



# SUSAN C. STONE

**Partner**

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Susan Stone is co-chair, along with Kristina Supler, of KJK's Student & Athlete Defense/Title IX Practice Group. She and Kristina also co-chair the firm's Criminal, Cyber & White-Collar Practice Group.

Susan's life work is to help students in crisis and to meet their legal needs. Recognizing the need for legal services dedicated to protecting students, professors and individuals with disabilities, Susan C. Stone handles matters ranging from special education issues to student disciplinary matters and Title IX investigations. Susan has the knowledge and experience required to navigate due process complaints and the shaping of 504 Plans and Individualized Education Programs. She also handles student matters involving hazing, bullying and social media.

Susan Stone has gained a national reputation for representing student and professors in Title IX cases. She is routinely hired as a student advisor and Title IX attorney for the campus investigation and hearing phase of proceedings, and is also retained to handle subsequent university level appeals. Susan is certified in restorative justice, and has also guided students through informal resolution, including mediation and restorative justice. Susan's talent as a student advisor has led to her representing Greek organizations and athletes, as well as other professionals accused of sexual harassment and misconduct. When cases do not resolve at the university level, she has experience fighting in state and federal courts around the country to obtain favorable outcomes for her clients.

Susan's background in public relations and crisis communication led to her co-creation of the firm's Reputation Management Practice. This practice assists clients in the rebuilding of their reputation online and on various social media platforms. Susan has also instituted defamation actions when necessary to stop her client's professional and academic futures from being harmed by libelous postings on the internet.

Susan is a nationally published author and blogger on topics related to education law. She has lectured on subjects that vary from Twice Exceptional Students, FERPA and the handling of educational records, and how to determine when behavioral issues arise connected to students with disabilities. She has also spoken throughout the country at conferences on Title IX. In addition, Susan proudly co-hosts the podcast Real Talk with Susan and Kristina to discuss with outside guests cutting edge issues affecting students. Susan is regularly called upon by families and outside therapists to consult on legal matters affecting children. She was named Best Lawyers in America® Education Lawyer of the Year 2022.

## PRACTICE GROUPS

- Criminal Defense
- Litigation & Arbitration
- Student & Athlete Defense

## EDUCATION

- Skidmore College, Certificate of Completion, Restorative Justice Training
- Case Western Reserve University School of Law, J.D., 1991
- Miami University, B.A., Speech Communication, Political Science, 1988

## BAR/COURT ADMISSIONS

- Ohio
- New Jersey
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio
- U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit

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## REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Working with our client and our team of mental healthcare professionals Susan and Kristina were able to help a student with ADHD, who had never before received accommodations on a standardized test, successfully appeal the denial of her disability accommodation request for the MCAT. Our client will now receive the extra time she deserves on this important professional entrance exam.
- Successfully prevailed in an expulsion hearing and kept student in school after serious allegations of misconduct.
- Obtained reversal of discipline sanction in housing misconduct matter.
- Successfully defended a pre-med undergraduate student for alleged cheating on a physics lab report and showed that the professor had made a critical error in basic mathematics.
- Won an appeal with the NCAA to allow a student to remove restriction on eligibility to play football.
- Successfully represented a professor who was falsely accused of violating Title IX by a graduate student and obtained a finding of not responsible for all allegations.
- Represented two students accused fraternal hazing; suspension avoided for both individuals.
- Achieved a result of not responsible in a case where a student was charged with sexual assault and sexual harassment.
- Successfully represented a graduate student who was charged with dating violence, intimidation, stalking and sexual harassment. The student was found to be not responsible for all counts.
- Represented a student charged with multiple Title IX policy violations resulting in a finding of not responsible.
- Successfully prevailed in a sexual misconduct hearing; student was found not responsible.
- Represented a student who was removed from a Veterinary Technician program following the college's failure to accommodate the student's disability. Susan and Kristina represented the student following this violation, resulting in the student being reinstated with permission to complete the certification.
- Negotiated no disciplinary action for a student accused of discriminatory harassment.
- Represented a student accused of physical intimidation and assault who was facing expulsion from their respective university, the case concluded with the student reinstated and no adverse marks on their disciplinary or academic record.
- Successfully defended a student accused of Title IX non-consensual sexual intercourse; student deemed not responsible, and the case was dismissed.
- Defended a juvenile who was facing expulsion and legal repercussions for possession of marijuana and paraphernalia on school grounds; effectively reversed the expulsion and achieved dismissal of all charges.

## PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

- ADHD and Student Discipline: From Kindergarten Through College, CHADD Annual International Conference on ADHD (Dallas, TX), Nov. 19, 2022
- Understanding Sexuality and ASD: Considerations for College Students on the Autism Spectrum, ATIXA (Orlando, FL), Oct. 19, 2022
- A Comparative Analysis: Sexual Assault Cases in Court & on Campus, NACDL 2021 Annual Defending Sex Cases Training Seminar, Nov. 18, 2021
- Representing Juveniles and Young Adults in Educational and Delinquency Proceedings, William K. Thomas Inn of Court, Nov. 10, 2021
- Help! My kids is getting in trouble at school and with the law. What do I do? – State Support Team Region 2's Virtual Transition Fair, April 29, 2021
- Healthy Sex Lives in College: How to Deal with Impulsivity, The 2020 Virtual International Conference on ADHD, Nov. 7, 2020
- Title IX: What Due Process Looks Like Now, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, May 27, 2020
- Consent When the Bee Stings, Indiana University, March 26, 2020
- Avoiding Title IX Allegations During Internships; Coronavirus, Kent State University, March 19, 2020
- College Concerns: Helping Students With Disabilities Transition to College and Navigate Campus Disciplinary Proceedings, COPAA National Conference, (Baltimore, MD), March 8, 2020
- Don't Rush In: The New Conversation Around Sex and Consent On Campus, Fraternal Law Conference (Cincinnati, Ohio), Nov. 7, 2019
- Changing the Conversation Around Sex & Consent, KJK College Kick-Off (Columbus, OH), Sep. 12, 2019
- 504 Plan Eligibility and Accommodation Best Practices, National Business Institute (Cleveland, OH), Sep. 12, 2019
- College Concerns: Helping Students with ASD Navigate Campus Discipline Issues, 2019 Milestones National Autism Conference (Cleveland, OH), June 12, 2019
- Defending Students in Title IX Proceedings, LACDL's Jazz Fest (New Orleans), April 25, 2019

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- The Best Lawyers in America, Education Law, 2022– 2023
  - Selected To Ohio Super Lawyers, 2021– 2023
  - Best Lawyers in America® Education Lawyer of the Year 2022
  - Avvo Top Rated Lawyer, 2022
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## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Ohio State Bar Association
  - American Bar Association
  - Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates
  - Cleveland Academy of Trial Attorneys
  - Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association
  - Families Advocating for Campus Equality
  - Stop Abusive & Violent Environments
  - Foundation for Individual Rights in Education
  - Certified Positive Discipline Educator
  - Society of Women Trial Lawyers
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## MEDIA MENTIONS

- Judge halts U of C senior's removal from student housing, Chicago Daily Law Bulletin, Nov. 11, 2022
- Was This Professor Fired for having Tourette Syndrome?, The Nation, Nov. 2022
- LSU could be experiencing increased sexual assaults during a six-week period known as the Red Zone, LSU Reveille, Sep. 2021
- No Shelter From Trouble For Students During Quarantine, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Journal, April 2021
- Stone & Supler Discuss LSU Case With USA Today, USA Today, June 19, 2020
- A suspended LSU football player files a federal lawsuit against the university, Louisiana Radio Network, June 19, 2020
- Former LSU football player suing to be reinstated to team, 24/7 Sports, June 18, 2020
- Stone & Supler Discuss LSU Player's Case With ESPN, ESPN, June 18, 2020
- Stone & Supler Speak With The Advocate Regarding LSU Football Player's Case, The Advocate, June 18, 2020