

Martha C. Gaythwaite

Partner

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As Chair of Verrill's Litigation and Trial Group, Martha leads a team of more than 40 attorneys, paralegals, and staff. An accomplished trial attorney committed to success on behalf of her clients, Martha is an ardent supporter of the civil jury system.

Martha has spent the bulk of her professional career representing clients before juries. At last count, Martha had tried more than 150 civil jury trial cases to verdict. Over the years, Martha has handled a wide variety of complex commercial matters throughout the country, including product liability cases arising from aviation, agricultural and workplace accidents, and medical devices.

In addition to handling jury trials, Martha has decades of experience handling non-jury and administrative matters. Although the focus of her trial work has involved product liability and commercial litigation, Martha has developed a dedicated interest in environmental law, which started when she worked for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers before becoming a lawyer.

Education

- Suffolk University Law School (J.D., *cum laude*)
 - Member, Suffolk University Law Review
- University of Massachusetts, Amherst (B.A., *cum laude*)

Public Service

- Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection, Chair (2023-Present), Trustee and Secretary (2011-2014); Trustee (2017-Present)
- Grievance Commission Maine Board of Overseers of the Bar (2007-2009); Panel Chair (2009-2012)
- Fee Arbitration Commission, Panel Member (1997-2011); Panel Chair (2001-2003)
- Board Member, [My Place Teen Center](#) (2014-Present)
- Board Member, Volunteer Lawyers Project (2024-present)

Services/Industries

- Litigation & Trial
- Environmental & Land Use
- Business & Commercial Disputes
- Product Liability, Toxic Torts, & Personal Injury Defense
- Appellate

Bar Admissions

- Massachusetts
- Maine
- Connecticut

Memberships

- Defense Research Institute
- Product Liability Advisory Council (PLAC)
- Maine State Bar Association
- Maine Trial Lawyers Association
- American Bar Association
- American Board of Trial Advocates

Honors

- Named the *Best Lawyers*® 2024 Litigation - Insurance "Lawyer of the Year" in Portland, Maine
- Named the *Best Lawyers*® 2023 Product Liability Litigation – Defendants "Lawyer of the Year" in Portland, Maine
- Fellow, International Academy of Trial Lawyers
- Member, American Board of Trial Advocates
- Recognized in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* under Litigation: General Commercial
- AV® rated by *Martindale-Hubbell*
- *Benchmark Litigation*
- Named as one of the "Top 250 Women in Litigation" by *Benchmark Litigation* (2014-2021)
- Named the *Best Lawyers*® 2021 Litigation – Insurance "Lawyer of the Year" in Portland, Maine
- Named the *Best Lawyers*® 2019 Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions - Defendants "Lawyer of the Year" in Portland, Maine
- Named the *Best Lawyers*® 2018 Product Liability Litigation - Defendants "Lawyer of the Year" in Portland, Maine
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Health Care, Litigation – Insurance, Mass Tort Litigation / Class Actions – Defendants, Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants, Product Liability Litigation – Defendants, and Professional Malpractice Law – Defendants in Portland, Maine
- Selected by peers for inclusion in *New England Super Lawyers*® under Personal Injury - Products: Defense, Professional Liability: Defense, Personal Injury - General: Defense
- Katahdin Counsel Recognition for pro bono efforts

To learn more about third-party ratings and rankings, and the selection processes used for inclusion, [click here](#).

Clerkships

- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida, Hon. George Carr
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida, Hon. Thomas G. Wilson
- Massachusetts Superior Court, Middlesex County, Hon. James J. Nixon

Court and Other Admissions

- U.S. District Court for the District of Maine
- U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit