

Leigh Newman: Attorney, Volunteer, Problem-Solver

Attorney Leigh Newman is a quiet problem-solver – one of those people who is rarely in the headlines but is always there, behind the scenes, applying her remarkable intelligence and reliable common sense to get the job done, for her clients and for the Greater Hartford Jewish community.

Leigh did not begin her career as a lawyer; rather, after graduating from Princeton University, she worked in a large corporation for 14 years before answering an inner call to change direction. After graduating with honors from UConn Law School and clerking for two judges, she entered private practice and is now a trusts and estates partner at Day Pitney. She says: "I see my role as helping my clients to achieve their planning goals, which often means solving a puzzle involving family dynamics and tax implications. Each situation is unique."



For more than 15 years, Leigh has also been actively involved in the local Jewish community, as both a "rank and file" volunteer and, more recently, as a leader of two prestigious organizations: From 2009-11, she was Board chair of the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford, and since 2015, she has been Board chair of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford. And in December 2016, Leigh and her husband Gary Starr received the President's Award for Distinguished Service to the Community from the Hebrew High School of New England.

One other thing to know about Leigh Newman: She is a crossword puzzle expert, competing annually since 1997 in the <u>American Crossword Puzzle Tournament</u>. She regularly finishes in the top 10%-15% of competitors – and has twice been the top solver in Connecticut!