

INDIVIDUAL HONOREE



ASHLEY B. ROWE, *MetLife*

In-house corporate and insurance attorney provides guidance to multiple nonprofits through uncertain times

Ashley B. Rowe is a vice president and associate general counsel, US Insurance Law at MetLife. She received a B.A. from Mount Holyoke College in 1992 and her J.D. from Washington & Lee University in 1995.

Ms. Rowe has provided invaluable employment advice to a variety of nonprofits since the start of the pandemic. Her guidance has enabled countless educators, front-line workers, artists, and activists to continue their important work despite the risks and uncertainty of the pandemic. Through Lawyers Alliance's COVID-19 employment law helpline, Ms. Rowe has provided advice on legal concerns regarding safe reopening plans, vaccination policies, and other pandemic-specific concerns.

She assisted **Peace is Loud**, an organization that utilizes storytelling, particularly the stories of those whose identities intersect with systems-oppressed communities, to advance transformative social justice and **New Economy Project**, a nonprofit whose mission is to build an economy that works for all, based on cooperation, equity, social and racial justice, and ecological sustainability.

Ms. Rowe also worked with **Lavelle Fund for the Blind**, a grant-making foundation dedicated primarily to supporting programs that help New York City, New York State, and international residents who are blind or visually impaired live independent and productive lives, on its return to office and vaccine questions. Oliver Fuhrmann, Office and Administrative Associate at Lavelle Fund for the Blind, shares, "Ashley Rowe was incredibly knowledgeable and generous with her time. She was diligent in researching our questions and following up with us. Ashley's invaluable guidance helped us navigate some of the complex issues posed by the pandemic."

Recently, Ms. Rowe began advising **Drag Queen Story Hour NYC**, a nonprofit that teaches children about gender diversity and all forms of difference to build empathy and give kids the confidence to express themselves however they feel comfortable, on labor and employment questions.

Says Ms. Rowe, "I am fortunate to have a career that I love. I have always thought it was important to give back and pro bono legal work allows me to give back while doing what I love. Advising nonprofits allows me to impart knowledge I have gained advising large companies to entities that don't have the resources that my company has. A lot of what I do translates well."