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## **2018 Women in Construction: Sarah Spatafore, Murphy, Hesse, Toomey and Lehane, LLP**

March 30, 2018 - Spotlights

Name: Sarah Spatafore (Catignani)

Position: Senior Attorney

Company: Murphy, Hesse, Toomey and Lehane, LLP

Location: Quincy, MA

Education: Bates College, 2007, Boston College Law School, 2012

Birthplace: Plymouth, MA

Why did you decide to be a lawyer? I have always had an interest in law. I developed my interest further after working with attorneys on presidential campaigns. I was drawn to the fast-paced nature of the work and the new problems that presented themselves daily.

What are your specialty areas of practice? Labor and employment law for both private and public sectors. My practice includes a great deal of preventive counseling, policy review, and employee relations. A great deal of my practice is also defending claims at various administrative agencies, at all levels of state and federal court. My labor practice includes representing employers in collective bargaining negotiations, mediations, and arbitrations, responding to grievances, and representing clients before state and federal labor boards.

What do you think makes a successful lawyer? Intelligence, curiosity, patience, persistence, sense of humor and the ability to both listen and advocate effectively. First priority is the client, provide advice in a timely and thoughtful manner. Take a practical and conservative approach ensuring client's resources are most effectively expended.

Favorite Novel: Mystery novels

Film: Nonfiction crime podcasts.

Hobbies: home renovations, which I am currently knee deep in with my husband, traveling both near and far, scuba diving, sailing, and spending time at my family home on Cape Cod.

