

## Erin A. Murray

Of Counsel

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### **Practice Areas**

Litigation and Trials
Discrimination and Harassment
Business Restructuring and M&A
Investigations
Higher Education

#### Overview

Erin A. Murray is Board Certified in Labor and Employment Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, and she has been repeatedly recognized by Best Lawyers in America<sup>©</sup> as "One to Watch." Erin advises and represents clients in a wide range of employment matters, including issues related to:

- Discrimination, harassment, and retaliation based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, and disability
- Retaliation and interference with rights under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)
- Noncompete, nonsolicitation, and nondisclosure agreements
- Wage and hour disputes under federal and state law
- Employee handbooks, policies, and separation agreements

Erin regularly advises companies on reductions-in-force, Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act (WARN) compliance, and other downsizing issues. She helps businesses comply with the Older Worker Benefits Protection Act (OWBPA) and similar anti-discrimination statutes by providing guidance for employers making selection decisions; drafting age disclosures (including cumulative disclosures for multi-phased reductions-in-force); coordinating statistical analyses; and preparing multi-state compliant release agreements for group termination programs. Erin routinely conducts WARN analyses



to determine if advance notice is required for mass layoffs and plant closures, and in the event of a WARN trigger, she assists companies with notifying the appropriate government entities. She also has experience assisting clients with international reductions-in-force and coordinating with Littler attorneys globally to advise on employment terminations abroad.

Erin also has particular skill in conducting internal workplace investigations, including sexual harassment and misconduct claims under Title IX. She has conducted numerous investigations for both public and private sector employers concerning sensitive claims of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation, as well as fiduciary duty claims. Erin has similarly presented various trainings to higher education institutions on subjects such as Title IX compliance, conducting investigations, and related issues.

In addition, Erin maintains an active litigation practice before federal and state courts, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the Texas Workforce Commission. She has experience with federal and state multidistrict litigation regarding complex contract disputes, business torts, and unfair competition claims. She has also defended businesses against class and collective action lawsuits alleging systemic employee discrimination and misclassification claims. Erin's contributions toward successfully defeating class certification in a case involving claims of "reverse" national origin discrimination helped Littler earn recognition as Law360's Employment Group of the Year in 2022.

Erin's clerkship experience has given her insight to help guide clients through the litigation process. After graduating from William & Mary Law School, she clerked in a state trial court for Judge W. Reilly Marchant and Judge Joi J. Taylor. She also interned with Judge Rossie D. Alston, Jr. at the Court of Appeals of Virginia and Justice LeRoy F. Millette, Jr. at the Supreme Court of Virginia.

During law school, Erin was an articles editor for the *William & Mary Law Review*. A native of the Northern Virginia area, Erin initially practiced in Washington, D.C. before moving to Texas.

## **Professional and Community Affiliations**

- Member, Young Lawyers Division Fellowship Program, American Bar Association, Labor and Employment Law Section, 2024-2026
- Member, Education and Workforce Council, Dallas Regional Chamber, 2024-present
- Member, Gender Fairness Committee, Houston Bar Association, 2019-2022
- Member, Houston Young Lawyers Association, 2018-2022
- Co-Chair, Young Professionals Council, Houston Urban Debate League, 2019-2022

### **Events & Speaking Engagements**

### 2024 Dallas Regional Employer Conference

Dallas, TX

August 1, 2024

Baby Steps: Balancing the Return-to-Office With Expanding Maternal and Family Leave Protections
HR Houston Gulf Coast Symposium

August 2024



# Spring into 2024: The Labor and Employment Law Updates Texas Employers Need To Know

March 28, 2024

## 2022 Houston Regional Employer Conference

Houston, TX October 6, 2022

#### **Title IX Annual Training**

University of Texas System August 4-5, 2021

#### ADA Accommodations That Come with Fur and a Tail

HR Houston Gulf Coast Symposium May 2019

### Right to Bear Arms: Legal Considerations for Employers

HR Houston Woodlands Chapter Meeting February 2019

## Recognition

• Named, Ones to Watch The Best Lawyers in America®, 2022-2025

#### Education

J.D., William & Mary Law School, 2016 B.A., The George Washington University, 2013, *cum laude* 

#### **Bar Admissions**

Texas Virginia District of Columbia

## **Courts**

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas
U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia
U.S. District Court, District of Columbia

### **Publications & Press**



#### Annual Report on EEOC Developments – Fiscal Year 2023

Littler Report

May 6, 2024

## U.S. Department of Education Issues Long-Awaited Final Title IX Regulations

Littler ASAP

April 22, 2024

## New York Curtails Release Agreements Involving Claims of Discrimination, Harassment, or Retaliation

External Publication

November 28, 2023

# New York Enacts Greater Restrictions on Release Agreements Involving Claims of Discrimination, Harassment, or Retaliation

Littler ASAP

November 22, 2023

#### Annual Report on EEOC Developments - Fiscal Year 2022

Littler Report

April 25, 2023

# Dear Littler: How should employers revise their releases, separation agreements, and settlement agreements in light of the Speak Out Act?

Dear Littler

December 15, 2022

# Fifth Circuit Rules that COVID-19 Pandemic Did Not Trigger the "Natural Disaster" Exception to WARN Notice Requirements

Littler ASAP

June 22, 2022

### Annual Report on EEOC Developments - Fiscal Year 2021

Littler Report

April 26, 2022

#### Best Lawyers in America© 2022 Edition Honors More Than 240 Littler Lawyers

Press Release

August 19, 2021

#### Annual Report on EEOC Developments – Fiscal Year 2020

Littler Report

March 1, 2021



**EEOC Expands Voluntary Resolution Efforts with Temporary Mediation and Conciliation Pilot Programs** 

Littler ASAP

July 31, 2020

**EEOC Rescinds Policy Statement Disfavoring Arbitration Agreements** 

Littler ASAP

January 2, 2020