



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 Shepard.

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 resolves 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 Burns Presented at PLDF's Webinar "New Battle Lines for Employment Claims"**

November 13, 2020 by Dove A.E. Burns

### **Dove A.E. Burns Included in 2020 New York Metro Super Lawyers® List**

October 28, 2020 by Dove A.E. Burns

### **Dove A.E. Burns Named to 2020 Connecticut Super Lawyers® List**

October 13, 2020 by Dove A.E. Burns

**ICYMI: COVID Considerations for Employers – From Layoffs and Loans to Payroll and Paid Leave**

April 13, 2020 by Stacey L. Pitcher, Michael S. Pepperman, Dove A.E. Burns

**Obermayer Attorneys Participate at 4th Annual Women in Insurance Leadership ExecuSummit**

March 03, 2020 by Allison N. Genard, Kelly S. Sullivan, Stacey L. Pitcher, Dove A.E. Burns

**Dove Burns’ Article “Cases Against Celeb Restaurant Owners Highlight FLSA Risks” Published in Law360**

February 05, 2020 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, 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.

**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

Internal Investigations  
Traditional Labor Relations & Collective Bargaining  
Wage & Hour

### Business & Finance

Corporate

### Trusts & Estates

Fiduciary Litigation

### Labor & Employment

Counseling, Compliance & Training  
Employment Litigation  
Employment-Related Agreements  
Executive Compensation & Employee Benefits

### Industry Focus

Financial Services  
Health Care  
Individuals & Private Clients  
Local Governments & Municipal Authorities  
Nonprofit Organizations  
Real Estate & Construction  
Universities & Secondary Schools