GREENE ESPEL PLLP

Jeanette M. Bazis Attorney



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OVERVIEW

Jeanette is one of the Twin Cities go-to senior litigators. Clients repeatedly call on Jeanette as their lead counsel, because she works to understand their goals and crafts tailored strategies to reach those goals effectively and efficiently. She eschews cookie-cutter approaches to litigation. She is a skillful communicator—regardless of whether her audience hails from the C-suites or the boiler room.

Jeanette's knowledge of Minnesota courts may be unrivaled. Jeanette has worked elbow-to-elbow with our federal and state judges throughout her 30+ year career. She has been a leader in the Federal Bar Association for decades. She served on the Federal Practice Committee, where she led a subcommittee to bring clarity to our Local Rules. And she began her career as a federal district court clerk in Minnesota. Jeanette also served on the Minnesota Supreme Court Civil Justice Reform Task Force, formed to recommend amendments to the rules of civil procedure.

The legal community has long celebrated her talents. Jeanette has been named a Power 30 Employment Litigator, a Top 50 Women Super Lawyer, a Top 100 Minnesota Super Lawyer, a "Best Lawyer" by U.S. News, and a "Notable Practitioner" by Chambers USA.

Jeanette's litigation experience is wide-ranging. Her cases often arise at the intersection of intellectual property and employment law in trade secret litigation and restrictive covenant disputes. Her practice also focuses on traditional employment litigation and IP disputes. Jeanette also represents clients in complex, high-stakes products liability, insurance coverage, and commercial disputes, leading teams at the trial and appellate level. Fun fact: early in her career, Jeanette used her business litigation and IP skills to return the 1960's smash hit "Louie Louie" to its rightful owners.

Jeanette is often called upon for internal investigations into potential malfeasance by corporate executives, workplace misconduct, government fraud, and other sensitive issues that leverage her communication skills, emotional intelligence, and sound judgment.

Jeanette is also a leader in the community, with a particular focus on mentoring women and promoting diversity in the legal profession. She served as President of the Infinity Project, whose mission is to increase the gender diversity of the state and federal bench in the Eighth Circuit. Jeanette earned her second Attorney of the Year award for this work.

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Minnesota School of Law, *magna cum laude*, *Order of the Coif*; Editor, Journal of Law & Inequality
- Temple University, B.B.A., *summa cum laude*, Economics

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GREENE ESPEL PLLP

EXPERIENCE

- Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, LLP, Los Angeles, California, Associate
- Law Clerk, United States District Court, District of Minnesota, The Honorable James M. Rosenbaum

ADMISSIONS

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth and Ninth Circuits
- U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota
- U.S. District Court for the Central and Eastern Districts of California
- State Bar of California
- State Bar of Minnesota

AFFILIATIONS

- Federal Bar Association
- Hennepin County Bar Association
- Minnesota State Bar Association
- Minnesota Women Lawyers

RECOGNITION

- Named as *Minnesota Lawyer* "Top Women in the Law" Honoree (2025)
- Listed in *Chambers USA, America's Leading Lawyers for Business* (2016-2026)
- Listed in POWER 30: Employment Law by *Minnesota Lawyer* (2021-2025)
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* (2013-2027)
    - "Lawyer of the Year" (2022)
- Super Lawyers
    - Named as one of the "Top 100 Super Lawyers," Minnesota Super Lawyers (2013-2026)
    - Named as one of the "Top 50 Women Super Lawyers," Minnesota Super Lawyers (2013-2026)
    - Named "Super Lawyer," Minnesota Super Lawyers (2008-2026)
    - Named as "Business Litigation Super Lawyer," Super Lawyers Corporate Counsel Edition (2009, 2010)
    - Named as one of the "Top 100 Women Super Lawyers," Minnesota Journal of Law and Politics (2008, 2009)
- Recognized as a "Labor & Employment Star" – Minnesota" by Benchmark Litigation (2020)
- Recognized as Minnesota State Bar Association North Star Lawyer for pro bono service (2015-2019)
- Recognized by the University of Minnesota Law School among alumni who have shaped the rule of Law (2013)
- Named as *Minnesota Lawyer* "Attorney of the Year" (2012-2013)

COMMUNITY

- Founding co-Chair, University of Minnesota Law School, AluMNae Network
- University of Minnesota Law School Board of Advisors (2016-2023)
    - Board Chair, 2021-2022
    - Development Committee Chair (2019-2021)
- Federal Bar Association
    - National Counsel Delegate (2022 – present)
    - Shaw Younger Lawyers Public Service Grant and the Shaw Public Service Award, Chair (2024)
    - General Counsel (2021-2022)
    - Board of Directors
    - FBA Foundation Board of Directors

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        - Fellows Chair & Historian (2018-2019)
        - President (2017-2018)
        - Treasurer (2015-2016)
        - Secretary (2014-2015)
        - Board Member (2007-2019)
        - Fellow (2007-present)
    - Board of Directors and Executive Committee, Minnesota Chapter (2022-present, 2004-2016)
    - 2025 Convention Committee, Minnesota Chapter, Co-Chair (2022-present)
    - Diversity Committee, Minnesota Chapter
        - Co-Chair (2014-2015)
        - Member (2012-present)
    - FBA Eighth Circuit Vice President (2006-2008)
- Infinity Project
    - President (2013)
    - Board Member, Executive Committee (2009-present)
- Minnesota Women Lawyers
    - MWL President's Leadership Circle (2009-2014)
- Minnesota State Bar Association, Civil Litigation Section, Governing Council (2010-2012)
- Hennepin County Bar Association
- Federal Public Defender Reappointment Committee (2013)
- Federal Practice Committee, U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota
    - Member and subcommittee chair (2008-2011)
- Minnesota Supreme Court Civil Justice Reform Task Force, Member (2011)
- U.S. Magistrate Merit Selection Panel, Chair (2007-2008)
- Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference Planning Committee (2007-2008)

NEWS & UPDATES

- **August 20, 2026** Greene Espel Attorneys Recognized on the 2027 Best Lawyers and Ones to Watch Lists
- **July 22, 2026** Legal 500 Recognizes Six Greene Espel Attorneys on the 2026 Legal 500 Minneapolis US City Elite List
- **July 15, 2026** Greene Espel Attorneys Recognized on the 2026 Minnesota Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists
- **June 4, 2026** Chambers USA Recognizes Greene Espel for Commercial Litigation and Labor & Employment in Minnesota; Jeanette Bazis, Sybil Dunlop, Jenny Gassman-Pines, Kate Swenson, and X. Kevin Zhao Ranked Lawyers
- **May 19, 2026** Minnesota Lawyer Recognizes Jeanette Bazis, Sybil Dunlop, Jenny Gassman-Pines, Mark Johnson, and X. Kevin Zhao on the Minnesota Legal 250
- **March 10, 2026** Jeanette Bazis Launches Mediation Practice as a Minnesota Rule 114 Qualified Neutral
- **August 21, 2025** Jeanette Bazis and Sybil Dunlop Recognized by Minnesota Lawyer as 2025 Top Women in the Law Honorees
- **August 21, 2025** Greene Espel Attorneys Recognized on the 2026 Best Lawyers and Ones to Watch Lists
- **July 29, 2025** Jeanette Bazis Named to Minnesota Lawyer's POWER LIST: Employment Law 2025
- **July 15, 2025** Greene Espel Attorneys Recognized on the 2025 Minnesota Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists

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- **June 6, 2025** Chambers USA Recognizes Greene Espel for Litigation and Labor & Employment in Minnesota; Jeanette Bazis, Sybil Dunlop, Jenny Gassman-Pines, Surya Saxena, Kate Swenson, and X. Kevin Zhao Ranked Lawyers
- **November 7, 2024** Jeanette Bazis Named to Minnesota Lawyer's 2024 POWER 30 for Business Litigation
- **August 16, 2024** Greene Espel Attorneys Recognized on the 2025 Best Lawyers and Ones to Watch Lists
- **July 15, 2024** Greene Espel Attorneys Recognized on the 2024 Minnesota Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists
- **June 6, 2024** *Chambers USA* Recognizes Greene Espel for Litigation in Minnesota; Jeanette Bazis, Sybil Dunlop, Surya Saxena, Kate Swenson, and X. Kevin Zhao Named Notable Practitioners
- **October 24, 2023** Jeanette Bazis Named to *Minnesota Lawyer*'s POWER 30 for Business Litigation
- **August 17, 2023** *Best Lawyers Recognizes 16 Greene Espel Attorneys on the 2024 Best Lawyers and Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch Lists*
- **July 18, 2023** *16 Greene Espel Attorneys Recognized on the Minnesota Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists*
- **June 2, 2023** *Chambers USA* 2023 Recognizes Greene Espel for Litigation in Minnesota; Jeanette Bazis, Sybil Dunlop, and Kate Swenson Named Notable Practitioners
- **August 18, 2022** Best Lawyers Recognizes 14 Greene Espel Attorneys on the 2023 Best Lawyers and Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch Lists
- **July 18, 2022** 16 Greene Espel Attorneys Recognized on the Minnesota Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists
- **June 6, 2022** *Chambers USA* Recognizes Greene Espel for Litigation in Minnesota; Jeanette Bazis, Sybil Dunlop, and Kate Swenson Named Notable Practitioners
- **May 5, 2022** Jeanette Bazis and Jenny Gassman-Pines Named to *Minnesota Lawyer*'s POWER 30 for Employment Law
- **October 11, 2021** Greene Espel Attorneys Recognized in 2022 "Best Lawyers in the Midwest" Publication
- **August 19, 2021** Best Lawyers Recognizes 14 Greene Espel Attorneys on the 2022 Best Lawyers and Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch Lists
- **July 30, 2021** Jeanette Bazis Elected to Serve as Chair of the University of Minnesota Law School's Board of Advisors
- **July 21, 2021** Award: Super Lawyers Recognizes 13 Greene Espel Attorneys on the 2021 Minnesota Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists
- **June 23, 2021** *Best Lawyers* 2021 "The Employment Law Issue" Recognizes Greene Espel Attorneys
- **June 14, 2021** *Best Lawyers* 2021 “Women in the Law” Business Edition Recognizes Eight Greene Espel Attorneys
- **May 28, 2021** *Chambers USA* Recognizes Greene Espel for Litigation in Minnesota; Jeanette Bazis and Sybil Dunlop Named Notable Practitioners
- **August 20, 2020** Award: The Best Lawyers in America 2021 Recognizes 17 Greene Espel Lawyers
- **July 20, 2020** Award: Super Lawyers Recognizes 20 Greene Espel Attorneys
- **June 10, 2020** Award: 13 Greene Espel Attorneys Named North Star Lawyers for Pro Bono Service
- **April 24, 2020** Award: Chambers USA 2020 Ranks Greene Espel and its Attorneys
- **August 15, 2019** Eleven Greene Espel Lawyers Listed in "The Best Lawyers in America 2020"
- **July 8, 2019** 2019 Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists Include 18 Greene Espel Attorneys
- **April 26, 2019** Greene Espel Recognized Among Top Firms in 2019 Chambers USA
- **November 20, 2018** Benchmark Litigation Recognizes Greene Espel and Five of its Lawyers
- **August 15, 2018** Nine Greene Espel Lawyers Listed in "The Best Lawyers in America 2019"
- **July 5, 2018** Greene Espel Lawyers Receive Recognition in 2018 Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists
- **May 4, 2018** Greene Espel Recognized Among Top Firms In 2018 Chambers USA
- **March 28, 2018** The Women Attorneys of Greene Espel Reflect on Key Lessons
- **August 15, 2017** Nine Greene Espel Attorneys Listed in The Best Lawyers in America
- **July 5, 2017** Super Lawyers Recognizes Thirteen Greene Espel Lawyers in 2017
- **May 26, 2017** Greene Espel Receives Rankings in Chambers USA 2017
- **November 11, 2016** Bazis Speaks at 2016 School Law Conference
- **October 26, 2016** Teacher Tenure Act Case Dismissed
- **August 16, 2016** Seven Greene Espel Attorneys Listed in The Best Lawyers in America 2017
- **July 5, 2016** Super Lawyers 2016 Recognizes Sixteen Greene Espel Attorneys

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- **May 31, 2016** Greene Espel Recognized in Chambers USA 2016
- **August 18, 2015** Best Lawyers in America 2016 honors seven Greene Espel attorneys
- **July 30, 2015** Greene Espel client Anoka-Hennepin School District wins appellate victory
- **July 7, 2015** Super Lawyers 2015 recognizes fifteen Greene Espel attorneys for honors
- **May 28, 2015** Bazis talks law firm leadership at HCBA
- **August 18, 2014** Best Lawyers in America 2015 lists seven Greene Espel attorneys
- **July 7, 2014** Super Lawyers 2014 recognizes twelve Greene Espel attorneys for honors
- **January 3, 2014** Bazis named 2013 Attorney of the Year by Minnesota Lawyer
- **October 15, 2013** Bazis speaks to Kyrgyzstani judges
- **October 15, 2013** Bazis recognized at University of Minnesota Law School 125th Anniversary Celebration Gala
- **August 15, 2013** Best Lawyers in America 2014 lists seven Greene Espel attorneys
- **July 8, 2013** Super Lawyers 2013 recognizes eleven Greene Espel attorneys for honors
- **May 24, 2013** Bazis teaches Public Sector Retaliation and Whistleblowing: Practical Advice for the Employment Attorney at the Employment Law Institute
- **February 7, 2013** Greene Espel client Green Acres wins at Minnesota Court of Appeals
- **December 17, 2012** Bazis and Johnson named 2012 Attorneys of the Year by Minnesota Lawyer
- **November 30, 2012** Bazis moderates Minnesota CLE panel on employment litigation
- **August 28, 2012** Best Lawyers in America 2013 lists six Greene Espel attorneys
- **July 12, 2012** Super Lawyers 2012 recognizes ten Greene Espel attorneys for honors
- **July 13, 2011** Super Lawyers recognizes ten Greene Espel attorneys for honors
- **July 27, 2010** Super Lawyers recognizes Baker, Bazis, Espel, Greene, and Luger
- **February 19, 2010** Bazis, Espel, and Luger recognized as business litigation super lawyers

EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS

- **May 1, 2019** *Firm Leadership: Culture and Fundamentals*, Hennepin County Bar Association, Presenter
- **October 1, 2018** *Implicit Bias in the Legal Profession* (featuring U.S. District Judge Mark Bennett), Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, Organizer/Moderator
- **May 1, 2018** *Law Firm Leadership Series*, Hennepin County Bar Association, Panelist (May 2015-2018)
- **April 1, 2018** *Leadership Summit on Gender Equity in the Law*, Participant (April 2015, 2018)
- **February 22, 2018** Beth Krueger to Speak on Antitrust Panel
- **January 11, 2018** 2018 MSBA Leadership Conference Speakers Include Greene Espel Attorney Jeanette Bazis
- **January 1, 2018** *Transgender in Transition*, 2018 Minnesota School Boards Association Leadership Conference, Panelist
- **February 1, 2017** *The Law in Transition: Transgender Rights*, Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, Organizer/Moderator
- **November 1, 2016** *Tenure/Continuing Contract Laws: Are They Failing Our Students?* 2016 School Law Conference, Minnesota CLE, Panelist
- **November 1, 2013** *Summary Judgment in Employment Cases: Views from the Federal Bench*, 2013 Labor & Employment Law Institute, Moderator (with U.S. District Judges Donovan W. Frank & Judge Patrick J. Schiltz
- **May 1, 2013** *Public Sector Retaliation and Whistleblowing: Practical Advice for the Employment Attorney*, Upper Midwest Employment Law Institute, Minnesota CLE, Panelist
- **November 1, 2012** *Ethics: When Employment Litigation Involves Executives*, Labor and Employment Law Institute, Minnesota CLE, Moderator

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