



## Christine V. Hamiel

Attorney

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Chrissy Hamiel is Chair of the School Law Section where she concentrates her practice on assisting school districts, private schools, and charters schools on all aspects of law surrounding education. As the proud daughter of public school educators, Chrissy has always had a passion for education which uniquely enhances her understanding of, and guidance provided to, schools. Chrissy counsels districts on challenging legal matters involving students, educators, staff, administrators and school boards, and has been a leader in providing creative and resourceful solutions to the most challenging issues facing schools today. Chrissy regularly works with school districts on student issues, daily management and operational concerns, pupil records and data privacy, special education and accommodation matters, employment matters, and parent complaints and concerns. She also has considerable experience conducting investigations concerning allegations of workplace misconduct, discrimination and harassment, bullying, and other matters involving staff, parents, and pupils. Chrissy is also uniquely experienced with public records, open meetings, board policy, annual meetings, and other governance issues facing school boards. Chrissy's background and skill set spans the spectrum of the challenges schools face under the current legal and political landscape.

Chrissy's experience with student matters includes Title IX, FERPA, IDEA, student discipline and expulsions, special education, constitutional rights, and student and athletic codes of conduct. In addition, she regularly advises school districts and other local government entities on employee matters arising under the wage and hour and employment discrimination laws. Chrissy's practice includes service and vendor contracting, as well as assisting clients with strategically managing crisis situations and communications.

Chrissy's practice transcends schools and extends to other governmental entities, including counties, municipalities, and quasi-governmental entities. Chrissy's litigation practice extends to all levels of the state court system, the federal courts, and administrative bodies. She is also a frequent lecturer and contributor of materials to WASBO, WASB, and other school and government-related organizations.

Chrissy was selected by her peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2021 in the fields of Employment Law – Management and Labor Law – Management. She is a Wisconsin Rising Stars honoree (2018-2020).

Chrissy is a past President of the Wisconsin School Attorneys Association (WSAA) and is currently the Service Affiliate Board Member of the Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials (WASBO). Chrissy is a member of the Council of School Attorneys (COSA), as well as a member of State Bar of Wisconsin, the State Bar of Georgia, the American Bar Association, and the Milwaukee Bar Association. Chrissy also serves as a member of the Board of Directors of St. Joan Antida High School, an all-girls Catholic high school in Milwaukee.

### Practice Areas:

- School Law
- Government Law
- Labor and Employment
- Municipal Law
- Litigation and Risk Management
- Strategic Risk and Crisis Management
- Transportation Law

### Education:

- University of South Dakota School of Law, J.D., 2007
- University of Northern Iowa, B.A., 2004

### Bar Admissions:

- Wisconsin
- Georgia
- U.S. District Court, Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin, Northern and Middle Districts of Georgia
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 7th Circuit, 11th Circuit