

Jeanette S. Riggins

Partner
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PRACTICE AREAS

Asbestos Litigation
Construction
Design Professionals
Environmental Litigation
General Liability
National Trial Team
Premises Liability
Products Liability
Talc Litigation
Toxic Tort Liability

EDUCATION

Tulane University School of Law, JD, 2000
Louisiana State University, BA, 1997

BAR ADMISSIONS

Louisiana
Mississippi
New York
Texas
US District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana
US District Court, Middle District of Louisiana
US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
US District Court, Western District of Louisiana
US District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania
US District Court, Southern District of Texas

Overview

Jeanette Riggins is a trial attorney with a wealth of experience. She currently serves on the National Trial Team for multiple clients and regularly appears in state and federal courts in various states. Beyond this work, Jeanette is also a member of the national coordinating counsel teams for several of the firm's clients, managing and supervising local counsel in the defense of companies. Jeanette has received Martindale Hubbell's prestigious AV Preeminent Rating and was also recognized as one of the 2020–2027 Best Lawyers in America. Her practice primarily focuses on products liability, general liability, toxic tort, construction litigation, insurance defense and premises liability claims. Jeanette has defended an extensive array of clients including product manufacturers, suppliers, contractors, employers, premise defendants, executive officers and insurance companies. In the context of products liability, she has defended a diverse group of clients, including manufacturers and/or suppliers of friction products, gaskets, packing, pumps, joint compound, asbestos containing pipe, explosion proof fittings, UPS, elevators, escalators, circuit breakers, arc chutes and cosmetic talcum powder products. Jeanette has also defended against environmental litigation claims, including claims related to benzene exposure, as well as environmental contamination from dry cleaning operations.

Jeanette earned her JD from Tulane University School of Law in 2000. While in law school, she was a member of the Tulane Moot Court Board and winner of the 2000 Phelps Dunbar Senior Trial Competition. Upon graduation, she served as a law clerk to the Honorable J. Sterling Snowdy, Madeline Jasmine and Mary Becnel of the 40th Judicial District Court, State of Louisiana.

Jeanette is admitted to practice law in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and New York, as well as before the US District Courts for all Districts of Louisiana, the Southern District of Texas, the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and the US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

In addition to being a member of the bar associations for all states in which she is admitted to practice, Jeanette is a member of the Defense Research Institute and the prestigious Association of Defense Trial Attorneys. She is also a member of the distinguished Trial Advocacy

faculty at Louisiana State University.

Trial Experience

Over the past decade, Jeanette has served as lead trial counsel for a number of clients, including contractors, suppliers and manufacturers in asbestos lawsuits across the country.

Recognition

+ Lawyers of Color, Wonderful Women List, 2023
+ 2021 *New Orleans CityBusiness* Leadership in Law honoree
+ *Best Lawyers in America*, Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions—Defendants, 2020–2027; Product Liability Litigation—Defendants, 2022–2027; Litigation—Environmental, 2026–2027
+ Martindale-Hubbell AV Peer and Judicial Review Rating
+ National Top 100 Black Lawyers

Involvement

+ Faculty Member, MG+M Trial Academy
+ MG+M Diversity, Equity, Inclusion + Belonging Partner Committee and Women's Forum
+ Association of Defense Trial Attorneys
+ Defense Research Institute
+ National Black Lawyers
+ Louisiana Bar Association
+ Mississippi Bar Association
+ Texas State Bar Association
+ Bar Association of the Fifth Federal Circuit
+ LSU Trial Advocacy Faculty
+ Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD) Fellow
+ 2018 American Bar Association National Mock Trial Competition Judge (final round)

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