



DEEPA K. DESAI

Partner

Boston

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Service Focus

- Counseling and Advice
- Labor Relations
- Litigation and Trials
- Pay Equity and Transparency

OVERVIEW

Deepa Desai is a partner in the firm's Boston office and focuses her practice defending employers against claims of harassment, discrimination and retaliation, as well as wage and hour violations and contract disputes. Deepa also counsels clients on day-to-day workplace matters, including the preparation of employee handbooks, hiring, terminations, discipline, leaves of absence and accommodations. Deepa additionally advises and represents clients in traditional labor matters, including union elections and unfair labor practices. Her clients span multiple industries, including institutions of higher education, retail companies, restaurants, staffing agencies, and human services agencies.

Deepa has spoken extensively on labor and employment topics, including the effective drafting of employee handbooks, strategies to achieve compliance with

wage-and-hour laws, and employer obligations under federal and state leave laws. Deepa understands both sides of the legal equation, both as a firm attorney and as in-house counsel, where she previously worked as a director of employment law for a nationwide government contractor, planning, executing, and implementing training for corporate, benefits, and employment compliance activities, among other duties.

She is heavily involved in the legal and business community as former Co-President of the South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston (was recently named Board Member of the Year) and a Board member of the Northeastern University School of Law Alumni Association, in which capacity she recently presented at the 29th Annual Denise Carty Bennis Memorial Bar Awards (May 2022-2024). Deepa is also a member of the Massachusetts Bar Association (MBA), the American Bar Association, USA 500 Clubs and of BNI, Beacon Hill Ascend chapter.

Credentials

Education

- Northeastern University School of Law, J.D., 2016
- Boston University, B.A., *cum laude*, 2013

Bar Admissions

- Massachusetts

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts

Recognitions

- Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*, Ones to Watch (2024-2026)
- South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston 2022 Mentor of the Year Award
- Massachusetts *Rising Stars*, Super Lawyers (2022)
- Recognized in *Boston Magazine's* Top Lawyers (2021-2023)
- Selected as Massachusetts *Rising Star*, Employment Litigation
- South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston 2019 Board Member of the Year

Affiliations

Professional Activities

- Member of the BNI, Beacon Hill Ascend Chapter
- Northeastern University School of Law Alumni Board
- Co-President, 2022 Board of Directors of the South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston (2022)
- Board Member, Northeastern University School of Law Alumni Board
- Vice President, Board of Directors, South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston (2021)
- Secretary/Clerk, Board of Directors, South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston (2020)
- USA 500 Clubs

INSIGHTS

Event

Feb 3, 2026

Addressing Employee Speech and Section 7 Rights in Times of Tumult

News

Dec 16, 2025

Fisher Phillips Elects 27 Attorneys to 2026 Partnership Class

Event

Nov 25, 2025

Preparing for New Pay Transparency Requirements

Pay Transparency Coming to Massachusetts in 2025: What Employers Need to Know + 5 Key Points to Consider

7-Eleven Franchisees Are Not Employees Under Massachusetts Law: 5 Tips to Ensure Compliance After Latest Ruling

Workplace Law Update: 10 Essential Items on Your December To-Do List