

PSH Counsel Jennifer Henricks Featured in Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly on Landmark Tufts Tenure Verdict

Description

[Jennifer Henricks](#), Counsel at [Partridge Snow & Hahn LLP](#), was recently featured in a [Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly](#) article examining a landmark \$4.3 million verdict secured on behalf of eight Tufts University School of Medicine faculty members in a tenure-related contract dispute.

The article highlights a Superior Court ruling finding that Tufts breached tenure contracts by reducing professors' salaries and faculty status based on external research funding requirements. The decision reinforces "economic security" as an enforceable contractual component of tenure and may have broader implications for how universities structure faculty compensation policies moving forward.

Jennifer, who represented the professors alongside attorneys Kevin T. Peters and Thomas M. Brown, emphasized the broader significance of the ruling beyond the immediate verdict. Discussing the court's analysis of academic freedom, Jennifer noted that the Superior Court "imagined a scenario where these policies would infringe upon academic freedom." She added that the plaintiffs "made the choice to continue what they were researching, regardless of how severe the economic consequences were."

Jennifer also explained that the Supreme Judicial Court's recognition of academic freedom as an enforceable contractual term represents an important "conceptual victory" that may influence how other institutions approach tenure and faculty compensation policies in the future.

The [full article](#) is available through *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly* (subscription required).

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