

# Attorney Spotlight: Andria Simone Kelly

April 2, 2024

Andria Simone Kelly is a partner in the firm's General Liability, Tort, and Insurance Defense department. She has over 30 years' experience handling a wide variety of cases in the New York courts. Andria represents large retailers in premises liability, construction, New York Labor Law and property damage cases. Learn more about Andria's career and background through the Attorney Spotlight below:

## **What inspired you to pursue a career in law?**

I had worked during college as a paralegal in the Real Estate Department at one of the oldest law firms in Manhattan. This was when real estate was booming. I was involved in some very big deals with some well-known individuals. It was exciting to say the least and propelled me to pursue a career in law.

## **Among your professional achievements, which one holds the deepest significance for you?**

Just advancing as an attorney while raising three children is probably my biggest professional achievement. I am also very proud of being elected an officer of the Columbian Lawyers' Association of Nassau County. I have learned so much about my heritage and culture and have met some incredible people.

## **How has your involvement in professional associations equipped you to empower and support women within the legal profession?**

In 2023, I was invited to join the Nassau County Women in the Courts Committee whose mission is to promote equal treatment for women in the courts, including judges, lawyers, court personnel, and litigants. The committee is made up of an amazing group of women who have inspired me in so many ways. I try to share this inspiration and my experiences in the legal community with the other women in my firm and to support them as much as possible in their work and careers.

## **What has been the most impactful advice you have received on practicing law?**

First, preparation is everything. Pay attention to the details. Always be more prepared than your opponent. Second, be respectful. Civility is so important. You can be a zealous advocate for your client without being discourteous.

## **What is your favorite thing about working at Cullen and Dykman?**

The team-like atmosphere. Everybody is very supportive and helpful.

## **Beyond your work at the firm, what activities or hobbies do you enjoy?**

I love to cook and spend a lot of time in the kitchen. My mother was a phenomenal cook and I watched and learned from her. I am not a recipe follower - - - I just make it up as I go along!

## **About Cullen and Dykman's General Liability, Tort and Insurance Defense Department**

Our litigation attorneys represent individuals and corporations in general liability, tort and insurance defense matters ranging from personal injury and insurance coverage disputes to large-scale commercial litigation. Clients frequently engage our litigators to act as trial counsel in high-exposure cases, and we have extensive experience in appellate litigation involving liability and insurance matters.

## **About Cullen and Dykman**

Cullen and Dykman ([www.cullenllp.com](http://www.cullenllp.com)) has been providing legal services to institutional clients since 1850. The firm represents a wide range of clients, including banks and other financial institutions, energy, telecommunications and water companies, construction companies, insurers, educational institutions, religious organizations, and not-for-profits. With over 190 attorneys in seven offices located throughout the Northeast and Mid Atlantic regions, Cullen and Dykman is strategically positioned to meet the changing needs and demands of our clients.

## **Practices**

- General Liability, Tort and Insurance Defense

## **Attorneys**

- Andria S. Kelly