

Jessica Lavelly

Member

jlavelly@whitakerchalk.com

817-878-0529



Background

Jessica has worked in the highly-regulated healthcare and financial services industries for almost two decades. Most recently, she served as General Counsel for a healthcare consulting company. Prior to serving as General Counsel, she spent over five years at one of the world's largest asset management companies (assets under management of \$2.4 trillion) where she served as a Director in Compliance and Risk Management for Workplace Investing. In this role she regularly negotiated with Fortune 500 companies on retirement plan services, pension administration, health & welfare administration, global data and confidentiality agreements, all under the regulatory umbrellas of DOL, ERISA, FINRA, the SEC and IRS.

Jessica began her legal career at a boutique securities law firm. The firm specialized in securities litigation and arbitration as well as complex business litigation. While at this firm, Jessica participated in over 250 investigations regarding investment related disputes, these investigations included, but were not limited to, breach of fiduciary duty, negligent misrepresentations, fraud, violation of blue-sky securities laws, violation of federal securities laws, suitability, unsuitable or unauthorized margin, selling away, over-concentration, churning, twisting, Ponzi schemes, and failure to supervise as well as the representing registered representatives with employment matters. She also represented clients (individual and trusts) in various commercial and business related matters from inception through trial (or arbitration) in state and federal court as well as tax controversies with the Internal Revenue Service. Representative commercial and business litigation cases included, but were not limited to, corporate governance, mismanagement, breach of oral or written contracts, tortious interference of business opportunities, violation of trade secrets, breach of confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements, disputes over partner or shareholder agreements, and disputes arising from the purchase or sale of a business.

Jessica received an LL.M. in taxation from Boston University. She routinely advises clients on compliance with IRS regulations and rulings, as well as state and local jurisdiction corporate, licensing, and tax law regarding activities of nonprofit organizations. As a complement to her tax work, Jessica provides experienced counsel regarding a comprehensive scope of corporate law matters; including formation of business entities, business sales, mergers, and acquisitions. Jessica has a holistic approach to her work with clients, utilizing her background in transactional matters and litigation. Regardless of the matter, she zealously represents her client's interests.

Awards & Recognitions

Areas of Practice

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Business Transactions

Business & Commercial Litigation

Contract Negotiations

ERISA – Compliance and Litigation

Healthcare Law

Securities Law

Tax Law

- Executive Compensation
- Estate Planning
- State and Local Tax
- Tax-Exempt Organizations
- Tax Controversy

Associations & Memberships

Tarrant County Bar Association

Education

LL.M., Taxation, Boston University

J.D., New England Law (tax track)

B.S., Health Care Administration/Management, University of Central Florida

Bar/Court Admissions

- Florida Bar (2002)
- Texas Bar (2017)