

# LAUREN STILLER RIKLEEN

## Biography

Lauren Stiller Rikleem is a senior partner in the Real Estate and Environmental Group of Bowditch & Dewey. Lauren has a diverse environmental law practice emphasizing negotiation, enforcement and compliance issues. She is also an experienced mediator. Lauren served as an enforcement attorney at both the Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. As the former Assistant Vice-President for Negotiations at Clean Sites, Inc., she specialized in the mediation of hazardous waste disputes.

Attorney Rikleem is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*, and *Chambers USA America's Leading Business Lawyers* – two publications which recognize attorneys who are chosen for excellence in their field. She was also recognized as one of the “Top 100 Massachusetts Super Lawyers” and one of the “Top 50” woman attorneys in the Massachusetts Super Lawyers publication. Lauren received the prestigious Boston College Law School Alumni Award for Excellence in Law in 2004.

In August 2005, Lauren was appointed by the president of the American Bar Association to the twelve-member ABA Commission on Women in the Profession; she is also a fellow of the American Bar Foundation. In the fall of 2005, the Women's Bar Association of Massachusetts awarded Lauren with the coveted Lelia J. Robinson Award, so named in honor of the first practicing woman attorney in the state.

Lauren is Chair of the Board of Directors of the Environmental League of Massachusetts, a member of the Board of Trustees of Clark University, in Worcester, Massachusetts (currently serving as Secretary), and a member of the Board of Trustees of Middlesex Savings Bank; the Boston Bar Foundation; and Discovering Justice, the James D. St. Clair Court Education Project. She is a founding member of the Council for Women of Boston College, created in May, 2003, to further the role of women as leaders and active participants at Boston College.

Lauren has served on numerous Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection advisory committees including: the Commissioner's Advisory Committee, the Department of Environmental Protection Superfund Advisory Committee, the Adjudicatory Hearing Advisory Committee, the Brownfields Advisory Committee, and the Environmental Results Design Program.

Within her community, Lauren is the first woman to have served as Chair of the MetroWest Chamber of Commerce (which serves nine communities west of Boston). In 1997, the MetroWest Chamber of Commerce named her “Business Leader of the Year” and also granted her the Athena Award for professional excellence in 2001. The Boston Globe recognized her as one of “The Who's Who of Top Women Lawyers” (1995). The Middlesex News named Lauren “Woman of the Year” in 1991.

She is a founder and past President of MetroWest Harvest, an organization which transports donated food to shelters and pantries throughout the MetroWest area. She is a founding member of the Board of Directors and Past President of the Women's Independence Network, which helped to establish and assist in funding the first shelter in MetroWest for victims of domestic violence.

As president of the Boston Bar Association (1998-1999), Lauren created the Task-Force on Work/Family Balance, which produced a report entitled: "Facing the Grail – Confronting the Costs of Work/Family Imbalance" (July, 1999). She continues her advocacy of work/family balance through involvement with the Massachusetts Equality Commission – an initiative addressing issues regarding the retention and advancement of women in the legal profession. Lauren works with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Workplace Center which has proposed legislation for a state-wide assessment of work-family issues in all facets of the workforce.

As part of her commitment to the advancement of women, Lauren is researching and writing a book about the institutional impediments to the successful retention and advancement of women in the legal profession. Her book is tentatively titled: "*Ending the Gauntlet: Removing Law Firm Barriers to Women's Success.*"

Lauren has also published extensively and lectures frequently on environmental topics.