

## Murtagh profile

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## Our Attorneys



John W. (Jack) Murtagh,  
Jr.

John W. (Jack) Murtagh, Jr. is a native of Brooklyn, NY and a graduate of Regis High School in Manhattan. He attended Saint Joseph's College (now University) in Philadelphia, earning an A.B. degree, magna cum laude, in Political Science, with a minor in Philosophy. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania School of Law with a J.D. degree, cum laude, in 1972, he clerked for the Honorable Donald W. VanArtsdalen, Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. He married Sheila Ann Horsman of Beaver County in 1972. Jack was appointed as a Special United States Trial Attorney with the United States Department of Justice, Criminal Division, Organized Crime and Racketeering Section in 1973, and assigned to the Pittsburgh Field Strike Force. In that capacity, he conducted grand jury investigations in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland and New Jersey, with a concentration in arson mail fraud and extortion cases. Notified of an impending transfer to another Strike Force office he resigned in order to remain in Pittsburgh, where he and Sheila chose to raise their two children, Kerin and John. While John is currently living in West View, Kerin and her family – husband Anthony, children Ryan and Gabriela - have relocated to Charlotte, NC. He practiced labor and employment law with Stan Greenfield from 1976 through 1987 when he opened an office in Wexford where he continues to represent individuals facing employment and discrimination issues. The practice today involves matters running the gamut from employment contracts, non-compete and confidentiality clauses, age, disability, race, sex, national origin and religious discrimination, unemployment compensation, grievance arbitration and commercial/business litigation. A member of the Pennsylvania and Allegheny County Bar Associations, Jack is a frequent presenter on employment law and litigation practice for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute and a contributor to various PBI publications. He also serves as a mediator and early neutral evaluator for the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania. For over 25 years, Jack has served as the Solicitor, and later Board Member, of the Northland Public Library Authority, the second largest library in Allegheny County. He has also sat as Member and Treasurer for the McCandless Industrial Development Authority, member and Past Grand Knight of Our Lady of Olives Council 3907, Knights of Columbus in Wexford, and is an avid member of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Sheila and Jack have made their home in Ingomar, Town of McCandless, for 40 years, the base from which they undertake frequent trail cycling rides. When not on the trail, Jack is usually found in his vegetable gardens, one at home and one at the office.

Adam is a partner at the firm of Murtagh, Hobaugh & Cech, LLC where he concentrates his practice on representing labor unions in collective bargaining negotiations and arbitrations and representing employees in state and Federal court litigation involving discrimination on the basis of age, gender, disability, retaliation, race, color, and national origin. He also has extensive experience representing employees in claims involving wrongful termination, the Family, and Medical leave Act, and the Pennsylvania Whistleblower Law. Adam also represents small businesses and individuals with respect to employment agreements, non-competition agreements and employment handbooks. A member of the Pennsylvania, Allegheny County and Butler County Bar Associations, Adam is a frequent speaker on labor and employment law topics and has been a contributor



Adam K. Hobaugh

to various Pennsylvania Bar Institute publications. Adam received his J.D. from Duquesne University and his B.A. from Allegheny College.



Alan E. Cech

In over 30 years of practice, Alan has represented all types of businesses and individuals in litigation in state and federal courts. In addition, he represents Creditors, Creditors' Committees and Debtors in all aspects of Bankruptcy/Insolvency related litigation. Alan's litigation expertise is enhanced by his experiences as an Assistant United States Attorney, where he was named Chief of Financial Litigation, as a federal Bankruptcy Trustee, and as a Staff Attorney for the United States Department of the Interior where he was accorded Special Assistant United States Attorney status by the U.S. Justice Department to pursue litigation in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. Alan was appointed to the Evaluation and Review Staff for the Executive Office for United States Attorneys where he conducted evaluations of the litigation handling of United States Attorney's Offices around the country. Alan represents businesses and individuals in business and commercial matters including shareholder/partnership disputes, non-compete agreements, collection, fraudulent conveyance actions, and fiduciary fraud. He has litigated jury and non-jury trials in both state and federal court and has testified as an expert witness in bankruptcy-related litigation. Alan has represented the United States Departments of the Interior, Commerce, Health and Human Services, as well as federal agencies such as the Internal Revenue Service and the Small Business Administration. In private practice, Alan was a member of the legal team which obtained a \$1.7 million dollar judgment against Co-Executors of a descendant's estate for fraud and breach of duty. As a Bankruptcy Trustee, Alan managed a large underground coal mine in southwestern Pennsylvania while negotiations for acquisition were completed. Alan is admitted to practice in all Pennsylvania and Federal Courts, including the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, the United States District Court, United States Bankruptcy Court, and the United States Tax Court. Mr. Cech received his J.D. from the University Of Pittsburgh School Of Law in 1980. He completed the United States Justice Department's Program in Trial Advocacy in 1987. Alan has served as President of community and school arts groups, as a Board Member of the McCandless Industrial Development Authority, and for 10 years served as the Solicitor for the Northland Public Library Authority.



Joseph Mack III

Before devoting his practice to acting as a mediator and arbitrator in 2015, Joe practiced labor and employment law for over thirty-five years as both outside counsel and in-house counsel. Joe was a partner in the Pittsburgh law firms Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP (1977-2004) and Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC (2005). Joe served as Senior Counsel - Labor, Employment, and Benefits for PPG Industries, Inc. from 2005 to 2013 and then as Senior Counsel, Labor and Employment for Axiall Corporation until his retirement in 2014. Joe's experience includes litigation of numerous actions under federal and state fair employment, labor relations, and contract laws, including representation of clients in trials, injunction proceedings, administrative hearings, arbitrations, and mediations. Joe is a member of the adjunct faculty at Duquesne University School of Law, where he has taught Employment Discrimination Law for several years. He has been an adjunct faculty member teaching Labor Law in masters degree programs of St. Francis University and LaRoche College. He is a frequent lecturer on labor and employment law topics and has contributed articles to a number of publications. Joe served from 2010 through 2014 on the planning committee for the annual PBI Labor Law - West two-day continuing education program, at which he was also a presenter. He is a member of the American and Allegheny County Bar Associations. He has served a Regional Co-chair of the ABA Committee on Practice and Procedure Before the NLRB and is a contributing editor to the ABA's treatise The Developing Labor Law. Joe served as the chairperson of the ACBA Public Service Committee for two years. His non-profit board work has included The Verland Foundation, Beginning With Books and the Northland Public Library Authority. Joe received his law degree from the University of Michigan and his undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

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