

CASSIDAY SCHADE LLP

JEAN GOLDEN



Jean Golden reminds one nominator of the character Henry Fonda plays in *Twelve Angry Men*: relentlessly honorable, sensible, and just. A partner at Cassiday Schade LLP, Golden was the first woman elected to the firm's Executive Committee, where she often "stood alone" in the male-dominated panel, recalls fellow committee member Thomas P. Boylan. "But for Jean's wisdom and good counsel, poor decisions could have been made by the rest of us on occasion," writes Boylan, who has worked closely with Golden for the past 25 years. Golden's wise counsel extends to her clients who "recognize her to be one of the top lawyers in Chicago who concentrates in the field of commercial insurance," Boylan writes. She co-chairs the firm's Insurance Practice Group, which, Boylan says, would not exist without her focus, dedication, and expertise.

Her practice includes complex insurance and contractual matters often involving significant losses. According to one of her partners, Golden represented the lead insurer in connection with sexual abuse claims filed against the Diocese of Davenport Iowa; they were ultimately resolved through a channeling injunction in bankruptcy court. She also represented one of three lead carriers in Missouri bankruptcy court, where the insured faced hundreds of claims arising from the installation of allegedly defective product in homes and facilities throughout the country. With considerable experience in numerous courts and various jurisdictions, Golden always gets good results, writes one of Cassiday Schade's partners. "But unlike many successful attorneys," the partner adds, "Jean is modest and self-deprecating; she lets her legal skills speak for themselves."

As the first woman elected partner at the firm in 1986, Golden proved a trailblazer: Since her election as partner, 20 other women have joined those ranks. Yet, as another partner observes, Golden has been a leader for both sexes. "The people of our firm look up to her.

She is a problem-solver who achieves that goal while remaining courteous and professional." Golden has also been involved in numerous bar related activities, most notably as a board member on the Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois. She later served the Trust Fund board as president.

Retired Judge Stuart A. Nudelman has known Golden for more than 20 years, during which he served on the circuit bench and as a private mediator and arbitrator. He recalls her as more than simply prepared. She knew all the issues relevant to the case and represented her clients with skill, honesty, and integrity.

"I am pleased when I get the chance to work with her, because all that can be done will be done to resolve issues while being respectful to all the parties involved in the case at hand," Nudelman writes.

Golden received her JD from Loyola University Chicago School of Law. Her peers have named her a Leading Lawyer in insurance, insurance coverage, and reinsurance law, and she was named a Super Lawyer in insurance coverage.

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