HUSCH BLACKWELL



Jesse G. Ainlay

PARTNER

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OVERVIEW

Jesse is a toxic tort and product liability attorney who aims to set clients up for sustained success.

Jesse defends clients in a wide variety of industries in mass tort and asbestos litigation, product liability and premises liability cases, insurance and reinsurance coverage matters, and other commercial litigation. He handles all aspects of trial preparation, including motion practice, deposition attendance, discovery, drafting motions, expert retention and development, as well as alternative dispute resolution and settlement negotiations. Jesse also serves as a member of national coordinating counsel teams for various clients, managing litigation across the country.

Jesse loves the complexity of toxic tort matters, and he particularly enjoys digging into the intersection of scientific questions and legal arguments. He makes it a priority to understand the science behind each case he is litigating. Jesse has written and lectured extensively on a number of established and emerging areas of toxic tort litigation, including:

- Asbestos
- Talc
- PFAS
- Glyphosate
- Opioid

Industries

Manufacturing
Technology
Transportation

Services

Asbestos Litigation
Commercial Litigation
Complex Torts (CXT)
Product Liability
Toxic Tort

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- Vaping/E-Cigarette Litigation

Jesse is not only driven to achieve individual client victories, but also to accomplish his clients' goals by setting each one up for sustained success. In his national coordinating counsel role, he focuses on the "bigger picture" as he advises his clients on strategies that take into consideration the implications on future litigation. Jesse focuses much of his counseling on how clients can accomplish their goals in individual cases while also managing future risk.

He also has a strong focus on client communication: he believes it is essential to understand the specific goals and concerns of each individual client and to keep his clients well-informed in order to work together to achieve desired results.

Experience

- Won summary judgment in product liability case for industrial equipment manufacturer in case involving catastrophic hand injury. Victory was based partly on lack of personal jurisdiction argument—one of the first cases decided using the analysis set forth under the Supreme Court of the United States' decision in *Ford*.
- Obtained summary judgment for telecommunications client in case alleging, *inter alia*, (1) breach of contract, (2) breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing, (3) negligent or intentional misrepresentation, and (4) unjust enrichment.
- Helped secure victory for Fortune 500 company in complex insurance coverage arbitration filed against reinsurer to enforce insured's rights under existing coverage-in-place agreement.
- Successfully negotiated dismissal of case against chemical manufacturer in case in which plaintiff alleged injury caused by work with phenolic resins.
- Attained favorable resolution of case for premises owner in claim alleging life-threatening injury caused by exposure to asbestos-containing insulation disturbed by subcontractor.
- Obtained summary judgment for boiler manufacturer in case alleging plaintiff's work on and around industrial boilers were the cause of plaintiff's mesothelioma.

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Experience

- Served as an Adjunct Assistant Professor teaching a course entitled "Occupational Laws & Compliance" at Tulane School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine from 2011-2017. This course explored the history and roles of OSHA and NIOSH, the identification of work-related health and safety hazards, and the methods to control and prevent workplace health and safety threats.

Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America®*
  - Product Liability Litigation - Defendants, 2027
- Massachusetts Super Lawyers, Rising Star, 2013-2023
- Phi Delta Phi Professional Responsibility Award

Education

- J.D., Suffolk University Law School
  - *magna cum laude*
  - *Suffolk Transnational Law Review*, Editorial Board
- B.A., College of the Holy Cross

Admissions

- Massachusetts
- New York
- U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts

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Community Leadership

- **Art Therapy Credentials Board (ATCB)**
  Jesse serves as an ethics officer for the ATCB, reviewing and evaluating any ethical complaints made against art therapists accredited by the organization.
- **Mother Caroline Academy & Education Center**
  Jesse's wife is a former teacher at Mother Caroline Academy, a private, tuition-free school for girls from limited financial means in the Boston area. He has been involved with fundraising efforts for the school for years and often serves on the planning committee for annual benefit dinners.
- **Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine**
  Jesse previously served as assistant adjunct professor, teaching a course on Occupational Laws and Compliance.
- **Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association**
  Jesse first became involved with the Volunteer Lawyers Project during his law school days and he continues to work with the organization. The Volunteer Lawyers Project is an organization founded with the mission of increasing access to justice by delivering high quality pro bono civil legal services to eligible clients in the Greater Boston area.

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*Jesse works remotely and is licensed in Massachusetts, practicing in Marblehead, MA. Contact Jesse via e-mail or telephone for in person/virtual meetings. Use the address 1 Spring Street, Marblehead, MA 01945 for mail/deliveries.

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