

People



## Jessica L. Dagley

Partner, Litigation

Chicago

T: +1 312 870 8086

[jessica.dagley@akerman.com](mailto:jessica.dagley@akerman.com)

vCard

Jessica L. Dagley focuses her practice on business and commercial litigation matters. She represents public and private companies, small businesses, and individuals in business transactions and disputes, professional liability/malpractice matters, contract disputes, breach of fiduciary duty matters, and insurance coverage. Jessica has tried cases in both federal and state courts and has litigated matters in binding arbitration and FINRA.

### Notable Work

**Employment Dispute:** Successfully settled sexual harassment, retaliatory discharge and Illinois Gender Violence Act claims on behalf of construction company client in high exposure case.

**Probate and Fiduciary Litigation:** Obtained dismissal of claim for conspiracy in favor of nursing in-home care provider agency client in matter involving trust and estate issues.

**Commercial Dispute:** Obtained dismissal of malpractice and breach of fiduciary duty claims in favor of real estate broker agency and broker clients in complex matter involving commercial real estate transaction.

**Commercial Dispute:** Represented excess insurer for City of Chicago in three-week trial monitoring assignment in high-profile reversed conviction case previously pending in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

**Real Estate Litigation:** Obtained dismissal in favor of client within six months from filing of lawsuit in homeowners association and property dispute and prevailed at hearing for emergency motion for temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction.

**Professional Liability:**

### Areas of Experience

Litigation  
Commercial Disputes  
Insurance Litigation  
Professional Liability  
Trade Secrets, Restrictive Covenants, and Unfair Competition

### Education

J.D., The John Marshall Law School, 2013  
B.S., Marquette University College of Business, 2008

### Admissions

#### Bars

Illinois

#### Courts

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois  
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois – Trial Bar  
U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit  
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois

### Languages

Spanish

### Related Content

Eleven Akerman Attorneys Recognized Among 2025 Illinois Super Lawyers  
February 05, 2025

Akerman Names 20 New Partners  
November 26, 2024

Nine Akerman Lawyers Named Among 2024 Illinois Super Lawyers  
February 29, 2024

- Came in as trial counsel to defend lawyer against malpractice claim brought by oil company arising out of attorney's alleged negligent handling of a breach of contract action in connection with a fuel purchase agreement. Obtained summary judgment in favor of lawyer two days before trial.
- Represented bank in connection with legal malpractice claims against prominent Chicago law firm arising out of firm's negligent drafting of a deed in lieu of foreclosure agreement and advice in connection with work-out of multiple related loans in mortgage foreclosure transaction. Obtained favorable settlement through mediation.
- Represented individual in defense of lawsuit filed by his former attorney for unpaid legal fees and successfully prosecuted counter-claims for legal malpractice and breach of fiduciary duty. Obtained 219(c) discovery sanction order dismissing plaintiff former attorney's claim for fees and entering default judgment on client's counter-claims.
- Represented dental practice group in connection with its professional negligence claims against former accountants and pension plan advisory groups arising out of their negligent drafting and management of pension plan. Obtained favorable settlement through mediation without having to file suit.
- Represented individual in connection with legal malpractice claim against former divorce attorney. Obtained favorable settlement through mediation without having to file suit.
- Represented financial advisory firm in connection with its claims for professional negligence and breach of fiduciary duty against former registered investment advisors and broker/dealers in FINRA. Obtained successful settlement on behalf of client.
- Represented surgical center in connection with its legal malpractice and breach of fiduciary duty claims against former insurance defense counsel arising out of their conflicted representation and failure to settle medical malpractice case, which resulted in excess adverse verdict. Obtained favorable settlement from law firm.
- Represented individual client in legal malpractice and breach of fiduciary duty claims against out of state law firms arising out of their failure to obtain plaintiff's informed consent.
- Represented corporation in connection with its legal malpractice claims arising out of former outside counsel's negligent defense of product liability case. Obtained favorable settlement.
- Represented financial advisory firm in fee dispute with former client in binding arbitration wherein former client raised multiple defenses, including fraud. Obtained arbitration award in favor of client for all claimed fees, interest, and attorney fees.
- Represented dental practice group in connection with its professional negligence claims against former accountants and pension plan advisory groups arising out of their negligent drafting and management of pension plan. Obtained favorable settlement through mediation without having to file suit.
- Represented individual in connection with legal malpractice claim against former divorce attorney. Obtained favorable settlement through mediation without having to file suit.
- Represented individual client in legal malpractice and breach of fiduciary duty claims against out of state law firms arising out of their failure to obtain plaintiff's informed to referral of personal injury case and failure to timely file claim before expiration of statute of limitations. Matter involved issues related to the

unauthorized practice of law. Obtained favorable settlement through mediation without having to file suit.

- Represented and advised lawyers and law firms in connection with insurance coverage issues, conflicts of interests, and ethical issues.
- Represented and defended attorneys in ARDC investigation and disciplinary matters.

## Affiliations

- Illinois State Bar Association, Member
- Chicago Bar Association, Member
- American Bar Association, Member
- American Association of Justice, Member
- Illinois Trial Lawyer Association, Member
- Union League Club of Chicago, Member, 2012-Present
- National Institute of Trial Attorneys (NITA), Graduate, March 2020

## Published Work and Lectures

- National Business Institute, Speaker, “2023 Ethics, Confidentiality, and Attorney-Client Privilege Update,” July 2023
- Lawline, Speaker, “How to Ethically Practice Law Remotely,” February 2022
- National Business Institute, Speaker, “Legal Ethics and Trust and Estate Administration,” December 2021
- National Business Institute, Speaker, “Practical Legal Ethics, Waivers and Consents,” December 2021
- National Business Institute, Speaker, “Attorney-Client Privilege and Confidentiality Basics: What Every Attorney Should Know,” December 2021
- National Business Institute, Speaker, “The Top Five Conflicts of Interest Landmines that Attorneys Overlook,” October 2021
- National Business Institute, Speaker, “Legal Ethics: Top Confidentiality Risks,” September 2021
- National Business Institute, Speaker, “Legal Ethics: Lessons from the Cinema,” August 2021
- National Business Institute, Speaker, “How to Ethically Practice From a Remote Office,” December 2020
- National Business Institute, Speaker, “Attorney-Client Privilege: A Practical Guide,” May 2020
- National Business Institute, Speaker, “Legal Ethics: Small Firm Problems,” April 2020
- National Business Institute, Speaker, “Attorney-Client Privilege v. Work Product v. Confidentiality,” April 2020
- National Business Institute, Speaker, “Attorney-Client Privilege Elements, Exceptions and Waivers,” March 2020

## Honors and Distinctions

- *Best Lawyers*, 2024-2025, Listed in Illinois for Commercial Litigation as “One to Watch”
- *Super Lawyers* Magazine, 2019-2025, Listed in Illinois as a “Rising Star” for General Litigation, Professional Liability: Defense, Insurance Coverage, Professional Liability: Plaintiff