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Patricia J. Kennedy

Counsel

As a member of the Governmental Practice Group, Pat focuses her practice on providing legal services to school districts, municipalities and public authorities. She has 34 years of legal experience, including work with local governments. She served in various capacities for Erie County for 26 years, concluding with an 11 year appointment as Chief Public Defender. A native of Edinboro, she is a graduate of Edinboro University of Pennsylvania and of the Dickinson School of Law. She is a member of the PennWest University Council of Trustees and formerly served as a member of the Edinboro University of Pennsylvania Council of Trustees.

Practice Areas

Governmental Practice

Education

- Dickinson School of Law, J.D.
- Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, B.A., cum laude

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Admissions

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

Representative Experience

- Served as Chief Public Defender for Erie County for 11 years
- · Drafted ordinances and other litigation matters
- Represented local intermediate unit in IEP (Individualized Education Program) hearings

Community and Professional Service

Professional Affiliations

- Erie County Bar Association
- Pennsylvania Bar Association

• Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA), Member

Community and Professional Service

- PennWest University, Council of Trustees
- United Way of Erie County, Board Member
- Erie County Drug and Alcohol Coalition, Board Member
- Opportunities Unlimited, Board Member
- Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Former Member, Council of Trustees
- Pennsylvania Supreme Court Juvenile Rules Committee, Former Member
- Gaudenzia Erie, Former Advisory Board Member
- Crime Victim Center of Erie County, Former Board Member

Presentations

Speaking Engagements

- Firm's Annual Municipal Law Symposium, 2023: Considerations for School Districts and Police Departments Beyond the Safe-School Memorandum of Understanding
- Firm's Annual Municipal Law Symposium "Tips" Webinar, 2022