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**Susan L. Harper, Esq.**, is the New York/New Jersey Managing Director of [Bates Group](#), a financial services consulting firm offering services in litigation consultation and testimony, internal and regulatory investigations, [employment disputes](#), AML and compliance, damages, and big data consulting for financial services firms and counsel.

A licensed New York/New Jersey attorney, she's an experienced litigation attorney and has represented America's largest financial institutions and employees before the SEC, FINRA, and state and federal courts involving customer, industry, and employment disputes, as well as regulatory matters.

An accomplished, purpose-driven leader, Susan serves on Bates Group's senior leadership, strategic initiatives, risk, and excellence teams, leads the development and execution of external engagement strategy for Bates, its 200 industry experts and practices, oversees legal and regulatory research, and nationwide communications strategy. Her energy and focus have led to significant growth for the firm.

Susan is Founding and Past Chair of the New York State Bar Association's (NYSBA) Women in Law Section (WILS) and led the transformation and growth of the Section from a 50-member committee to an over-800-person Section, creating over a dozen committees to support its mission of advancing women in the legal profession and under the law. In 2018 and 2019, she championed workplace sexual harassment awareness, [testifying](#) in the New York State Legislature's historic Hearing on Sexual Harassment; [spoke](#) on the impact of sexual harassment on low-wage workers on the 2019 NYSBA Presidential Summit "Revisiting #MeToo" panel; organized and moderated the successful CLE program, "How to Navigate Sexual Harassment in the Workplace;" authored articles for NYSBA publications; and participated in interviews concerning the [#MeToo](#) movement and the NYS Sexual Harassment [hearings](#) on NYSBA's *Miranda Warnings* Podcasts.

As Chair of NYSBA's Committee on Women in the Law (CWIL), she led the creation of a traveling exhibit and made presentations to the judiciary with fellow NYSBA members honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Women's Suffrage. She organized and co-edited the [first](#) and [second](#) NYSBA women's tribute *Journal* covering issues impacting women attorneys and women under the law. As Legislative Subcommittee Co-Chair, she served as lead advocate for CWIL's paid worker leave legislation [report](#), which garnered the support of NYSBA's House of Delegates and was adopted by the EC as a NYSBA Federal Legislative Priority. She also spearheaded NYSBA's support of equal pay legislation and successfully led CWIL and WILS efforts that led to NYSBA adopting state and federal constitutional equality (ERA) as a NYSBA 2019 policy.



Susan was the 2012-13 President and Chair of the Board of Directors of the Financial Women's Association (FWA) of New York; 2015-17 and 2009-10 *pro bono* FWA General Counsel; and Board Restructuring Chair that led the "One FWA" legal and business reorganization. In 2016, she was honored as an "FWA Public Sector Woman of the Year." She currently serves as FWA's Military Liaison.

An ABA award-winning writer, business reporter, and legal editor for the *New York Law Journal*, she notably covered the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks and subsequent rebuilding efforts in the legal/real estate communities.

A member of the New York and New Jersey Bars, Susan is admitted to practice before the New York and New Jersey state courts and the U.S. District Courts for the Southern District and Eastern District of New York and of New Jersey. She possesses a B.A. in Management from Simmons College and a J.D. from New York Law School with highest honors. Susan is a Board of Director of NYCLA and co-chairs NYCLA's Securities & Exchanges Committee. She was also a Co-Chair of NYCLA's Women's Rights Committee. She currently serves as Co-Chair of the NYBSA's Attorney-Client Relations Working Group for the Task Force on the Future of the Legal Profession and previously served on NYSBA's Finance Committee and as a WILS Delegate to the House of Delegate (now Alternate).

The Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University recognized Susan as a "2019 Outstanding Woman in Law." She frequently speaks on legal and financial panels, including recently: "NYS Attorney General James – WILS 2019 Trailblazer" (NYSBA); "Defending our Democracy and Voting Rights with Kristin Clarke" (C.R.E.W.); "Leadership, Policy and Perspectives with Under Secretary of the Air Force Gina Ortiz" (FWA); "RBG: Reflections of a Monumental Woman Supreme Court Justice" (FWA); and "Womonomics-in-Action: Approaches by the Japanese, American & European Governments" (Japan Society).