

LCLD Fellows Program Leadership Lunch: *Allstate & Littler Mendelson, P.C.*

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

12:00 pm CT

Littler Mendelson, P.C.

Chicago, IL

Speakers:

Susie Lees, Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Allstate Insurance Company

Thomas Bender, Co-President & Co-Managing Director, Littler Mendelson, P.C.

Agenda:

12:00 - 12:30 pm	Fellows Networking
12:30 - 12:45 pm	Introductions
12:45 - 2:00 pm	Discussion and Q&A



SUSIE LEES is Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary of the Allstate Corporation. She leads Allstate's 1,400-person legal team to guide the company's business strategy, ensure sound compliance, and foster a healthy legal, legislative, and regulatory environment.

Lees joined Allstate in 1988 and has moved up through the ranks, holding a variety of leadership positions with increasing responsibility, most notably in her previous role as senior vice president and deputy general counsel for Allstate Financial. During her extensive tenure at Allstate, Lees led a multitude of complex initiatives, including the company's acquisition of American Heritage Life Insurance Company. While leading the corporate law division of Allstate's law and regulation department, she gained extensive experience working with business areas throughout the corporation. Earlier in her career, Lees built a foundation of business acumen through professional sales roles at Celanese Corp. and Exxon Chemical.

She has been a champion of solutions to key societal issues and serves on The Allstate Foundation Board of Trustees. Lees also serves on the boards of the National Network to End Domestic Violence, the National Association of Women Lawyers, Rand Institute for Civil Justice, and the Institute for Legal Reform.

Lees holds an A.B. degree in political science from Brown University and a J.D. from the University of Oklahoma College of Law.



THOMAS BENDER is currently Littler's Co-President and Co-Managing Director, responsible for the overall strategic direction of the firm's U.S. and global offices. Additionally, he handles the day-to-day administration and management of the firm. Since his election in 2012, Littler has grown to more than 1,000 attorneys and expanded its global operations throughout Central and Latin America. Bender also serves on Littler's Board of Directors and on the Littler Global board. He has been

an instrumental part of firm management for more than 13 years. He was a founding member of its Philadelphia office where he held the position of office managing shareholder for nine years.

A Chambers-ranked attorney, Bender has more than three decades of experience representing clients in labor relations matters. Prior to his election as Co-President and Co-Managing Director, Bender's practice focused on collective bargaining negotiations, arbitrations, organizing drives, and unfair labor practice proceedings. He has also represented clients in ERISA and other benefit plan litigation arising from collectively bargained pension and health and welfare plans. Bender has handled a wide variety of claims before the National Labor Relations Board, and federal and state courts, with particular expertise in The National Labor Relations Act, The Employee Retirement Income Security Act, and the Labor Management Relations Act. He has represented clients in a broad range of industries, including transportation, truck manufacturing, health care, energy, waste management, and hospitality.

Bender has provided commentary in the business and legal media on firm management and legal industry issues and trends.

Professional and Community Affiliations

- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Pennsylvania Bar Association
- Member, Philadelphia Bar Association
- Member, Board of Directors - YMCA of Philadelphia and Vicinity (Board Chair), 2010-2012

Recognition

- Named, *The Best Lawyers in America*®, 2013-2017
- Named, America's Leading Lawyers for Business - *Chambers USA*, 2012-2016
- Awarded, AV® Peer Review Rating, *Martindale-Hubbell*
- Named, Recommended Lawyer, Labor and Employment Disputes in Defense, *Legal 500 United States*, 2016

Education

- J.D., Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law, 1977
- B.S., United States Naval Academy, 1970

Bar Admissions

- Pennsylvania

Courts

- U.S. Court of Appeals, 3rd Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 4th Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court, Middle District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Virginia