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Diane B. Patrick Bio

Framingham State University

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Diane Patrick is co-managing partner of law firm Ropes & Gray's Boston office and the former First Lady of Massachusetts. She has over 30 years of experience representing and advising employers in connection with a broad range of labor and employment-related matters. For the past five years, Diane has chaired the firm's diversity committee. Ropes & Gray has been recognized nationally for its diversity; women make up about 40 percent of the attorneys in its US offices, and minorities account for roughly 17 percent.

Diane provides strategic counseling to clients regarding their compliance with federal and state employment laws, represents clients before the National Labor Relations Board as well as other federal administrative agencies, counsels employers on matters involving wage and hour regulations, and provides general advice on employment policies and practices. Diane has an extensive practice negotiating collective bargaining agreements, providing counsel on contract administration, and representing employers in labor arbitrations. In addition to her years in private practice, Diane served for eight years at Harvard University as both University Attorney responsible for Harvard's labor and employment matters and as the University's Associate Vice President of Human Resources.

Her husband Deval Patrick served as Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from 2007 to 2015. As First Lady, Diane became a powerful advocate for victims of sexual assault and domestic abuse and has been credited with changing the landscape in Massachusetts that enables survivors to come forward.