



# Women's History Profile - Jessica Summers

By Jessica Summers

In ongoing celebration of Women's History Month, we are highlighting some of our amazing female attorneys.

Meet Jessica Summers, Principal in the firm's Employment Law, Employee Benefits, and Litigation groups (among others). She is known for her comprehensive understanding of the legal and business needs of clients, and provides exceptional, result-driven solutions to client matters. Below, Jessica shares her experience and advice to being a woman in the legal industry.

### What is your advice to young women who are looking to pursue a career in the legal field?

Actively cultivate relationships with good mentors. Even the best law school education can't match real world experience. Find someone who has had that experience and is willing to share it and don't be too cocky to listen to them and take their guidance to heart.

### What is your advice to women who may lack confidence in their careers because of the stereotypes of women?

Know your strength and don't be afraid to advocate for yourself.

### What strengths do women bring to the legal industry?

Working at Paley Rothman has really shown me that the idea of one gender or group having certain strengths in the legal field is an oversimplification. Rather, what each attorney brings to her practice is shaped by her own personal experience and strengths. The legal field was dominated by a very homogenous group of people for a very long time. Having more women and other attorneys with a greater variety of backgrounds and perspectives around the table makes the group as a whole better poised to identify creative solutions and challenge assumptions. Why would anyone want to work someone who is coming at an issue from the same vantage point as their own? Incorporating diverse practitioners encourages greater thought and growth in law and keeps the industry from stagnating.



**Jessica  
Summers**  
Principal

### What advice would you give your younger self?

Your male counterparts wear comfortable shoes, you should too. 😊

