



2019 Women in Real Estate: Jessica Leis, Forchelli Deegan Terrana LLP

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Name: Jessica Leis, Esq.

Title: Land Use & Zoning Attorney

Company Name: Forchelli Deegan Terrana LLP

Association/Organization Affiliations (REAL ESTATE ONLY): Nassau County Bar Association (Real Property Law Committee)

What is your favorite motivational quote?

"I've never made a mistake. I've only learned from experience." ~ Thomas Edison

What is the best advice you have received, and who was it from?

Comically, some of the best advice, or food for thought, came from a Pantene commercial that came out a few years ago about women saying "sorry" in situations where there was no reason to apologize. It struck a nerve in me, and in most of my young professional female friends. Since then, I have made a conscious effort to speak with a purpose and cut the unnecessary apologies.

What was one of your biggest accomplishments in the last 12 months?

Having come from a litigation background, presenting a case to a judge or panel was nothing new; however, the Land Use & Zoning practice area was new to me. Over the past year, I am fortunate that I have had the opportunity to present, and secure approvals on, dozens of commercial and residential applications before various municipal boards. Given that Nassau County alone has over 60 different jurisdictions, there are several opportunities to step out of my comfort zone. I am proud of my accomplishments thus far, and look forward to continued professional growth.

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