Kathleen M. Dillon

Special Counsel

KMDillon@mdwcg.com
Long Island, NY – Melville – 631.227.6424

Kathleen serves as Special Counsel in the firm's Casualty Department and brings more than three decades of litigation and trial experience to her practice. Throughout her career, she has represented crime victims, civil litigants, and criminal defendants in both trial and appellate courts across New York State. A highly regarded trial advocate, Kathleen has dedicated her career to courtroom litigation, risk assessment, and strategic client advocacy.

Over the course of her career, Kathleen has served as a senior associate at both small and mid-sized litigation firms and as in-house counsel for a major insurance carrier. In 2020, she co-founded a New York-based law firm, further expanding her leadership and litigation experience. Kathleen joined Marshall Dennehey as Special Counsel in 2026, where she continues to leverage her extensive trial experience to provide strategic counsel and effective advocacy on behalf of her clients.

Since 1999, Kathleen has been an instructor with the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) and has also taught trial advocacy as a Special Professor of Law at her alma mater, Hofstra University School of Law. She has lectured extensively and conducted training programs for insurance carriers, attorneys, and law students on a wide range of topics, including trial techniques, civil practice, contracts, indemnification, insurance coverage, assisted living and elder care issues, sexual abuse claims, and criminal law. In 2000, Kathleen transitioned her practice to civil litigation, handling both the prosecution and defense of catastrophic injury claims. Her experience includes complex tort litigation involving construction accidents, product liability, medical and dental malpractice, toxic torts, sexual abuse and elder abuse claims, municipal liability, premises liability, and matters involving major entertainment and concert venues. She has also represented attorneys in professional disciplinary proceedings.

Kathleen earned her *bachelor of arts* from Fairfield University in 1992 and her *juris doctor* from Hofstra University School of Law in 1996, where she received top honors in trial advocacy. Following law school, she proudly served as an Assistant District Attorney in Suffolk County, prosecuting felony cases in the Major Crime Bureau from investigation

Practices

- New York Construction & Labor Law
- Product Liability
- Medical Malpractice
- Environmental & Toxic Tort Litigation
- Automobile Liability
- Premises & Retail Liability

through trial.

A lifelong Long Island resident, Kathleen resides in Setauket, New York. She is active in her church as a Eucharistic Minister and volunteers with her local interfaith community kitchen and food pantry. Kathleen also supports charitable organizations, including the American Cancer Society and Special Olympics, through fundraising and community involvement.

Education

- Hofstra University School of Law (J.D., 1996)
- Fairfield University (B.A., 1992)

Admissions

- New York, 1997

Classes & Seminars Taught

- Instructor, National Institute of Trial Advocacy; 1999 - Present

Legal Teaching Positions

- Special Professor of Law, Trial Advocacy, Hofstra University School of Law, 2005