

V. Brette Bensinger

Chicago, IL

She/Her

☎ 312-704-3027

✉ bbensinger@hinshawlaw.com



About Brette

Brette leverages two decades of litigation and agency defense experience to anticipate risks and vigorously protect her clients' interests when litigation occurs. She advises employers on federal, state, and local employment laws and counsels clients on a range of employment matters, from employee disputes to Equal Pay Act compliance. Brette also handles wage and hour matters, consults on medical accommodations, conducts internal investigations, delivers training, and develops workforce policies and employee handbooks.

Brette began her legal career at Hinshaw as a law clerk. During law school, she also clerked in the Crime Victims Division of the Office of the Illinois Attorney General and in the Preliminary Hearings Unit of the Cook County State's Attorney's Office.

Areas of Focus

Industries: Government

Services: Employment Advice & Counseling; Employment Litigation; Labor & Employment;
White Collar Defense, Investigations & Enforcement

Recognition

- *Leading Lawyer*, Employment Law: Management, 2018 – 2022; Emerging Lawyer, 2012 – 2017
- *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin* and *Chicago Lawyer Magazine*, [40 Under Forty](#), 2017

Credentials

Education

Chicago-Kent College of Law at Illinois Institute of Technology, JD, 2005

Northwestern University, BA, 2000

Bar Admissions

Illinois

Court Admissions

US District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Languages

Spanish

Interests

Community/Civic Activities

- Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Board of Directors, Public Policy Committee; Founders' Board; Advocacy Committee, Chair; Executive Committee
- Illinois Constitutional Rights Foundation, Lawyers in the Classroom Program, Law Firm Facilitator
- Illinois Judges Foundation, Auxiliary Board Member
- Federal Bureau of Investigation Citizens Academy, Alumni Member

Thought Leadership

Presentations

Brette's presentations include:

- Co-Presenter, "What is New at the Agencies: NLRB, EEOC, and DOL," Hinshaw's 29th Annual Labor & Employment Seminar, Schaumburg, Illinois, October 9, 2025
- Co-Presenter, "Practical Considerations in Handling Workers' Compensation Claims," Hinshaw's 29th Annual Labor & Employment Seminar, Schaumburg, Illinois, October 9, 2025
- Co-Presenter, "Evolving Accommodations: Pregnancy, Disability, and Religion," Hinshaw's 28th Annual Labor & Employment Seminar, Hoffman Estates, Illinois, November 13, 2024
- Co-Presenter, "Equal Pay Act and Protecting the Workplace from Claims," Hinshaw's 27th Annual Labor & Employment Seminar, Hoffman Estates, Illinois, October 19, 2023

- Moderator, “Joint Employment, Wage and Hour, and Other Legislative News,” Hinshaw’s 26th Annual Labor & Employment Seminar, Hoffman Estates, Illinois, October 27, 2022
- Co-Presenter, “Employer Compliance and COVID-19: Paid Sick Leave, Furloughs, and Layoffs,” Chicago Bar Association CLE, Webinar, April 23, 2020
- “Spoliation of Evidence: Prevention and Consequences,” American Bar Association Committee on Litigation - Trial Evidence, Chicago, Illinois
- “Chicago Bar Association’s New Partner Panel,” Chicago Bar Association, Chicago, Illinois
- “Chicago Committee on Minorities in Large Law Firms: Law Firm Boot Camp on Professional Development” Sidley Austin LLP, Chicago, Illinois
- “Fair Labor Standards Act Recurring Issues,” Hinshaw’s Annual Labor & Employment Seminar, Hoffman Estates, Illinois
- “Employer’s Guide to Overtime and Tip Credit Regulations,” Illinois Restaurant Association, Chicago, Illinois
- “No Electronics in the Classroom,” Edward J. Lewis II Lawyers in the Classroom Program, Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
- “Discrimination Law 101: Evidence and Burdens of Proof in Discrimination and Retaliation Cases,” Hinshaw’s 2010 Annual Labor & Employment Seminar, Hoffman Estates, Illinois
- “Stop Unauthorized Overtime: How to Implement and Effective, Legally Sound Tracking and Discipline Program,” Business & Legal Reports, Inc., Audio Conference
- “Payroll Basics: What HR Professionals Need to Know About Payroll Administration; Get Up to Speed Now,” Business & Legal Reports, Inc., Audio Conference

Blog Posts

- U.S. Supreme Court Issues Ground-Breaking Decision on Religious Accommodations in the Workplace, Jul 3, 2023
- President Biden’s American Rescue Plan Would Reinstate and Expand Federally Mandated Paid Sick and FMLA Leave, Feb 4, 2021
- DOL Temporary Rule Clarifies Paid Leave Under Families First Coronavirus Response Act, Sep 15, 2020
- Eleventh Circuit Rejects Retaliation Claim Because HR Manager’s Conduct was “Unreasonable” and Not Protected Under Title VII, Aug 10, 2020
- NLRB Announces Three Proposed Rules, ULPs May No Longer Block an Election, Aug 30, 2019

Events

- 26th Annual Labor & Employment Seminar, Thursday, October 27, 2022 | 9:00 a.m. – 5:15 p.m.
- 24th Annual Labor & Employment Seminar, November 7, 2019

Hinshaw Alert

- Federal Government Issues Guidance to Schools on Title IX and Transgender Students, May 19, 2016

Hinshaw Newsletters

- Labor & Employment Chronicle - Fall 2019 Edition, Nov 25, 2019
- The Report Card - June 2014 Edition, Jun 26, 2014
- Employment Practices Newsletter - June 2013 Edition, Jun 3, 2013
- Employment Practices Newsletter - April 2013 Edition, Apr 1, 2013
- The Report Card - February 2013 Edition, Feb 28, 2013

In The News

- Chicago Dental Society Features Brette Bensinger in Article Discussing Chicago's New Paid Time Off Ordinance, Dec 6, 2023

Insights for Employers Alerts

- Q&A: Chicago Employers Confront Significant New Mandatory Paid Leave Requirements Effective January 1, 2024, November 10, 2023 | Updated, November 13, 2023
- DOL Issues Temporary Rule, Clarifies Paid Leave Under Families First Coronavirus Response Act, Sep 15, 2020
- Additional FAQs Regarding Employer Compliance and COVID-19, Apr 29, 2020
- Families First Coronavirus Response Act, Mar 19, 2020
- Employment Practices Newsletter - April 2012 Edition, Apr 2, 2012

Press Releases

- Hinshaw's Brette Bensinger Honored with "2017 Forty Attorneys Under 40 to Watch" Award, Nov 10, 2017
- 27 Hinshaw & Culbertson Attorneys Honored as Emerging Lawyers, Apr 1, 2015
- Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP Announces Election of 7 New Partners, Jul 2, 2012

Webinar

- Hinshaw Attorneys to Review Employer Compliance with FFCRA in Chicago Bar Association Webinar, Apr 23, 2020

[*View all of Brette's Insights*](#)