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- Appeals & Major Brief Writing
- Aviation Litigation (including AIR-21)
- Commercial Litigation
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- Employment Litigation
- General & Product Liability Litigation
- International Litigation

Excellence in:

- Litigation;
- Counseling; and
- Alternative Dispute Resolution

Leaders in:

- The Courtroom;
- Negotiations;
- Diversity; and
- The Community

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Sheryl L. Axelrod, President and CEO of The Axelrod Firm, P.C., works in the Firm's Philadelphia office and is licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. She provides strategic, results-driven advice and representation to companies, providing counseling and representation in litigation matters including in the following practice cases: general and products liability (including in the aviation industry), commercial, employment (including AIR21), and appeals in Pennsylvania and New Jersey state and federal courts. In recognition of her litigation skills, she is among the less than 130 attorneys, and under 20 women, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to have been appointed a Judge *Pro Tempore* (JPT) / Settlement Master by the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Commerce Court in which role she helps parties resolve business disputes. In addition to being available to advise and represent clients in litigation, she is available to serve as a settlement master, mediator, arbitrator, and receiver. As a Settlement Master / Receiver, she has handled a variety of cases including business torts, construction litigation, general business litigation, multi-party litigation, personal injury litigation, and real estate & title litigation.

Ms. Axelrod is recognized as among the Top 100 Super Lawyers in Pennsylvania. One of her trials, a David versus Goliath commercial litigation victory for her client-defendant, was published in "Pennsylvania Jury Verdict Review & Analysis" which catalogs the most significant state verdicts. She is a member of the Litigation Counsel of America, an honorary society of top trial lawyers that accepts less than one half of one percent of American lawyers. She has also been rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell, the highest rating awarded by this nationally recognized leader in lawyer ratings.

Prior to founding The Axelrod Firm, a Philadelphia-based law firm with an office in Washington, D.C., Ms. Axelrod worked at Blank Rome LLP, handling some of the largest and most complex litigation matters.

Ms. Axelrod is also a champion of diversity in the profession. The Axelrod Firm is a member of the National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms (NAMWOLF), an organization whose strict vetting requirements include having favorable references from at least three national and regional corporations, including corporate references within the Fortune 500.

Educational and Work Background

Ms. Axelrod received her Bachelor's degree *Cum Laude* in Economics from Brandeis University in 1990. She received her law degree from Temple University in 1993 after having won the 1992 Samuel J. Polsky Moot Court Competition. Upon graduation from Temple Law School, she clerked for the Honorable Sandra Mazer Moss, a distinguished and award winning (now retired) jurist. Ms. Axelrod is a past President of the Temple Law Alumni Association (TLAA), the fourth woman to hold the post in TLAA's nearly one hundred-year history. During her Presidency of TLAA (from 2012-2014), Ms. Axelrod founded the TLAA Women's Initiative and the TLAA Diversity

Committee, the TLAA Women's Champion Award, and the TLAA Diversity Leadership Award. She also created the award criteria for the TLAA Women's Champion Award and the TLAA Diversity Leadership Award.

She has also been appointed to membership on the distinguished Investigative Division of the Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention, on which she leads teams investigating those seeking to become judges.

Ms. Axelrod is admitted to the Supreme Court of the United States, the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, the Supreme Court of New Jersey, and the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

A. Judge *Pro Tempore* / Settlement Master

Ms. Axelrod was appointed a Judge *Pro Tempore* (JPT) / Settlement Master by the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Commerce Court in 2016.

Ms. Axelrod's effective, open approach assists the parties in reaching a resolution in an efficient manner. Since 2016, she has helped parties resolve their disputes on virtually a monthly basis (and sometimes twice a month).

As a JPT / Settlement Master, Ms. Axelrod has handled cases involving business torts, general business litigation, construction litigation, employment litigation & non-compete agreements, multi-party litigation, personal injury / bodily injury litigation, and real estate & title litigation matters. She has settled all but four of the cases that have come before her. Among the cases she helped parties resolve were the following selected cases:

1. A complex real estate matter involving issues surrounding title insurance, a prior foreclosure action, a mortgage, and alleged negligence on the part of 10 parties represented by six law firms. Axelrod managed to get all the parties settle the entire matter in a single day. For her Settlement Master services in the complex action, an attorney in the case, Scott Rothman, gave her the following recommendation:

"Sheryl served as mediator in a complex real estate litigation case, involving ten parties and six law firms. The parties and their respective counsel viewed a resolution as unlikely heading into a mediation session. Sheryl came prepared with a firm grasp of complicated facts and a good understanding of some atypical issues of law. By the end of the day, what seemed impossible became a reality, a settlement was accomplished, and an expensive trial proceeding was averted. I would recommend Sheryl for mediation services for both her knowledge of substantive law and expertise with dispute resolution."

2. A multimillion-dollar business litigation "divorce" between the shareholders of a corporation, represented by various attorneys, resulting in the amicable buyout by one of the owners by the other two.

3. A complex business tort claim involving five parties represented by five law firms including fraud claims, which the parties settled upon the very terms recommended.
4. A multi-party action in which Axelrod was appointed by the Court to serve as the Receiver of a corporation which owned a parking lot. The matter involved claims by one of the shareholders that the others were fleecing the corporation.

B. Commercial Litigation

Ms. Axelrod has been handling commercial litigation for nearly 20 years. The fact that she is among the only 126 lawyers in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to have been appointed by the Commerce Court to the list of Judges *Pro Tempore*, demonstrates the high regard held for her commercial litigation work.

The following selected cases are representative of the variety of matters she has handled:

1. **Published in “Pennsylvania Jury Verdict Review & Analysis”** - *Visiting Nurse Group, Inc. vs. Gaudite*, PCCP Docket No. 110601804) - Successfully represented Carmelo Gaudite (“Gaudite”), who had owned one-third of the shares of a nursing company, Visiting Nurse Group (VNG), in an action brought against him by VNG. Before the lawsuit was filed, Gaudite had leased another nursing company, ACT Home Health Services, Inc. (“ACT”), the nearby building from which it operated. When VNG found out about the lease, VNG purchased Gaudite’s shares in VNG in exchange for him signing a non-compete agreement with it. In the lawsuit, VNG claimed that Gaudite breached his fiduciary duty to it during his term as a VNG shareholder, by leasing ACT its offices. VNG also claimed that Gaudite violated the parties’ non-compete agreement by funneling nurses to transfer their employment from VNG to ACT. Axelrod represented Gaudite through to a bench trial before the Honorable Albert W. Sheppard (deceased), winning Gaudite a defense verdict on all claims. The case was published in *Pennsylvania Jury Verdict Review and Analysis*, which covers the largest cases in Pennsylvania. Plaintiff VNG never appealed.
2. **Published in Law360** - *EagleBank v. BR Professional Sports Group, Inc.*, EDPa Civil Action No. 14-5550) – Ms. Axelrod, working with an attorney in Maryland, successfully represented EagleBank in an Eastern District of Pennsylvania action in which BR Professional Sports Group (BR) sought to keep \$1.25 million that EagleBank had loaned to it. A more junior lienholder attempted to intervene in the action to obtain the funds. The more junior lienholder was permitted to intervene but after multiple briefs, Axelrod and Maryland counsel successfully obtained a Court Order entering summary judgment in favor of EagleBank on all of BR’s claims. BR appealed and Axelrod and Maryland counsel convinced the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit to affirm the District Court’s ruling. Thirty days after that ruling became a final judgment, BR returned to EagleBank the full \$1.25 million BR had been holding, completing Axelrod client EagleBank’s victory.
3. **Published in Law360** – In *LifeWatch Services, Inc. v. Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association*, EDPa Civil Action No. 12-5146), Axelrod is currently representing a major health insurer as local counsel in an antitrust action in the United States District Court for

the Eastern District of Pennsylvania brought by the manufacturer of a heart monitoring device seeking millions of dollars.

4. **Published in Law360** – *In re Universal Health Services Inc., Derivative Litigation*, EDPa Civil Action No. 17-2187 - The Axelrod Firm, by and through Ms. Axelrod, was appointed liaison counsel by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, to work with court appointed lead counsel in four multimillion dollar derivative actions. These consolidated cases arise out of a scheme to cause Nominal Defendant Universal Health Services, Inc. (“Universal”) to over-admit patients and then keep them admitted to over-bill Medicare and Medicaid for unwarranted “services.” Universal owns and operates more than 230 behavioral health facilities through which Universal and its affiliates provide psychiatric and behavioral health care to more than 460,000 individuals per year. The individual defendants are Universal’s directors and senior officers. In the derivative suits, Universal alleges that these defendants caused Universal to violate the False Claims Act and to file false financial reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission, thus artificially inflating the price of Universal common stock by concealing the illicit source of a growing portion of Universal’s reported revenues.
5. Defended the sellers of a home in a construction action in which the plaintiff-buyer sought \$645,000. The buyer claimed the sellers, who he had hired to perform major renovations on the property, performed the work negligently and defrauded him in its sale. In the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Commerce Court litigation, the plaintiff-buyer produced a punch book of over 500 pages of photographs that he testified supported his claims. The matter went to trial and after a jury was selected, the Motion in Limine Axelrod drafted for her clients, the defendant-sellers, was granted, and the plaintiff’s damages’ expert was stricken. Immediately thereafter, the plaintiff voluntarily discontinued the action and never filed suit against the defendant-sellers again.
6. Successfully defended an attorney in a breach of contract action. The matter went to trial before an arbitration panel in federal court that could have awarded unlimited damages. The arbitration panel found in favor of Axelrod’s client, awarding a complete defense verdict.
7. Successfully defended a couple in a breach of contract action. The matter went to a non-jury trial in the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia, which found in favor of the defense.

C. Product and General Liability Litigation

Ms. Axelrod has also handled a wide variety of product liability and tort litigation, including premises liability litigation, throughout her entire career. Since launching The Axelrod Firm in 2007, she has been defending global corporate clients in a wide variety of such matters as well. The actions she has handled include the following:

1. Currently defending various state governmental entities and an individual sued in his official governmental capacity. This high-profile action, which is venued in the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court, involves claims brought by a coalition of school districts, parents and public interest groups who claim that the way the state government

and official disburse funds for public school education is unconstitutional and disproportionately impacts poor urban and rural districts. Petitioners in the high-profile matter seek declaratory and injunctive relief.

2. Defended a multi-national chemical company in a Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas action brought by a police officer who claimed she was injured at a property the governmental entity was leasing from the chemical company-client. This governmental entity retained Axelrod to represent the chemical company pursuant to an indemnification provision in the lease agreement. The litigation included issues relating to employee benefits, issues around the service of the Complaint, the Statute of Limitations, and the plaintiff's alleged damages. The case amicably resolved prior to all but a single deposition.
3. Successfully defended an aerospace component part manufacturer from post-trial claims in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and an appeal to the Third Circuit against claims that its seal was defectively designed and caused flammable fluid to reach the engine manifold of a military helicopter, leading to the deaths of all Marines onboard. After the jury had found for the defense, Plaintiffs filed post-trial motions claiming many errors and that a new trial was required. After multiple briefs before the district court and oral argument thereon, the court denied Plaintiffs post-trial motions. Plaintiff appealed and after multiple briefs before the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, the Third Circuit affirmed.
4. Defended a global corporation from claims brought in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas by a man in his thirties who was allegedly hit head-on in his car as a result of one of the corporations' drivers making an illegal U-turn. Plaintiff retained six experts. Plaintiff's economic expert contended that Plaintiff sustained a loss of earning and earning capacity of \$675,000 to \$1.4 million, and future medical expenses of \$1.8 to 2.5 million. The matter amicably resolved for a confidential sum shortly before trial. Following her defense of this matter, the global corporation was so pleased with Axelrod's work, that The Axelrod Firm began to receive all of a certain line of its general liability matters in Philadelphia.
5. Defended a major corporation and one of its employees in an action brought on behalf of a boy who had not yet turned 16, when he collapsed on its premises while engaged in playing basketball, and died. The young man's estate claimed that the company, by and through its employees, endeavored to rescue the minor, but failed to call 911, administer CPR, and administer a defibrillator sufficiently quickly to save his life. Obtained discovery demonstrating that Plaintiff's decedent had two distinct heart defects, each previously unknown, which each contributed to his passing. Ms. Axelrod was also able to develop strong statutory and case law support for there being no duty beyond calling 911 within a reasonable amount of time, which the client felt confident was done. That said, there was a very damning discoverable email the client had written and the client's witnesses, who felt horribly about the boy's passing, testified poorly. The matter amicably resolved for a confidential sum shortly before trial. If permitted by the client, Ms. Axelrod would be happy to have you discuss her and her firm's defense of it with its representatives.
6. Defended a major corporation from claims brought by a man in his mid-forties who sustained serious injuries to his right elbow, allegedly as a result of falling on a broken

grate on the company's premises. Following the fall, the plaintiff underwent multiple right elbow surgeries, and claimed that he lost all use of his right (and dominant) arm. Axelrod mounted a strong defense including by retaining:

- a. an investigator who uncovered a photograph of Plaintiff showing him lifting with his allegedly unusable arm, an over 50 lb. object; and
- b. an independent medical examiner who found Plaintiff's claims to be contradicted by the size of the musculature in both of his arms.

The case amicably resolved for a confidential sum shortly before trial.

7. Defended a global corporation from claims brought against it in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas by an elderly couple. They claimed they were hit head-on in their car and severely injured by one of the corporation's drivers, who was allegedly texting on his cellphone while driving towards them. Among the claims asserted against the firm's client, were claims for punitive damages. After all depositions took place, over multiple briefs, the Court struck Plaintiffs' punitive damages claims. Once that occurred, the matter amicably resolved.
8. Obtained, with national counsel, the stipulated voluntary dismissal on personal jurisdiction grounds of a major trade association, from every case in the *Johnson & Johnson Talcum Powder Litigation MDL* in the United States District Court for New Jersey, but those designated for remand to New Jersey and the District of Columbia, where the company resided. The stipulation resulted in the dismissed hundreds of ovarian cancer claims and consortium claims.
9. Drafted the brief that led to the immediate settlement of a strict products liability matter with the other parties in the chain of distribution paying far more than it did. Ms. Axelrod represented the licensor of a toy stroller in the case whose axle was iron and designed on a spring between wheels whose hubcaps consisted of nothing but paper. A child allegedly left the stroller at the bottom of the stairs on its side. She purportedly later fell down the stairs and her head landed on one of its wheels. It was claimed that the spring-loaded axel then sprung out, tearing through the paper hubcap on the toy wheel into her skull. In the brief, Ms. Axelrod culled from the few cases on the subject around the country to argue that the licensor should not be held liable as between it and other parties in the chain of its manufacture and distribution.
10. Represented the distributor of a glass soda bottle in a strict products liability matter in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas involving a worker at a convenience store whose eye was sliced apart by an exploding bottle he stacked on the job.

D. Employment Litigation

Ms. Axelrod has provided major corporate clients with employment advice and counseling and defended it in discrimination matters for over a decade including in sexual harassment actions, wage and hour claims under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and state law equivalents, Department of Labor Audits, Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) claims, and in Whistleblower claims. Some selected cases are described below.

1. Successfully represented a global retailer and its representatives in an action brought in New Jersey state court by an employee in one of its stores. The former employee asserted claims for alleged gender-based pay discrimination and retaliation under the New Jersey Conscientious Employee Protection Act (CEPA, New Jersey's Whistleblower statute) and the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination (LAD).
2. Successfully represented a global client-retailer in a New Jersey state court CEPA and Wrongful Termination action brought by an employee who was fired after violating the employer's strict, no drug use policy after testing positive for Oxycodone.

E. AIR-21

Ms. Axelrod defends companies and in select cases, represents individuals, in their employment matters including in AIR-21 actions.

F. Aviation Litigation Experience – Passenger Claim

In addition to defending companies in AIR-21 matters, Ms. Axelrod successfully defended an airline company in the Third Circuit and the United States Supreme Court, from a claim by a passenger aboard an international flight. The passenger alleged that his refusal to leave a seat to which he was not assigned, and his subsequent arrest and removal from the flight by airport police: (1) caused him to suffer an “accident which caused damage” within the meaning of Article 17 of the Warsaw Convention; and (2) the limitation of liability provision in Article 25 of the Warsaw Convention. The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania granted summary judgment in favor of the airline on the passenger's claims. The Third Circuit affirmed. The brief Ms. Axelrod wrote in the Supreme Court in opposition to the Plaintiff's Petition for a Writ of Certiorari, is one of Ms. Axelrod's published briefs. See the next section (Section F below).

G. Appeals and Major Brief Writing

Ms. Axelrod has been so well recognized in the appellate field, the Superior Court (Pennsylvania's state appellate court) requested that she explain Pennsylvania Appellate Practice to the public on public television (Channel PCN). Below are a few of her distinctions in the space:

1. ***Published in Law360*** - EagleBank v. BR Professional Sports Group, Inc., EDPa Civil Action No. 14-5550) – As noted above, Ms. Axelrod, working with an attorney in Maryland, successfully convinced the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania to grant summary judgment to their client in a \$1.25 million case. The intervening lender appealed and Axelrod and Maryland counsel convinced the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit to affirm the District Court's ruling. The case was never further appealed.
2. ***Published in the Aviation Litigation Reporter*** – Wrote two briefs that in federal court cases that were published in the *Aviation Litigation Reporter*, including a brief filed in the Supreme Court of the United States in an action brought under the Warsaw Convention, “Brief of Northwest Airlines, Inc. in Opposition to the Petition for a Writ of Certiorari,” Grimes v. Northwest Airlines, Inc. Ms. Axelrod successfully defended an airline company in the Grimes matter in the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and the Supreme Court of the United States, from a claim by a passenger aboard

an international flight. The passenger alleged that his refusal to leave a seat to which he was not assigned, and his subsequent arrest and removal from the flight by airport police: (1) caused him to suffer an “accident which caused damage” within the meaning of Article 17 of the Warsaw Convention; and (2) was outside of the limitation of liability provision in Article 25 of the Warsaw Convention. The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania granted summary judgment in favor of the airline on the passenger’s claims. After briefing by Ms. Axelrod, the Third Circuit affirmed. After the Opposition to the Petition for a Writ of Certiorari Ms. Axelrod wrote, the Supreme Court denied certiorari.

3. Researched and drafted appellate briefs in Pennsylvania and New Jersey state and federal courts, including the appeal brief in a dispute in which \$825 million was at stake.
4. Successfully defended an aerospace component part manufacturer from post-trial claims in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and in an appeal to the Third Circuit against claims that its seal was defectively designed and caused flammable fluid to reach the engine manifold of a military helicopter, leading to the deaths of all Marines onboard.
5. Presented the Continuing Legal Education course “Successfully Navigating the Appeals Process” with former Supreme Court of Pennsylvania Justice Sandra Schultz Newman and Judge Genece E. Brinkley.

Ms. Axelrod is so highly respected as a brief writer that she also spent years volunteering with a top team of talented brief writers on the National Association of Women Lawyers (“NAWL”) Amicus Committee, which reviews requests for participation as amicus curiae in cases of interest to NAWL members, and drafts amicus briefs on NAWL’s behalf.

H. Languages and Licenses

Ms. Axelrod is fluent in Spanish. She is licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, & INCLUSION LEADERSHIP

A. Honors

Ms. Axelrod has received numerous awards for her leadership in the equality, diversity, and inclusion space including:

1. [Being inducted into The League for Entrepreneurial Women of Temple University Hall of Fame](#);
2. [The NAMWOLF Yolanda Coly Advocacy Award](#). This award is conveyed to an individual for exceptional advocacy on behalf of NAMWOLF member law firms. The individual receiving this award:
 - (a) is a person of influence with wide ranging professional connections such as in, but not limited to, the political sphere, corporate America, and/or the legal profession;
 - (b) who, through stellar advocacy, profoundly advanced NAMWOLF’s mission;

3. Shortlisting for the [Chambers Diversity Shortlist for the Gender Diversity Lawyer of the Year Award](#);
4. [The TLAA Women's Champion Award](#);
5. The TLAA Distinguished Service Award;
6. Two Diversity Law Institute Awards, one for her work and another for that of The Axelrod Firm as a whole. The DLI is an international non-profit association of lawyers and law firms committed to diversity in all aspects of the legal profession and justice systems of the United States and Canada. Ms. Axelrod serves as Advisory Board Co-Chair of the DLI and launched the DLI Diversity Symposium in Philadelphia.

Ms. Axelrod has also been profiled by: [Thomson Reuters](#); [Profiles in Diversity Journal](#); by the [American Bar Association](#); [INSIGHT into Diversity](#); [Ms. JD](#); and [Law360](#), which featured her in its Female Powerbrokers series.

B. Memberships and Community Service

Ms. Axelrod serves as Co-Chair of the [NAMWOLF](#) Advocacy Committee which advocates nationwide for the greater inclusion of minority and women owned law firms.

She is a founder of the [Fearless Women Network](#), a non-profit dedicated to shattering glass ceilings and obliterating unequal pay, and served as Co-Chair of its Philadelphia Symposium.

In 2014, Ms. Axelrod was appointed by the President of the [ABA](#) to the ABA's Task Force on Gender Equity and served as an [American Bar Association Diversity Fellow](#).

Ms. Axelrod is a longstanding member of the [National Association of Women Lawyers](#) (NAWL) Diversity Committee and is a former member of the NAWL Amicus Committee.

She serves on the Advisory Board of [Women Owned Law](#) (WOL) and as Co-Chair of WOL's Diversity and Inclusion Task Force. This non-profit's mission is to provide opportunities for women legal entrepreneurs to come together, support each other and help our businesses prosper.

She spent years serving on the [Pennsylvania Bar Association](#) (PBA) Commission on Women in the Profession (WIP) Executive Council and Diversity Team of Ambassadors. She is also a former Co-Chair of the PBA WIP Diversity Committee and remains a PBA Minority Bar Committee member.

She is a member of the [Philadelphia Bar Association](#) Women's Initiatives in Law Firms Task Force and in 2010, served as Co-Chair of the Philadelphia Bar Association Law Practice Management Committee. She also serves on the Philadelphia Bar Association's Women's Initiatives in Law Firms Task Force.

From 2000 to 2003, while serving on the Executive Committee of the [Young Lawyers Division](#) of the Philadelphia Bar Association, Ms. Axelrod co-chaired the Michael K. Smith Oratorical Contest, organizing and running a moot court competition in which attorneys in the Philadelphia Bar Association volunteer to judge Philadelphia public school students in grades 4-8, who present mock oral appellate arguments. These Bar Reporter pages include articles about two of the contests:

http://www.philadelphiabar.org/WebObjects/PBAReadOnly.woa/Contents/WebServerResources/CMSResources/July_2002.pdf and http://philadelphiabar.org/WebObjects/PBAReadOnly.woa/Contents/WebServerResources/CMSResources/July_2003.pdf.

When she was President of the [Temple Law Alumni Association](#) (TLAA) from 2012-2013, she founded the TLAA Women's Initiative and the TLAA Diversity Committee and the committees' annual awards, the TLAA Women's Leadership Award and the TLAA Diversity Champion Award. She also created the criteria for both awards and presented the first honorees with their awards.

She is a member of the [Forum of Executive Women](#), an organization of locally influential women, in which she serves on the Inclusion, Mentor, and Women in Executive Leadership and Governance Committees, and she serves on [DirectWomen](#), an organization dedicated to advancing women lawyers onto major corporate board positions.

Ms. Axelrod has taken formal LGBTQ ally training, twice, and served as an ally and expert in the equality, diversity, and inclusion space in the Philadelphia LGBT Exchange.

Since 2013, Ms. Axelrod has been a member of [The Barristers' Association of Philadelphia](#), an organization dedicated to addressing the professional needs and development of Black lawyers in the City of Philadelphia.

Since 2011, Ms. Axelrod has also been running holiday toy drives benefitting children living without homes in local Salvation Army shelters, on their way to getting more permanent housing.

In college, Ms. Axelrod tutored a local African American high school student through all three years she spent on campus at Brandeis University. (She spent her junior year abroad.) Her mentee, Malik, was one of the few minorities in his school and faced discrimination from both his fellow students and teachers.

After law school, Ms. Axelrod devoted four (4) years volunteering, after work hours and on weekends, coaching high school mock trial teams. Two of the teams Ms. Axelrod coached were the 1999 and 2000 inner-city, all-minority Overbrook High School Teams, who Ms. Axelrod co-coached in the John S. Bradway High School National Mock Trial Competition. The 2000 Overbrook High School Mock Trial Team Ms. Axelrod coached beat over 65 public and parochial schools to make it to the Regional Championship of the competition. [The 2001 Team she coached made it to the state semi-final round](#). While on average, one out of every three students do not graduate from Overbrook High School, every student Ms. Axelrod coached did and all but one went on to college. One of the Overbrook students Ms. Axelrod coached went on to graduate from Temple Law School and herself coached an Overbrook High School Mock Trial Team to victory in the Regional Championship of the competition. Ms. Axelrod also coached the Upper Darby and Clearview Regional High School Mock Trial Teams in 2005 and 2008, respectively.

In 2000, during her time working as an attorney at Blank Rome, Ms. Axelrod spearheaded bringing "Philadelphia Reads" to Blank Rome's Philadelphia Office. Through the program, overwhelmingly minority, inner-city school children are brought to companies so that adults in them can reach the program's goal of teaching the students to read well and independently by the end of the third grade.

C. Authorship

Ms. Axelrod is recognized as an expert in the equality diversity and inclusion space and is regularly called upon to speak and write articles in the space. Many of her lectures and published articles concern:

1. The disenfranchisement of women and minorities;
2. Unconscious bias;
3. The profitability of diversity;
4. Creating allies: onboarding white men as diversity champions; and
5. Tools organizations and individuals can use to become diversity champions.

She is the author of, "[Challenging the Myths About Women and Minority Lawyers](#)," "[Oh, The Times of Inequality, They Are A-Changin'](#)," and "[Six Steps to Minimizing Gender and Minority Bias](#)," each of which was published by the American Bar Association (ABA).

She also provided input and oversight to numerous in-house attorneys from different companies on the piece, "[Guide to Promoting the In-House Legal Department Utilization of NAMWOLF Law Firms](#)," which was published by the NAMWOLF.

Her piece, "[Banking on Diversity: Diversity and Inclusion as Profit Drivers - The Business Case for Diversity](#)," which was published by the ABA, remains listed among the ABA's Top Resources.

Her post, "[A Primer on Diversity, Inclusion, and Equality: From the Profitability of Diversity to Unconscious Bias to its Impact on Our Country](#)", was among the featured materials for the "Take the Lead Challenge" webcast featuring Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg.

She is also co-author of, "[A Case for Increasing Gender Diversity on Corporate Boards](#)," Forum of Executive Women, July 17, 2015.

She first published her piece, "[Disregard Diversity at Your Financial Peril: Diversity as a Competitive Financial Advantage](#)," in the national publication of the Minority Corporate Counsel Association, *Diversity & the Bar*. It was then republished by The American Bar Association as a Featured Article and republished in the *Women Lawyers Journal*.

Ms. Axelrod wrote, "[Countering diversity fatigue: The audacity of hope backed up by data — seeing the paradigm shifting](#)," the cover story of the *Women Lawyers Journal*.

She is the author of, "[What We're Taught About Women Who Rise](#)," published on LinkedIn, and "[The Dollars And Sense Of Diversity](#)," published in *The Pennsylvania Lawyer*.

D. Speaking Engagements

Ms. Axelrod has spoken widely across the country in the equality, diversity, and inclusion space. Her public speaking includes her serving as a or the:

1. Stand alone presenter at the national [Girl Attorney Leadership Conference](#) on, "Women Rising: Where we are, what's holding us back – and what's not – and how we can rise, together" (April 26, 2019);

2. Stand alone speaker and panelist before the Society for Human Resource Management (“SHRM”), the world’s largest HR professional society, at the Philadelphia SHRM Symposium on, “Sensitivity Training, Unconscious Bias, Micro-Aggressions and Creating a Safe Workplace” (Mar. 20, 2019). This was later re-presented to City of Philadelphia Human Resources professionals;
3. Co-presenter on, “Crisis Management in the #MeToo Era,” to the employment lawyers in a global corporation (Feb. 26, 2019);
4. Keynote speaker, National Diversity Council on, “Creating Allies: Onboarding White Men as Diversity Champions” (Feb. 1, 2019);
5. Panelist at Litigation Counsel of America (LCA) on, “[“Diversity in Leadership: The Profitability of Diversity”](#)” (Oct. 26, 2018) – Awarded LCA’s Speaker Award. LCA is a peer selected honorary society of top trial lawyers accepting, by invitation of other trial lawyer members, less than one-half of one percent of the nation’s lawyers;
6. Speaker accepting induction into the League of Entrepreneurial Women Hall of Fame (Oct. 16, 2018);
7. Keynote speaker at the Diversity Law Institute Summit and Awards, [Diversity Law Institute Summit & Awards](#), on “Becoming a Change Agent: Tools to Become a Diversity Champion” (Nov. 3, 2017);
8. Keynote presenter accepting the Yolanda Coly Advocacy Award before approximately 350 attorneys at the National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms (NAMWOLF) on, “[Lessons WWII Teaches Us About Combatting the Hatred Coming from the White House](#)” Feb. 13, 2017);
9. Keynote speaker on, “[Gender Inclusion’s Payoff](#)” to a global company with 40,000 employees serving over 140 countries (Mar. 7, 2017);
10. Panelist at the *American Law Journal* television program, “The Rule of Law in the Era of Trump” (aired by the CNN-affiliate in the tristate area) (Jan. 31, 2017);
11. Panelist on, “Race, Gender & the Law in Post Obama America,” National Bar Association Women Lawyers Division, Philadelphia Chapter (Aug. 17, 2017);
12. Presenter on, “The Profitability of Diversity,” (Aug. 10 and 11, 2017), Business Insurance, CLM, Women to Watch and National Conference of Women’s Bar Associations (NCWBA), respectively;
13. Moderator of GOOD Guys (Guys Overcoming Obstacles to Diversity) panel, NCWBA (Aug. 11, 2017);
14. Presenter on, “The Profitability of Diversity and How to Become Diversity Champions,” Professional Development Institute (National Conference) (Dec. 1, 2016);
15. Keynote speaker on, “[The Rise in Hate Crimes, the Disenfranchisement of Women and Minorities in the Country, the Profitability of Diversity, and Tools to Become Diversity Champions](#),” at the first ever Joint Diversity Networking Event held at the Morgan Lewis Philadelphia office (Nov. 15, 2016);
16. Panelist on, “[The Value of Mentorship](#),” at Pennoni Honors College, Drexel University (Nov. 10, 2016);
17. Panelist on, “[The Powerful Legacy of Female Leadership](#),” at the Perrin Diversity & Inclusion Conference (Nov. 3, 2016);
18. Co-moderator of, “[Bringing NAMWOLF* In-House: How to Build Culture & Programs to Increase the Use of NAMWOLF Law Firm Members](#),” at the NAMWOLF Annual Meeting (Sept. 2016);
19. Presenter at the National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL) 2016 Annual Meeting on, “[Shattering the Unseen: Strategies for Counteracting Unconscious Bias, Building a Coalition of Allies, and Propelling Your Career](#)”;

20. Keynote national teleconference speaker to a major corporation on, “How To See The Unseen And Become A Diversity Champion: Revealing and Counteracting Unconscious Bias” (Mar. 9, 2016);
21. Keynote presenter on, “[Why Diversity Really Pays Off on the Bottom Line for Firms and Corporations](#),” at the American Bar Association (ABA) Midyear Meeting inaugural model GOOD Guys program (Feb. 5, 2016);
22. Presenter to senior claims representatives at a major insurance company on, “[The Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia](#),” providing tips to minimize defendants’ exposure within the jurisdiction (Dec. 14, 2015);
23. Presenter on, “[We Are Not All Viewed as Equals: Unconscious Bias in the Courtroom](#),” at LCA at the Harvard Club in New York (Dec. 4, 2015);
24. Keynote speaker at the Janney Montgomery Scott LLC Women’s Interactive Network and ACE Group Women’s Forum on, “[Exposing the Unseen: Examining Unconscious Bias](#)” (Dec. 1, 2015);
25. Presenter at Immaculata University on, “[What it takes: Tips from the top about an unspoken skillset –cultural competency](#)” (Oct. 29, 2015);
26. Presenter to the Philadelphia Bar Association Women in the Profession Committee, “[Growing Your Client Base](#)” (Oct. 27, 2015);
27. Panelist at the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession on, “[Show me the money, and the benefits! Negotiating her way UP](#),” with Michele Coleman Mayes (Vice President and General Counsel of the New York Public Library) and Ingrid Busson (Executive Director of Morgan Stanley) moderated by Laurel Bellows (former President of the ABA) (Sept. 30, 2015);
28. One of only two outside counsel selected to serve on the NAMWOLF* In-House Counsel Panel with Kendall Mills (Counsel at Allstate) and Deedee Litwin (Director of Legal at Merck), moderated by Nate Saint-Victor (Executive Director in the Legal and Compliance Division of Morgan Stanley) on the “[Minority/Majority Partnership Report](#)” (Sept. 8, 2015);
29. Presenter of the National Constitution Center webinar, “[Strategies from Powerhouse Female Lawyer: Shattering the Old Boys’ Mold](#)” (May 18, 2015);
30. Presenter of the Brandeis University webinar, “[Diversity + Inclusion: The Least Expensive Formula to Multiply Profits](#)” (May 14, 2015);
31. Panelist at the ABA Trial and Insurance Practice Section webinar, “Why It Works and Why It Matters: The Business Case For Diversity” (Apr. 2015);
32. Panelist at the Eastern District of Pennsylvania Bankruptcy Conference moderated by Chief Judge Thomas McKee on, “[Diversity and Bias in Law](#)” (Jan. 23, 2015);
33. Panelist on the Pennsylvania Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession Annual Conference on, “The Leadership Ambition Gap/Sit at the Table” (2014);
34. Presenter on, “Harnessing the Competitive Advantage of Greater Diversity and Inclusion by Achieving Pay Equity,” and separately, the interviewer of NAMWOLF* CEO, Joel Stern, at the Fearless Women Network Symposium (2014);
35. Presenter of, “The Profitability of Diversity,” to the Springfield Township High School (2014);
36. Panelist on, “[The Balancing Act](#),” before the Philadelphia Bar Association Women in the Profession Committee, providing tips to women on how to find the right work-life fit in the profession (Jan. 10, 2013);
37. Moderator at the NAMWOLF* Annual Meeting in Atlanta major luncheon on, “[Drawing Back The Curtain: Revealing The Law Firm Selection Process Among Corporations With Procurement Teams](#),” with Mark E. “Rick” Richardson III (Vice President and Associate General Counsel of GlaxoSmithKline (GSK)), Justin Ergler (Sourcing Group Manager, Legal

Services Procurement for GSK), and David Klemm (Director in Global Procurement for Legal, Financial, and Professional Services at Merck & Co, Inc.) (Oct. 2012);

38. Panelist in, “[Backwards in Heels: A Panel of Women Lawyers Share Experiences and Strategies for Success](#),” Temple Law Alumni Association (TLAA) Women’s Initiative Annual Meeting (May 4, 2012);

39. Moderator on, “[Section 342 of the Dodd-Frank Act](#),” NAMWOLF* Regional Meeting in New York with panelists Tracey McNeil (Counsel in the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion in the United States Securities and Exchange Commission) and Leslie Crawford (Deputy Director of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation) (May 2012);

40. Panelist in the Philadelphia Bar Association Women in the Profession Committee meeting on, “How To Effectively Deal With The Obstreperous Lawyer” (2012);

41. Speaker about TLAA’s diversity initiatives at the [Black Law Student Association Alumni Diversity Outreach Reception](#) (2012);

42. Panelist at the Pennsylvania Bar Association Diversity Summit, on, “The Business Case for Diversity” (2012);

43. Panelist covering, “[On Leadership](#),” at the Springdale Middle School with co-panelists La-Toya Hackney (Assistant General Counsel of Sunoco), Maisha Leek (Chief of Staff of Congressman Chaka Fattah), and Nina Ahmad, PhD (Chairperson of the Mayor’s Commission on Asian American Affairs and Executive Vice President/Government Affairs at JNA Capital, Inc.) Fran Fattah (Deputy General Counsel for the Chester Upland School District) moderated the discussion (2012);

44. Presenter of, “[The Importance of Completing High School and Going on to College](#),” at Edison (Congreso) High School with a former Overbrook High School Mock Trial Team member, to at-risk students about my career path, the Mock Trial program, and the importance of getting the best education possible (2010 and 2011);

45. Speaker on, “[Pennsylvania Appellate Practice](#),” on public television, Channel PCN, at the request of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania (2004).

*NAMWOLF stands for the National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms.

E. Articles about Ms. Axelrod

Thomson Reuters published the piece, with extensive input from Ms. Axelrod, “[Pushing for diversity and inclusion in the legal industry](#),” profiling Ms. Axelrod in Thomson Reuters’ Fearless Persona Campaign. Thomson Reuters launched this national campaign featuring fearless attorneys – General Counsels at the forefront of the largest companies in the country, partners in Am Law 200 and other large law firms, partners in midsize law firms, and owners of small law firms like The Axelrod Firm – who are changing the landscape of the legal industry. Ms. Axelrod was featured for her work in the equality, diversity, and inclusion space. She was asked to write about what she does, why she does it, and the tools she created to minimize bias against women and minorities.

Ms. Axelrod was the subject of a piece in *Profiles In Diversity Journal* which recognized her as “[A Woman Worth Watching](#),” a significant honor for those in the diversity space.

The American Bar Association wrote the piece, “[Video highlights: Expert makes business case for diverse workplace during Midyear Meeting 2016](#),” which discusses Ms. Axelrod’s speech on the profitability of diversity that she presented to the American Bar Association.

The American Bar Association wrote the piece, with extensive input by Ms. Axelrod, “[Member Spotlight – Sheryl L. Axelrod](#),” profiling her when she served as an American Bar Association Diversity Fellow.

Insight into Diversity published the piece, “[Law Firm Diversity Professionals Roundtable](#),” in which a panel of three diversity professionals were interviewed in total, including Ms. Axelrod.

MS. JD published the piece, “[A Firm of Her Own](#),” which was an interview of Ms. Axelrod by Diana Konate.

Law360 published a [Female Powerbrokers piece profiling Ms. Axelrod](#).

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Lisa J. Savitt is a Partner in The Axelrod Firm’s Washington, DC office where she handles international and domestic litigation and alternative dispute resolution, representing foreign and domestic companies in matters involving complex legal, regulatory and technical issues in state and federal courts around the U.S. She has worked with key in-house lawyers and business heads to understand the impact of litigation on the core business of companies and to strategize on resolution of issues to the satisfaction of both business and legal needs. She has worked with counsel around the U.S. and in many foreign countries. Her extensive industry experience includes representing clients in the aviation, insurance, chemical, agriculture and manufacturing sectors. Ms. Savitt has handled multi-party product liability cases, tort cases and commercial disputes.

Ms. Savitt has represented Fortune 500 companies in contractual disputes and has advised, counseled and offered training to clients on commercial and business-related issues such as the risks in language of agreements including indemnity provisions, limitation of liability clauses, arbitration clauses, insurance and other pertinent contractual provisions. She has served as an expert in an international arbitration involving a breach of contract claim and opined on the interpretation of exculpatory clauses in the contract under U. S. law.

Ms. Savitt’s litigation experience includes working with experts in a number of fields including economic experts, forensic accounting experts, property damage experts, software engineers, medical experts, metallurgical experts, accident reconstruction experts and forensic pathologists. She has handled litigation ranging from a lawsuit involving a computer software provider and the issue of whether damages could include consequential damages such as business interruption, multi-district litigation involving claims for alleged damage due to a commercial herbicide and major cases with cross-border issues and multiple U.S state issues.

Much of her international work involves issues relating to the application of various treaties, jurisdictional challenges, the doctrine of *forum non conveniens*, the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, and enforcement of foreign judgments. Ms. Savitt’s work has included counseling clients and working with counsel globally on matters involving cross border litigation and application of law from both civil and common law jurisdictions.

Her foreign legal experience spans work in many jurisdictions including Belize, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, England, Ethiopia, France, Greece, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Peru, Poland, Taiwan, and the Turks and Caicos Islands. Ms. Savitt started

her legal career at the Regional Counsel's Office of the Federal Aviation Administration, and she worked for three years in London for a British law firm advising on U.S. law and supervising claims and litigation around the world. Ms. Savitt clerked for Magistrate Shira Scheindlin of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. She received her J.D. from New York Law School and her B.A. in East Asian Studies from George Washington University.

Ms. Savitt is a former Chair of the American Bar Association (ABA) Section of International Law and currently serves on the ABA Rule of Law Initiative Africa Council. She is the Chair of the International Committee of DirectWomen, a national non-profit that works to increase the number of women lawyers on corporate boards. Ms. Savitt is also Chair of the Board of the non-profit organization A Child for All (www.acfacorp.org) which helps vulnerable children in Mali. She is a founder and former President of the International Aviation Womens Association.

Ms. Savitt is a frequent speaker and writer. Presentations in which she has served as a panelist include:

- “International Arbitration & Cross-Border Litigation — Highlighting the Differences,” NAMWOLF Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois;
- “There’s No Place Like Home: Challenges to Jurisdiction in Life Sciences Litigation,” ABA Section of International Law Life Sciences Conference, Copenhagen, Denmark;
- “3D printing in Aviation: Perspectives on Insurance, Manufacturing and Product Liability with this Emerging Technology,” AVICON Conference, Stevensville, Maryland;
- “Aviation Challenges and Legal Responses,” International Aviation Womens Association 29th Annual Conference, Berlin, Germany;
- “Ethics and the Rashomon Effect – The Lawyer’s Role in Witness Preparation,” ABA Section of International Law Fall Meeting, Tokyo, Japan;
- “Trying the Aviation Case: Ethical and Practical Pitfalls from Experienced Aviation Counsel,” Aviation Insurance Association Annual Conference;
- “The Challenges of Defending Litigation in the Mexican, Canadian and U.S. Judicial Systems” ABA Section of International Law North American Forum, Vancouver, Canada;
- “International Litigation in the United States Involving Foreign Parties,” Korean Bar Association, Seoul, Korea;
- “Is it Learning to Lead or Learning to Lean In?,” ABA Section of International Law Spring Meeting, Washington, D.C.;
- “Independence and Diversity in the Boardroom: What Next?,” LawAsia Conference, Singapore;
- “In the Tentacles of the U.S. Civil Justice System and How EU Companies Can Prepare For It – An Update,” Wolf Theiss Litigation Forum, Vienna, Austria.

Ms. Savitt received the ABA Section of International Law Mayre Rasmussen Award for the Advancement of Women in International Law. She has received numerous special honors and opportunities to travel to foreign nations to participate in delegations of the American Bar Association, including the American Bar Association International Legal Briefing Trip to Turkey (2016), Cuba (2015) and Myanmar and Cambodia (2014). She also was one of three ABA panelists in a public session on mediation and dispute resolution together with Polish journalists and lawyers (2013) during the American Bar Association International Legal Briefing Trip on Dispute Resolution to Warsaw and Vienna.

Ms. Savitt is licensed to practice law in several U.S. jurisdictions including New York, Pennsylvania and Washington D.C. and is qualified as a solicitor in England and Wales. Ms. Savitt is also a panelist for the American Arbitration Association (Commercial Disputes).

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

A. Commercial counseling, litigation, and arbitration

- Acting for international company who manufactures component parts advising on contractual provisions and obligation of company relating to request by buyer of product to indemnify and take-over defense of litigation pending in Texas.
- Acting for international aerospace company in dispute with maintenance, repair and overhaul company including analysis of Maintenance Services Agreement, investigation into damage to B737 aircraft engine and possible arbitration.
- Acted as expert in international arbitration regarding breach of contract claim seeking to invalidate exculpatory clauses in international sales contract for major international aircraft company arising out of allegations of product defect.
- Counseled major international component manufacturer in breach of contract claims and mitigation of damages in matter where alleged damages were \$13 million.
- Successfully represented major international insurance company in arbitration to resolve coverage dispute.
- Successfully represented companies, including major health care provider, in advice and litigation for, *inter alia*, breach of contract and breach of warranty claims arising out of licensing agreements with software vendors; one case resulted in often cited opinion on breach of warranty issues – *see Caudill Seed & Warehouse Co. v. Prophet 21, Inc.*, 123 F.Supp.2d 826 (E.D. Pa. 2000).
- Represented Deutsche Aerospace in contract and negligence issues arising out of JPATS prototype aircraft during test flight in Germany.

B. Product, Tort, and General Liability Litigation and Counseling

- Successfully represented 3D printing company in suit alleging defamation, unfair trade practices and tortious interference with contractual relations based upon issues of copyright law and intellectual property regarding who has rights in 3D printing data; after defendant's motion for sanctions was granted, plaintiff dismissed case against client with prejudice.
- Represented Fortune 500 company in investigating and defending product liability claims and litigation brought around the United States arising from alleged damage from a commercial herbicide; developed and launched complex claims management process to resolve more than 35,000 claims including supervising a team of thirty (30) lawyers and consultants and working closely with in-house counsel and business unit on strategy.
- Represented multinational component part manufacturer in two wrongful death and personal injury federal court actions arising out of accidents involving military helicopters; issues included complex factual issues including focus on electrical systems of helicopters and government contractor defense. Cases involved extensive discovery including discovery directed to U.S. military. One case settled on favorable terms; summary judgment motion granted in second case.
- Defended French bearing manufacturer in wrongful death action in state court in Cook County, Illinois arising out of helicopter crash including challenge to jurisdiction of Illinois courts resulting in dismissal of lawsuit by trial court; maintained challenge after plaintiff's successful appeal through to Illinois Supreme Court to unsuccessful petition for *certiorari* to the U. S. Supreme Court; continued defense against allegations including strict products liability, negligence and breach of warranty; case involved multiple experts including metallurgist, accident reconstruction expert, pilot expert, economist, biomechanics forensic expert and maintenance expert; following mediation, case settled on favorable terms two weeks before trial.
- Represented ground handling company in multiple wrongful death and personal injury lawsuits around the U.S. involving loaders and other vehicles.
- Assisted in representation of manufacturer of autopilot arising out of crash of airplane in Newark, New Jersey resulting in four deaths, personal injuries and property damage; after years of litigation, participated in six-week trial against manufacturer and United States government by estates of pilot and passengers and owner of business and property destroyed in crash resulting in complete defense verdict.
- Represented component manufacturer acting as national coordinating counsel in multiple lawsuits around the U.S. arising out accident of Air France Flight 447;

case resulted in multi-district litigation; case dismissed after successful motion to dismiss on the basis of *forum non conveniens*.

- Counseled French engine manufacturer and worked with Mexican counsel regarding possible claim by Mexican distributor of engines and victims of airplane crash in Mexico.
- Defended UK bearing manufacturer in complex product liability action in Federal Court in Texas arising out of helicopter crash in Gulf of Mexico resulting in three deaths; after several years of litigation including depositions in UK and France, represented manufacturer in mediation resulting in manufacturer paying nominal settlement.
- Represented airport authority Aeroports de Paris and its insurers in wrongful death and personal injury claims in United States and overseas arising out of collapse of terminal at Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris; claims included allegations of negligence related to construction and architectural defects; after several mediation sessions, wrongful death case filed in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York arising out of accident resulted in favorable settlement.
- Successfully converted \$24 million foreign judgment of shipping company against Yugoslavian bank into U.S. judgment and represented shipping company in enforcement of judgment including dealing with OFAC provisions and attempts by Yugoslavian bank to transfer assets from the United States in U.S. Bankruptcy Court ancillary proceeding.

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Leah A. DiMatteo is an attorney in the Firm’s Philadelphia office. She focuses her practice on representing corporations and non-profits in their litigation matters in Pennsylvania and New Jersey state and federal courts.

Ms. DiMatteo’s practice focuses primarily on defending corporations in a variety of litigation matters, including in commercial suits, employment, and general liability cases.

Before joining the firm, Ms. DiMatteo practiced at a Philadelphia-based law firm where she defended large, multinational transportation, elevator, and escalator companies in matters involving personal injury, wrongful death, property damage, and commercial disputes.

After law school, Ms. DiMatteo completed a judicial clerkship with the Honorable Michael A. Toto of the New Jersey Superior Court, Criminal Division. As a law clerk, Ms. DiMatteo researched subtle nuances of the law and helped prepare opinions on criminal motions and municipal appeals.

Ms. DiMatteo graduated from Rutgers Law School, where she served as a staff editor for the *Rutgers Journal of Law & Public Policy* and was one of twenty-seven Rutgers graduate students selected to participate in the Eagleton Institute of Politics Graduate Fellowship Program. As an Eagleton Fellow, Ms. DiMatteo worked at the nonpartisan New Jersey Office of Legislative Services, where she experienced legislative policymaking firsthand. Additionally, as a law school student, Ms. DiMatteo organized a bi-partisan, public forum on the proposed New Jersey Death With Dignity Act (now called the “Aid in Dying for the Terminally Ill Act”), which was featured on the front page of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

Ms. DiMatteo earned her Bachelor of Arts in English from Reed College, where she researched, wrote, and defended a senior thesis that analyzed race and gender in a seventeenth century colonialist novella.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Representing a global non-profit organization in various commercial, general liability, and employment matters.
- Defended local and multinational transportation companies in matters involving catastrophic injury, property damage, wrongful death, and contract disputes.
- Promoted efficient and ethical representation of large corporate clients by drafting memoranda on best practices and strategies.
- Successfully arbitrated a personal injury case in the Philadelphia Compulsory Arbitration Program.