitlin Halligan - Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, New York

Jennifer Haltom Doan - Haltom Doan, Texas

Virginia Hamilton Snell - Wyatt Tarrant & Combs, Kentucky

Michele Hangle - Hangle Aronchick Segal & Pudlin, Pennsylvania

Jennifer Haworth McCandless - Sidley Austin, DC

Patricia Head Moskal - Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, Tennessee

Lynne Hermle - Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe, California

Elizabeth S. Hess - Kirkland & Ellis, Illinois

Melissa A. Hewey - Drummond Woodsum, Maine

Sally Higgins - Higgins & Owens, North Carolina

Paula Hinton - Winston & Strawn, Texas

Michele Hirshman - Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison, New York

Mary Beth Hogan - Debevoise & Plimpton, New York

Angela Holt - Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, Alabama

Holly House - Paul Hastings, California

Heidi Hubbard - Williams & Connolly, DC

Annette Hurst - Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe, California

Caryn Jacobs - Winston & Strawn, Illinois

Hara K. Jacobs - Ballard Spahr, Pennsylvania

Helene Jaffe - Fox Rothschild, New York

Janet Jakubowicz - Bingham Greenebaum Doll, Kentucky

Leslie John - Ballard Spahr, Pennsylvania

Dixie Johnson - King & Spalding, DC

Emily Johnson Henn - Covington & Burling, California

Christy Jones - Butler Snow , Mississippi

Lisa Jose Fales - Venable, DC

Paula Junghans - Zuckerman Spaeder, DC

Perlette Michele Jura - Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, California

Heather L. Kafele - Winston & Strawn, DC

Roberta Kaplan - Kaplan and Company LLP, New York

Margaret Keane - Bingham Greenebaum Doll, Kentucky

Jennifer L. Keller - Keller Anderle, California

Elizabeth Kessler - Jones Day, Ohio

Irene Keyse-Walker - Tucker Ellis , Ohio

Ilene Knable Gotts - Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz, New York

Kristin Koehler - Sidley Austin, DC

Linda Kornfeld - Kasowitz Benson Torres , California

Rachel Krevans - Morrison & Foerster, California

Carolyn Lamm - White & Case, DC

Ann Laupheimer - Blank Rome, Pennsylvania

Carmen Lawrence - King & Spalding, New York

Tara Lee - Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, DC

Lori E. Lesser - Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, New York

Selena Linde - Perkins Coie, DC

Joan Lukey - Choate Hall & Stewart, Massachusetts

Wendy Lumish - Bowman and Brooke, Florida

Joy Lundeen - Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, Florida

Helen Maher - Boies Schiller & Flexner, New York

Colleen Mahoney - Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom, DC

Rita Maimbourg - Tucker Ellis, Ohio

Enu Mainigi - Williams & Connolly, DC

Lorelie Masters - Hunton & Williams, DC

Gail Mautner - Lane Powell, Washington

Deanne Maynard - Morrison & Foerster, DC

Eileen McCabe - Mendes & Mount, New York

Heather McDevitt - White & Case, New York

Joan McPhee - Ropes & Gray, New York

Maria D. Melendez - Sidley Austin, New York

Andrea Menaker - White & Case, DC

Jane Michaels - Holland & Hart, Colorado

Retta A. Miller - Jackson Walker, Texas

Loretta Mince - Fishman Haygood Phelps Walmsley Willis & Swanson, Louisiana

Deborah Moeller - Shook Hardy & Bacon, Missouri

Maura Monaghan - Debevoise & Plimpton, New York

Allison Mullins - Turning Point Litigation, North Carolina

Kathleen Natri - Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder, Connecticut

Sharon Nelles - Sullivan & Cromwell, New York

Andrea Neuman - Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, New York

Lynn Neuner - Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, New York

Jennifer Newstead - Davis Polk & Wardwell, New York

Julie North - Cravath Swaine & Moore, New York

Maeve O'Connor - Debevoise & Plimpton, New York

Mary O'Grady - Osborn Maledon, Arizona

Gigi O'Hara - Kutak Rock, Nebraska

Michele Odorizzi - Mayer Brown, Illinois

Anne Oldfather - Oldfather Law Firm, Kentucky

Lana A. Olson - Lightfoot Franklin White, Alabama

Yvette Ostolaza - Sidley Austin, Texas

Leslie Packer - Ellis & Winters, North Carolina

Elizabeth Papez - Winston & Strawn, DC

Kathy Patrick - Gibbs & Bruns, Texas

Karen Patton Seymour - Sullivan & Cromwell, New York

Lea Pauley Goff - Stoll Keenon Ogden, Kentucky

Gwendolyn Payton - Kilpatrick Townsend, Washington

Shannon Phillips - Summit Law, Washington

Donna Phillips Currault - Gordon Arata McCollam Duplantis & Eagan, Louisiana

Bettina Plevan - Proskauer Rose, New York

Debra Pole - Sidley Austin, California

Karen Popp - Sidley Austin, DC

Lisa Prager - Holland & Knight, New York

Yvonne Quinn - Sullivan & Cromwell, New York

Nancy Rafuse - Polsinelli, Georgia

Jennifer S. Recine - Kasowitz Benson Torres, New York

Natalie Reid - Debevoise & Plimpton, New York

Pamela Reiter - Johnson Janklow Abdallah Reiter & Parsons, South Dakota

Tracie Renfroe - King & Spalding, Texas

Stephanie Resnick - Fox Rothschild, Pennsylvania

Ana C. Reyes - Williams & Connolly, DC

Stephanie Rippee - Watkins & Eager, Mississippi

Christine Rolph - Latham & Watkins, DC

Beth Rose - Sills Cummis, New Jersey

Gayle Rosenstein Klein - McKool Smith, New York

Hannah Ross - Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann, New York

Anna Rotman - Kirkland & Ellis, Texas

Hollis Salzman - Robins Kaplan, New York

Ank Santens - White & Case, New York

Cheryl Scarboro - Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, DC

Shannon Selden - Debevoise & Plimpton, New York

Penny Shane - Sullivan & Cromwell, New York

Nancy Sher Cohen - Proskauer Rose, California

Elizabeth Sherwin - McKool Smith, New York

Charlene S. Shimada - Morgan Lewis, California

Laura Shores - Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer, DC

Anne Sidrys - Kirkland & Ellis, Illinois

Rachelle Silverberg - Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz, New York

Leslie Smith - Kirkland & Ellis, Illinois

Jennifer Spaziano - Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom, DC

Amelia Starr - Davis Polk & Wardwell, New York

Deborah L. Stein - Simpsom Tacher & Bartlett , California

Anita Stork - Covington & Burling, California

Laurie Strauch Weiss - Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe, New York

Bettina Strauss - Bryan Cave, Missouri

Sung-Hee Suh - White & Case, New York

Diane Sullivan - Weil Gotshal & Manges, New York

Kathleen Sullivan - Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, New York

Kari Sutherland - Butler Snow, Mississippi

Michelle Thurber Czapski - Bodman, Michigan

Rhonda Tobin - Robinson & Cole, Connecticut

Peggy Tomsic - Magleby Cataxinos Greenwood, Utah

Nancy Turbak - Turbak Law Office, South Dakota

Katherine Turner - Williams & Connolly, DC

Martha Van Oot - Jackson Lewis, New Hampshire

Jennifer Van Zant - Brooks Pierce, North Carolina

Chilton Varner - King & Spalding, Georgia

Christine Varney - Cravath Swaine & Moore, New York

Kathi Vidal - Winston & Strawn, California

Jennifer Voss - Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom, Delaware

Alexandra Walsh - Wilkinson Walsh Eskovitz, DC

Margaret Warner - McDermott Will & Emery, DC

Angel West - Nyemaster Goode West Hansell & O'Brien, Iowa

Mary Jo White - Debevoise & Plimpton, New York

Rebecca Wiggs - Watkins & Eager, Mississippi

Beth Wilkinson - Wilkinson Walsh Eskovitz, DC

Phoebe Wilkinson - Hogan Lovells, New York

Penny Windle - Cahill Gordon & Reindel, New York

Tina Wolfson - Ahdoot & Wolfson, California

Dorothy Wolpert - Bird, Marella, Boxer, Wolpert, Nessim, Drooks, Lincenberg & Rhow, California

Sharon Woods - Barris Sott Denn & Driker, Michigan

Elizabeth Wright - Thompson Hine, Ohio

Pamela Yates - Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer, California

Marie Yeates - Vinson & Elkins, Texas

Margaret Zwisler - Latham & Watkins, DC

TOP 25 WOMEN IN CANADIAN LITIGATION

Michelle Awad - McInnes Cooper, Atlantic

Sarit Batner - McCarthy Tétrault, Ontario

Catherine Beagan-Flood - Blake Cassels & Graydon, Ontario

Wendy Berman - Cassels Brock, Ontario

Sheila Block - Torys, Ontario

Bernice Bowley - Fillmore Riley, Manitoba

Cindy Clarke - Borden Ladner Gervais, Ontario

Tracey Cohen - Fasken Martineau, British Columbia

Laura Cooper - Fasken Martineau, Ontario

Sandra Forbes - Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg, Ontario

April Grosse - Bennett Jones, Alberta

Ludmila Herbst - Farris Vaughan Wills & Murphy, British Columbia

Patricia Jackson - Torys, Ontario

Monique Jilesen - Lenczner Slaght, Ontario

Katherine Kay - Stikeman Elliott, Ontario

Maureen Killoran, QC - Osler Hoskin & Harcourt, Alberta

Andrea Laing - Blake Cassels & Graydon, Ontario

Stéphanie Lapierre - Stikeman Elliott, Québec

Jill Lawrie - Blake Cassels & Graydon, Ontario

Melissa MacKewn - Crawley MacKewn Brush, Ontario

Sophie Melchers - Norton Rose Fulbright, Québec

Linda Plumpton - Torys, Ontario

Sylvie Rodrigue - Torys, Québec

Linda Rothstein - Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein, Ontario

Cheryl Woodin - Bennett Jones, Ontario