



Lauren Schnitzer

Senior Counsel

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Profile

Lauren concentrates her practice on education, labor and civil litigation. She serves as general, special education and labor counsel for school districts, BOCES and other entities. Lauren regularly assists school clients with Committee on Special Education meetings, special education impartial due process hearings, appeals to the State Review Officer and matters filed in state and federal court. She counsels clients regarding their obligations pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the state laws and regulations concerning students with disabilities.

She represents clients in civil litigation and in administrative matters, including before the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights; U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; New York State Education Department; and the New York State Division of Human Rights. Her experience also includes assisting clients with discrimination, harassment and retaliation complaints; workplace investigations; employee disciplinary proceedings; student discipline; and compliance with the Dignity for All Students Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, Freedom of Information Law and the Open Meetings Law.

Lauren has lectured on a variety of education law topics at programs sponsored by the Nassau, Suffolk and Queens County Bar Associations, the National Business Institute and the New York Association of School Psychologists. She has authored articles on education and municipal law topics for *Nassau Lawyer*, *Suffolk Lawyer* and *On Board*, a publication of the New York State School Boards Association. She is a former chair of the Nassau County Bar Association's Environmental Law Committee and was an assistant chapter editor for the Second Edition of the American Bar Association's treatise "Discipline and Discharge in Arbitration."

Honors & Affiliations

- Nassau County Bar Association, Environmental Law Committee, Former Chair

Representative Presentations

- "Safety Reforms Adopted and Cell Phone Ban Considered for New York Schools," Bond "Business in 2024" Webinar, August 6, 2024
- "An Introduction to Impartial Hearings," 2024 Annual School Law Conference, Nassau County Bar Association, March 22, 2024

Education

- St. John's University School of Law (J.D. 2007)
- State University of New York at Binghamton (B.S., B.A 2003)

Bar/Court Admissions

- New York
- New Jersey
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York

Practices

- School Law
- Labor and Employment
- Litigation
- Municipalities

- “Functional Behavioral Assessments and Behavior Intervention Plans: Ensuring Best Practices,” IEP and 504 Plan Legal Workshop, National Business Institute, May 4, 2023
- “R-E-S-P-E-C-T!: The Legal Rights of LGBTQ+ Students,” 2023 Annual School Law Conference, Nassau and Suffolk Academies of Law, February 9, 2023
- “Legal Rights of Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students,” Education and Women in the Law Committees, Nassau County Bar Association, December 6, 2022
- “Rights of Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students in New York,” Annual Conference, New York Association of School Psychologists, October 22, 2022
- "Special Education 'Jeopardy!' – Navigating the Perils of Special Education Ethics One Question at a Time," Annual School Law Conference, Nassau and Suffolk Academies of Law, April 8, 2022
- "Key Laws to Know (IDEA, ADA, Section 504; etc.)," School Law Seminar – What You Need to Know About Autism Spectrum Disorder, National Business Institute, October 27, 2021
- “IEP Evaluations and Eligibility,” IEPs and 504 Plan Legal Workshop, National Business Institute, September 1, 2020
- "Developing and Implementing 504 Plans: Ensuring a Level Playing Field,” IEP and 504 Plan Legal Workshop, National Business Institute, October 4, 2019
- “Section 504 Plan Documentation: What You Need To Know,” National Business Institute, June 3, 2019
- "Smartphones, Laptops, Tablets and iPads in Schools: Legal Concerns, Search and Discipline Issues,” National Business Institute, February 7, 2019
- “Legal Rights of Transgender Students/Athletes,” Queens County Bar Association, March 28, 2018
- "Education Law Practice - St. John’s Alumni", Seventh Annual Student-Alumni Career Conference, St. John’s University School of Law, September 8, 2017
- “*Andrew F.* - SCOTUS Rules on the Requirement to Provide a FAPE: The Decision and its Impact from the Perspectives of a School Attorney, Parent Advocate and an IHO,” Education Law Committee Meeting, Nassau County Bar Association, April 26, 2017