



## Stephanie Gardner Bortnick

### SENIOR COUNSEL

Alexandria

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### RELATED SERVICES

- Commercial Litigation
- Professional Liability Defense
- Government Contracts
- Employment
- Advertising & E-Commerce

### OFFICES

- Alexandria

### OVERVIEW

Stephanie Gardner Bortnick is a member of the Commercial Litigation, Government Contracts, and Employment Law Practice Groups. She focuses her practice on representing businesses and employers in commercial, government contracts, and employment litigation. She also represents government contractors in a range of disputes, including contractor claim appeals before federal and state administrative boards.

Stephanie has extensive experience defending clients in labor and employment matters, negligence and personal injury claims, contract disputes, and legal malpractice claims against attorneys and law firms. She handles disputes at all stages—from pre-litigation counseling through discovery, dispositive motions, mediation, and trial. Her track record includes obtaining dismissals, summary judgments, and favorable settlements for her clients.

In addition to litigation, Stephanie advises clients on employment-related compliance issues, including

best practices and the development and maintenance of employee handbooks.

Earlier in her career, Stephanie defended railroads against claims under the Federal Employers' Liability Act, including passenger injury claims. She has also been involved in mass tort litigation involving product liability and negligence.

## PRESENTATIONS

- Co-Author, "Managing Mental Health and Ethics: in the Wake of the COVID-19 Crisis," *American Bar Association Litigation Journal*, Summer 2021
- Assisted with the writing/updating of Chapter 147, Media and Publishing, *Business and Commercial Litigation in Federal Courts*

## CREDENTIALS

### Admissions

- New York
- Virginia
- District of Columbia
- Maryland
- United States District Court, District of Columbia
- United States District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Virginia
- United States District Court, District of Maryland
- United States Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit

### Memberships

- American Bar Association, Litigation Section Committee

### Education

- J.D., *cum laude*, Syracuse University, 2012
  - Editor-in-Chief, *Journal of Science and Technology*
  - CALI Award Communications Law
- B.A., *cum laude*, English and Journalism, Lehigh University, 2007

### Honors

- *Best Lawyers in America*® Ones to Watch distinction in Insurance Law (2025)