



Irina V. Strelkova

Partner

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400 West Market Street
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Louisville, KY 40202

Industries

Finance
Consumable Goods
Industrials
Manufacturing
Mobility
Regional & Community
Banks
Supply Chain

Practice Areas

Labor & Employment
Immigration

Bar Memberships

Kentucky

Languages

English
Russian

Irina represents employers in a broad range of labor and employment matters, including federal and state court litigation, arbitration, and administrative proceedings involving claims of wrongful termination, employment discrimination, retaliation, unfair labor practices, wage and hour violations, and other workplace-related disputes. In addition to litigation, she serves as trusted counsel on a wide range of workplace issues, advising employers on employee relations, workplace investigations, handbooks and policies, restrictive covenant agreements, unemployment matters, and compliance strategies.

Irina also maintains a robust employment-based immigration practice, offering clients a comprehensive approach to navigate the legal and practical challenges of attracting, retaining, and managing a global workforce. Her immigration practice spans temporary work visas, permanent residence (green card) processes, I-9 compliance, and worksite enforcement. Irina has significant experience with EB-1, EB-2 National Interest Waiver (NIW), and O-1 petitions, and routinely guides researchers, physicians, executives, artists, musicians, and other highly accomplished professionals, through some of the most challenging immigration pathways.

Irina has served clients from a variety of industries such as health care, mobility, manufacturing, supply chain, energy, financial services, franchise & hospitality, real estate, and technology. She has also served as Chair and Vice-Chair for the Kentucky Bar Association's Labor and Employment Law Section, and served as the Vice Chair of Policy for the American Bar Association International Arbitration Committee of the International Law Section for three consecutive years.

Irina's Relevant Experience

Other Info About Irina

Education

University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law, J.D., 2019, *magna cum laude*

University of Louisville, B.S., Criminal Justice, 2015, *cum laude*

Courts

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Kentucky

Recognition

Recognized by *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America* – Labor and Employment – Management, 2026–2027

Selected to Kentucky Rising Stars, 2024–2026

Leon Seidman Memorial Award, University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law, 2019– recognizing commitment to honesty, integrity, and community service

Professional Affiliations

Harbor House of Louisville, Board Member 2026

Kentucky Bar Association, Labor and Employment Section, Chair, 2025

Kentucky Bar Association, Labor and Employment Section, Chair Elect, 2024

Kentucky Bar Association, Labor and Employment Section, Vice Chair, 2023

Kentucky Bar Association, Labor and Employment Section,
Treasurer, 2022

Women Influencing Louisville, Board Member, 2022

Kentucky Bar Association, Labor and Employment Section,
Secretary, 2021

Vice Chair of Policy for the American Bar Association International
Arbitration Committee of the International Law Section, years 2018–
2021

Louisville Bar Association, Member

American Bar Association, Member

Kentucky Bar Association, Member

Brandeis Honor Society

Presentations

Panelist, “Shifting Sands: What Recent EEOC and DOL Changes
Mean for Your Practice,” 2026 Kentucky Bar Association Annual
Convention, June 2026

Panelist, “Employment Law Unveiled, Adapting to Change in the
Modern Workplace” 2025 Kentucky Bar Association Annual
Convention, June 2025

Speaker, “How to Conduct Proper and Effective Internal
Investigations” 61st Annual Human Resources Conference, Indiana
Chamber of Commerce, May 2025

Speaker, “Legal Insights: Navigating Investigations and Legal
Changes in Discrimination and Harassment” LSHRM Chapter
Meeting, Apr. 2025

Speaker, “Discrimination and Harassment Burdens of Proof and
Investigations,” NBI, Feb. 2025

Speaker, “Considerations & Best Practices in Managing a Remote
Workforce,” Elizabethtown SHRM 4th Annual Conference,
September 2022

Speaker, "Restrictive Covenants: Non-compete, Non-Solicit, and Confidentiality Agreements," Kentucky Bar Association 2022 Annual Convention, June 2022

Speaker, "Tips for Managing Difficult Employees: How Do We Handle an Employee That...." 57th Annual Indiana HR Conference, Indiana Chamber of Commerce, May 2021

Major Publications

"The End of Affirmative Action in College Admissions: What Does it Mean for Employers and their DEI Programs?" Louisville Bar Association, Louisville Bar Briefs, Oct. 2023

"Top 5 Wage & Hour Issues for U.S. Manufacturers," Bloomberg Law Practical Guidance, Oct. 2023

["Kentucky Horse Racing Commission's Changing Regulations and the Role Kentucky Courts Play in the Process," University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law Journal of Animal and Environmental Law, Dec. 2018](#)

Featured Articles

[ICE Issues Significant Update on Form I 9 Enforcement](#)

[November 2024 Immigration Update](#)

[DOL's 2024 Salary Rule Vacated Nationwide: Essential Insights for Employers](#)

[EEOC Releases Updated Workplace Harassment Guidance](#)

[November 2023 Immigration Update](#)

[NLRB Publishes Final Rule on Determining Joint-Employer Status](#)

[Top 5 Wage & Hour Issues for U.S. Manufacturers](#)

[October 2023 Immigration Update](#)

[The End of Temporary Form I-9 Flexibilities](#)

[U.S. Courts Redefine Religious Rights in the Workplace](#)

[COVID-19 Travel Bans Dropped and Vaccine Requirements Issued](#)

[July/August Immigration Updates Employers Need to Know](#)

[June/July Immigration Updates Employers Need to Know](#)

[COBRA Subsidy Effects on Severance Programs and Employee Separations](#)

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