

Darcy Kriha



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Darcy Kriha is an equity partner in the Chicago-based education law firm Franczek Radelet. She represents public school districts and special education cooperatives throughout Illinois. In addition to overall school board representation, Darcy has extensive experience handling special education and high-profile student discipline matters. In July 2006, Darcy was selected by the Law Bulletin Publishing Company as one of Illinois' "40 Under 40 Attorneys to Watch." She was recognized for her unique and exceptional lawyering skills in the field of education law and her commitment to the profession, including extensive volunteer work.

Darcy was Counsel of Record for *Amici Curiae* in the United States Supreme Court case *Arlington Central School District Board of Education v. Murphy*, No. 05-18 (2006). The U.S. Supreme Court held in favor of the School District, holding that parents who prevail in special education disputes are not entitled to expert witness fees. Darcy represented the National School Boards Association, the American Association of School Administrators, the New York State School Boards Association and the New York State Council of School Superintendents in support of the Arlington Central Board of Education.

Darcy has also presented oral arguments in two precedent-setting special education cases before the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit: *T.D. v. LaGrange School District No. 102*, 222 F.Supp.2d 1062 (N.D. Ill. 2002); *aff'd*. 349 F.3d 469 (7th Cir. 2003) and *Beth B. v. Lake Bluff School District 65*, 211 F.Supp.2d 1020 (N.D. Ill. 2001); *aff'd*. 282 F.3d 493 (7th Cir. 2002).

Darcy joined Franczek Sullivan P.C. in 1997. She received her law degree in 1992 from the John Marshall Law School and graduated magna cum laude from Mundelein College in 1989 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology. She is a member of the Bar of the State of Illinois and is admitted as an attorney of record before the United States Supreme Court, the Illinois Supreme Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, and the United States District Courts for the Northern and Central Districts of Illinois, including the Northern District Trial Bar.