



Jessica Thaller-
Moran
ASSOCIATE

Raleigh
t: 919.573.6227
f: 336.232.9227
jthaller-moran@brookspierce.com

Jessi Thaller-Moran focuses her practice on employment law and litigation, counseling employers on compliance with state and federal laws. She also uses her experience in the North Carolina Business Court to develop strategies for clients embroiled in a wide range of complex business litigation disputes, helping clients to think creatively about opportunities for resolution and zealously advocating for their interests in court when the need arises.

EMPLOYMENT COUNSEL

Jessi seeks to help companies thrive by helping them plan for, and respond to, issues involving their workforce. She has advised companies on wage and hour issues, FMLA/ADA compliance, Title VII and other discrimination claims, non-competition and other agreements, and social media usage policies. She conducts employment policy reviews and training on workplace inclusivity.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Jessi has devoted much of her time to counseling clients on appropriate responses, including federal paid leave laws and staffing adjustments made necessary by the pandemic such as transitioning to remote work and providing workplace accommodations for vulnerable individuals.

EMPLOYMENT LITIGATION

Jessi represents employers in all levels of state and federal courts, as well as before administrative agencies. She has litigated wage and hour disputes, claims for violations of major employment laws like Title VII and the ADA, and challenges to independent contractor classification. She also counsels clients through contentious pre-litigation disputes.

COMPLEX BUSINESS LITIGATION

Jessi brings her impressive experience with the North Carolina Business Court to bear for clients, developing thorough and assertive litigation strategies to handle a wide range of business disputes, including contracts, corporate governance, shareholder disputes, and trade secrets, among other issues.

EXPERIENCE

Employment Litigation

- Federal collective action alleging misclassification of independent contractors and corresponding violations of wage and hour laws.
- Defending charges of discrimination and ADA non-compliance before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.
- Negotiating exit package for company executive to ensure company stability in the midst of leadership dispute.

Complex Business Litigation

- North Carolina Business Court case involving a family business dispute and dissolution of a company.
- North Carolina Business Court case involving breach of contract claims under the Uniform Commercial Code. This case provided clarity for practitioners on how the UCC is applied to the sale of goods in North Carolina.
- North Carolina Business Court case involving a dispute over the valuation of stock shares in a publicly traded company.
- Matter pending before the North Carolina Office of Administrative Hearings regarding contracts awarded by the State of North Carolina as part of the planned privatization of North Carolina's Medicaid program.

SERVICES

Corporate & Business

Complex Business Litigation

Employment Litigation

Labor & Employment

Litigation

North Carolina Business Court

CREDENTIALS

Clerkships

Law Clerk to the Honorable John R. Jolly, Jr., Chief Special Superior Court Judge for Complex Business Cases, North Carolina Business Court, 2013–14

Law Clerk to the Honorable Gregory P. McGuire, Special Superior Court Judge for Complex Business Cases, North Carolina Business Court, 2014–15

Honors & Recognitions

Selected by her peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Litigation - Labor and Employment (2022)

Recognized by her peers for inclusion in *Business North Carolina's* "Legal Elite" in Employment Law (2021)

Education

University of North Carolina School of Law, J.D., 2013, with honors; Comments Editor, *North Carolina Law Review*, 2012-13

University of Richmond, B.A., 2009, *summa cum laude*; Phi Beta Kappa

Admissions

North Carolina

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC

Member, Section Council, North Carolina Bar Association Labor & Employment Law Section (2021-present)

Member, Board of Directors, Diabetes Family Connection (2019-present)

Member, North Carolina Bar Association (2013-present)

Board Member, Arts Access (2017-2019)

Member, NCBA Young Lawyers Division (2015-present)

Member, Wake County Bar Association (2013-present)

Member, 10th Judicial District (2013-present)

ABOUT ME

My approach to the practice of law is very similar to my approach to life: I believe the right combination of planning and flexibility can solve most problems.

I attribute this in large part to my experiences as the oldest of five children. If you've ever taken a group of five children anywhere, you know that the right supplies and attitude can go a long way. In my experience, the same applies to business management: communicating expectations and contingency planning are essential, as is the ability to adapt and think creatively when things don't go as planned.

Outside of work, I love exploring local parks with my family and reading everything from novels to advice columns. I have also lived for more than twenty-five years with Type I Diabetes. I serve on the board for The Diabetes Family Connection, an organization with the mission to positively transform life with diabetes through the power of community. I am proud to be an ambassador for the Type I Diabetes community and believe that visibility is key to showing what is possible.

NEWSROOM

News

72 Brooks Pierce Attorneys Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2022 Guide
The Best Lawyers in America®, 08.19.2021

Jessi Thaller-Moran Named Council Member of North Carolina Bar Association Labor &
Employment Law Section
07.12.2021

2020 in Review: A Look Back at Brooks Pierce's COVID-19 Coverage
01.25.2021

Twenty-Six Brooks Pierce Attorneys Named to Business North Carolina's 2021 "Legal Elite" and "Hall of Fame"
Business North Carolina Legal Elite, 01.03.2021

Jessi Thaller-Moran Quoted In Society for Human Resource Management Article
Society for Human Resource Management, 10.02.2020

Speaking Engagements

Brooks Pierce Attorneys Participate in University of North Carolina School of Law's Women in Law Panel
11.23.2021

Brooks Pierce Hosts Webinar on Workplace Policies Under the Biden Administration
10.28.2021

Brooks Pierce Hosts Webinar on Hiring Employees Across State Lines
08.26.2021

Brooks Pierce Attorneys to Speak at Campbell Law Review's Annual Symposium
03.02.2021

Brooks Pierce Attorneys Present Webinar on Maintaining Business Operations Under COVID-19
11.18.2020

Publications

American Rescue Plan Includes Changes to COVID-Related Employee Leave
COVID-19 Response Resource Center: Timely Counsel for your Business, 03.12.2021

EEOC Releases Guidance on COVID-19 Vaccine in the Workplace
COVID-19 Response Resource Center: Timely Counsel for your Business, 12.17.2020

"Skirting" Trouble When the Law is Anything but "Uniform": Creating and Enforcing a Dress Code in a Changing Legal Landscape
10.08.2020

The CDC (and Others) Change Guidance
COVID-19 Response Resource Center: Timely Counsel for your Business, 07.22.2020

OSHA Provides Updated Guidance on Workplace Safety as Employees Return to Work

COVID-19 Response Resource Center: Timely Counsel for your Business, 06.22.2020