

Women of Influence

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COMMUNITY SUPPORTER

Lisa Smith

Partner, Phillips Lytle LLP

- ▶ **Started at company:** 1993 • **Years in my field:** 27 • **Born in:** Buffalo • **Lives in:** Clarence • lsmith@phillipslytle.com
- ▶ **All about:** I grew up as one of three daughters in a family that emphasized academic achievement and athletics. The values my parents instilled, the focus on education and the lessons learned on and off the playing fields left an indelible mark.
- ▶ **Proudest accomplishment:** Other than my daughter, my proudest accomplishment has been the pro bono legal work I've been fortunate to do over the course of my career. Representing migrant workers who were wrongly denied the opportunity to work, AIDS patients who needed legal assistance, adoptive parents in the middle of a nationally publicized contested adoption and U.S. military members challenging discriminatory policies against homosexuality has been a privilege and an honor.
- ▶ **Spouse:** John Zugarek
- ▶ **Children:** Jane
- ▶ **College:** B.S., biology, Grove City College; J.D., Case Western Reserve University School of Law
- ▶ **Most fun event in the last year:** A whirlwind trip to England, Scotland and Ireland with my husband and daughter. My husband and I had previously spent time there, but seeing our daughter experience those countries for the first time was priceless and great fun.
- ▶ **Career advice, Twitter style:** Be real. Be true to yourself. Live by the Golden Rule.
- ▶ **When I'm not working, I'm:** hiking, skiing, kayaking.
- ▶ **I can't get rid of:** I am unable to get rid



of anything that was given to me by my grandparents.

- ▶ **This might surprise people:** I'm an introvert.
- ▶ **My lucky charm:** I keep a decades-old note from my husband in my briefcase.
- ▶ **Favorite nonprofits:** The Pink Pillow Project, SPCA, Doctors Without Borders
- ▶ **Would like to meet:** Nelson Mandela
- ▶ **My wishful super power:** I'm very taken with Harry Potter's invisibility cloak!
- ▶ **Self-description:** Committed

THIS KEEPS ME UP AT NIGHT: *Preparing for trial is a guaranteed impediment to sleep.*