



Dina L. Vespia

Partner

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Dina is Co-Chair of Cullen and Dykman's Higher Education Practice Group and a member of the Firm's Not-for-Profit and Religious Organizations Practice Group. Dina also serves as Chair of the Firm's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. With a focus on providing comprehensive legal guidance to educational institutions and charitable organizations, Dina's practice encompasses a broad spectrum of issues, ranging from day-to-day operational concerns to navigating complex strategic transactions.

Dina advises clients on compliance with the regulatory frameworks governing educational entities, including state and federal laws and accrediting agency standards. Her counsel extends to matters such as regulatory compliance, accreditation, student affairs, policy development, governance, contracts, and general corporate issues. Dina also advises colleges and universities on various aspects of Title IX, including policy development and implementation, and has served as a TIX hearing panelist.

Dina is particularly adept at assisting not-for-profit colleges and universities in evaluating and executing strategic transactions, including mergers, asset acquisitions, and other transformative endeavors. She collaborates closely with institutional leadership and boards to navigate regulatory landscapes, assess financial challenges, and devise strategies for long-term sustainability. She guides clients through regulatory considerations, regional and programmatic accreditation processes, governance matters, and employment considerations.

Dina also offers invaluable support to institutions facing the difficult decision of closure, guiding them through the intricate process with sensitivity and expertise. Her holistic approach, informed by her deep understanding of the legal complexities inherent in the education sector, enables her to provide tailored solutions that align with her clients' objectives and foster institutional success.

Areas of Concentration:

- Higher Education Transactions
- Education Regulatory Compliance
- Not-for-Profit and Corporate Entity Formation and Governance
- Institutional Closure
- Title IX
- Policy Review, Development, and Implementation
- Contracts

Practices

- Higher Education
- Title IX
- Corporate
- Formations and Governance
- Not-for-Profit and Religious Organizations

Industries

- Higher Education
- Not-for-Profit and Religious Organizations

Bar Admissions

- New Jersey
- New York

Education

- J.D., New York Law School, 2009
- B.A., Quinnipiac University, 2003

Professional and Community Activities

- Member, National Association of College and University Attorneys
- Member, New York State Bar Association
- Member, Nassau County Bar Association

Honors and Awards

- Premier Business Women of Long Island 2023 Award Winner
- Long Island Business News Diversity in Business Awards 2021 Honoree

Publications

- *From Class to Class Action Lawsuits: Considerations for Colleges and Universities Facing Coronavirus-Related Student Refund Actions* (Nassau Lawyer, June 2020)
- *Designated Duty: A University's Obligation to Students with Mental Health Issues* (Nassau Lawyer, July/August 2019)