

People

Lauryn S. Schmelzer

Associate, Labor and Employment*

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vCard

Lauryn Schmelzer focuses her practice on representing employers in employment litigation and counseling, including matters involving claims of discrimination, harassment, and wrongful termination. She served as third chair in a federal employment discrimination jury trial, where she conducted the direct examination of a witness, led witness preparation, and contributed to dispositive and post-trial motion practice. Her experience also includes drafting position statements before the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Illinois Department of Human Rights, managing written discovery in large-scale document collections, and resolving disputes through mediation and negotiation.

Lauryn also counsels employers on workplace compliance matters, including group terminations and payroll compliance. Before entering private practice, she served as chief of staff to a member of the Illinois General Assembly, managing district operations and coordinating with state agencies — experience that informs her practical approach to advising employers navigating government investigations and regulatory requirements.

Related Professional Experience

- U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of Illinois, Law Student Intern, 2023
- Florida Department of Children and Families, Office of the General Counsel, Law Student Summer Intern, 2022
- Illinois State Representative Ann M. Williams, 11th Legislative District, Chief of Staff, 2019–2021

Areas of Experience

Labor and Employment
Employment Litigation
Employment Administrative Claims Defense
Employment Training and Compliance

Education

J.D., Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law, 2024
B.A., Northwestern University, 2018, cum laude

Admissions*

Bars

Illinois

* Not admitted to the practice of law in New York