



## Francine Friedman Griesing

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Francine Friedman Griesing is the founder and Managing Member of Griesing Law, LLC. Fran is a valued, strategic advisor to top executives and general counsel at the region's and country's largest corporations and institutions.

### Biography

Fran has over thirty years of experience representing clients in complex business transactions, high stakes litigation and alternate dispute resolution matters. As former Litigation Chair for Philadelphia from 1997 to 2000, handling over 2,000 cases per year, Fran evaluated cases early and often with a view towards avoiding unnecessary work. She applies that early assessment strategy to all matters to spare clients expense. She also draws upon her experience as a neutral arbitrator and mediator to craft resolutions that reduce risk and limit liability. Griesing's clients include public and closely held companies, not-for-profit organizations and executives, predominately in the hospitality, technology, chemical, pharmaceutical and manufacturing industries. She makes sure to learn each client's business objectives so that the legal expense provides real value, and the results achieved help the bottom line.

Chambers and Partners USA, a leading directory of the legal profession, has noted that clients describe her as "intensely detail-focused and a persuasive and energetic litigator" with a "professional and personable manner." Chambers has also expressly recognized her for her work in the hospitality industry, and for her "practical and down-to-earth counsel." According to Client Choice, which recognizes law firm partners around the world that stand apart for their excellent client care and quality of service, "Fran is a level-headed and highly skilled practitioner who has been invaluable in helping reach settlements and, when necessary, litigating complex commercial disputes."

Prior to launching Griesing Law, LLC in 2010, she practiced law at top tier firms in New York and Philadelphia and she also served as Chair of Litigation of Philadelphia's City Solicitor's Office under former Mayor Edward G. Rendell, who later served as Governor of Pennsylvania. As the City's top trial lawyer, Griesing advised the Mayor, ranking administration officials and City Council on cutting-edge legal issues, supervising 75 lawyers plus staff, and overseeing outside counsel. As the City's lead attorney on several high-profile matters, she is accustomed to working with a diverse constituency and performing under public scrutiny.

An honors graduate of Binghamton University and the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where she was an editor of the *Law Review*, Griesing a highly sought speaker and writer and is also featured in *The Road to Independence*, *101 Women's Journeys to Starting Their Own Firms*. She has been recognized by Chambers and Partners USA, Best Lawyers in America, Client Choice Guide USA, and Pennsylvania SuperLawyers. She has been acknowledged on The Legal Intelligencer's Women of the Year; Pennsylvania SuperLawyers Top 50 Women Lawyers; Woman to Watch; Greater Philadelphia Woman of Distinction; one of the Governor's Best 50 Women in Business; a SmartCEO Brava! Leader and Legal Elite; and Philly Biz Executives of the Year. Griesing also received the Philadelphia Bar Education Center's Excellence in Legal Education Award and the American Bar Association's Excellence in Legal Writing Award. She has taught Business Law, Public Employment Law and Advocacy Skills at Temple University's Beasley School of Law and Fox School of Business & Management and has been a guest lecturer at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Ms. Griesing is included on the American Arbitration Association Roster of Neutrals for commercial and employment matters, International Institute for Conflict Prevention & Resolution neutrals list for commercial, employment and hotel franchise matters, and the Philadelphia Commerce Court Judge *Pro Tempore* list.

## Education

- University of Pennsylvania Law School, J.D., *cum laude*
- Binghamton University (SUNY – Harpur College), B.A., *magna cum laude*

## Bar Admissions

- New York
- Pennsylvania
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania

## Awards

- Chambers & Partners USA Guide, 2008-2017
  - Band 3, Litigation – General Commercial
- Super Lawyers
  - Pennsylvania – Business Litigation, 2004-2010; 2013-2017
  - Top 50 Women Lawyers in Pennsylvania, 2014
- Best Lawyers
  - Litigation – Municipal, 2012-2017
  - Litigation – Labor & Employment, 2013-2017
- Best Law Firms
  - National: Litigation – Labor & Employment, 2016-2017
  - Metropolitan Philadelphia: Litigation – Labor & Employment, 2014; 2016-2017
- Philly Biz Executive of the Year, 2016
  - Recognized as one of 11 Professionals Moving and Shaking Philly Business
- Client Choice Guide USA, 2014-2015
  - Pennsylvania – Litigation
- The Legal Intelligencer's Women of the Year, 2014
  - Included in the annual listing honor Pennsylvania's top women lawyers
- SmartCEO Law Firm of the Year, 2014
  - Recognized as top law firm in Philadelphia region
- SmartCEO Brava! Awards, 2012-2013
  - Recognized as one of 25 local women business leaders for her irrepressible entrepreneurial spirit with a passion for giving back to the community
  - Received Brava! Hall of Fame Award in 2013

- SmartCEO Legal Elite, 2010-2012
  - Included in the Legal Elite Readers Poll
- American Bar Association Excellence in Legal Writing Award, 2007
  - Selected for best technology/law practice management article by Real Property, Estate and Tax Section
- Greater Philadelphia Women of Distinction, 1998
  - Recognized by Philadelphia Business Journal for distinguished professional accomplishment and community contributions impacting the Greater Philadelphia region. Member of Award Advisory Committee, 1999.
- Excellence in Legal Education Award, 1998
  - Selected from hundreds of lawyers for Philadelphia Bar Education Center inaugural award for program planning and presentation skills.
- Pennsylvania's Best 50 Women in Business, 1996
  - Recognized by Department of Commerce, Governor's Commission for Women and Pennsylvania's five Business Journals for professional and personal accomplishments, influence, competence and advocacy in business community.
- Pennsylvania Honor Roll for Women, 1996
  - Recognized for professional and community activities.
- Women to Watch, 1996
  - Selected by Business Philadelphia as one of the region's professional "women of impact" who is "changing the face" of corporate America.

## Community Involvement

- Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia
  - Board of Directors, 2015-2017
  - Policy Research Legislative Committee, 2016-2017
  - Neighborhood Economic Growth Subcommittee, Roadmap for Growth Advisory Committee, 2016-2017
- Committee of Seventy
  - Board of Directors, 2016-2017
- American Jewish Congress of Philadelphia/Southern New Jersey
  - Board of Directors, 2017
- Women Owned Law
  - Advisory Board, 2017
- Women Presidents' Organization
  - Member, 2015-2017
- The Forum of Executive Women
  - Member, 2016-2017
  - Board of Directors, 2000-2001
- Leadership Council on Legal Diversity
  - Member, 2016-2017
- PHL Diversity
  - Board of Advisors, 2014-2016

- Power of Professional Women
  - Board of Directors, 2016
- National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms
  - Co-Chair, Retail Restaurant & Hospitality Practice Area Committee, 2015
  - Annual Meeting Host/Executive Committee Co-Chair, 2014
  - Annual Meeting CLE Committee Co-Chair, 2013
- Philadelphia Hospitality
  - Board of Directors, 2010-2015
  - Secretary, 2012-2015
- The Metropolitan Corporate Counsel
  - Advisory Board, 2000-2001
- Federation Early Learning Services
  - Board of Directors, 1992-2001
  - Vice President & Executive Committee, 1996-1999
  - Chair, Strategic Planning Committee, 1997-1998
  - Program and Planning Committee, 1995-1997
- Leadership Development Mission
  - One of twelve professionals chosen for good will mission to Poland and Israel, 1993
- Leadership, Inc.
  - Selective program for emerging leaders in the Philadelphia region, 1991-1992
- Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and American Bar Associations
  - Chaired numerous committees, task forces and initiatives on ethics, professional development, and judicial selection

## Training and Publications

- Litigation and Alternate Dispute Resolution
- Hospitality
- Ethics/Professional Responsibility/Privilege
- Negotiation and Business Issues