

Stephanie Rifkind

Partner
Chicago
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PRACTICE AREAS

Asbestos Litigation
Toxic Tort Liability

EDUCATION

The John Marshall Law School, JD, 2005
University of Illinois, Chicago, BA, Honors College, 2002

BAR ADMISSIONS

Illinois
US District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Overview

Stephanie Rifkind has defended companies in asbestos litigation since 2007. She serves as national coordinating counsel for a Fortune 250 company and manages high-volume toxic tort caseloads nationally and locally in Illinois and Missouri. Stephanie has represented premises owners, as well as manufacturers, suppliers, and retailers of various types of products and equipment, including vehicles, aircraft, friction components, machinery, engines, furnaces, boilers, construction products, talc products, consumer appliances, and industrial valves and pumps.

Stephanie coordinates and executes defense strategies to effectively and efficiently extricate her clients from toxic tort cases. This development of legal and factual defenses includes pleading and motion strategies, complex discovery issues, strategic deposition tactics, product and case-specific investigations, management of expert retention and discovery, and preparation of corporate representatives. Stephanie's oversight of settlement strategy encompasses evaluation of practicality, timing, and case valuation. Stephanie also counsels her clients regarding trial risk and preparation strategy, and coordinates same when necessary.

Stephanie is frequently involved in asbestos litigation in challenging jurisdictions, such as California, New York, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina. She collaborates with counsel around the country to provide her clients with the most qualified, reliable, and prepared defense team possible.

Recognition

+ *Law Bulletin Media*, “Leading Lawyers,” 2024–2025, “Illinois Leading Lawyers—Emerging Lawyers,” 2019-2021
+ *Crain's Chicago Business*, “Notable Gen X Leaders,” 2021
+ *Best Lawyers in America*®, Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions—Defendants, 2024, 2026–2027

Involvement

+ American Bar Association
+ Chicago Bar Association
+ Defense Research Institute

- National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL)

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