

Lauren Stiller Rikleén

Lauren Stiller Rikleén is a senior partner in the Real Estate and Environmental Law Group of Bowditch & Dewey. Lauren has a diverse environmental law practice emphasizing negotiation, enforcement and compliance issues. She is also an experienced mediator.

She is also the author of *Ending the Gauntlet: Removing Barriers to Women's Success in the Law*, the result of two years of research and interviews with hundreds of women lawyers and law firm managers from all over the United States.

This important book focuses on the institutional impediments to women's success in the practice of law - the challenges and the roadblocks women face as they struggle to succeed in law firms, including firm management, the assignment process, billable hour demands, business generation, compensation, mentoring, attrition and work/family issues. In the book, Ms. Rikleén offers a compelling rationale for change. In doing so, she describes concrete actions which law firms must take so women can take their rightful place as equals in the legal profession.

Attorney Rikleén is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Chambers USA America's Leading Business Lawyers* - two publications which recognize attorneys for excellence in their field. She was also recognized as one of the "Top 50" woman attorneys in the Massachusetts Super Lawyers publication. Lauren received the Boston College Law School Alumni Award for Excellence in Law in 2004. In the fall of 2005, the Women's Bar Association of Massachusetts awarded Lauren the Lelia J. Robinson Award, so named in honor of the first practicing woman attorney in the Commonwealth.

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.

As the former President of the Boston Bar Association (1998-1999), Lauren created the Task-Force on Professional Challenges and Family Needs, which produced a report entitled *Facing the Grail - Confronting the Costs of Work/Family Imbalance* (July, 1999). She continues her advocacy of these issues through her involvement with the Massachusetts Equality Commission and the related work of the MIT Workplace Center.

Lauren is Chair of the Board of Directors of the Environmental League of Massachusetts and a member of the Board of Trustees of Clark University, in Worcester, Massachusetts. She is also a founding member of the Council for Women of Boston College 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. Lauren is also a member of the Board of Directors for the Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus and a fellow of the American Bar Foundation.

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" in 1995 and the *Middlesex News* named Lauren "Woman of the Year" in 1991.

Lauren has also lectured frequently on environmental law topics and published extensively on a variety of issues, including environmental law.

Education

Brandeis University (B.A., *magna cum laude*, 1975); Boston College (J.D., 1979).

Professional and Community Activities

Trustee, Clark University; Director and Chair, Environmental League of Massachusetts; Trustee, Boston Bar Foundation; Trustee, James St. Clair Court Education Project; Founder, MetroWest Harvest; past Chair, MetroWest Chamber of Commerce; Trustee, Middlesex Savings Bank; Member, American Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession; Member, The Commonwealth Institute; past President, Boston Bar Association.