



## Jessica Taub Rosenberg

**Job Title:** Partner

**Education:** JD, Fordham University School of Law; BA summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, Emory University

**Company Name:** Kasowitz Benson Torres LLP

**Industry:** Legal

**Company CEO:** Marc E. Kasowitz, founding and managing partner

**Company Headquarters Location:** New York, New York

**Number of Employees:** 449

**Words you live by:** She who laughs, lasts.

**Personal Philosophy:** Every decision in life has pros and cons, so there is no “right” choice. Having an open mind and learning from others is instrumental to success.

**What book are you reading:** *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee

**What was your first job:** Waitress at East Bay Diner

**Favorite charity:** The Arc Westchester’s Children’s School for Early Development, which provides educational, social, and support services for children (from birth to age five) and their families

**Interests:** True crime podcasts, the beach, modern art, and I couldn’t live without time with my friends

**Family:** Lucky mother of two incredible boys (we call them Pickle and Giggy) and thankful for my amazing husband, Josh

### You Really Can Manage it All—Here’s How

Friends often ask me, “How do you manage it all—long hours and demanding clients, the stress of high-stakes litigation, plus the daily commute, all while raising two children?”

I always answer the same way: “It’s hard. Anyone who says it’s not is lying.”

But I’ve found a few tips that have helped me:

First, love what you do. I have real passion for solving problems for clients, crafting legal arguments, and winning cases. It drives me to get up every day and tackle the next challenge. I still get excited when a new case comes in, and I work at a firm where colleagues share that passion and enthusiasm. While growing up, I saw that both my parents loved their careers, talked about interesting matters they worked on, and instilled in me from a young age that hard work is a virtue.

Second, let the little things go—mainly because there isn’t time to think about them! That also means other people’s judgments. Get comfortable doing things your way. Do what works for you, and hold yourself to no one’s standards but your own. For me, I prioritize taking time for myself. A colleague recently asked me

how I had time to read fiction and I responded, “I don’t want a life where I can’t read a book for fun.” Yes, when work is intense, I’m not getting through my novel, but then I reset and schedule and include time for myself.

Third, accept that you will occasionally disappoint people. There is only one of you, so at some point your son or your adversary or a friend is going to feel that you didn’t respond quickly enough, or give them the attention they asked for. This is a hard one, but you have to get comfortable that you are doing your best across the board, and you will get back to them tomorrow.

Finally, ask for help. At work, rely on colleagues and staff to handle matters and delegate whenever you can. If you micromanage everyone, you will never allow those around you to grow and develop professionally, and you will always feel like you don’t have support. Ask questions of mentors and don’t be scared to admit you don’t know the answer. At home, you need family, friends, and loving babysitters to make it work.

So lean on others and get the support you need.

# Lauren Tabaksblat

**KASOWITZ**  
BENSON TORRES

**Job Title:** Partner

**Education:** JD, New York University School of Law, Articles Editor, NYU Environmental Law Journal; BA cum laude, Barnard College

**Company Name:** Kasowitz Benson Torres LLP

**Industry:** Legal

**Company CEO:** Marc E. Kasowitz, founding and managing partner

**Company Headquarters Location:** New York, New York

**Number of Employees:** 449

**Words you live by:** The harder you work for something, the greater you will feel when you achieve it.

**Personal Philosophy:** Every experience is a learning experience. You can learn just as much from your mistakes as you do from your successes.

**What book are you reading:** *The Year of Yes* by Shonda Rhimes

**What was your first job:** Summer camp counselor at sleep-away camp

**Favorite charity:** American Committee of Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem

**Interests:** Spinning, cooking, and cheering on my three kids at their respective sports games

**Family:** Married, with two sons and a daughter

## There's No One Blueprint for Juggling Career and Family

I was promoted to partner at a top law firm eight months after returning from maternity leave following the birth of my youngest child. It was my third maternity leave in six years; my first child was born two years after I graduated law school. My impression was that many women in the male-dominated world of complex commercial litigation opted to wait until later in their careers to have children, often until after they were elected partner. Making partner on the same track as my peers after having three children was virtually unheard of. I am fortunate to work at a firm, and have mentors, who recognized my hard work and the important contributions I have made to my cases.

I was raised and live in an Orthodox Jewish community, where women traditionally marry and have children early. Many choose to stay at home full time, and those who do work outside the home generally opt for part-time careers with flexible schedules. I wanted a career I was passionate about, while remaining committed to my family and community.

There was no blueprint for juggling family and community involvement with my sixty- to eighty-hour workweek. At work, I had to demonstrate to my firm

and our clients that I was committed to winning cases. At home, I needed to be available to my husband and children, and active in my community. I'm a multitasker by nature, so I've learned to prioritize what's most important, while working with my colleagues and husband to balance the rest.

Finding my appropriate balance of career, family, and community has not been without obstacles. As an associate, I missed an opportunity to argue an important motion, when a hearing was rescheduled for the week my second child was born. Recently, I missed a family vacation during the trial of a case that I had spent ten years working on. The trial, which resulted in a jury verdict in favor of our client, has been one of the highlights of my career, and something that my family is immensely proud of.

The definition of and path to success is different for everyone. I hope my journey shows other women that there is no one-size-fits-all solution, and that it can serve as a model for the next generation of women who want to build rewarding careers, without losing sight of the importance of family and community.

