

## Jessica L. Kaplan

### Associate

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Jessica L. Kaplan specializes in the defense of mass tort claims and complex civil litigation, having significant experience with all facets of the litigation process. She has authored a wide variety of successful motions and briefs, including summary judgment, discovery and evidentiary motions filed in federal and state courts around the country.

Ms. Kaplan has extensive pre-trial experience, conducting almost 60 depositions in less than three years of practice, including depositions of plaintiffs, treating physicians, corporate representatives, and life care planners. She has drafted and responded to written discovery requests, assisted in the preparation and defense of depositions of corporate representatives, coordinated litigation strategies with local counsel, and overseen corporate document collection and review. She also has appellate experience as part of a team that drafted appellate briefs filed before the Louisiana state First Circuit Court of Appeals and Louisiana Supreme Court.

Ms. Kaplan currently represents a large international chemical manufacturing company in consolidated litigations in Louisiana state court involving hundreds of purported personal injury claims stemming from a manufacturing plant fire and related insurance coverage disputes. Through thorough discovery and significant briefing, she most recently helped to successfully win summary judgment for the Firm's client in those cases pending before the court in Ascension Parish. In Iberville Parish, she aided in obtaining a voluntary dismissal in the first set of multi-plaintiff cases to be tried, and has served as lead trial associate for multiple subsequent trials. In this role, Ms. Kaplan handled all aspects of trial workup, including pre-trial motions practice, expert witness preparation, and development of trial direct and cross-examination outlines for critical expert and fact witnesses in the case. During trial, she also authored several expedited interlocutory appeals as well as the motion for directed verdict.

Ms. Kaplan has also worked on insurance coverage matters, achieving summary judgment through extensive briefing for several of the Firm's clients in the railroad industry. In 2016, she attended the National Railroad Trial College; she is a member of the National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel.

Ms. Kaplan's pro bono practice has included social security disability work and tutoring students at Garrison Elementary School in preparation for Washington, DC's Geoplunge geography tournament.

## Litigation

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Complex Litigation

Pharmaceutical Products

Toxic Torts & Products Liability

## Education

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University of Southern California  
(B.A., 2006, *magna cum laude*)

Georgetown University Law  
Center (J.D., 2014)

## Admissions

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District of Columbia and  
Maryland

Before joining the Firm, Ms. Kaplan worked as a legal intern at the Florence, Italy offices of G.E. Oil & Gas where, among other things, she assisted in the defense of a breach of contract litigation in Colombia, the enforcement of an international arbitration award in Venezuela, and an investigation assessing the effectiveness of the Online Dispute Resolution system.

At Georgetown Law, Ms. Kaplan was a Legal Research & Writing Law Fellow, a member of the trial division of the Barristers' Council, and on the Dean's List. She is a *magna cum laude* graduate of the University of Southern California, and in 2010-11 she studied Italian language and culture at the Scuola Leonardo DaVinci in Florence.

Ms. Kaplan was a member of the Firm's 2013 Summer Associate class. She currently serves on the Firm's Recruitment Committee.