



Jennie Silk

Shareholder

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Jennie Silk is a shareholder in Baker Donelson's Memphis office.

As a member of the Complex Litigation and Class Actions Group, Ms. Silk assists clients in complex litigation, municipal defense, contractual disputes, commercial litigation, and product liability suits.

She represents local, national, and international businesses in commercial disputes, product liability actions, complex tort cases, and trade secret litigation. She also defends municipalities in high profile § 1983 and Monell cases. Ms. Silk has represented cities in First Amendment-related litigation and open records disputes. Recently, she successfully petitioned a federal court for modification of a 40-year-old consent decree.

She is currently defending a municipality which is under a civil rights investigation by the Department of Justice.

Ms. Silk has a robust pro bono practice. She recently obtained compassionate release for a victim of human trafficking. Additionally, she successfully [obtained relief](#) for a Honduran family under the Hague Convention Against Torture. Ms. Silk also submitted an amicus curiae to the Supreme Court in a capital penalty case.

She practices in federal court and Tennessee state court. She is also admitted to and practices in the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals.

In addition to her law practice, Ms. Silk is an avid runner who has completed dozens of marathons, including the Boston Marathon 13 times (and counting).



Case Studies

- [Victory for Pro Bono Client in Immigration Case](#) - Immigration



Representative Matters

- Representing a municipality in a civil rights investigation by the DOJ.
- Recently awarded dismissal in two Monell cases against a municipality.
- Successfully represented in trial a large municipality and its police department in a high-profile civil rights case.
- Successfully petitioned a federal court for modification of an institutional reform consent decree.
- Represented two large school districts in a multibillion-dollar lawsuit challenging the state's educational funding system.



Professional Honors & Activities

- Member – American Bar Association
- Member – Tennessee Bar Association
- Member – Memphis Bar Association
- Member – DRI (Young Lawyers Division)
- Member – American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)
- Listed in *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch* in America™ for Commercial Litigation (2021 – 2024) and Municipal Law (2024)

- Selected to Mid-South Rising Stars, Civil Litigation: Defense (2022, 2023)
- Recipient – Baker Donelson's Memphis Office Pro Bono Attorney of the Year (2021)
- Recipient – Leo Bearman, Sr. American Inn of Court Outstanding Associate Award (2021-2022)
- Recipient – Baker Donelson's Firm-Wide Pro Bono Attorney of the Year (2019)



Publications

- "A Victory for Qualified Immunity. A Trend to Continue?" (November 2021)
- "The Unexpected Benefits of Pro Bono Work for a Litigator," *Trial Spotlight Newsletter* (October 2021)
- "Avoiding Ho, Ho, Ho-liday Party Liability" (December 2019)
- "The EEOC's Shocking Reversal on LGBT Protections Under Title VII" (September 2019)
- "The Risks and Rewards of an Office BYOD - Bring Your Own Device - Program," *Memphis Business Journal* (September 2019)
- "BYOD Programs: Ensuring the Savings are Worth the Risks" (May 2019)
- "Calling out *Maryland v. King*: DNA, Cell Phones, and the Fourth Amendment," *Thomson Reuters*, 2015 Criminal Law Bulletin, Volume 51, Issue 5 (2015)



Speaking Engagements

- "Attorney Ethical Obligations Relating To Cybersecurity," Baker Donelson Women's Initiative Wrap It Up CLE Event (December 2021)



Education

- University of Mississippi School of Law, J.D., 2016, summa cum laude
 - Associate Cases Editor – *University of Mississippi Law Journal*
 - Moot Court Board
- Rhodes College, B.A. in Religious Studies



Admissions

- Tennessee, 2016
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit