Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett, P.C.
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J. Patrick Denton

Associate



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Patrick focuses his practice on labor & employment law. He has experience representing public school districts in western Pennsylvania, including litigation work. His prior work experience also includes serving as Deputy Attorney General for the Idaho Office of the Attorney General, where he served as general in-house counsel for all departments and affiliated agencies of the Idaho State Police. His work there included employment law, regulatory compliance and enforcement, public contracts, public records and open meetings act compliance, and litigation consultation. Patrick also has experience as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney and Judicial Law Clerk.

Patrick earned his law degree from the University of Idaho College of Law and graduated *magna cum laude* from Samford University.

Practice Areas

- Labor & Employment

Education

- University of Idaho College of Law, J.D.
- Samford University, B.A., *magna cum laude*

Admissions

- Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court, District of Idaho

Representative Experience

- Served as litigation counsel for public school districts in western Pennsylvania, including employment law, constitutional challenges, negligence, and contract disputes
- Served as Deputy Attorney General for the Idaho Office of the Attorney General
- Represented the Idaho State Police for the Idaho Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) program
- Prosecuted numerous cases as Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for Canyon County Idaho

- Served as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Michael McLaughlin in Boise Idaho

Community and Professional Service

Professional Affiliations

- Allegheny County Bar Association, *Member*

Presentations

Speaking Engagements

- Firm's Workplace Law Forum, 2026: Co-presenter on *Employer's Guide to Leave Law Compliance and Litigation Prevention: Best Practices Under USERRA, FMLA, and More*

Articles and Publications

- Quid Pro Quo for PFML: General Overview and Updated IRS Guidance on Section 45S Credits
- Update on DOL Efforts to Clarify Differences Between Employees and Independent Contractors

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About Knox Law

Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett, P.C. is a full service law firm that has provided practical solutions to businesses, families, public entities, and nonprofits for over 65 years. Our practice areas include ADR Services, Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights, Business & Tax, Business Succession, Construction Law, Elder Law, Employee Benefits, Environmental Law, Estate Planning & Administration, Governmental Practice, Health Law, Intellectual Property & Technology, Labor & Employment, Litigation, Mergers & Acquisitions, Public Finance & Bonds, Real Estate, and Workers' Compensation.