# LAREDO SMITH, LLP





## Massachusetts Enacts Law to Protect Pregnant Workers

Beginning on April 1, 2018, employers must comply with the newly-enacted Massachusetts Pregnant Workers Fairness Act ("MPWFA"), which prohibits employers from discriminating against, firing, or refusing to hire a person due to pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions.

Under the MPWFA, an employer must make reasonable accommodations for an employee's pregnancy or any condition related to the employee's pregnancy (like lactation or the need to express breast milk) if the employee requests such an accommodation. Reasonable accommodations may include more frequent or longer breaks, light duty, private non-bathroom space for expressing breast milk, sitting (instead of standing), or a modified work schedule. However, if the employer can show that providing the accommodation would impose an undue hardship on the business (such as an unreasonable expense or a negative effect on resources given the size of the business), then the employer may forego such accommodations.

#### NEWSLETTER • OCTOBER 2017

### **CONGRATULATIONS!**



Mark Smith is the new President of the Boston Bar Association. In this role, he will work with a strong leadership team

to advance the highest standards of excellence for the legal profession, facilitate access to justice and serve the community at large.



#### Payal Salsburg

presented as a panelist for the Boston Bar Association's annual "Practicing with Professionalism" event.



Marc Laredo will serve as the new Editor in Chief of the Massachusetts Law Review, the longest continually

José Sierra

published law review in the nation.



moderated a panel on how to "Conduct a Cyber Investigation" at the Hispanic National Bar Association's Annual Conference.

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