



Bari L. Goldstein | Partner

West Palm Beach

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Bari, a member of Lippes Mathias' [Employment](#) Practice, focuses her practice on preventative labor and employment defense work and represents and counsels private, not-for-profit and public sector employers of all sizes on varied regulatory, administrative and litigation issues that affect all aspects of the employment relationship. As a seasoned and credentialed human resources professional, Bari serves as a strategic partner to her clients and strives to provide timely and practical legal advice and guidance specific to each client's industry and size regarding compliance issues, business decisions, risk management, and litigation avoidance. With over 25 years of experience representing employers and managers on labor employment matters, Bari regularly:

- Advises and counsels on day-to-day personnel issues, wage and hour matters, internal investigations, RIF's and layoffs, as well as employee relations;
- Drafts, edits and reviews employee handbooks and policies, severance and employment agreements, job descriptions, and various employment forms;
- Drafts responses and appears at mediations, on-site audits, and investigations by governmental agencies (e.g., OFCCP, DOL, ICE and EEOC) involving complaints of discrimination, I-9 compliance, unemployment claims, and wage and hour issues; and,
- Represents and advises federal contractors during OFCCP audits and counsels clients on issues stemming from AAP obligations and requirements.

Bari is certified as a Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) by the Human Resources Certification Institute (HRCI) and as a Senior Certified Professional (SHRM-SCP) by the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM). She is also a qualified EEO investigator.

EDUCATION

- University of Miami School of Law, J.D., 1998
- Florida International University, B.A., 1994

CAPABILITIES

Employment

- Corporate & Compliance Investigations
- Employment Agreements
- HR Training and Counseling
- Restrictive Covenants
- Wage and Hour
- Worker Classification
- Workplace Policies

CERTIFICATIONS

- Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR), Human Resources Certification Institute (HRCI)
- Senior Certified Professional (SHRM-SCP), Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)
- Qualified EEO investigator

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- American Bar Association
- Florida Bar
- Palm Beach County Bar Association
- Society for Human Resource Management

HONORS & AWARDS

- *Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent*[®]
- The Best Lawyers in America[©]
 - "Lawyer of the Year" Employment Law – Management in West Palm Beach, 2020
 - Employment Law – Management in West Palm Beach, 2019-2024
- *Florida Super Lawyers*[®], 2024
- "Legal Elite," *Florida Trend Magazine*, 2015-2017, 2019
- Nominated for the "Leadership Excellence Award" by Leadership Palm Beach County, February 2015
- Top Lawyers, *Palm Beach Illustrated*, 2020-2021, 2024
- Jupiter Magazine Top Lawyers, 2021

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County, Corporate Board of Directors, Chair of Human Resources & Legal Committee, and Chair of Board-Led Safety Committee
- Families First of Palm Beach County, Board of Directors & Chair of Human Resources Committee
- Leadership Palm Beach County, Class of 2010
 - Past Chair of Civic Engagement Committee
- Alzheimer's Community Care, Human Resources Standing Committee Member

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "Fair Labor Standards Act – Wage and Hour Issues Before and in the Era of COVID-19 – Pitfalls to Avoid," Speaker, Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, December 2020
- "Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance & Related Employment Matters," Speaker, CareerSource Palm Beach County, November

2020

- “Fair Labor Standards Act – Advanced Topics and Updates,” Speaker, Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches, November 2018
- “*When will the Hurting Stop?* Managing medical leaves through the ADA, FMLA, and Workers Comp maze,” Speaker, Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches, August 2018
- “Starting Off on the Right Foot, Staying in Step Along the Way,” Speaker, Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches, January 2018
- “The ABC’s of Employment,” Speaker, Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches, April 2017

IN THE NEWS

- "[4 Steps to Comply with the FMLA’s Key-Employee Exception](#),” *SHRM Online*, October 19, 2018

ADMITTED TO PRACTICE

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida