

## Jessica L. Pahl

### Associate

Jessica Pahl's practice focuses on complex civil litigation and government investigations. She represents corporations, professional firms, and individuals in federal and state courts throughout the country, at both the trial and appellate levels, in arbitration proceedings, and before government agencies. Jessica has first-chair trial experience in bench and jury trials, has represented a major financial institution in an arbitration merits hearing, and has argued multiple dispositive motions in state and federal courts.

Jessica has significant experience in accountant liability defense, including the representation of an accounting firm in multiple matters arising out of the multi-billion dollar Petters Ponzi scheme. In addition, she has represented clients in a number of other substantive areas, including pharmaceutical and life sciences, legal malpractice, securities litigation and SEC enforcement matters, qui tam lawsuits and related DOJ investigations under the False Claims Act, government contracting, trade secret litigation, partnership and shareholder disputes, banking and financial services, and commercial contract disputes. Jessica also has dedicated substantial time to pro bono matters involving asylum proceedings and landlord-tenant disputes, and her work on one of those matters was featured in the *Washington Lawyer*.

Jessica was selected as a "Rising Star" in the 2015 through 2019 Washington, D.C. editions of *Super Lawyers*.

As a North Carolina native, Jessica received her undergraduate degree, *cum laude*, from Duke University in Durham, North Carolina in 2006 and her J.D., *magna cum laude*, from Duke University School of Law in 2009, where she served as Senior Research Editor of the *Duke Law Journal*, president of the Mock Trial Board, and as a member of the Moot Court Board.

### Publications

*Avoiding Mere Incantations: How to Evaluate Success on Non-Fee Claims in Determining Prevailing Party Status under 42 U.S.C. § 1988*, 58 Duke L.J. 687 (2009)



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### Education

Duke University School of Law, J.D.,  
magna cum laude, 2009: Order of  
the Coif; Senior Research  
Editor, Duke Law Journal;  
Smith/Shaver Scholar, President,  
Mock Trial Board; Member, Moot  
Court Board

Duke University, B.A., cum laude,  
2006

### Admissions

District of Columbia

North Carolina

United States Court of Appeals for the  
Second Circuit

United States District Court for the  
District of Columbia