



## Aviva Stein

Partner

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Aviva Stein is a seasoned litigator and trial attorney whose multifaceted practice encompasses general liability defense work, including premises liability defense, construction matters, property damage litigation, labor law matters, and insurance coverage analysis and litigation. She is well-versed in successfully handling a broad range of high-exposure cases before the New York Supreme Courts and District Courts, as well as the Appellate Divisions of the First and Second Departments. Additionally, Aviva partners her legal acumen with her extensive show jumping background to defend farms, barns, trainers, and other equine professionals against claims related to general liability, premises liability, and contract disputes. Aviva's extensive experience, commitment to excellence, and steadfast lawyering routinely achieve favorable decisions for the numerous Wilson Elser clients she serves as direct counsel, monitoring counsel, or pre- and post-verdict parachute counsel. In addition to serving as first chair, Aviva frequently collaborates with one of the firm's foremost trial lawyers, forming a formidable courtroom team that consistently achieves superior trial results for its clients and those of others.

Aviva's insurance coverage and litigation practice includes coverage analysis and litigation for domestic and international primary and excess insurers with an emphasis on complex coverage issues within the United States. She routinely provides coverage assessments and is litigation counsel (for declaratory judgment issues or defense litigation) for international carriers with high-exposure claims based in the United States and has achieved notable and favorable results for Underwriters in the London insurance market.

Aviva is an active member of the firm's Complex Tort & General Casualty Practice team; the Insurance & Reinsurance Coverage and Defense practice teams; and the London Market, Canada, and Israel practice teams. She is a frequent presenter to the London Market, various London syndicates, domestic carriers, brokers, and insureds on all topics ranging from best practices, risk management, litigation dos and don'ts, trial strategies, current and forecasted legal trends, statutory law, case handling, emerging law around the

### Services

- Appellate
- Canada
- Construction
- Complex Tort & General Casualty
- Insurance & Reinsurance Coverage
- Insurance & Reinsurance Defense
- Israel

country, mediation and best settlement practices, and insurance policy interpretation, to name a few. Aviva also is involved with the firm's trial training program, helping to develop the deep bench of up-and-coming trial attorneys within Wilson Elser. Aviva frequently steps up to solve problems and find creative solutions for clients and colleagues alike.

### **General Liability Litigation**

In connection with her general liability defense practice, Aviva defends many well-known real estate investment trusts, commercial real estate conglomerates, hospitals and medical facilities, nursing and other community living homes, sports leagues, national and international sports franchises, sports arenas and entertainment venues, equestrian properties and business owners, global investment firms and national construction entities in their capacities as property owners and contractors in connection with general liability claims, premises litigation and complex Labor Law claims. Aviva's significant experience defending premises liability matters includes defense of claims regarding personal injury, slip and fall and trip and fall premises cases, horseback-riding injuries and equine sale contract disputes, assault, conspiracy, inadequate security, elevator and escalator malfunction accidents, ADA compliance, construction accidents and auto claims to name a few. She also handles cases involving property damage, navigation law claims against petroleum companies and commercial carriers, and product liability matters as well as employment matters within the District Courts of New York. In addition, Aviva routinely is retained as monitoring counsel in high-exposure personal injury matters in both the general liability context and labor law/construction sector and retained post-verdict to guide results to a more favorable outcome.

### **Insurance Law Coverage and Litigation**

In connection with her insurance coverage and litigation practice, Aviva's practice and team handles insurance coverage work focused on analysis and litigation of complex coverage issues for domestic and international market insurers. Her practice includes coverage analysis, opinions, declaratory judgment actions, subrogation defense, property damage analysis and litigation from the coverage side, and complex and routine coverage litigation at all levels of exposure, particularly coverage disputes involving large and/or complex claims on primary and excess policies. Aviva's work for the international insurance markets brings her to the firm's London office quarterly where she consults with various underwriters on U.S.-based claims, providing advice and guidance in all aspects of ongoing insurance coverage litigation.

### **Equine Defense Matters**

Aviva joins her extensive show-jumping experience with her litigation practice, defending horse owners, property owners, stable owners, and English and Western training facilities against personal injury, contract disputes, and property damage complaints brought in connection with equine sports. She works hand in hand with these facilities, horse professionals, and horse owners to smartly navigate the defense of their cases, leveraging her long-standing litigation career and extensive equine experience to achieve optimal outcomes.

### **Education**

- Hofstra University School of Law (J.D., 2005)

- Goucher College (B.A., 2002)
  - cum laude

### **Bar Admissions**

- New York
- New Jersey

### **Court Admissions**

- U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Western District of New York

### **Professional Affiliations**

- American Bar Association
- New York State Bar Association
- New York City Bar Association

### **Awards & Honors**

- Selected for inclusion in Super Lawyers Top Women Attorneys, New York Metro, 2016
- Selected for inclusion in Rising Stars for New York Super Lawyers, 2015
- Panelist, "Labor Law and Construction Accidents," New York State Bar Association Continuing Education Program, 2009-2013