



Stephanie F. Friedel

SENIOR COUNSEL

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OVERVIEW

Stephanie defends clients in toxic tort matters.

Stephanie serves as a member of national coordinating counsel teams for mass tort clients across the country, overseeing widespread litigation needs. She also serves as local counsel for clients in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New York, handling every stage of litigation including discovery, motion practice, expert retention and development, and trial. Stephanie is also well versed in all forms of alternative dispute resolution, including arbitration and mediation.

While Stephanie's primary focus today is asbestos and other toxic tort matters, she has a background of success in a wide variety of complex commercial litigation matters. She has previously concentrated on both claims of breach of fiduciary duty and medical malpractice allegations—a field where she discovered a passion for the intersection of law and science and for collaborating with physicians and other expert witnesses.

Stephanie's record includes a case highlighted in Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly as a meaningful contribution to the development of Massachusetts law on two issues of first impression. The matter involved minority shareholders frozen out of a family company with claims of more than \$40 million in damages asserted against them. After almost five years of hard-fought litigation, Stephanie won a motion for summary judgment that dismissed each and every claim.

A passionate litigator and a fierce advocate, Stephanie has a reputation for caring deeply and personally for clients. Stephanie has represented a broad range of clients from individuals to closely held businesses to global

Industries

Manufacturing

Technology

Transportation

Services

Asbestos Litigation

Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution

Toxic Tort

enterprises. However, she has never lost sight of the fact that litigation has real stakes for real people—motivating her to achieve the best outcome. In recognition of the measurable results that Stephanie has achieved, she was honored as one of Providence Business News' 40 Under 40 Award recipients in 2024.

Experience

- Successfully barred a claim for \$500,000 against an estate in a Rhode Island Probate Court.
- Vindicated the rights of a woman who had been gravely injured by her landlord's failure to maintain the property she rented in a safe condition. She had won a judgment against her landlord in excess of half a million dollars in 2021. However, the landlord had evaded paying the judgment by hiding assets including millions of dollars of real estate. Stephanie successfully argued on summary judgment that the landlord, his wife, and several of their relatives involved in the conspiracy had violated the Fraudulent Transfer Act -- finally providing justice for the client.
- Second chaired a week-long Financial Industry Regulation Authority (FINRA) arbitration that ultimately held an investment firm and its broker accountable for pursuing unsuitable and speculative investments without the adequate consent their clients, resulting in an award of hundreds of thousands of dollars to the clients.
- Won a motion for summary judgment for two Rhode Island companies in a dispute over a shareholder agreement with issues surrounding a business valuation expert, dismissing claims for over one-million dollars brought against the clients.
- Negotiated a very favorable settlement in a class-action lawsuit brought against a Rhode Island chauffeur company accused of federal and state wage act violations.
- Assisted many individuals who have been frozen out of joint ventures in the absence of an operating agreement regain control of their businesses.

Recognition

- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America*
 - Commercial Litigation, 2024
 - Litigation – Trusts and Estates, 2024
- Providence Business News' 40 Under 40 Award Recipient
- Rhode Island Lawyers Weekly Up & Coming Lawyer

Education

- J.D., Boston University School of Law
- B.S., Northeastern University
 - *summa cum laude*

Admissions

- Massachusetts
- Rhode Island
- New York
- Connecticut
- U.S. District Court, District of Rhode Island
- U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts

Community Leadership

Stephanie has served on the Board of Directors for Providence Children’s Museum since 2022. She is also the chair of the Young Lawyer’s Committee of the of the Rhode Island chapter of the Federal Bar Association. In this position, she works with the federal judges and magistrates, local law schools, and attorneys to create, advertise, and execute programming to address the most pressing issues facing the legal community.

*Contact Stephanie to set up an in-person consultation by appointment in the Providence office.



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