

More than a decade ago, Amy E. Goganian set out to create a law firm based on her vision of what a practice could — and should — be like: an environment in which to practice law at a high level while not losing sight of the fact that life exists outside of the firm.

Today, the firm is busy and growing. What's more, Goganian says she's "lived the last 11 years exactly the way I wanted to: having fun, working hard, and always putting my family first."

Although hanging out her shingle was "definitely terrifying," Goganian says it was the best professional move she's ever made.

"I'm a real advocate for people going out on their own, especially women," she notes. "It is wonderful to be your own boss and rise and fall on your own hard work."

Goganian's practice focuses on defense, primarily in the areas of medical malpractice and professional liability.

"Particularly here in Boston, medical professionals are performing some of the most cutting-edge medicine and treating some of the most complex patients in the world," she says. "It is fascinating to be part of that and learning something new every day."

Goganian leverages her expertise in professional liability as a hearing officer for the Board of Bar Overseers, a "fascinating" experience that is also educational — and sometimes sad, she says.

A member of the Massachusetts Bar Association's Civil Litigation Section Council, she is also a past co-chair of the Boston Bar Association's Professional Liability Committee.

In recent years, Goganian has become involved in grassroots efforts in Haiti and Tanzania to empower women and girls in disadvantaged economies. She began by coordinating with friends to provide microloans to Haitian businesswomen to launch and sustain their businesses and expanded into the delivery of sustainable menstruation kits to girls and young women in both countries. The lack of basic hygiene products often results in young women missing several days of school each month, she explains, and the kits "offer the girls a shot at staying in school." **MLW**

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Women
of law

Amy E. Goganian

Principal, Goganian & Associates, Needham

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