



S. DAVID FINEMAN

PARTNER

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BIOGRAPHY

S. David Fineman is a seasoned litigator working in the government, corporate, and private sectors. He handles a variety of business and legal matters for individuals, business owners, and government employees involving commercial litigation, business disputes, public finance, real estate, and tax issues.

Having served as special counsel to various federal, state and local municipal candidates and elected officials, David frequently advises clients on how to navigate the court systems, political landscape and inner workings of government. He often serves as local coordinating counsel on cases where an understanding of the Philadelphia rules and systems are necessary to provide zealous representation.

Client Experience

- Civic Associations
- Commercial Real Estate Owners
- Commissions
- Public Authorities
- Insurance Carriers

COMMUNITY & PROFESSIONAL

- Commissioner, Pennsylvania Independent Regulatory Review Commission, 2009-Present
- Nominated by the President of the United States and confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve on the Board of Governors of the U.S. Postal Service from 1995 to 2005. Elected as Chair by fellow Board Members during the period of 2003 to 2005.

HONORS

- Nominated by the President of the United States and confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve on the Board of Governors of the U.S. Postal Service from 1995 to 2005. Elected as Chair by fellow Board Members during the period of 2003 to 2005.
- Selected by the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County as one of 40 lawyers to serve as Judge Pro Tempore, 1991
- Selected by the United States District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania, as a member of its Court-Annexed Early Mediation Program, 1990

RECOGNITIONS

- Martindale Hubbell, AV Preeminent
- Pennsylvania Super Lawyers, 2006 – 2019
- Who's Who in the World
- Who's Who in America
- Who's Who of Emerging Leaders in

- American Bar Association
- Philadelphia Bar Association
- ULI, Philadelphia Chapter, Public Policy Committee, Co-chair
- Governor Edward Rendell's Transition Team, Member, 2003-2004
- Mayor Edward Rendell's Intergovernmental Task Force, Member, 1999
- Industry Policy Advisory Committee, a CEO-level committee that advises the Secretary of Commerce and U.S. Trade Representative on international trade, 1994-1997
- Secretary of Banking of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Special Counsel, 1993-1995
- Insurance Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Special Counsel, 1993-1995
- Philadelphia Planning Commission, Member, 1991-1993
- Mayor W. Wilson Goode's Transition Team, Member, 1987

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Only six weeks before trial, David Fineman was called upon to serve as lead defense counsel in the Jessica Savitch case, involving tens of millions of dollars in claims over the tragic death of the national news anchor. He immediately grasped what was needed to get the defense on the right course, directed extensive investigations, and prior to trial was at the cutting edge in testing the case with mock jury trials. Using that information, among other things, the defense was able to settle the case at the courthouse door for a number far below what would have been possible just two months earlier. After this success, he lectured legal groups, insurance organizations, and others on the use of mock jury trials and jury selection techniques.
- Represented several of the largest commercial real estate owners before the Board of Revision of Taxes in Philadelphia and the surrounding counties in obtaining large reductions in their taxes
- Represented the Philadelphia Parking Authority in a series of disputes brought by various parking garage operators, successfully establishing case law that the Authority was a local agency subject to governmental immunity. In the case itself, the Authority was successfully defended through that immunity defense.

America

- Who's Who in American Law

EDUCATION

J.D., George Washington
University Law School, *With
Honors*

B.S., The American University

ADMISSIONS

Pennsylvania

U.S. Supreme Court United
States

Third Circuit Court of Appeals

United States District Court,
Eastern District of Pennsylvania

- Represented property owners and a civic association in a complex zoning dispute that was litigated over a four year period. The dispute involved interpretations of the Philadelphia Zoning Code concerning special medicalized uses of foster homes, the Americans With Disabilities Act, the Fair Housing Act and the United States Constitution. Our clients' position prevailed.
- Represented the Independent Regulatory Review Commission in a constitutional challenge to its existence. While winning on procedural grounds, the constitutionality of the Commission's existence remains intact.
- Represented a wide range of public authorities and advised and represented public officials, both for litigation and administrative purposes.
- Represented a major insurance carrier in a bad faith claim obtaining a defense verdict after trial.

PRACTICE FOCUS

Land Use Planning
Local Administrative Law
Contract Disputes
Property Rights
Condemnation Law

NEWS

Best Lawyers in America Recognizes Six Practices in New York and Pennsylvania in its "Best Law Firms" Report for 2024

Firm News, *Best Lawyers®*, November 2, 2023

Royer Cooper Cohen Braunfeld Proudly Welcomes Distinguished New Partners

Firm News, *RCCB*, October 2, 2023