

# TRAILBLAZERS

## ELITE BOUTIQUE

### REGINA CALCATERRA & JANINE POLLACK CALCATERRA POLLACK LLP

**PIONEER SPIRIT** Regina Calcaterra served in numerous senior executive positions in public service in New York State, was a partner in a securities and consumer class-action litigation firm and was also a New York Times best-selling author. Firm co-founder Janine Pollack was a class-action litigator for nearly 30 years, representing defrauded investors and consumers and securing hundreds of millions of dollars for clients.

**TRAILS BLAZED** Despite the growing COVID-19 pandemic, Calcaterra and Pollack took the bold step of launching their firm. "We wanted to make sure clients continued to get service and started the firm with principles of diversity, wellness and superior service," said Calcaterra. The firm is currently representing eight families whose children died while using Rock n' Play sleeper baby products, since recalled by Mattel and Fisher-Price. The firm also represents victims of sexual abuse under New York's Child Victims Act, including men who were sexually assaulted as children in a group home in Long Island. "That same empathy we represent is reflected in our firm, as some of us are survivors of childhood sexual assault and brutality," added Calcaterra. Pollack also developed extensive resources for staff, including for work-life balance, personal growth, exercise and nutrition. "We envisioned a diverse firm, including minorities, openly LGBTQ+ and DACA recipients, supported by a robust wellness program," said Pollack. "It was by design, which is unusual for a firm our size."

**FUTURE EXPLORATIONS** Pollack sees an increasing number of courts seeking more diverse leadership in class actions and mass tort lawsuits and believes the firm is well-positioned to benefit. Calcaterra added, "We will continue to represent clients and impact social justice at the same time. When you have diversity and allow every voice to be heard, you have a healthy firm and healthy clients."

