

Kari L. Melkonian is a partner at the law firm of **Collins Einhorn Farrell PC**, specializing in the defense of general liability claims. She focuses on personal injury, premises liability, tort, negligence and construction defect claims. Prior to joining Collins Einhorn Farrell PC, Kari worked in the Oakland County Circuit Court for nearly two decades, during which she served as a court clerk for the Honorable Barry M. Grant and the Honorable Linda S. Hallmark, and as a judicial staff attorney for the Honorable Martha D. Anderson.

Ms. Melkonian has been an active member of the Oakland County Bar Association for many years. She is the present chair of the Circuit Court Committee and past chair and vice chair of the Criminal Law Committee, where she was responsible for organizing the Criminal Brown Bag Lecture Series. In addition, Ms. Melkonian has served on the Nominating Committee; the Family Court Committee; the New Lawyers Committee; the Energy, Sustainability and Environmental Law Committee; the Inns of Court, the Mentor Program and is a sustaining member of the OCBA and a fellow of the Oakland County Bar Foundation. She also has spoken on a number of topics at various OCBA CLE seminars.

Ms. Melkonian is involved in other bar and legal activities, including the Association of Defense Trial Counsel, the Defense Research Institute, the Women's Bar Association and the Michigan Defense Trial Counsel, where she serves as a Social Media Committee co-chair. She also has made multiple appearances on "Practical Law."

Ms. Melkonian has been active in other community and charitable activities, including various animal rescue organizations, and as a speaker to volunteers of the Women's Survival Center regarding the Personal Protection Order process. She also participates every year as a volunteer in the University of Detroit High School Mock Trial Team program, and has volunteered as a judge in various high school, college and law school mock trial competitions.

Additionally, she is an adjunct faculty instructor at Baker College of Auburn Hills teaching research and writing, and family law courses to students in the paralegal program.

Ms. Melkonian is a lifelong Oakland County resident. She is a graduate of Oakland University and University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. She lives in Waterford and has two rescue beagles, Gunner and Khloe.