

## DAVID PRESSMAN

JENNER & BLOCK



### What was the genesis of the path that has made you a trailblazer?

I manage legal crises for clients facing existential threats, often with a global dimension.

We are living in a moment where democratic systems around the world are under increasing attack; space for civil society is shrinking; dissidents routinely threatened (or worse); and fundamental values, including rule of law, are too often imperiled. My practice sits at the nexus of this geopolitical turbulence and increased global interdependence. Clients come to me where legal systems overseas have failed them (or targeted them), where lives are threatened or imperiled, where states have tried to silence them, or where there is a major brand-threatening crisis that requires extraordinary care in addressing.

I spent years as the representative of the United States locked in a room negotiating some of the thorniest international issues with the Russians and Chinese amongst others. This perspective, coupled with a very uncertain geopolitical moment, has rooted my commercial practice in tackling big, multifaceted problems for those victimized by powerful adversaries.

### What sort of change has resulted from the concept?

The law cannot be laggard in responding to a disputes environment where fundamental norms are under attack – and yet it is. I have tried to build a litigation portfolio that pushes the law to protect the vulnerable in new and creative ways. My current docket of cases includes matters such as work adverse to large Russian financial institutions complicit in the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 and litigation against authoritarians with a penchant for reaching across international borders to target dissidents.

### What bearing will this have on the future?

Whether representing individual victims or sophisticated global clients navigating existential crises, we have a collective responsibility to push the law to deliver on its promise to protect the vulnerable and advance human dignity.

## HELEN DIANA “HEIDI” REAVIS

REAVIS PAGE JUMP



### What was the genesis of the path that has made you a trailblazer?

My father was an early civil rights documentary producer covering the disenfranchised in Mississippi to the riots in Chicago. My grandfather was Managing Partner of Jones Day Reavis & Pogue and influenced civil rights and politics from Cleveland to the White House. My passions for law as a tool for social justice and media as a vehicle for social change merge these influences. Reavis Page Jump was formed with a specific goal: pursuit of justice and equality. As Managing and Founding Partner, I strive for achievements in three interconnected areas: building a leading equality law practice; supporting award-winning documentaries that drive social and legislative change; and achieving social and legislative change.

### What sort of change has resulted from the concept?

Our Emmy Award-winning documentary *A Walk to Beautiful* produced with Steve Engel and Engel Entertainment chronicles the fatal childbirth syndrome faced by marginalized women and girls lacking C-sections in developing countries. We elevated public awareness and improved resources through free film distribution and screenings before Congress and the UN, culminating in Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney's reintroduction of the *Obstetric Fistula Prevention, Treatment, Hope and Dignity Restoration Act* on December 15, 2020. *Missing in Brooks County*, which we executive-produced, chronicles the humanitarian crisis along the US/Mexico border, and inspired Senators Kamala Harris and John Cornyn to introduce rare bi-partisan legislation, the *Missing Persons and Unidentified Remains Act*, providing humanitarian and technical aid, passing unanimously on December 31, 2020. Distributed to millions, our *Census 2020 PSA* encouraged and achieved civic engagement.

### What bearing will this have on the future?

I am humbled our documentaries produced legislative change. Additionally, our firm's lawyers have influenced #MeToo and Black Lives Matter legislative initiatives and developed pioneering anti-sexual harassment and discrimination prevention tools. Our work in media and law shares the goal of social change through effective storytelling and advocacy. I hope our efforts continue to inspire equality and improve lives.