



Ilana L. Linder

of counsel

Ilana is a trial and appellate attorney who represents businesses, business owners, universities and other organizations in complex legal disputes. She manages litigation in state and federal courts nationwide, guiding clients through every stage, from pre-suit strategy and emergency injunctive proceedings to trial and appeal. Her practice encompasses contract and real estate disputes, business torts, consumer protection claims, construction litigation, higher education matters and other significant commercial matters.

Ilana also helps clients anticipate and reduce litigation risk. In her work with contractors and builders, for example, she advises on dispute prevention and reviews contract documents for compliance with Ohio law, clearer allocation of responsibilities and stronger protection against costly claims.

A nationally recognized speaker and published author, Ilana has presented extensively on litigation, higher education law, organizational risk and governance, and legal developments, including those affecting nonprofit organizations and membership associations.

Ilana brings leadership and teaching experience to her work beyond the courtroom. She previously taught Mediation and Conflict Resolution as an adjunct professor at the University of Cincinnati, served as a director of the Education Law Association and is currently serving her second term on the board of Adath Israel Congregation. These roles give her practical insight into how organizations function and how leaders weigh legal, operational and reputational considerations, perspective she applies when counseling clients through consequential decisions.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Obtained a favorable jury verdict for real estate investors in a dispute against a contractor involving breach-of-contract and deceptive-trade-practices claims.
- Defeated a federal lawsuit challenging a private university's COVID-19 vaccination policy and successfully defended the ruling on appeal, where it was largely affirmed.

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

Indiana University School of
Education, M.S.Ed., 2017

Indiana University Maurer School of
Law, J.D., *cum laude*, 2016

Tufts University, B.A., *cum laude*,
2013

SERVICES

Litigation

- Appellate and Supreme Court practice
- Commercial litigation

Construction

Education

- Enforced confidentiality protections for a multistate transportation company through emergency injunctive relief
- Secured dismissals in jurisdictions across the country for national fraternal organizations and their insurers in matters involving personal injury and organizational liability claims.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Ohio
- District of Columbia
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- Supreme Court of the United States

PRESENTATIONS

- “Risk and Legal Update for Sororities,” Fraternity Executives Association Conference, May 2026
- “Legal and Legislative Updates,” National Panhellenic Conference, January 2026
- “Litigation Update,” Annual Fraternal Law Conference, November 2025
- “Legal Q&A,” Annual Elevate IMS Greek Housing Conference, July 2025

PUBLICATIONS

- “Hangry for school lunch guidance,” *Journal of Law & Education*, 2019
- “The 10th anniversary of parents involved in community schools v. Seattle School District No. 1: Little guidance from subsequent court decisions,” *West Education Law Reporter*, 2019

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Ohio State Bar Association
- Cincinnati Bar Association
- Education Law Association
- American Bar Association
- DRI Association of Lawyers Defending Business

HONORS | AWARDS

- *Best Lawyers Ones to Watch*®
- Ohio Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Edition
- *The Construction Attorneys*, Recommended Attorney (Ohio), 2024-2026
- Cincy Leading Lawyers, Civil Litigation, 2023-2026
- CALI Excellence for the Future Award® in Law of Philanthropy and Nonprofit Organizations

COMMUNITY

- Adath Israel Congregation, Board Member
- Pro Bono Partnership, Volunteer