

DEBRA WEISS FORD

Jackson Lewis P.C.
100 International Drive, Suite 363
Portsmouth, NH 03801
(603) 559-2700
debra.ford@jacksonlewis.com

Debra Weiss Ford is Office Managing Principal of the Portsmouth, NH office of Jackson Lewis P.C. Ms. Ford has over 35 years of experience representing employers in litigation matters before the state and federal courts and administrative agencies. She also represents employers before the New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights, the Maine Human Rights Commission, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the New Hampshire Department of Labor, and the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination.

Ms. Ford trains frequently in New England on issues related to employment law, including discrimination, wrongful discharge, reductions in force, termination issues, wage and hour issues, proper documentation, leaves of absence and Title IX compliance. She regularly advises clients on employment-related matters.

Ms. Ford received her B.A., *magna cum laude*, from Drew University in 1979 and her J.D. from Temple University School of Law in 1982. She is an approved federal and state mediator. She is a member of the New Hampshire Bar Association, Labor and Employment Law Section, Massachusetts Bar Association, Maine Bar Association, American Bar Association, New Hampshire Trial Lawyers Association, American Arbitration Association, the American Board of Trial Advocates, and the National Association of College and University Attorneys. She is admitted to practice in the State of New Hampshire, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, State of Maine, United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire, United States District Court for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, United States Claims Court, and the Supreme Court of the United States. Ms. Ford was a member of the New Hampshire Board of Bar Examiners from 1993 to 2005. She was appointed by the United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire to serve on the Merit Selection Panel to consider the reappointment of the incumbent magistrate. In 2003, she was appointed to serve on the Federal Court Advisory Committee.

Ms. Ford is listed by *Chambers* as one of America's Leading Lawyers for Business. She is the author of the New Hampshire chapter of *Workplace Privacy*, a legal reference book for managers and human resource professionals, published by the Thompson Publishing Group, a division of West Publications. Ms. Ford was elected as a Fellow to The College of Labor and Employment Lawyers in June 2006 and selected as a Fellow in The Trial Lawyer Honorary Society by the Litigation Counsel of America in 2014. She is named as New Hampshire's Best Labor and Employment Lawyer by *Business NH Magazine*. She is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* by Woodward White, Inc., and has been recognized by *New England Super Lawyers* as one of the top 50 women lawyers in New England and one of the top 100 lawyers in New England. She is listed in Top NH Lawyers in Labor and Employment in *New Hampshire Magazine* and has consistently been named the Best Lawyers' Manchester Employment Law – Management Lawyer of the Year. She is also rated AV by Martindale-Hubbell. Ms. Ford has been named one of the "Leaders in their Field" in the *Chambers USA Legal Guide* since 2012. Ms. Ford is rated a "Top Rated Lawyer" by *American Lawyer Media* and *Martindale-Hubbell*.TM Ms. Ford has been recognized by *Legal 500* for Workplace and Employment Counseling. Ms. Ford has been recognized for litigation skills by *Benchmark Litigation* in New Hampshire. Ms. Ford serves as a board member for the Portsmouth Music Hall, Seacoast Human Resources Association, and End 68 Hours of Hunger, and she is an emeritus board member of the New Hampshire SPCA.