



Joseph W. Catuzzi

Partner

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A seasoned litigator and problem-solver, Joseph Catuzzi represents public and private companies, lending institutions and governmental entities in a full range of complex commercial disputes. Through his varied practice, Joe regularly appears in federal and state courts; before private arbitrators and mediators; and before local, state and federal administrative agencies. Joe also serves as a designated liaison to Meritas, an international affiliation of law firms in 245 markets in the United States and worldwide. While Joe's experience spans a wide array of commercial and employment matters in a diverse range of industries, in each matter, Joe brings a practical and business-oriented approach to resolving disputes in a cost-effective manner.

Joe's commercial litigation experience includes complex commercial cases, loan enforcement actions, bankruptcy matters, commercial leasing disputes, fraud, ERISA, construction liability, professional liability, defamation, product claims, trusts and estates disputes, and bond and indemnity claims. Joe has enforced surety and indemnity agreements, security agreements and mortgages, and represented secured creditors in bankruptcy matters.

In employee departure matters, Joe has litigated noncompetition, nonsolicitation and confidentiality agreements, along with trade secret issues. He represents clients in matters involving the movement of employees between competitors, misappropriation of trade secrets, client solicitation, employee solicitation and hiring, and restrictive covenants. Joe's employment practice also includes litigation of executive employment agreements, internal investigations, employment discrimination matters and wage payment issues. He counsels employers on accommodation requests, workplace violence, internal complaints and grievances, employee theft, employee discipline and termination, and trade secrets.

As a land-use lawyer, Joe represents developers, owners, lenders and sureties across real estate, zoning, land use, construction and surety matters. He has litigated contentious construction and zoning matters, bond claims, indemnity disputes and construction defect claims. Joe also appears before administrative agencies related to zoning relief, land development approvals, reductions in tax assessments, and historic designation issues.

Joe served as a legal intern at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey and for U.S. District Judge Eduardo Robreno of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Services

- Litigation
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Employment
- Complex Commercial & Class Action Litigation
- Real Estate
- Trial Practice

Education

- Villanova University School of Law (J.D., *magna cum laude*)
- Villanova University (B.S., *cum laude*)

Admissions

- Pennsylvania
- New Jersey
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania

Community Impact

Joe has represented clients in various pro bono matters, particularly cases involving civil and human rights. Joe currently serves on the associate board of City Year Philadelphia, an organization dedicated to preparing Philadelphia students with the social, emotional and academic skills and mindsets to succeed in both school and life. Joe formerly served on the board of directors of Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery and Delaware Counties, a nonprofit that provides safe, decent and affordable homes to low-income families. Joe served on its board of directors for seven years and the board's executive committee for two years. He also served as counsel and an advocate for the Clinic for Asylum, Refugee & Emigrant Services at Villanova Law.

- U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit

Memberships

- Member, Pennsylvania Bar Association
- Member, Montgomery Bar Association
- Former Committee Member; Current Member, Montgomery County Development Corp.
- Former Board Member, Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery and Delaware Counties
- Member, Associate Board, City Year Philadelphia

Recognitions

- *The Best Lawyers in America* (Ones to Watch: Commercial Litigation) (2021-26)

Featured Speaking Engagements

- Presenter, "The COVID-19 Pandemic: Transforming the Employment Landscape," Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia
- Presenter, "Arbitration Agreements: Pros, Cons, and Future," Chamber of Commerce of Southern New Jersey

Publications

California's Noncompetition Restrictions Impact Employers Beyond the Golden State

The Legal Intelligencer

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