



Deedra Thompson

Cleveland

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Overview

With a background spanning nearly a decade in human resources and labor relations and an externship with the EEOC, Deedra focuses her practice on labor and employment matters, helping employers navigate complex workplace challenges with both legal acumen and practical insight. Drawing on hands-on experience in employee relations, compliance and collective bargaining, Deedra is committed to delivering solutions that are not only legally sound but also tailored to the realities of today's workplaces.

Deedra has supported clients and attorneys in a wide range of employment law matters, including researching federal and state employment laws, drafting internal memoranda on discrimination, retaliation, and wage-and-hour issues, along with assisting the preparation of employee handbooks, employment agreements and workplace policies. Deedra also has experience supporting litigation, from drafting pleadings and discovery requests to organizing evidence and summarizing deposition transcripts, as well as conducting due diligence in labor and employment aspects of corporate transactions.

Deedra is deeply committed to community service and engagement. She volunteers with the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association's 3Rs program, helping to educate and mentor local students about rights, responsibilities and realities under the law. Deedra also dedicates her time to the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, where she works alongside a team to pack and distribute essential food and household items to underserved members of the community. In addition, through her involvement with Towards Employment Inc., Deedra conducts mock interviews for recently incarcerated individuals, supporting their successful reentry into the workforce and helping to reduce recidivism.

Adaptable, collaborative and a critical thinker, Deedra is dedicated to advancing equality and fairness in the workplace. As a first-year associate, she looks forward to deepening her practical understanding of labor and employment law, supporting clients on complex issues and continuing to advocate for meaningful change.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- Cleveland State University College of Law, 2025, J.D., *cum laude*
 - Dean's List
 - CALI Excellence for the Future Award
 - Member of Moot Court
 - Member of the Global Business law review
 - Selected as the Dean's Learn Law Live Justice Fellow
- Cleveland State University, Monte Ahuja College of Business, 2016, Master of Labor Relations & Human Resources
- The Ohio State University, 2014, Bachelor of Science in Human Development & Family Science

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio

Memberships

- **Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (2022- Present)**
- **Norman S. Minor Bar Associations (2022- Present)**
- **Society for Human Resource Management - Cleveland Chapter (2014 - Present)**
- **Professional in Human Resources Certificate | HR Certification Institute® (Active 2017 - Present)**
- **SHRM-CP Certification | Society for Human Resource Management (Active 2016 - Present)**

Awards & Recognition

- **Recognized as a 2025 Honoree in the 17th edition of Who's Who in Black Cleveland**

- Selected for *Dean's Learn Law Live Justice Annual Award* for continuous community involvement and service throughout my academic career
- Winner of Northeast Ohio's 2023 Crain's HR Excellence Award for Employee Retention at a Large Organization
- Winner of Northeast Ohio's 2022 Crain's HR Excellence Award for Employee Advocacy

News & Insights

- [EEOC Proposes Rollback of EEO-1 Reporting Requirements](#)
May 22, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [NLRB General Counsel Requests Reversal of Ban on Employer "Captive Audience" Meetings During Union Organizing Drives](#)
May 18, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [Department of Labor Reinstates Prior Overtime Exemption Regulations Following Court Decisions](#)
May 18, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [Judicial Green Light: Court Upholds NLRB's Cemex Decision](#)
April 24, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [Brown-Forman Decision Rolls Back NLRB's Pro-Union Cemex Policy](#)
March 10, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [Law.com Features Benesch's Eric Baisden, Adam Primm, and Deedra Thompson in Sixth Circuit NLRB Cemex Ruling](#)
March 9, 2026 | Media Mentions
- [Joseph N. Gross and Deedra Thompson Publish Article in Law360 | Workers' Comp Ruling May Expand Ohio Employer Liability](#)
November 21, 2025 | Contributed Content & Presentations
- [Eighth Circuit Clarifies When Employers May Restrict Employees' Social or Political Expression](#)
November 11, 2025 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [Ohio Supreme Court Rejects Deference to Industrial Commission in VSSR Proceedings](#)
October 23, 2025 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [Cuyahoga CROWN Act Enacted, Bans Discrimination Against Natural Hairstyles](#)
October 21, 2025 | Client Alerts & Insights