



The following section features attorneys who have demonstrated leadership qualities and have achieved the AV Preeminent rating by Martindale-Hubbell®.

Martindale-Hubbell®, the company that has long set the standard for lawyer ratings, has supplied ALM with a list of Top Rated Lawyers who have achieved an AV® Preeminent® Peer Review Rating, the highest rating in legal ability and ethical standards. To create this section, Martindale-Hubbell® tapped its comprehensive database of Martindale-Hubbell® Peer Review Ratings™ to identify lawyers who have been rated by their peers to be AV® Preeminent™.

Martindale Hubbell Peer Review Ratings are driven by the confidential opinions of lawyers and members of the judiciary who receive invitations from Martindale-Hubbell®, via an online survey or by mail, to provide reviews of lawyers of whom they have professional knowledge.

A complete directory of all AV® Preeminent™ lawyers can be found online at Lawyers.com® and Martindale.com, in the Martindale-Hubbell® Law Directory in print and CD-ROM formats, and online through the LexisNexis® services and at lexis.com. Attorneys shown do not constitute the full list of "Top Rated Lawyers"



PENNSYLVANIA KINGSTON

NEIL T. O'DONNELL

Attorney Neil T. O'Donnell is the owner of O'Donnell Law Offices in Kingston, Pennsylvania, a firm of trial lawyers which handles serious injury cases with the confidence and expertise clients seek.

Neil concentrates his practice in representing Plaintiffs in Personal Injury matters. Neil received his Juris Doctor from the University of Pittsburgh. He is a Board Certified Civil Trial Specialist and past President of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association. He is a member of the Pennsylvania, American and Federal Bar Associations, Trial Lawyers for Public Safety, Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association, Pennsylvania Association for Justice and American Association for Justice.

His numerous recognitions include Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Top 10 and Top 100, National Trial Lawyer Top 100, Best Lawyers, Litigation Counsel of America Fellow, Martindale Hubbell's AV Preeminent Rating, American Society of Legal Advocates Top 100, Rue Ratings Best Attorneys of America, National Association of Distinguished Counsel and Melvin Belli Society inductee. Neil serves as a frequent lecturer on a variety civil litigation topics.



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PENNSYLVANIA DOYLESTOWN

CAROL A. SHELLY, ESQUIRE

Ms. Shelly's practice concentrates on Plaintiff Personal Injury Litigation and general civil litigation. She has tried dozens of civil cases to verdict during her career. In 1999, Ms. Shelly secured a \$4 million verdict for her client, one of the 50 largest verdicts in Pennsylvania that year. In 2011, Ms. Shelly secured a \$2,947,750.00 verdict, one of the largest verdicts in a motor vehicle accident case in Pennsylvania that year. Ms. Shelly has secured verdicts and settlements in the millions of dollars for her clients during her career. She has briefed and argued cases in the Commonwealth Court, Superior Court and the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. She has served as the Chair of the Civil Litigation Section of the Bucks County Bar Association. Ms. Shelly was the second woman to be elected President of the Bucks County Bar Association and the first woman to be elected President of the Charitable Foundation of the Bucks County Bar Association. Ms. Shelly has received an AV rating by her peers on Martindale-Hubbell. She has been selected to the Bar Register of Preeminent Women Lawyers in 2011, 2012 and 2013; Women Leaders in the Law, 2012 and 2013; Pennsylvania Top Rated Lawyers, 2012 and 2013; and Top Rated Lawyer in Personal Injury Law 2013.



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TOP RATED LAWYERS





TOP RATED LAWYERS

NEW YORK

NEW YORK

JERALD DAVID AUGUST

Jerald David August is a partner in the nationally recognized tax law firm of Kostelanetz & Fink, LLP. While Jerry maintains his office at 7 World Trade Center, New York, NY 10017, he frequently is in the Philadelphia area meeting with clients and referral sources. He is a member of the Pennsylvania, New York, and Florida Bar Associations. Prior to his admission into Kostelanetz & Fink, LLP, last Spring, Jerry was a partner with the national law firm, Fox Rothschild, LLP, and served as the Co-Chair of the Taxation & Wealth Planning Department over his ten year tenure with the firm. Jerry advises clients on the tax impacts of structuring international and domestic business transactions. He also advises high-net-worth individuals, both U.S. citizens and non-residents, on their estate plans. He further is recognized for his expertise in tax controversy matters, including criminal investigations, on behalf of clients before the Internal Revenue Service, the U.S. Department of Justice as well as various state tax authorities. He has appeared before the U.S. Tax Court, Federal District Courts, the Court of Federal Claims, the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals and also represented the Florida Bar Tax Section in filing an amicus curiae brief in a landmark U.S. Supreme Court, *Commissioner v. Estate of Hubert*, 520 U.S. 93 (1997). August, who graduated with a B.S. (Finance) from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, received his law degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law and his LL.M. in Taxation from the New York University School of Law. After practicing tax law for 10 years in Palm Beach, he was admitted as partner in the Miami firm Steel Hector & Davis in 1986. In 1988 he founded his own firm, a tax law boutique, which in 2005 merged with Fox Rothschild, a national law firm with more than 600 lawyers in 22 cities across the country. August, who grew up in Wynnewood and graduated from Lower Merion High, resides both in Haverford, Pennsylvania, and South Tribeca, New York City, with his wife, Susan. He is an active member of the American Law Institute and has published numerous articles on federal taxation for national law journals. August has frequently spoken on matters of federal taxation for the American Law Institute, the Tax Section of the American Bar Association, the New York University Federal Institute on Taxation, the NYU Graduate Tax Law Program, and various tax law programs sponsored by prestigious law schools as well as the Tax Sections of the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Florida Bar Associations. He has long served as the Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Business Entities*, a national tax publication, and is the former Editor-in-Chief of the *Tax Lawyer*, a preeminent tax law review. He is also a columnist on partnership and international tax law for *Tax Notes*. He has been selected for inclusion in *Super Lawyers* and *The Best Lawyers in America* for many years. Additional honors include Band 1 Chambers for Taxation and recognition in *Philadelphia's Top Rated Lawyers* for the past three years.



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PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA

JEFFREY ZUCKER

Jeffrey has been representing clients in business-related matters for over 25 years—first as an accountant and for the past 20 plus years as an attorney. Jeff concentrates his practice on franchise and distribution-related transactions, litigation and pre-litigation counseling, and also handles general commercial matters. He frequently represents franchisors and manufacturers in litigation regarding trademark, post-termination covenants and related issues. He also assists franchisors and other business clients in reaching effective, common sense solutions to day-to-day problems.

Jeff is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Brookfield Schools, a private nonprofit group of schools which offer educational and clinical services to students with emotional needs. Jeff is also on the Board of Directors and is the Treasurer of the Voorhees Animal Orphanage. The VAO offers shelter, food and medical care to stray, orphaned and unwanted animals in Southern New Jersey.



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PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA

CLIFFORD B. COHN

For 39 years Clifford B. Cohn has maintained a successful and varied practice handling complex civil and criminal cases. He has an impressive track record of obtaining victories and achieving large financial settlements from the successful prosecution of a variety of matters, including estate litigation, personal injury matters involving catastrophic injuries and commercial litigation. He is listed as the top one percent of attorneys in the United States by the National Association of Distinguished Counsel, 10/10 by AVVO and for the last 25 years has been 5/5 AV Preeminent® by Martindale-Hubbell, while developing a niche practice representing lawyers and clients in a variety of disputes, including partnership breakups, fee disputes, ethical investigations, and legal malpractice. He has successfully represented both clients against their former lawyers and lawyers being sued, as well as being a frequent lecturer on issues involving attorneys' liability.



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DIANNE M. NAST

Dianne Nast, founder of Philadelphia law firm NastLaw, LLC, has extensive and diverse experience in pharmaceutical litigation and antitrust litigation, and much of her professional career has been dominated by this type of litigation. With over 30 years in this field, she is consistently recognized by her clients and peers as one of the best lawyers in the country.

Ms. Nast was recently honored as a recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Legal Intelligencer. This prestigious award was given “to represent the figures who have helped to shape the law in Pennsylvania.”

Outside of the courtroom, Ms. Nast has a passion for helping her community. She was a co-founder and member of the Board of Directors for the Center for Research on Women and Newborn Health and served as President of the Foundation’s Board for ten years. For several years she served on the Lancaster Catholic High School Board of Education. She was also instrumental in assisting students develop their scientific presentations.



Trusted Leadership in the Most Complex Cases

NastLaw attorneys combine over 90 years of complex civil litigation experience. We provide our clients with experienced, confident representation to guide them in the most difficult cases.

This work is our passion, and we are dedicated to helping consumers and institutions defend their rights when harmed by large corporations.



Areas of Practice

NastLaw’s practice emphasizes antitrust and mass tort litigation with a focus on pharmaceuticals and medical devices.

Our attorneys are known for taking leadership roles in their cases, helping to ensure our clients’ needs are well represented in every situation. Our attorneys currently hold many leadership positions in active litigation including:

- Xarelto Litigation: Plaintiffs’ Steering Committee
 - GM Ignition Litigation: Plaintiffs’ Steering Committee
- NFL Concussion Litigation: Plaintiffs’ Steering Committee
 - Effexor XR Antitrust Litigation: Executive Committee



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TOP RATED LAWYERS

PENNSYLVANIA PHILADELPHIA

JOSEPH CAGNOLI, JR.

Trial lawyer Joseph Cagnoli, Jr. represents individuals, corporation, and public entities in product liability, toxic tort/environmental, and municipal/public entity liability matters. He serves as national coordinating counsel for several clients and has litigated in state and federal courts in multiple jurisdictions including Pennsylvania, California, Texas, and Delaware.

A leading attorney in oil and gas/hydrofracturing matters, Mr. Cagnoli frequently speaks and publishes on this emerging area of environmental litigation. Mr. Cagnoli also has significant experience representing manufacturers of vehicles and commercial and industrial equipment in product liability and toxic exposure matters involving benzene, asbestos and other substances.

Mr. Cagnoli serves as an At-Large Committee Member on the Segal McCambridge Executive Committee. A Pennsylvania native, Mr. Cagnoli received his law degree from the Widener University School of Law (Harrisburg) and his undergraduate degree from Dickinson College. He is a member of the Pennsylvania and Philadelphia Bar Associations.

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Barbara Adams

Leader/Advisor/Attorney
Philadelphia, PA

AV Preeminent®
Martindale-Hubbell® Rating

General Counsel,
Philadelphia Housing Authority
2011-2016

General Counsel,
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
2005-2011

Duane Morris, LLP
(Associate to Partner, Partners' Board
Member and Head of Finance Practice Group)
1977-2005

PENNSYLVANIA MEDIA

VINCENT B. MANCINI

Mr. Mancini graduated from University of Dayton, *magna cum laude*, B.A. in 1973; J.D. from Dickinson School of Law (1976) and Law Clerk for Judge Theodore O. Rogers of the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court (1976 to 1978). Member of Pennsylvania Bar Association; Former Chairman of PBA Real Property, Probate and Trust Section (2003-2004); Chairman of PBA's Zoning and Land Use Committee; Board Member, Vice President of Delaware County Bar Association and designated as the President Elect for 2017; Chairman, Real Estate Practices Committee (1994 to present); Member, Advisory Committee on Real Estate Law for Pennsylvania Joint State Government Commission. Planner/lecturer for PBI; former PBA House Delegate for Zone 9. Member, Board of Trustees, Williamson College of the Trades; Board Member and Treasurer of Commonwealth Court Historical Society. Recipient (2013) of the "Honorable R. Sand President Award" for his contribution to the practice of law and to the Delaware County Bar Association. Honored with highest AV® rating by Martindale Hubbell for approximately 15 years. Currently the Solicitor for the City of Chester Redevelopment Authority and City of Coatesville Redevelopment Authority.



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PENNSYLVANIA HAVERFORD

BENJAMIN S. OHRENSTEIN

Ben Ohrenstein, a solo practitioner, has for many years provided estate planning, estate and trust administration, and general business, commercial, and charitable nonprofit legal services. Ben earned his law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. He is also a Certified Public Accountant, though he no longer provides accounting services. For many years he has also been active in the nonprofit charitable organization world, having been, among other things, pro bono Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the ALS Association Greater Philadelphia Chapter, Treasurer, CFO, and member of the Board of Trustees of the National ALS Association, and member of the Board of Directors and counsel for the Pearl S. Buck International organization.

Ben has been AV Preeminent rated from Martindale-Hubbell Directory for the past 35 years.



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- Listed in Best Law Firms in America*
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