

**WBA Women's Leadership  
Initiative  
Introducing Our Charter Class**

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**Women's Bar Association**



## Introducing Our Charter Class

**Meredith Lee Ainbinder, Esquire**

Associate, Sunstein Kann Murphy & Timbers LLP

**Kathryn Keough Conde, Esquire**

Partner, Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP

**Kathryn Rebecca Cook, Esquire**

Deputy Legal Counsel, Patrick Administration

**Margret Ruth Cooke, Esquire**

Deputy Division Chief, Insurance and Unemployment Fraud Division, Office of the Attorney General

**Maura Tracy Healey, Esquire**

Chief of the Civil Rights Division, Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General

**Vasiliki Kalaitzidis, Esquire**

Clinical and Medical Affairs Counsel, EMD Serono, Inc.

**Lizette M. Pérez-Deisboeck, Esquire**

General Counsel, Battery Ventures

**Shirin Philipp, Esquire**

Partner, Foley Hoag LLP

**Victoria L. Walton, Esquire**

Associate, Burns & Levinson LLP



## Meredith Lee Ainbinder, Esquire

Meredith is an associate in the litigation practice group of Sunstein Kann Murphy & Timbers LLP. She has been involved in complex intellectual property and business litigation in jurisdictions throughout the country. Meredith manages and participates in strategic and tactical planning of cases at all stages, from discovery through trial and post-trial practice, as well as settlement and licensing negotiations. She has been involved in matters concerning false advertising and other unfair competition claims, trademark infringement, Internet issues, copyright, trade secrets, employment agreements, and patent infringement. She has represented clients in a range of industries, including consumer products, financial services, online services, telecommunications, medical devices, x-ray systems, and security.

Meredith is a graduate of Boston College Law School and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Brown University. She is a member of the bar of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Prior to attending law school, she was an account executive at a public relations firm, where she advised clients on media and industry outreach. While in college, Meredith spent several summers working as the Government Affairs Intern for the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston.

Active in various professional and community organizations, Meredith is a member of the Board of Directors of the Women's Bar Association of Massachusetts where she also serves as the organization's Media and Public Relations Co-Chair and sits on its Best Practices Committee. She is also a member of the Young Lawyers Group Committee of Combined Jewish Philanthropies and sits on the Young Jewish Leaders Council. She belongs to Women Entrepreneurs in Science and Technology, her law school reunion committee, and several local bar associations, including the Boston Bar Association and the Boston Patent Law Association. Meredith is a member and former director of the Brown University Club of Boston.

## More About Meredith

**Who inspired me to become a lawyer:** My grandmother, who worked as a legal secretary for many years. If she had been born in a different generation, she would have run her own firm. She is so proud that my sister and I are both lawyers.

**Other than law and my family, my favorite pastime is:** Reading

**My favorite food:** Sicilia's stuffed pizza, which I first discovered in my college years in Providence and was pleased to find in Boston as well.

**My favorite book:** *To Kill a Mockingbird*

**My favorite television show:** Friends

**My favorite web-site:** New York Times online

**If I had not become a lawyer, I would have:** Worked in politics



## Kathryn Keough Conde, Esquire

I am a partner at Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP in the Litigation Department, specializing in antitrust, business tort and complex commercial litigation. My antitrust practice includes all aspects of antitrust counseling, litigation, and civil and criminal antitrust enforcement. I advise companies on pricing, distribution, joint venture and merger issues, represent both plaintiffs and defendants in antitrust litigation, including antitrust class-actions and multi-district litigation, and represent individuals and corporations in civil and criminal antitrust investigations and enforcement actions. In my antitrust practice, I draw heavily on my experience working in economic consulting on antitrust matters prior to law school and focus on finding creative solutions to reduce antitrust risks.



I also represent companies in a variety of commercial litigation with a focus on employee non-compete litigation, franchise and dealer litigation, trade defamation, false advertising, copyright, trademark, UCC and complex contract disputes and unfair competition matters. I also handle data security breach matters, working with companies to address all aspects of a data compromise, including compliance with state and federal reporting and notice requirements, press relations and reducing litigation exposure.

## More About Kathryn

**What inspired me to become a lawyer:** Regular family dinner debates on religion and politics with my parents and four siblings.

**Favorite food:** Anything Mexican

**Favorite book:** *Anna Karenina*

**Favorite television show:** Grey's Anatomy

**Favorite movie:** Europa Europa!

**Favorite pasttime:** Dancing

**If I had not become a lawyer I would have become:** A psychologist... treating lawyers

## Kathryn Rebecca Cook, Esquire

Kate Cook serves as Deputy Legal Counsel to Governor Deval Patrick. As a member of the Legal Counsel Office, Kate advises the Governor on legislation and policy, administration and finance and municipal issues. Prior to joining Governor Patrick, Kate served as Assistant Corporation Counsel to the City of Boston, in the litigation department. Her responsibilities there ranged from representing the City in civil rights actions to advising the election department. Kate clerked for the Honorable Judge Morris Lasker in the United States District Court in Boston for two years prior to working at the City.



Kate holds a B.A. in women's studies with a focus in political theory from Brown University and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. Before joining the Patrick Administration, Kate served on the NARAL Pro-choice Massachusetts board and for several years as co-chair of the Women's Bar Association Legislative Policy Committee, advocating on Beacon Hill for legislative policies that protect civil rights and women's equality. Currently, Kate serves as a board member of the Women's Bar Foundation and the Disability Law Center. Kate is also active in her local Democratic Ward Committee, and enjoys running, reading and travel.

### More About Kathryn

**Who inspired me to become a lawyer:** My mom—she became a lawyer later in life because she found teaching elementary school depressing in that she encountered so many children and families that needed more help than she could provide in the classroom. She attended law school at night, over 60 miles away in Little Rock and after having 2 kids! She is now a probate and family court judge in Arkansas.

**Other than law and my family, my favorite pastime is:** Running

**My favorite food:** Aloo Gobi (an Indian dish with potatoes and cauliflower)

**My favorite book:** Philip Roth's *American Pastoral*

**My favorite television show:** Sex And The City

**My favorite web-site:** Boston.com

**My favorite summer outing:** It's a tie between sailing (I just got certified) and hiking mountains in New England.

**If I had not become a lawyer, I would have:** Become a journalist



## Margret Ruth Cooke, Esquire

Upon graduating from law school, Margret clerked for the Justices of the Superior Court of Massachusetts. She subsequently worked as an attorney for the Massachusetts Department of Social Services, Essex County District Attorney's Office and the Office of the Attorney General under Tom Reilly. In 2002, she entered private practice with the firm of Murphy and Riley, PC, focusing on medical malpractice and construction litigation defense. In 2005, she returned to practice at the Office of the Attorney General in the Consumer Protection Division. Currently, she is the Deputy Division Chief of the Insurance and Unemployment Fraud Division, also with the Attorney General's Office. Margret earned her B.A. from Mount Holyoke College and her J.D. from Northeastern School of Law and is admitted to practice in Massachusetts and the Federal District Court of Massachusetts.

### More About Margret

**What / who inspired me to become a lawyer:** No one really... I was actually advised against going into law.

**Other than law and my family, my favorite pastime is:** Reading and cooking

**My favorite food:** Anything Italian

**My favorite book:** *The Sun Also Rises*, Ernest Hemmingway

**My favorite movie:** French Kiss

**My favorite television show:** Survivor

**My favorite web-site:** People.com

**My favorite summer outing:** A Red Sox game at Fenway Park

**If I had not become a lawyer, I would have:** Run a catering business



## Maura Tracy Healey, Esquire

Since 2007, Maura has served as Chief of the Civil Rights Division in the Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General. During this time, she has overseen investigation and prosecution of civil rights cases in areas such as mortgage lending, housing, education, public accommodation, healthcare, and hate crimes. Prior to joining the Attorney General's Office, Maura was a junior partner at Wilmer, Cutler, Pickering, Hale & Dorr, LLP, where her practice focused on complex commercial litigation, securities litigation and enforcement, and government investigations for a range of technology, life sciences, and pharmaceutical companies, as well as professional sports franchises. During this time, she was also involved in the representation of military personnel in a federal court challenge to the government's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy and a Massachusetts challenge to the state law restricting the rights of non-resident same-sex couples to marry. She also assisted the Governor's Special Commission on the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department in investigating the operation of the Nashua Street Jail and South Bay House of Correction in response to alleged criminal and civil rights violations.



She formerly served as a Special Assistant District Attorney for Middlesex County, Massachusetts, and was named a "Massachusetts Super Lawyers Rising Star" in 2006. Prior to law school, Maura played professional women's basketball in Europe and was inducted into the New England Basketball Hall of Fame in 2006. She is a member of the Women's Bar Association and the Boston Bar Association and is a member of the Steering Committee for the BBA's Civil Rights and Civil Liberties section and the BBA's Administration of Justice section. She is a graduate of Harvard College and Northeastern University School of Law, and clerked for Judge A. David Mazzone of the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

### More About Maura

**What / who inspired me to become a lawyer:** My mother

**Other than law and my family, my favorite pastime is:** Going to antique stores, auctions and flea markets

**My favorite food:** Steamers and lobsters

**My favorite book:** Can't limit it to one

**My favorite movie:** Same as above

**My favorite television show:** Same as above

**My favorite web-site:** Same as above

**My favorite summer outing:** The beach, especially Sandy Point at Plum Island

**If I had not become a lawyer, I would have:** Wanted to be a history teacher and coach



## Vasiliki Kalaitzidis, Esquire

Vasiliki Kalaitzidis is Clinical and Medical Affairs Counsel at EMD Serono, Inc. where her practice focuses on drafting and negotiating a wide range of agreements and other documents relating to Phase II and Phase III international and US clinical trials and working with clinical teams to identify and resolve issues arising in ongoing clinical trials. Prior to joining EMD Serono, Ms. Kalaitzidis was a senior associate at Nixon Peabody LLP in Boston where her practice was concentrated on corporate transactional work including buyer and seller-side mergers and acquisitions, investor and company-side private equity and venture capital financing, start-ups, corporate finance, and business agreements in a wide range of industries including pharma and biotech, medical devices, software programming, data management, internet-based services, technology and manufacturing.

While at law school, Ms. Kalaitzidis served on the *Suffolk University Law Review* and won first place in the 1999 Justice Tom C. Clark Competition in Appellate Advocacy. Ms. Kalaitzidis was named a Massachusetts “Rising Star” Super Lawyer in Business and Corporate Law based on a peer-review survey by *Boston Magazine* (2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008).

*“I was born in Boston, to Greek immigrant parents, 5 minutes after my identical twin sister. No, I don’t have twin ‘powers’. Yes, my family (both immediate and extended) is like My Big Fat Greek Wedding. Yes, my first cousin (who lives here in Boston) was, as I was, named after my grandmother so, although you wouldn’t think this possible, there is another Vasiliki Kalaitzidis walking around town - and just in case that is not confusing enough, our husbands have exactly the same last name as well! “*

### More About Vasiliki

**Other than law and my family, my favorite pastime is:** Reading and preparing for the arrival of our first baby!

**My favorite food:** Mom’s Greek spinach and cheese pie!

**My favorite book:** *Atlas Shrugged* by Ayn Rand

**My favorite movie:** American President

**My favorite television show:** none

**My favorite web-site:** cnn.com

**My favorite summer outing:** Sitting in a café by the water (preferably on a Greek isle) with a cup of iced coffee or lemonade

**If I had not become a lawyer, I would have:** Done something creative along the lines of event planning or fashion design (shoes)!



## Lizette M. Pérez-Deisboeck, Esquire

I grew up in Puerto Rico, where my family still lives. I came to the U.S. in 1983 to go to the University of Rochester (and see snow for the first time). I then came to Boston to go to B. U. Law School. After doing a short stint in Los Angeles as a lawyer at Baker & McKenzie and then clerking for a federal judge in New York, I came to Goodwin in 1993 when it was still called Goodwin Procter & Hoar. I have been a business lawyer since, mostly in private practice at Goodwin but also in-house as general counsel. I am the mother of a four-and-a-half year old boy named Max. The “Deisboeck” that makes my name impossibly long comes from my German husband, Thomas – a scientist at MGH. I am delighted to be a part of the Charter Class.

### More About Lizette

**What / who inspired me to become a lawyer:** My uncle Joe, Judge William Bristol, the powerful role of lawyers in shaping world history, a love for rules...

**Other than law and my family, my favorite pastime is:** Reading, cooking

**My favorite food:** Flan

**My favorite book:** *One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez

**My favorite movie:** Love Actually with Hugh Grant, Emma Thompson, Liam Neeson and others

**My favorite television show:** The Saint (circa 1962)

**My favorite web-site:** This is a tough one. Favorite/Funny: [www.theonion.com](http://www.theonion.com), Favorite/Most Frequently Visited: [www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com)

**My favorite summer outing:** St. John, USVI

**If I had not become a lawyer, I would have:**

Answer #1 - likely gone to business school and gone into "management"

Answer #2 - traveled the world for months, gotten a job teaching Spanish or English in some interesting place and returned to the US to pursue a career in diplomacy.

Answer #3 - had a lot fewer loans to repay. (Pick whichever one you like. They are all true!)



## Shirin Philipp, Esquire

Shirin Philipp is a Partner in the Business Department at Foley Hoag LLP, where she focuses her practice in the areas of investment management and nonprofit organizations. She has significant experience representing registered and unregistered investment advisors and private investment funds, including with respect to formation, registrations and regulatory compliance. In addition, Ms. Philipp has extensive experience advising nonprofit organizations such as private foundations, schools, and community loan funds in all corporate aspects, including governance, mergers and acquisitions, and tax-exempt status. Ms. Philipp is co-chair of the firm's nonprofit practice group.



After graduating from law school, Ms. Philipp served as a law clerk to the Justices of the Superior Court of Massachusetts for one year. Ms. Philipp serves on the board of directors of Families First Parenting Programs, Inc. and on the board of trustees of the Boston Main Streets Foundation.

Ms. Philipp received her J.D., *cum laude*, from Boston University in 1996 and her A.B., *cum laude*, from Dartmouth College in 1991.



## Victoria L. Walton, Esquire

Victoria L. Walton is an Associate for Burns & Levinson LLP practicing in the Business Litigation, Labor, Employment and Employee Benefits and Schools and Colleges Groups. Ms. Walton joined Burns & Levinson in September, 2001, after participating in the Summer Associate program in 2000. Ms. Walton's practice includes real estate law, including condominium suits, boundary disputes and adverse possession litigation. Her practice also includes business and commercial law, including contract, business tort, Chapter 93A, director and officer liability, minority shareholder and employment litigation.

Ms. Walton is admitted to the Massachusetts bar, the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts and the U.S. Supreme Court. She is a member of the Boston and Women's Bar Associations. Ms. Walton is also a member of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce's 2005 Future Leaders Program and Co-Chair of the Boston Bar Association Youth Outreach Task Force. She is a past firm captain for the Walk to the Hill for Civil Legal Aid as well as the former Associate Liaison for Greater Boston Legal Services. Ms. Walton was selected as a Massachusetts Super Lawyers "Rising Star" in 2008, 2007 and 2006. Victoria Walton received her J.D. degree, *cum laude*, from Suffolk University Law School in May, 2001, where she was a member of the Suffolk University Law Review and a member of the executive board of the Women's Law Caucus. She received a B.S.B.A. in marketing, *summa cum laude*, from Northeastern University in 1997, where she was a Harold Hodgkinson Scholar.

## More About Victoria

**Other than law and my family, my favorite pastime is:** Reading. It is the only activity besides work and family for which I always make time. I usually have 4 or 5 books going at the same time. I leave them in different parts of my house so when I have a few minutes of quiet time, I can pick one up and get a few minutes of reading in. It recharges my batteries!

**My favorite food:** Bacon. I ate an entire package of bacon once when I was 5 years old and my love affair continues - although I try to not eat a package all at once these days.

**My favorite book:** Too many to count, but my top 3 probably are: *A Short History of Nearly Everything* by Bill Bryson; *Blink* by Malcolm Gladwell; *John Adams* by David McCullough.

**My favorite movie:** A Few Good Men. I've seen it more than 50 times and used to be able to recite Jack Nicholson's monologue by heart. (Many years ago, I was a waitress at the Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse Arlington, Virginia, so several of those times were while I was working!)

**My favorite television show:** Right now, True Blood.

**My favorite web-site:** Amazon - so I can buy more books!

**My favorite summer outing:** Going to Block Island or Chatham for a week.

**If I had not become a lawyer, I would have:** Been a history teacher. I love working with kids, especially that much maligned population known as teenagers. And I love history - when I was in elementary school, I read every book in the school library on George and Martha Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James and Dolly Madison, and Mad Anthony Wayne.