



Andrew M. Epstein

Partner

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Andy Epstein is a civil litigator with more than 50 years of experience who has excelled in family law, probate, real estate law and commercial law. He has been involved in matters that produced at least 15 published opinions. Andy handles a variety of matters, including appellate work, and has served as a private mediator and as an expert witness in legal ethics matters.

Following law school, Andy was a law secretary to the Honorable Leon Leonard, J.A.D., and a research associate with the New Jersey Legislature Rules of Court Commission. He is a co-author of *New Jersey Rules of Evidence and Annotations*, 1972 Edition.

Family Law

In the family law area of his practice, Andy provides consultation, guidance, negotiation, litigation and, where necessary, mediation. He also handles a variety of related agreements, from pre-marital to divorce, separation, settlement, custody and reconciliation agreements. His services extend to tax and estate considerations, issues that arise with unmarried partners, and family situations that involve commercial litigation.

Legal Ethics

Andy provides consultation, expert witness services and representation in legal ethics matters to attorneys and non-attorney clients who seek advice regarding legal ethics matters or the conduct of counsel. He also handles ethics disciplinary matters, normally representing or advising attorneys. As an expert witness, Andy provides opinions in legal malpractice cases, including instances where issues other than legal ethics may be involved.

Probate Litigation

When probate issues arise in matters involving trusts and estates or persons who are incapacitated, Andy assists in guardianships and conservatorships as well as cases

Services

- Commercial Litigation
- Appellate
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Matrimonial
- Professional Liability & Services
- Trusts & Estates

involving decedents' estates. Litigation in this area might include validity of wills; construction and interpretation of wills and trusts; performance of executors and other fiduciaries; and the distribution of assets. Andy's experience with tax consequences and commercial matters extend to these types of cases as well.

Education

- University of Pennsylvania Law School (J.D., 1967)
 - magna cum laude; Order of the Coif; Moot Court Board; recipient of awards for highest grades in senior year and coursework for real estate and decedents' estates
- University of Pennsylvania (A.B., 1964)
 - summa cum laude; Phi Beta Kappa, distinction in English and American Literature

Bar Admissions

- New Jersey

Court Admissions

- Supreme Court of the United States
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey

Professional Affiliations

- Union County Matrimonial Early Settlement Program, Panelist, 1978–Present; Blue Ribbon Panelist
- Union County Probate Early Settlement Program, Panelist, 1990–Present
- District XII Union County Ethics Committee, 1987–1991
- District V-C Essex County Ethics Committee 2007–2011; Vice Chair, 2009–2010; Chair, 2010–2011
- Union County Bar Association
- New Jersey Bar Association, Family Law Section
- American Bar Association, Family Law Section

Awards & Honors

- Selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*®, 2023-2026
- Selected for inclusion in *New Jersey Super Lawyers*®, 2009–2010, 2012–2024

Representative Matters

Oberhand v. Director, 22N.J. Tax, 55(Tax), rev'd 388 N.J. Super.239 (App. Div.), rev'd 193

N.J.558 (2008)

Zahl v. N.J. Dept. of Law, 428 Fed. Appx.205(3d Cir. 2011), *certiorari* denied

Lugano v. Director, N.J. Tax,28 N.J. Tax 49 (Tax), *aff'd* 28 N.J. Tax 562(App. Div.), *certif. denied* (2015)

Levine v. The Kramer Group; 354 N.J. Super. 397 (App. Div. 2002)

Manhattan Woods Golf Club v. Arai, 312 N.J. Super. 573 (App. Div. 1998), *certif. denied* 156 N.J. 411 (1998)

Gelber v. Zito Partnership; 147 N.J. 561 (1997)

Dixon Ticonderoga Co. v. Estate of O'Connor, 248 F. 3d 151 (3d Cir. 2001)

State v. Davidson, 225 N.J. Super 1 (App. Div. 1988), *certif. denied* 111 N.J. 594 (1988)

Keegan v. Keegan's Estate, 179 N.J. Super 242 (Ch. Div. 1981)

Keegan v. The Estate of Edward Keegan, 157 N.J. Super 279 (Ch. Div. 1978)

Sandler v. Bd. of Adjustment of Springfield Tp., 113 N.J. Super 333 (App. Div. 1971)

Schwartz v. Bender Investments, Inc., 58 N.J. 444 (1971)