



James R. Zazzali

Counsel

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Practice Areas

Business & Commercial
Litigation

Appellate

Bar Memberships

New Jersey

New York

Washington, D.C.

Languages

English

French

Spanish

James has served as New Jersey's Attorney General and as an Associate Justice and Chief Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court. Since returning to private practice, he has been appointed by the state and federal governments, federal and state courts, and litigants as a monitor, receiver, independent counsel, independent investigator, discovery master, and bankruptcy trustee for various institutions and organizations in both the private and public sectors. James advises clients on such matters as governance, institutional ethics, internal investigations, and appeals. He also has conducted numerous mediations and arbitrations.

He has served as General Counsel for the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority; Chairman of the New Jersey State Commission of Investigation (SCI); Chief of the Appeals Division of the Office of the Essex County Prosecutor; and Vice Chair of both the State's Disciplinary Review Board (attorney ethics) and the Judicial Review Board. The State Department has designated him as a member of United States delegations to various United Nations Conferences in Geneva and Paris.

Other Info About James

Education

Georgetown University Law Center, J.D.

Georgetown University, B.S.

Clerkships

Law clerk to the Honorable Lawrence A. Whipple, 1964–1965

Recognition

Recognized by [Best Lawyers®](#), 2027 Edition: Bet-the-Company Litigation; Commercial Litigation; Labor Law – Union; Mediation

Recognized by [Best Lawyers®](#): “Lawyer of the Year,” Labor Law – Union in Newark, NJ (2025 Edition)

Recognized by [Best Lawyers®](#): “Lawyer of the Year,” Bet-the-Company Litigation in Newark, NJ (2016 Edition)

Recipient, [NJBIZ ICON Award](#), 2018

Recipient, [New Jersey Law Journal](#) “Lifetime Achievement Award,” 2015

Recipient, The Sidney H. Lehman Award, New Jersey State Bar Association (NJSBA), 2014

Recipient, The Roger N. Baldwin Award, The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of New Jersey, 2013

Recipient, Medal of Honor Award, [New Jersey State Bar Foundation](#), 2010

Recipient, William J. Brennan, Jr. Award, Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey, 2008

Recipient, The John Carroll Award from Georgetown University, 2004 (Highest Alumni Award by the University)

Recipient, The Paul Dean Award from Georgetown University Law Center, 2000 (Highest Alumni Award of the Law Center)

Included on the [Martindale-Hubbell](#) AV® Peer Review Rated list

Professional Affiliations

Chair of Governor’s Judicial Advisory Panel

Special Ethics Counsel to Gubernatorial Transition Committee
2017–2018

New Jersey Supreme Court Special Committee on Attorney Ethics
and Admissions
Chair, 2013–2015

Congressional Superfund Study Group
Chair, 1981–1982

Judicial Labor Relations Task Force
Chair, 1985–1988

Committee of Minority Participation in the Courts
Chair, 1985–1992

Disciplinary Review Board
Member and Vice–Chair, 1984–1999

Advisory Committee on Judicial Conduct
Member and Vice–Chair, 1999–2000; 2009–present

Seton Hall University School of Law
Adjunct Professor, Alternative Dispute Resolution & Arbitration,
1984–2000

Charter Member of the New Jersey Academy of Mediators &
Arbitrators (NJAMA)

Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Compliance Manual Author

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