

Suzanne Elovecky

Job: Senior Associate, Todd & Weld, Boston | **Age:** 43
Graduated: Northeastern University School of Law | **Bar admission:** 2007

Up & Coming LAWYERS

"I'm a bit of a weather nut. My husband says I missed my calling as a storm chaser."

One night, Suzanne Elovecky was working on a brief at home while one of her daughters worked on her own homework nearby. When her teenager expressed confusion about why anyone would want to be a lawyer and still be doing homework at 9:30 p.m. as an adult, Elovecky tried to explain. For her, the answer was simple: "I really love the practice of law and I can't picture myself doing anything else."

Elovecky's message and dedication to her litigation practice, pro bono efforts and civil involvement must have made an impact, as both her daughters are now considering careers in the law.



Q. What do you consider your biggest achievement as a lawyer to date?

A. The ability to take on several different types of cases. I really enjoy hopping from practice area to practice area — I've worked on cases involving defamation, employment and even dabbled in some criminal law and family law in my pro bono work.

Q. What's the most satisfying case or matter you've worked on so far?

A. I worked on a pro bono case where a mother was brought up on truancy charges after she pulled her daughter from school, where she had suffered discrimination at the hands of teachers and other students for wearing a hijab. I was able to think on my feet and move to dismiss the case based on something the prosecutor said in court. It was a huge victory for that family and secondarily, I was able to come out with a very positive result in an arena that was completely new to me.

Q. Have you been able to strike a work-life balance?

A. I have. I went to law school when my daughters were in first and third grades, and today they are in high school and college. I worked very hard to stay involved with our

community and be active in the PTO and on school committees.

Q. If you hadn't become a lawyer, what field would you have entered?

A. I'm a bit of a weather nut. My husband says I missed my calling as a storm chaser.

Q. What advice would you offer new law school graduates?

A. Grab the bull by the horns and dive right in. Especially for those going into litigation, get yourself in court. That might mean looking for pro bono cases or pitching in on a smaller case, but look for an opportunity to get your sea legs early on.

Q. What's the toughest part of your job?

A. Losing.

Q. If you could work on any famous case in history, which one would it be and why?

A. I'm a strong supporter of women's rights, so I think it would be *Roe v. Wade*.

Q. What talent would you most like to have?

A. The ability to be in two places at once.

Q. Describe yourself in one word.

A. Busy. **MLW**



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