



MEET DOVE

*“I take on my clients’ needs and causes as if they were my own and dedicate myself to their fight and desired outcome.”*

— Dove A.E. Burns

Dove focuses her practice on employment law and professional liability. She has experience defending corporate clients and executives, professional service providers, multibillion-dollar international restaurant chains, hospitals, municipalities, housing authorities, nonprofits, and boards of directors in a variety of high-exposure matters.

Dove is a connector. She is relied upon to connect her clients with people and services that will fulfill their needs and solve their complex issues. A natural problem solver, she is driven to serve and resolve. From counseling on the smallest employment or investment issue to the most complex multi-party litigation, she is the shoulder to cry on, investigator to rely on, and strategist to bet on.

In her free time, Dove loves to cook creative dishes, entertain, and spend time with her husband and son. As a former professional opera singer, she also is a patron of the arts and enjoys attending musical performances. She is an avid dog lover who has two pugs and a German Shepherd.

EXPERIENCE

Dove provides proactive counsel to employers, handles employment and severance agreements, drafts policy manuals and other management documents and conducts training sessions to aide employers in minimizing and the risk of litigation. She has resolved many disputes through arbitration, mediation, and conciliation in addition to trying numerous cases to verdict.

Her experience includes the following:

- Representing executives in matters involving allegations of wrongdoing, including claims of sexual misconduct, racial harassment, and corporate malfeasance;
- Handling complex wage and hour matters;
- Restrictive covenant disputes;
- Securities and antitrust litigation;
- Defending higher education institutions;
- Condominium/co-op law;
- Defending lawyers, mental health professionals, architects, engineers, real estate professionals, property managers, and registered representatives regulated by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority;
- General liability, municipal liability, and commercial matters.

A small sampling of Dove's more notable cases includes:

- Achieving the dismissal with prejudice of a lawsuit brought under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act against a school district and its superintendent;
- Successfully defending a Connecticut city housing authority against alleged violations of the Fair Housing Act, the Rehabilitation Act, and the ADA;
- Obtaining judgment in favor of a school teacher, social worker, and principal against claims of infliction of emotional distress, defamation, and equal protection violations;
- Achieving the dismissal with prejudice of a suit brought by a towing company against a city police department and its chief, in which allegations included violation of due process, violation of equal protection rights, and First Amendment retaliation;
- Obtaining dismissal on behalf of a multibillion-dollar national fast food chain in a case of first impression involving ADA public accommodation issues;
- Winning EEOC dismissal of a race and national origin claim against an international fast food giant; Obtaining dismissal of a multimillion-dollar sexual harassment employment matter in federal court;
- Earning no-cause findings from the EEOC and the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities on numerous matters;
- Successfully defending the board of directors in a condominium/co-op election dispute;
- Obtaining injunctive relief on behalf of employers in non-compete and trade secret/proprietary disputes;
- Earning dismissals of Section 1983 claims on behalf of a school board and a municipality;
- Obtaining dismissal of multimillion-dollar ERISA claims in federal court;

- Winning summary judgment in a multimillion-dollar property dispute and planning and zoning matter;
- Obtained dismissal of \$10 million dollar securities and fraud matter involving multi-state and venue complexities.

## NEWS & INSIGHTS

### **Dove A.E. Burns to present on employment law & professional liability**

June 08, 2022 by Dove A.E. Burns

### **Law360: NFL Suit Spotlights How Employee Bias Claims Are Weighed**

February 15, 2022 by Stacey L. Pitcher, Dove A.E. Burns

### **Dove A.E. Burns and Stacey Pitcher to Participate in the 5th Annual Women in Insurance Leadership ExecuSummit**

March 08, 2022 by Stacey L. Pitcher, Dove A.E. Burns

### **A “First-in-the-Nation” Vaccine Mandate – NYC’s Guidance on the Private Employer Vaccine Mandate**

December 17, 2021 by Dove A.E. Burns, Alexandra L. Simels

### **Dove A.E. Burns Featured in Super Lawyers® Magazine for her Prior Opera Singing**

October 15, 2021 by Dove A.E. Burns

### **Dove A.E. Burns Listed in 2021 Super Lawyers®**

September 30, 2021 by Dove A.E. Burns

## ACTIVITIES & HONORS

Dove has been recognized as one of Connecticut’s Super Lawyers ® (2016-2019), and as a New York – Metro Super Lawyers (2020-2021), and Rising Star ® (2015-2019). Her Martindale Peer Review Rating is AV Preeminent.

Dove’s professional affiliations include:

- Professional Liability Underwriting Society Hartford Chapter: Co-Chair, Educational Committee; Secretary, Steering Committee;
- Claims and Litigation Management Alliance;
- Defense Research Institute;
- Professional Liability Defense Federation;
- National Association of Women Lawyers;
- Connecticut Bar Association;
- Fairfield County Bar Association;
- New York City Bar Association; and
- Insurance Federation of New York.

## Awards Won\*



\*[Click here](#) for a description of the standard or methodology on which the awards and honors are based. No aspect of this advertisement is approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

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## EDUCATION

- University of Connecticut School of Law, JD
- Northwestern University, BA

## ADMISSIONS

- Connecticut
- New York
- United States District Court for the District of Connecticut
- United States District Court for the Southern District of New York
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

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## CAPABILITIES

### Litigation

Appellate  
Commercial Litigation  
Construction Litigation  
Environmental  
Insurance

### Business & Finance

### Trusts & Estates

Fiduciary Litigation

### Industry Focus

Financial Services  
Health Care  
Individuals & Private Clients  
Local Governments & Municipal Authorities  
Nonprofit Organizations

Corporate

Real Estate & Construction

Universities & Secondary Schools

**Labor & Employment**

Counseling, Compliance & Training

Employment Litigation

Employment-Related Agreements

Executive Compensation & Employee Benefits

Internal Investigations

Traditional Labor Relations & Collective  
Bargaining

Wage & Hour