

Jennifer Schilling

Shareholder

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Focus Areas

Discrimination and Harassment
Leaves of Absence and Disability Accommodation
Wage and Hour
Class Action
Training - Compliance, Ethics, Leadership

Overview

Jennifer Schilling represents clients in a broad range of labor and employment matters, including class and collective actions, as well as single and multiple plaintiff litigation involving matters of:

- Discrimination
- Harassment
- Wage and hour
- Defamation
- Wrongful termination
- Employment-based torts
- Contract grievances

Jennifer routinely represents clients in union grievance arbitrations involving contract interpretation and just cause termination. She has extensive experience with litigation before federal and state courts and regularly appears before administrative agencies including the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Illinois Department of Human Rights, and the State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development-Equal Rights Division. Jennifer routinely assists clients with various forms of Alternative Dispute Resolution, such as private and agency-based mediation, as well as court-sponsored settlement conferences. Among litigation matters, Jennifer handles issues arising under:

- The Family and Medical Leave Act

- The Americans with Disabilities Act
- The Fair Labor Standards Act
- The Age Discrimination in Employment Act
- Title VII and 42 U.S.C. Section 1981 of the Civil Rights Acts
- The Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act
- The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act
- The Illinois Wage Payment and Collection Act
- The Illinois Minimum Wage Law
- The One Day Rest in Seven Act

Additionally, Jennifer counsels clients on workplace issues such as terminations, leaves of absence, drug testing, wage garnishments, and policy review. She has managed numerous large scale reductions-in-force, including adverse impact and disparate treatment assessments, and has trained other attorneys in her field on detailed procedures to minimize legal risks regarding reductions-in-force. She also:

- Develops employee handbooks and personnel policy manuals
- Drafts and negotiates severance and release agreements
- Drafts restrictive covenants, covenants not to compete, and non-solicitation agreements
- Provides protection of confidential information and trade secrets
- Conducts harassment training
- Performs large scale sensitive sexual harassment investigations
- Performs due diligence labor and employment reviews on corporate deals

Prior to working at Littler, Jennifer spent seven years working at one of the largest law firms in the world. During her tenure, she advised that firm's international offices on U. S. labor laws; worked with corporate attorneys conducting due diligence labor and employment reviews regarding large scale and multi-million dollar mergers and acquisitions; and provided litigation, advice and counseling regarding virtually all areas of labor and employment law.

In law school, Jennifer served as a judicial extern for the Honorable Magistrate Judge Arlander Keys of the Northern District of Illinois, and she also completed internships with the Cook County Public Defender's Office and the National Organization for Women. She was actively involved with the National Moot Court Team, was a writer and editor for the *Loyola Consumer Law Reporter*, served as president of the Women's Law Society, and was a London Advocacy Scholar.

Professional and Community Affiliations

- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Labor and Employment Division, Chicago Bar Association

Education

J.D., Loyola University Chicago School of Law, 1998, *cum laude*

B.A., University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1995

Bar Admissions

Illinois

Courts

Illinois Supreme Court

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

U.S. District Court, Central District of Illinois

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois

Publications & Press

Hold the Presses: Illinois OSHA Mirrors Supreme Court’s Stay of Vaccinate or Test Emergency Temporary Standard

Littler ASAP

January 14, 2022

Illinois Gives Employers Greater Authority to Impose COVID-19 Rules

SHRM Online

November 22, 2021

Illinois Governor Gives Employers Greater Authority to Impose COVID-19 Requirements as a Condition of Employment

Littler ASAP

November 9, 2021

Phase IV Initiated: Illinois Returns to Work with Certain Conditions and Employer Requirements

Littler ASAP

July 7, 2020

Illinois Returns to Work with Certain Conditions and Employer Requirements

Littler Insight

June 8, 2020

Illinois Department of Human Rights Releases Model Sexual Harassment Training

Littler ASAP

April 29, 2020

Eagerly Anticipated Guidance on Illinois’ Sexual Harassment Prevention and Training Requirements Released

Littler ASAP

February 3, 2020

Sharp Curve Ahead! An Employer's Roadmap to Recent Legislative Developments in Illinois

Littler Insight

September 27, 2019

Illinois Firearm Concealed Carry Act – Are You Ready?

Littler Insight

October 28, 2013

Speaking Engagements

High Times in Illinois: A Workshop Providing Guidance on Changing Policies and Practices in the Illinois Workplace to Comply with New Laws Regarding Recreational Use of Marijuana

Chicago, IL

January 30, 2020

Sharp Curve Ahead! An Employer's Roadmap to Recent Legislative Developments in Illinois

September 20, 2019

Strategies for Dealing with the Whistleblower

Chicago, IL

December 6, 2012

Books & Book Chapters

- Employment Discrimination Treatise, *Illinois Institute of Continuing Legal Education (IICLE)*, Employment Discrimination Based on Disability, Chapter Author, 2012