

## ELLEN J. ZUCKER

**PARTNER, BURNS & LEVINSON**  
BOSTON

Ellen J. Zucker, a partner in the Business Litigation & Dispute Resolution, Employment and White Collar Criminal Defense groups at Burns & Levinson in Boston, has successfully litigated and resolved an extensive array of employment matters.

Zucker's client list includes executives and professionals, as well as construction workers, private businesses and public charities. She has been lead counsel for clients with disputes in several jurisdictions.

The Boston attorney's signature accomplishments include serving as lead counsel and securing a \$4.4 million verdict in Superior Court last year for Detective Kathleen Donohue against the Town of Watertown for gender discrimination and retaliation.

The jury returned its verdict in favor of Donohue, Watertown's first female detective, after two weeks at trial and two days of jury deliberations, finding that the city violated state discrimination and retaliation laws when it failed to adequately address her concerns of gender-related hostility and disparate treatment in the workplace. The award included compensatory damages of more than \$3.3 million and, upon a finding that the town's conduct was outrageous a punitive damages award of \$1 million.

Zucker also secured a \$13 million settlement on behalf of orthopedic surgeon Dennis Burke in his high-profile whistleblower case against Massachusetts General Hospital over the practice of concurrent surgeries.

MGH had terminated Burke's privileges and medical staff appointment, allegedly in retaliation for his having raised concerns about serious patient safety and disclosure issues attendant to the practice of concurrent surgery at MGH.

In the wake of that case, the Board of Registration in Medicine promulgated regulations that limit the practice and set standards for informed consent.

*Employment*



### ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Recipient, Wonder Woman Award, Massachusetts Chapter, National Organization for Women (2013); Woman of the Year, Women's Law Center, Boston College Law School; Dr. Martin King Drum Major for Justice Award, Cambridge NAACP (2012); former board member and chair, MassEquality.org; board member, Women's Bar Association; member, legal committee, American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts