

BLEAKLEY PLATT



Bleakley Platt & Schmidt LLP

Bleakley Platt has been a leader in the Westchester County and Hudson Valley legal communities for over 70 years. With more than 40 professionals, the Firm has a full range of practice groups dedicated to civil litigation and appellate work, trusts and estates, commercial finance and real estate transactions, corporate and health law, and labor and employment matters, among others. We have the diverse skills necessary to address the wide range of issues faced by our clients in virtually all aspects of civil and commercial law from sophisticated and complex litigation to individual estate planning.

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Appellate

The Appellate Practice Group prosecutes and defends civil and criminal appeals at all levels of federal and state practice. As clients negotiate the unique, procedural and substantive challenges of an appeal, our mission is to guard our clients' successes and to overturn adverse decisions. Our substantial appellate experience provides a critical edge to every client, be they appellant or respondent.

The Appellate Practice Group attorneys provide a unique expertise and fresh perspective so important in any appeal. In contrast to the role of the trial attorney, who is expert at developing factual records, examining witnesses and persuading juries, the role of the appellate attorney is different and has a narrower focus. Our task is to critically analyze, develop, and refine legal arguments in a manner designed to persuade the appellate panel using only the factual record already established in the trial court.

Our approach is to first study the trial and any intermediate appellate record in detail. We thoroughly analyze the strengths and the weaknesses of the case under current substantive law. Our attorneys can then provide a candid and objective advice on the wisdom and practicality of pursuing or defending an appeal. We then apply ourselves to the critical task of drafting a tight, well-written, appellate brief which presents our client's legal arguments in the most favorable light. When oral argument is required, one of our experienced appellate attorneys will argue the case.

We welcome appeals referred by members of the profession. We are available to provide advice and consultation in on-going appeals, or to perfect or defend an appeal from the outset.