

As Seen In The **NJBIZ Forty Under 40 Supplement** October 10, 2022

## Q&A with Sills Cummis' Laura Sedlak

### Job function:

Focuses her energy on antitrust law and its intersection with franchise law and intellectual property. She also litigates general business disputes in both New Jersey and New York courts.

### What inspires you to continue in your current profession?

The best part about commercial litigation is that I have the opportunity to do a deep dive on different businesses and industries. For example, through my work as a litigator, I have been able to learn about marketing, music streaming services, PVC pipe, bottled water and patio furniture, just to name a few industries.

### Who has been your most influential role model?

It is difficult to find a true "role model," meaning someone I want to emulate. I find that to be particularly true as a woman in a male-dominated field. However, what I have discovered is that I can learn something from every person with whom I work. Instead of emulating one person, my strategy is to observe and learn strategies and skills. At the end of the day, I hope to be able to weave it all together in a way that is authentic to me.

### What was the best business advice you ever received?

Understand your client's business, make your client's life easier, and always keep your client updated, even when there is no update.

### What do you know now that you wish you'd known earlier in your career?

Don't try to do everything. Find something that satisfies three criteria: something you enjoy, something you are good at, and something that is needed. If there is a specialty that meets these three criteria, focus on that specialty and you will succeed.

LAURA E.  
SEDLAK, ESQ.

(973) 643-4286  
lsedlak@sillscummis.com

