



Judy C. Selmecci

Partner

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Judy Selmecci is a dedicated appellate specialist and a core member of the firm's national Appellate practice. She is the go-to resource for briefing and arguing appeals, including new appellate cases. Her practice covers at the appellate level all substantive areas of the law handled by the firm. She has handled hundreds of appeals, including before all New York appellate divisions and New Jersey appellate courts and the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. These cases have resulted in more than 200 published decisions to Judy's name and frequently facilitated favorable dispositions of other cases, including advantageous settlements.

In addition, Judy is heavily involved in setting strategy for cases in the pre-trial and trial phases. She assists at the trial level with advice regarding long-term strategy, procedural issues and drafting complex motions for colleagues, especially in high-exposure cases. This consultation is done with an eye toward dismissal at the trial level and positioning cases in the best possible way for any eventual appeal. Once a case is on trial, Judy provides trial-monitoring, including daily transcript review and assistance. In this capacity, she is able to provide daily feedback and research and analysis that can enhance the strength and impact of the firm's arguments with the trial court and help ensure error preservation for the possibility of appeal.

Judy is most respected for her ability to win long-shot cases and for advancing the law in a favorable way for our clients. A classic example is an early 2018 victory where Judy handled the appeal of an orphan seeking legal status in the United States before an appellate court that had not heard precedent cases of this type in the past. In the resulting decision, agreeing with Judy's arguments, the court adopted the law from other appellate courts and awarded our *pro bono* client the relief he needed. In doing so, the court created new and highly favorable precedent for others in similar circumstances.

Judy has lectured and published extensively on legal issues, including procedural points of

Services

- Appellate
- National Trial Team

law that are helpful to the firm's clients, many of whom are lawyers or have legal backgrounds. Judy provides nearly daily training in motion writing and procedural issues to many of the firm's junior associates.

Appeals

Appellate law is unique in that attorneys present issues to a multi-judge panel in briefs and at oral argument. There is no additional discovery and the record is limited to the testimony and evidence presented to the trial court. Successful presentations on appeal turn on the record developed before the trial court, the applicable law, and the appellate practitioner's ability to identify and present favorable arguments. Judy has exceptional research, analytical and writing skills in addition to an effective and distinctive oral argument style that she skillfully combines with her broad and practical knowledge of substantive areas of law and familiarity with appellate practice. These skills, knowledge and abilities enable her to prevail before the often-demanding judges on appellate panels.

The Law of Organ Donation

Among Judy's impressive credentials is her involvement with most New York City organ donation cases in which an organ procurement organization (OPO) was sued for its role in the transplant process. In most cases, Judy has been able to secure the OPOs' dismissal in these highly sensitive cases, sometimes in precedent-setting decisions. This experience makes her one of the foremost practitioners in this emerging field.

Education

- Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University (J.D., 2005)
- Rutgers University (B.A., 2000)

Bar Admissions

- New York
- New Jersey

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey

Professional Affiliations

- New York State Bar Association
- New York State Medical Defense Bar Association