



Joycelyn Stevenson

Office Managing Shareholder

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Practice Areas

Discrimination and Harassment
Litigation and Trials
Investigations
Handbooks and Policies
HR Advice and Counsel
Healthcare

Overview

Joycelyn Stevenson focuses a substantial part of her practice in the area of labor and employment litigation, workplace investigations, handbook review and workplace trainings. Her specific employment experience includes serving as relationship manager for several clients, providing day-to-day counseling on personnel issues including revisions on handbooks, employment contracts, policies, noncompetition and separation agreements, leave compliance, discipline and termination of employees. She also conducts strategic risk analysis of business decisions as they relate to human resource management for companies of all sizes and works with Littler's Workplace Policy Institute on policy and legislative initiatives for clients.

Joycelyn also regularly manages and serves as lead attorney in employment matters for small and multinational businesses related to employment litigation, administrative charges, mediations and arbitrations filed under state and federal law including the Tennessee Human Rights Act, Tennessee Public Protection Act, Title VII, FMLA, ADA, ADEA, and FLSA.

Joycelyn regularly participates as a featured speaker for local industry associations, Littler Nashville programs, local and state bar association events as well as programs for the Nashville Chamber of Commerce. She has been featured in a variety of print publications as a featured author on topics related to employment discrimination law and as a prominent community volunteer. She has extensive experience providing training to boards, executives and employees of all levels, as well as leading workplace investigations and risk assessments for clients.

Before rejoining Littler in 2022, Joycelyn served as the executive director of the Tennessee Bar Association and the Tennessee Legal Community Foundation where she was responsible for all business operations, government affairs, insurance partnerships, human resources, quality assurance and legal education programs for over 12,000 attorney members licensed in the state. In that role Joycelyn managed all contracts, financial reporting, governance documents and communications strategies including the work of 20 team members. She also managed the physical property of the state bar including its tenants and the sale of the downtown headquarters. Prior to her bar service, she served for 16 years as a Littler shareholder and as a partner at a regional law firm in Nashville representing companies in commercial and employment litigation, arbitrations, mediations, administrative hearings and immigration matters.

In 2012, Joycelyn was an adjunct professor of law at Vanderbilt University Law School. During law school, Joycelyn was the music notes editor for the *Journal of Entertainment Law & Practice* and was a member and associate justice for intramural competition of the Moot Court Board.

Professional and Community Affiliations

- Board Trustee, Nashville Bar Foundation, 2024-2027
- Chair, Board of Commissioners, Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority, 2023-2024
- Commissioner and Vice Chair, Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority, 2020-2023
- Master of the Bench, Harry Phillips American Inn of Court, 2022-2025
- President Elect, National Association of Bar Executives, 2021-2022
- President, Nashville Bar Association, 2016
- Member, Leadership Nashville, Class of 2014
- Member, Nashville Farmers' Market Board, 2012-2015
- President, Council on Aging of Greater Nashville, 2012-2014
- President, Lawyers' Association for Women, Marion Griffin Chapter, 2011-2012
- Member, Tennessee Bar Association
- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Napier-Looby Bar Association
- Member, TBA Leadership Law, Tennessee Bar Association, 2008

Events & Speaking Engagements

2024 Legislative Update for Tennessee Employers

June 20, 2024

The State of Employment Law - What We Saw in 2023 and What's in Store for 2024

December 14, 2023

How to Conduct Effective Workplace Investigations

May 18, 2023

Raising the Bar: Recognizing Resiliency During Times of Change

Nashville, TN

November 10, 2022

Tennessee Bar Association and Tennessee Judicial Conference Bench Bar Program

Nashville, TN

June 16, 2022

19th Amendment at 100: Bold Women Change History

Knoxville, TN

August 19, 2020

Conversation with the Women of the Tennessee Supreme Court (Moderator)

Nashville, TN

February 10, 2020

Preparing Your Workplace for 2017's Impending Legal Challenges

Nashville, TN

February 16, 2017

A Look Ahead: Employment Law Resolutions for 2017

Nashville, TN

November 17, 2016

The New Protected Class? What You Should Know About New Protections for LGBT Workers and Accommodations for Transgender Employees

MTSHRM – After Hours Workshop, Nashville, TN

June 21, 2016

EEOC Update on Protections for LGBT Workers and Accommodations for Transgender Employees

National Association of African Americans in Human Resources Statewide Meeting, 2016 Labor and Employment Symposium

June 16, 2016

Conducting a Lawful Investigation

Client Training, Nashville, TN

May 3, 2016

EEOC Update

National Association of African Americans in Human Resources, Nashville Chapter Meeting

April 14, 2016

Termination Best Practices

Client Training, Nashville, TN

March 22, 2016

Forecasting 2016: Essential Insight on a New Year of Labor & Employment Law Developments

Nashville, TN

February 18, 2016

The New Protected Class? What You Should Know About New Protections for LGBT Workers and Accommodations for Transgender Employees

Nashville, TN

November 10, 2015

2015 Southeast Employer Conference

Atlanta, GA

August 20, 2015

Basics of Immigration Compliance and Enforcement

Corporate Counsel Forum 2015 - Tennessee Bar Association, Nashville, TN

March 6, 2015

Conducting Lawful Investigations: An Interactive Program for Internal Investigators

Nashville, TN

October 8, 2014

The EEOC: Looking Back and Forward – Successes, Failures and Anticipated Trends

Nashville, TN

February 27, 2014

How to Keep Your CEO Out of Jail

Nashville, TN

November 18, 2013

Employment Law Update

Nashville, TN

May 21, 2013

Religious Accommodation in the Workplace

Diversity Summit - National Association of African Americans in Human Resources

December 6, 2012

Recognition

- Named, 10 People to Watch in Nashville Business *Nashville Business Journal*, 2024
- Named, Nashville's Most Powerful People 2024 List *Power Poll*, 2024
- Nominee *Nashville ATHENA Awards*, 2024
- Named, In Charge - Legal *Nashville Post Magazine*, 2023
- Named, Best of the Bar *Nashville Business Journal*, 2013-2016, 2023-2024
- Recipient, Women of Influence Award *Nashville Business Journal*, 2022
- Named, The Best Lawyers in America© , 2016-2017, 2025
- Nominated, Women of Influence Awards *Nashville Business Journal*, 2017
- Nominated, Nashville Athena Awards , 2017
- Named, Super Lawyer, Mid-South, *Super Lawyers*, 2016 - 2017, 2023 - 2024
- Named, In Charge - Legal *Nashville Post Magazine*, 2016-2017
- Named, Nashville Emerging Leader *Young Professionals Nashville and Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce*, 2015
- Named, Rising Star, Mid-South, *Super Lawyers*, 2013-2015
- Finalist, Nashville Emerging Leader Award in Legal Services *Young Professionals Nashville and Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce*, 2014
- Recipient, Young Professional Leadership Award *Nashville ATHENA*, 2013
- Named, Forty Under 40 *Nashville Business Journal*, 2011
- Fellow, Nashville Bar Foundation , 2011
- Recipient, First Place, Intramural Moot Court Competition, *Vanderbilt University Law School*, 2000
- Pi Sigma Alpha, National Political Science Honor Society
- Dean's List *Howard University*

Education

J.D., Vanderbilt University Law School, 2001

B.A., Howard University, 1998, *Phi Beta Kappa*

Bar Admissions

Tennessee

District of Columbia

Courts

U.S. Court of Appeals, 6th Circuit

U.S. District Court, Middle District of Tennessee

U.S. District Court, Western District of Tennessee

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Tennessee

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan

Publications & Press

7 tips for effective, internal workplace investigations

External Publication

January 2, 2025

Private employers should consider this when navigating politics in the workplace

External Publication

October 4, 2024

Tennessee employers stay committed to diversity, equity and inclusion despite the pushback

External Publication

June 24, 2024

24 Nashville Black leaders to know in 2024, from board rooms and pulpits to classrooms

In the News

February 2, 2024

10 people to watch in Nashville business in 2024

In the News

January 12, 2024

Why employers should make sure health care plans are inclusive to transgender employees

External Publication

December 20, 2023

From the Top: If Nashville execs could audit a class, here's what they'd choose

In the News

August 25, 2023

Law firm execs on their business clients' concerns

In the News

August 16, 2023

Littler Welcomes Back Joycelyn Stevenson as Office Managing Shareholder in Nashville

Press Release

December 5, 2022

Women of Influence: Joycelyn A. Stevenson, Tennessee Bar Association

Nashville Business Journal

October 17, 2022

Joycelyn Stevenson Steps Down from the Tennessee Bar Association

Nashville Business Journal

October 13, 2022

Tennessee Bar Director to Lead Littler Office

Nashville Post

October 12, 2022

Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority Elects New Officers

FlyNashville.com

May 25, 2022

Three Tapped for Governor Bill Lee Consideration in Court of Appeals Vacancy

Tennessean

March 20, 2022

Nashville Leaders Share Steps for a Diverse and Inclusive Workplace

Nashville Business Journal

November 9, 2020

Diversity at Work: Fortifying Your Inclusion Efforts in the Current Climate

Association of Corporate Counsel Newsletter

September 2020

Best Lawyers in America© 2018 Edition Honors More Than 200 Littler Lawyers

Press Release

August 17, 2017

Joycelyn Stevenson: Leading the Way

Attorney At Law Magazine

July 20, 2017

Protections Against Discrimination Based on Transgender Status: What Does the Future Hold?

In the News

May 4, 2017

How a Bathroom Bill Might Affect Tennessee Employers

In the News

April 4, 2017

Why Tennesseans Should Know About LGBT Worker Protections

External Publication

October 20, 2016

From the President: Final Countdown

External Publication

October 1, 2016

Expand: Be Creative to Bring Diversity to Your Office

External Publication

September 8, 2016

The Best Lawyers in America® Honors More Than 180 Littler Lawyers in Its 2017 Edition

Press Release

August 16, 2016

From the President: Improving the Practice of Law Through Education, Service, & Fellowship

External Publication

August 1, 2016

Employers Must Actively Discourage Workplace Harassment

External Publication

June 15, 2016

From the President: Taking Positions on Matters of Public Interest

External Publication

June 1, 2016

From the President: Why We Serve

External Publication

May 1, 2016

From the President: A Day in the Life

External Publication

April 1, 2016

The Boss: Joycelyn Stevenson, Nashville Bar Association/Littler Mendelson PC

In the News

March 4, 2016

From the President: Valuing Diversity

External Publication

March 1, 2016

Treat Me Equitably and As I See Myself, Part 2

External Publication

February 29, 2016

Treat Me Equitably and As I See Myself, Part 1

External Publication

February 22, 2016

From the President: New Year, New Promise

External Publication

February 1, 2016

Got Questions on Accommodating Transgender Employees? Here are Some Answers

External Publication

January 27, 2016

Littler's Joycelyn Stevenson Elected President of the Nashville Bar Association

Press Release

January 4, 2016

From The President

External Publication

January 1, 2016

Littler Attorneys Recognized in the Best Lawyers in America© 2016 Edition

Press Release

August 18, 2015

Nashville Emerging Leader Awards finalists announced

In the News

June 8, 2015

Littler's Joycelyn Stevenson Elected President-Elect of the Nashville Bar Association

Press Release

December 17, 2014

Nashville Shareholders Named to Nashville Business Journal's 2013 "Best of the Bar" List

Press Release

June 6, 2013

Littler's Joycelyn A. Stevenson Receives Prestigious 2013 ATHENA Young Professional Leadership Award®

Press Release

March 22, 2013

Joycelyn A. Stevenson Joins Littler's Growing Nashville Office

Press Release

February 26, 2013

Changes in the Ticket Distribution Industry: Is this the Beginning of the End for Ticketmaster?

Journal of Entertainment Law & Practice

Winter 2001

Changes in the Ticket Distribution Industry: Is this the Beginning of the End for Ticketmaster?

Vanderbilt Law School Journal of Entertainment Law & Practice

Winter 2001