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Jennifer Dowdell Armstrong

Member
Cleveland
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Jennifer is a member in the Litigation practice group and chair of the firm's Women's Council. She focuses her practice on governmental investigations and white collar criminal defense, federal complex commercial litigation, internal investigations, third-party neutral mediation and arbitration services, and antitrust counseling.

Jennifer is experienced in all aspects of corporate criminal defense and enforcement-related litigation - from investigation through trial - and teaches Criminal Procedure at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. She has aggressively defended clients in investigations and enforcement actions brought by the Department of Justice, Securities and Exchange Commission, Drug Enforcement Administration, Federal Trade Commission and other regulators involving allegations of violations of the antitrust laws, Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, False Claims Act, Controlled Substances Act, healthcare fraud, tax fraud, bank fraud, identity fraud, public corruption, insider trading and other securities violations, bribery, money laundering and criminal conspiracy. Because she has achieved victory in some cases by convincing prosecutors not to pursue charges against her clients, these successes have never become public.

Jennifer has achieved a record of success by resolving a variety of business and commercial disputes involving multi-party actions, parallel civil and criminal proceedings, and class actions in federal and state trial and appellate courts, including the United States Supreme Court. On behalf of plaintiffs and defendants, she represents clients across a wide range of industries, including financial services, healthcare and life sciences, insurance, retail, and transportation. Likewise, her experience covers a broad range of substantive areas of law, including antitrust and unfair trade practices, data privacy and cybersecurity, securities, contracts, False Claims Act and business torts. Her clients include private and public companies, corporate directors, officers and shareholders, and individuals.

Jennifer also counsels clients on a wide range of antitrust and FCPA compliance issues. In this context, she develops and implements effective antitrust and FCPA compliance programs, works with her clients to formulate strategies to mitigate antitrust and FCPA risks, and regularly provides counsel on potential antitrust and FCPA issues. Jennifer has also conducted corporate internal investigations involving allegations of potential antitrust and FCPA violations.

Jennifer also serves as a skilled third-party neutral for early case evaluations, mediations, and arbitrations in court-annexed and private proceedings. She was appointed to the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") National Roster of Arbitrators. The AAA is the nation's leading provider of alternative dispute resolution services. Additionally, she was appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio's Alternative Dispute Resolution Panel and serves on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio's Mediator Panel. Jennifer is a member of the Academy of Court-Appointed Masters and the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio's Advisory Group.

Prior to joining McDonald Hopkins, Jennifer served as a judicial law clerk for Chief Judge Solomon Oliver, Jr. in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio and an associate in a national law firm's Antitrust, Competition, and White Collar Crime practice group. During law school, Jennifer worked as a judicial extern for Judge Karen Nelson Moore in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Prior to attending law school, Jennifer was a White House intern and worked for the American Red Cross in major gift fundraising.

Jennifer earned a J.D., summa cum laude, from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, where she

Practice Focus

- Government compliance, investigations, and white collar defense
- Business litigation
- Antitrust and competition
- Foreign Corrupt Practices Act
- Appeals
- Class action defense
- Securities litigation
- Data privacy and cybersecurity
- Litigation finance

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served as executive editor of the *Cleveland State Law Review*. Jennifer received a Master's in Nonprofit Organizations (MNO) from Case Western Reserve University's Weatherhead School of Management. She has a B.A. from Miami University.

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