

Thomas A. Tupitza

Shareholder

Tom advises clients in the private, public, and nonprofit sectors on finance, real estate, and governance matters. An elected member of the American Law Institute and a past president of the Pennsylvania Association of Bond Lawyers, he is active as bond counsel in tax-exempt financing transactions. He is a director of a private business corporation and several nonprofit charitable organizations, and has served as Knox Law's President since 2007.

Practice Areas

- [Business & Tax](#)
- [Health Law](#)
- [Public Finance & Bonds](#)
- [Real Estate](#)

Education

- Harvard Law School, J.D.; *cum laude*; *Executive Editor*, *Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review*
- Westminster College, B.A.; *summa cum laude*

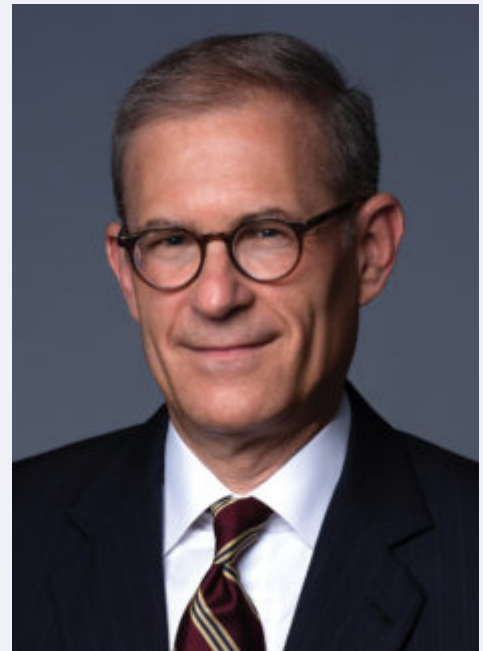
Admissions, Certifications, and Ratings

Admissions

- Pennsylvania
- New York
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit

Certifications

- Title insurance agent, Pennsylvania and New York
- Licensed Consultant, [PANO](#) (Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations)
- [Standards for Excellence®](#) Licensed Consultant

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Phone: 814-923-4901



Ratings

- [AV Preeminent® Peer Review Rated](#)



Representative Experience

- Bond counsel in over \$850 million of financing transactions
- Co-counsel in the affiliation of a regional health care system with a university-affiliated integrated health care provider and insurer
- Counsel to the developers in over a dozen commercial condominium projects

Honors

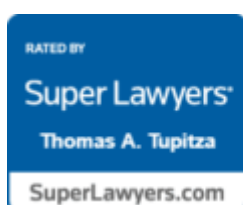
- [Louis J. Tullio Community Service Award](#), Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership, 2023
- [Tocqueville Award](#), United Way of Erie County, 2022
- Selected as [Best Lawyers® "Lawyer of the Year"](#) for the Pittsburgh metropolitan area in Public Finance Law (2024, 2020 & 2015); Health Care Law (2023); and Land Use and Zoning Law (2023, 2021, 2016)



- Included in [The Best Lawyers in America®](#), (Public Finance Law, 2012-2024; Real Estate Law and Land Use & Zoning Law, both 2015-2024; and Health Care Law, 2016-2024)



- Included in [Pennsylvania Super Lawyers®](#), 2004 and 2020-2023



- Honorary Life Member, Board of Corporators, Hamot Health Foundation, 2017
- Four-Way Test Award, Rotary Club of Erie, 2017
- Legends of Iroquois Hall of Fame, Iroquois School District Foundation, 2015
- Humanitarian Award, Eagle's Nest Leadership Corporation, 2014
- Excellence Award, Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network, 2011
- Everyday Leader Award, Pennsylvania Bar Association, 2007
- Alumni Citation, Westminster College, 1998
- Legion of Honor Award, Four Chaplains Memorial Foundation, 1992

Community and Professional Service

Community and Professional Service

- The Erie Community Foundation, *Board of Trustees, Vice Chair*
- Westminster College, *Board of Trustees, Former Chair*
- The Jefferson Educational Society of Erie, *Board of Directors*
- Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations (PANO), *Board of Directors*
- Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, *Northwest PA Business Advisory Council Member*
- Three Forts of Presque Isle, LLC, *Board of Managers*
- Warner Theatre Preservation Trust, *Board of Directors*
- Erie Cemetery Association, *Corporator*
- The Pennsylvania Society, *Life Member*
- Rotary Club of Erie, *Member, Paul Harris Fellow*
- *Former Board Chair*: UPMC Hamot, Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership, VisitErie, Erie County Historical Society (*currently, Member, Board of Governors*), Northwestern Legal Services, and Erie City Mission
- *Former Board Member*: UPMC (*currently, Member, Board of Visitors*), United Way of Erie County (*currently, Corporator*), The Nonprofit Partnership, Foundation for Erie's Public Schools, Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School (*currently, Life Trustee*), Hamot Health Foundation (*currently, Corporator*), Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network, Erie County Bar Association, and Rotary Club of Erie

Professional Affiliations

- Erie County Bar Association
- Pennsylvania Bar Association
- New York State Bar Association
- American Bar Association
- Pennsylvania Bar Foundation, *Life Fellow, Commonwealth Club Member*
- American Bar Foundation, *Fellow*
- Pennsylvania Association of Bond Lawyers, *Past President*
- National Association of Bond Lawyers
- American Health Lawyers Association
- American Law Institute, *Elected Member*



Presentations

Speaking Engagements

- Programs for The Nonprofit Partnership, the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, the Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations (PANO), and others on nonprofit governance and compliance