

## Lisa H. Cassilly

Partner

404.881.7945

[lisa.cassilly@alston.com](mailto:lisa.cassilly@alston.com)

**Atlanta** | One Atlantic Center, 1201 West Peachtree Street, Suite 4900 | Atlanta, GA 30309-3424

**New York** | 90 Park Avenue, 15th Floor | New York, NY 10016-1387

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Lisa Cassilly concentrates on the representation of management interests with a special emphasis on litigated matters. She has defended against all types of employment claims in administrative proceedings, arbitrations and in trial and appellate courts throughout the country, including class and collective actions. Lisa has extensive experience conducting internal investigations and audits, handling SOX and other whistleblower claims and prosecuting and defending actions involving claims for breach of restrictive covenants, employee piracy, breach of fiduciary duties and trade secret misappropriation.

Lisa is the immediate past leader of the Labor & Employment Group at Alston & Bird and has been repeatedly recognized as a leading employment lawyer by *The Best Lawyers in America*<sup>®</sup> and *Chambers USA*, which reports that, "she is one of the top performers in her field" whose clients describe her as "brilliant, strategic and extremely effective." *Georgia Super Lawyers* has ranked her as among the "Top 50 Female Attorneys" in Georgia in seven annual rankings. She regularly appears in *Georgia Trend* magazine's Legal Elite listing. Lisa has been a featured guest on CNN, Fox News, Business Report, Forbes and Sky Radio Network. She has been quoted by *BusinessWeek*, *CFO Magazine*, *Newsweek*, *USA Today*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Workforce Magazine* and the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*, and regularly provides comment to online and print publications.

### **Representative Experience**

- Providing advice and counsel to public and private companies in the development of return-to-work plans, including compliance with CDC and OSHA coronavirus guidelines and varying mandates issued by state and local governments.
- Resolved putative class actions asserting, variously, violations of discrimination laws, wage and hour laws, and the FCRA in multiple jurisdictions, including New York and California.
- Conducted C-Suite internal investigations for several national and multinational companies in a wide range of industries, including manufacturing, health care, telecommunications, financial services and defense contracting.
- Awarded six million dollars in a recent arbitration in Connecticut for a client whose former executive breached his employment contract and diverted business to entities in which he had an interest.
- Granted permanent injunction enforcing restrictive covenants on behalf of a security company in federal court in New England.
- Obtained injunctive relief and return of share value in a federal court breach of contract and trade secret action brought on behalf of an international technology company against a former executive and competitor.
- Obtained dismissal of Sarbanes-Oxley whistleblower case brought by the in-house counsel and compliance officer against a telecommunications client.

- Defended a major financial institution in multimillion-dollar employee piracy and trade secret misappropriation cases in federal courts in Georgia and Virginia, and the Superior Court for Santa Clara County, California.
- In the past three years, conducted several internal investigations of alleged employment law violations, including investigations on behalf of a nationally known investment group, a large municipal government and a Fortune 20 company.
- Obtained multiple summary judgments and two affirmances on appeal of summary judgments in employment discrimination in the past two years.
- Represented a telecommunications company in a dispute with a competitor, resulting in the imposition of significant restrictions upon the activities of the competitor's newly hired chairman and CEO.

## ***Publications & Presentations***

### ***Publications***

- "What In-House Counsel Can Take Away from Duran," *InsideCounsel Magazine*, July 2, 2014.
- "Georgia Survey Topics: Hiring Requirements; Leave Policies; Trade Secret Laws; and Wage and Hour," *Practical Law*, us.practicallaw.com, 2014.
- "Are Restrictive Covenants Meaningful Protection or Not?," *Corporate Counsel*, November 4, 2013.

### ***Presentations***

- "How To Effectively Deal with Whistleblowers," The Knowledge Group, webinar, April 30, 2019.
- "Dealing with Whistleblowers: What Employers Need to Know in 2018 and Beyond," webinar, The Knowledge Source, February 14, 2018.
- "Incorporating Diversity into Your Company Goals and Strategies," 2016 OTOC Human Resources Conference, Omaha, NE, July 20, 2016.

### ***Education***

- Emory University (J.D., 1987)
- University of Florida (M.A., 1983)
- University of Florida (B.A., 1981)

### ***Admitted to Practice***

- Georgia
- New York

### ***Related Services***

Litigation | Labor & Employment | Privacy, Cyber & Data Strategy | Corporate & Business Transactions | Trade Secrets