



A fearless, strong and tenacious advocate, trial attorney Denise Lazar is appreciated for her persistence, creativity and ability to understand her clients' objectives. Most importantly, Denise identifies what victory looks like for each client, and then works tirelessly to achieve that end.

Co-chair of the firm's Toxic Tort practice group, Denise is a seasoned trial lawyer who represents companies and individuals in civil litigation matters across the country in state and federal courts. Denise also represents companies in international and domestic arbitration proceedings with a focus on injunctive relief matters. She focuses on simplifying complex legal and factual issues to make them understandable for decision-makers.

In addition to her litigation practice, Denise advises nonprofit organizations, including professional societies, private accreditation bodies and trade associations. Her experience in this area includes representing accrediting bodies and educational institutions in accreditation matters, advising ethics committees and providing counsel tailored to the unique needs of associations, particularly in the areas of ethics and compliance.

In addition to ultimately realizing the client's objective, Denise has recovered millions of dollars of judgments in the U.S. and Denise serves as co-chair of the firm's Women's Initiative, serves on the Women's Initiative Task Force and is a member of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

Professional and Community Involvement

Board member, Family Defense Center

Vice president, executive committee member and Program and Advocacy Committee member, YWCA of Metropolitan Chicago

Member, Executives Breakfast Club Executive Council

Denise A. Lazar

Partner

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EDUCATION

Cornell Law School, (J.D.)

Université de Paris –Sorbonne (Paris I),
(International Law Program)

Wheaton College, (B.A.), cum laude

BAR ADMISSIONS

Illinois

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth
Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth
Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth
Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh
Circuit

U.S. District Court for the Central District
of Illinois

U.S. District Court for the Northern
District of Illinois

U.S. District Court for the Southern
District of Illinois

U.S. District Court for the Western
District of Michigan

U.S. District Court for the Southern
District of Ohio

U.S. District Court for the Eastern
District of Wisconsin

U.S. District Court for the Western
District of Wisconsin

Member, Cornell Law School Executive Board

Founding board member, Mary Kennedy Brown Society

Co-Chair, Blessings in a Backpack Chicago Advisory Board

Honors

Barnes & Thornburg Kenneth H. Inskeep Mentoring Award, 2015

Illinois Super Lawyers magazine, 2015-2019

LANGUAGES

English

PRACTICES

Commercial Litigation

Compliance and Monitorships

Construction

Environmental Litigation

Franchising and Distribution

Litigation

Product Liability and Mass Torts

Toxic Substances and Other Torts

INDUSTRIES

Associations and Foundations

Federal Contracting, Procurement and
National Security

Nonprofit