

## Rising Star: Rosenberg & Estis' Cori A. Rosen

By Quinn Wilson

*Law360 (June 23, 2023, 1:59 PM EDT)* -- Cori A. Rosen of Rosenberg & Estis PC helps New York property owners navigate the evolving landscape of discrimination law compliance in order to bulletproof them from unnecessary litigation, earning her a spot among real estate attorneys under age 40 honored as Law360 Rising Stars.

### **HER MOST RECENT WORK:**

In February, Rosen hosted a fair housing training seminar for employees of a real estate technology company to help them understand the obligations under local and federal law. Some of the topics she covered included source of income discrimination, the use of criminal history in tenant selection, discriminatory advertising, and design and construction discrimination.

Discrimination litigation "hits all facets of real estate in ways people don't anticipate," Rosen said.

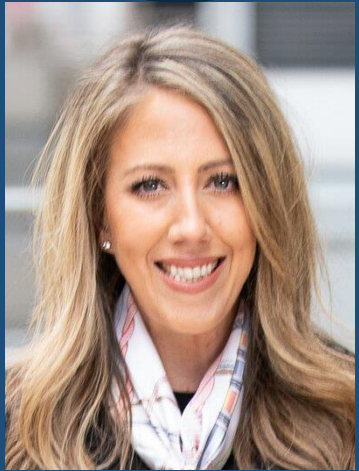

Between September 2021 and August 2022, Rosen had four lawsuits alleging New York human rights violations dismissed at the pleading stages. Rosen conducted portfolio-wide reviews of the property owners' practices and presented examples of their nondiscriminatory interactions and inclusionary objectives.

"People don't think about real estate when they think about human rights," Rosen said. "For clients that have taken those proactive measures, we have been successful in having initial pleading dismissals."

### **HER BIGGEST CASE SO FAR:**

In 2015, Rosen represented The Durst Organization after it was sued by the U.S. Department of Justice, alleging human rights law violations. She said the level of exposure of the case's constitutional law intricacies puts it at the top of the list for her.

"There was a lot of money at play," Rosen said.



**2023**  
**LAW360**  
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**Cori A. Rosen**  
Rosenberg & Estis

**Age:** 39  
**Home base:** New York  
**Position:** Member  
**Law school:** Brooklyn Law School  
**First job after law school:** Worked briefly with a solo practitioner

#### **HER PROUDEST MOMENT AS AN ATTORNEY:**

Rosen's proudest moment as an attorney so far has been being promoted to member at Rosenberg & Estis, the equivalent of being a partner at another firm, she said.

"Having worked for Rosenberg & Estis for 10 years, it's been an honor to over time become the person who develops these cases for the firm," Rosen said.

#### **WHY SHE'S A REAL ESTATE ATTORNEY:**

Rosen began practicing real estate law after she worked at an insurance defense firm for real estate owners. Initially as an architecture major in her undergraduate studies, Rosen combined her passion for design with her knowledge of building codes and regulations, she said.

She is also aware of the opportunistic nature of some plaintiffs, given the right to legal fees built into the law, Rosen said.

"I always loved real estate," Rosen said. "Even though there are great intentions, making [New York] more accessible and including inclusionary policies, there's an opportunistic element to it."

#### **WHAT MOTIVATES HER:**

Rosen said that what motivates her to be a real estate attorney in New York is that the city has often served as the benchmark for federal legislation. She pointed out that the federal Fair Housing Act is based on New York City code.

The reality of opportunistic plaintiffs also drives her to be proactive, she said.

"I find [opportunistic plaintiffs] frustrating and that drives me to reach out to clients to come out to proactive measures to get ahead of these nuances of the law," Rosen said. "If you get investigated by an agency, they will institute remedial measures.

"I recommend that clients institute these measures ahead of time."

#### **HOW THE LEGAL INDUSTRY WILL CHANGE IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS:**

Rosen foresees that New York's laws on protected classes will continue to expand over the years. Some of these may include housing voucher recipients, prospective tenants with criminal backgrounds, and people with emotional support animals.

"The human rights laws in New York are getting a lot less forgiving and the categories have grown," Rosen said.

— *As told to Quinn Wilson.*

*Law360's Rising Stars are attorneys under 40 whose legal accomplishments belie their age. A team of Law360 editors selected the 2023 Rising Stars winners after reviewing more than 1,350 submissions. Attorneys had to be under 40 as of May 1, 2023, to be eligible for this year's award. This interview has been edited and condensed.*