

## MELANIE J. FOREMAN

SHAREHOLDER



### AREAS OF PRACTICE

Product Liability  
General Liability  
Trucking & Transportation Liability  
Public Entity and Civil Rights Litigation

### CONTACT INFO

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2000 Market Street, Suite 2300  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

### ADMISSIONS

New York  
2014

Pennsylvania  
2014

U.S. District Court Eastern District  
of Pennsylvania  
2016

### EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania Law  
School (J.D., 2013)

University of Pennsylvania (B.A.,  
summa cum laude, 2008)

### HONORS & AWARDS

Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch®,  
Product Liability Litigation -  
Defendants; Transportation Law  
2021-2023

2019 Craig M. Perry Service  
Award, Philadelphia Bar  
Association

### OVERVIEW

Melanie is a shareholder in the Casualty Department, where she defends insured and self-insured entities against claims in state and federal court. She focuses her practice on litigation related to product liability, premises and municipal liability, and commercial transportation. Melanie has served as lead trial counsel and as second chair in multiple civil litigations. Melanie is also responsible for taking depositions, making oral arguments before the Court, and drafting pleadings and motions, having successfully obtained final adjudication via the summary judgment phase.

Prior to joining the firm, Melanie served as Law Clerk to the Honorable Annette M. Rizzo in the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania, Court of Common Pleas. During her tenure, Melanie drafted judicial opinions and conducted pre-trial conferences by mediating between parties to settle cases and ensure cases were trial-ready.

Melanie is heavily involved in the Philadelphia legal community. She is a Board member of Community Legal Services (CLS), and also co-chairs its Leadership Council and Board Development Committee. Melanie is the Founder and Chair of Justice Rising, a young professionals organization associated with CLS that is dedicated to access to justice for all. She is a member of the Board of Governors of the Philadelphia Bar Association, and also sits on the Large Firm Associates' Committee. She is additionally the Vice President of the Temple American Inn of Court.

Melanie also volunteers her time with the women's collective giving organization, Impact100 Philadelphia, and the University of Pennsylvania's Alumni Interview Program, serving as Co-Chair of the Philadelphia region's interviewing of prospective undergraduates.

Melanie is a two-time graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, earning her Bachelor of Arts in 2008 *summa cum laude* and her *juris doctor* in 2013. She is barred in Pennsylvania and New York.

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## ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Community Legal Services, Board Member; Co-Chair, Leadership Council; Co-Chair, Board Development Committee

Impact100 Philadelphia, Young Philanthropist

Justice Rising Advocates, Community Legal Services, Founding Chair, 2017

Philadelphia Bar Association, Board of Governors; Large Firm Associates' Committee

Philadelphia Legal Assistance, Co-Host, 25th Anniversary Jubilee for Justice

Temple American Inn of Court, Vice President, 2022-2023; Treasurer, 2021-2022;

University of Pennsylvania Alumni Interviewing Co-Chair, Philadelphia Region

Pennsylvania Bar Association

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## YEAR JOINED

2015

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

### Melanie J. Foreman Elected to the Board of Trustees of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation

Product Liability  
General Liability  
January 18, 2023

Melanie J. Foreman, shareholder in Marshall Dennehey's Philadelphia office, has been elected to the Board of Trustees of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation.

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### Marshall Dennehey Announces 2023 Shareholder Class - Largest in Firm's 60-Year History

December 8, 2022

Marshall Dennehey is pleased to announce that 20 attorneys, 12 men and eight women, have been elevated to shareholder effective January 1, 2023.

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### Three Marshall Dennehey Attorneys Selected 2022 "Lawyers of the Year" and 67 Attorneys Recognized Overall in the 2022 Editions of The Best Lawyers in America® and Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch®

August 19, 2021

Marshall Dennehey is proud to announce that three of the firm's attorneys have been selected 2022 "Lawyers of the Year" and 67 attorneys have been recognized overall in the 2022 Editions of The Best Lawyers in America® and Best Lawyers: Ones to Wa

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### Melanie J. Foreman Elected to the Board of Governors of the Philadelphia Bar Association

Product Liability  
General Liability  
December 18, 2020

Melanie J.

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### Conflicting Opinions on Personal Injury Jurisdiction Over Foreign Corporations Linger

Philadelphia - Headquarters  
Product Liability  
November 3, 2020

## PUBLISHED WORKS

"Conflicting Opinions on Personal Injury Jurisdiction Over Foreign Corporations Linger in Pa.," *The Legal Intelligencer*, Personal Injury Supplement, November 2020

"The Fight to Stop Predatory Lending in Pennsylvania," co-author, *The Legal Intelligencer*, October 24, 2019

"Endless Statute of Limitations For Uninsured Motorist Claims In Pennsylvania?," *Defense Digest*, Vol. 24, No. 1, March 2018

"Young Professionals and Community Legal Services Partner Up," co-author, *The Legal Intelligencer*, January 24, 2017

"When Targeted Killing Is Not Permissible: An Evaluation of Targeted Killing Under the Laws of War and Morality," *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law*, January 2013

## CLASSES/SEMINARS TAUGHT

*Negligence 101 - A Pennsylvania and Florida Legal Overview*, Marshall Dennehey Client Presentation, December 15, 2020

## **PRO BONO ACTIVITIES**

Community Legal Services Leadership Council

Justice Rising, Founder and Chair, Philadelphia, PA

## **RESULTS**

**Plaintiffs' class action certification attempts thwarted.**

### **Class Action Litigation**

**November 1, 2022**

We received a favorable decision from the Philadelphia County Court of Common Pleas Commerce Program. Our motion to strike the plaintiffs' class action certification was granted, effectively dismissing the plaintiffs' attempts at a class action lawsuit against a transportation authority.