



Jennifer V. Ruiz

Partner

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PRACTICES

Workers' Compensation

EDUCATION

J.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2002

B.A., Peace College, 1999

A.A., Peace College, 1997

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

North Carolina State Bar

Jennifer has been in litigation practice for 19 years with a focus in the area of workers' compensation. She regularly defends employers, carriers, and self-insureds; and has considerable experience at all levels of litigation, including mediations, hearings, medical depositions, Full Commission hearings, workers' compensation lien hearings in Superior Court and the Court of Appeals. She has obtained favorable results for clients in a variety of workers' compensation matters including injury by accident, specific traumatic incident, catastrophic injury, medical causation/treatment, ongoing disability, and return to work issues and disputes.

Jennifer is the Managing Partner of the firm's Raleigh office. She has served in leadership roles on many firm committees, including the Women to Women Initiative, the Associate Development Committee and the Management Committee. She is currently the Co-Chair of the firm's Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Associate development and mentoring have always been near and dear to Jennifer's heart. She always embraces the opportunity to teach and makes a point to acknowledge diversity in skill and perception.

In 2010, Jennifer was identified as one of Business Leader's Movers & Shakers in the local business community. Jennifer was also selected to the North Carolina Rising Stars list, published nationwide in Super Lawyers® Magazines from 2010-2012. Jennifer was selected by her peers for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America© 2016 - 2022 in the field of Workers' Compensation Law - Employers.

In addition to her legal practice, Jennifer regularly presents continuing education seminars for her clients on topics such as

occupational diseases, psychological injuries, case law updates, injuries by accident, and Medicare concerns. She has also presented at legal seminars for fellow North Carolina attorneys on proper handling of workers' compensation claims from a defense attorney's perspective. In 2012, she presented at the North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys' Annual Meeting on legislative developments in the workers' compensation arena. In 2012 and 2013, Jennifer was co-organizer and moderator for the North Carolina Bar Association's Workers' Compensation Section's annual two-day legal conference. She has also been asked to serve as a panel speaker at her alma mater for career mentors as well as at Campbell Law School to address mediating workers' compensation claims for the defense.

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

- North Carolina State Bar
- Defense Research Institute
- North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys
 - » *Diversity Committee, Co-Chair, 2021*

PRESENTATIONS

- *Cross Examinations: How to Get the Most Out of An Opposing Witness*, NCADA Annual Meeting (June 2017)
- *Helpful Tips to Settle Cases*, NC Advocates for Justice (December 2017)
- *Compensability of COVID-19 Cases*, NCIC Annual Conference (October 2020)