

Katharine S. Perry

Partner
Boston
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PRACTICE AREAS

Asbestos Litigation
Business Litigation + Counseling
Child Victims Act + Sexual Misconduct Defense
Construction
Design Professionals
Environmental Litigation
General Liability
National Trial Team
Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
Premises Liability
Products Liability
Silica Litigation
Talc Litigation
Toxic Tort Liability

EDUCATION

Suffolk University Law School, JD, 1996
Hobart and William Smith College, BA, 1993

BAR ADMISSIONS

Massachusetts
Connecticut
Maine
New York
Vermont
US District Court, District of Massachusetts
US District Court, District of Connecticut
US District Court, District of Maine
US District Court, Eastern District of New York
US District Court, Southern District of New York
US Supreme Court

Overview

Katharine Perry is a seasoned litigator with 28 years of experience and a reputation for effective representation in complex product liability, medical malpractice, environmental, construction, infectious disease counseling, and toxic tort cases. She has won noted victories for her Massachusetts, regional and national corporate clients, including in 2017 successfully arguing an appeal before the Connecticut Supreme Court that reversed a verdict and clarified the expert evidence necessary to establish proximate cause.

Katie has built her toxic tort practice on a deep foundation of experience, serving on national asbestos litigation defense teams and coordinating complicated, multi-jurisdictional toxic tort litigation. She also claims federal and state jury trial experience in medical malpractice matters and has taught a Medical Malpractice Case Study at Northeastern University's Legal Nurse Consulting Program in Boston. She has more than two decades of experience representing general contractors and subcontractors in third-party claims, contract claims and environmental compliance matters. Within construction litigation, her clients have ranged from global companies to local community contractors.

Additionally, Katie represents clients in a variety of per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) related matters & class actions, advising them on alleged personal injuries, property damages and impact on natural resources. She offers strategic guidance on navigating evolving PFAS regulations at both the state and federal levels, ensuring her clients are well-prepared to handle complex legal and regulatory challenges.

Her practice extends across New England, with bar admissions in numerous state and federal courts as well as the Supreme Court of the United States.

Katie resides in Hamilton, Massachusetts, with her husband and three children.

Experience

+ Wayne Bagley et al. v. Wyeth Holdings Corporation (SC 19835). In 2017, Katie successfully argued an appeal before the Connecticut Supreme Court. The Supreme Court agreed with Katie that at trial

the plaintiff failed to prove through admissible expert testimony that her client's product was the proximate cause of the plaintiff's injury. The Supreme Court reversed the judgment and remanded the case with direction to grant the defendant's motion to set aside the verdict and for judgment notwithstanding the verdict. [Bagley Connecticut Decision].

+ Ronald Dummitt and Doris Kay Dummitt v. Elliott Company. On August 17, 2011, after a nine week trial before Judge Joan A. Madden in the Supreme Court of New York, County of New York, a jury returned a verdict in favor of the Plaintiffs. The jury found Elliott Company, AP&S' client, only 1% responsible. Plaintiffs alleged that Mr. Dummitt developed cancer as a result of exposure to asbestos while working in the United States Navy as a boiler technician from 1960 to 1977. As counsel for Elliott Company, Katharine argued that Elliott Company did not manufacture, supply or specify any of the asbestos-containing products at issue and did not breach any duty to warn.
+ Kenneth Balthazar and Sandra Balthazar v. Foster Wheeler Energy Corp. On June 1, 2007, after a five-week trial, a Suffolk County jury returned the first Massachusetts defense verdict in an asbestos personal injury lawsuit in over 10 years. As co-counsel for Foster Wheeler, Katharine argued that her client did not breach any duty to warn Mr. Balthazar, who suffered from cancer resulting from asbestos exposure, of potential asbestos hazards in boilers supplied by Foster Wheeler for a Navy destroyer in 1949, and jurors concurred.

Recognition

+ Martindale-Hubbell Distinguished Attorney
+ *Best Lawyers in America,* Product Liability Litigation—Defendants, 2026–2027

Involvement

+ Faculty Member, MG+M Trial Academy
+ American Bar Association
+ Defense Research Institute
+ Association of Defense Trial Attorneys
+ Mass Bay Girls Lacrosse League - Hamilton-Wenham Youth Lacrosse - U13 Coach

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