

## JACQUELYN L. THOMPSON

**Partner** / Washington, DC, Spartanburg  
jthompson@fordharrison.com / P: 202-719-2064



**Jacki Thompson, the Managing Partner of the Washington, DC, office, represents management in a wide range of employment matters, with particular expertise in labor relations in the airline industry.**

Jacki guides clients through all facets of labor law in the private and public sector. As a member of the firm's Airline Group, she assists both airlines and airline carrier service providers in grievance resolution matters, including grievance arbitrations and mediation. She has also successfully defended multiple AIR21 cases for her airline clients. In addition, Jacki handles collective bargaining negotiations under the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) and the Railway Labor Act (RLA) and represents management in union matters before the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) and the National Mediation Board (NMB) for a wide range of industries. She also advises employers on legal issues related to union campaigns and picketing.

Jacki also defends employers before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), various state agencies, and in state and federal courts against claims of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation, among other things. In addition, Jacki counsels employers on employee terminations, how to avoid/resolve labor and employment disputes and litigation, Title VII, FMLA, FLSA, and ADA compliance as well as other issues.

In addition to the airline industry, Jacki has a special interest in charter schools and represents the first unionized charter school in Washington, DC. Her passions include the theater and animals. With a Master's degree in Zoology, Jacki spent time in Kenya working on a large-animal conservation project.

During law school, Jacki was a member of *The George Washington Journal of Energy and Environmental Law* and was a student member of The George Washington Law School Academic Integrity Committee.

### Representative Experience

- » Negotiated multiple labor agreements under the RLA and

### EDUCATION

- » George Washington University Law School (J.D., 2011)
- » Michigan State University (Zoology, M.S., 2004)
- » College of Charleston (Psychology, B.S., 1996)

### BAR ADMISSIONS

- » South Carolina
- » Virginia
- » District of Columbia

### COURT ADMISSIONS

- » U.S. Supreme Court
- » U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- » U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- » U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- » U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
- » U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia
- » U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland
- » U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia
- » U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia

### FIRM LEADERSHIP

the NLRA within clients' economic targets and without labor disruption.

- » Achieved favorable decisions in grievance arbitrations involving employee terminations and contract interpretations.
- » Successfully defended airline clients before the Department of Labor/OSHA that have been served with complaints filed under the Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century (AIR21).
- » Represented clients in union election campaigns without any labor disruption.
- » Defended clients against unfair labor practice charges in federal and state labor agencies.
- » Successfully defended a claim for wrongful discharge in violation of public policy before the Virginia Supreme Court.
- » Achieved favorable decisions in age, disability, race, sex discrimination, and retaliation claims, including summary judgment granted on Title VII, ADEA, and DCHRA claims.
- » Co-authored *amicus briefs* for U.S. Supreme Court in two seminal employment law cases.

- » Washington, DC Office  
Managing Partner
- » Management Group

## Honors & Awards

- » "Best Lawyers in America" Labor and Employment Law - Litigation (2023 - 2026)
- » "Best Lawyers in America": *Ones to Watch* - Labor and Employment Law - Management and Litigation - Labor and Employment (2022)

## Memberships

- » Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia

## News & Insights

- » August 21, 2025 - Three Washington D.C.-Based FordHarrison Attorneys Listed in the 2026 Best Lawyers in America and One Listed in Ones to Watch
- » January 07, 2025 - FordHarrison Announces Three New Office Managing Partners
- » August 15, 2024 - Three Washington D.C.-Based FordHarrison Attorneys Listed in the 2025 Best Lawyers in America and One Listed in Ones to Watch
- » February 12, 2024 - U.S. Supreme Court Decision Could Make it Harder for Employers to Defend Whistleblower

### Claims

- » December 15, 2023 - Airline Industry Alert: FAA's Proposed Rule Would Require Drug and Alcohol Testing in Foreign Countries

## Events

- » March 27, 2025 - 2025 Airline Labor & Employment Law Symposium
- » July 28-30, 2024 - Regional Airline Association 2024 Summer Seminars, Speaker – Denver, CO
- » September 21-22, 2023 - FordHarrison 2023 Airline Labor & Employment Law Symposium "Climb + Descend: Adjusting to a Changing Workforce" - San Antonio, TX
- » July 18-19, 2022 - Regional Airline Association 2022 Summer Seminars, Speaker – Virtual
- » March 31-April 1, 2022 - FH 2022 Airline Labor & Employment Law Symposium "Navigating the Turbulence of the Pandemic and Employees' Sky High Expectations" – Denver, CO

## Offices

- » *Washington:*  
2000 M St NW, Suite 505  
Washington, DC 20036
- » *Spartanburg:*  
100 Dunbar Street, Suite 300  
Spartanburg, South Carolina 29306