



## Louis S. Southworth II

Counsel

### Charleston Office

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**Louis S. Southworth, II, is Counsel in the Government industry group, focusing primarily on government relations and tax. He practices out of the Firm's office in Charleston, West Virginia.**

While not verifiable, it is possible that Louis knows everyone in the City of Charleston, and perhaps in the State of West Virginia. Louis is in his element when he's out interacting with clients, fellow attorneys, or elected representatives at the Capitol. Louis leads Jackson Kelly's internal legislative services team in West Virginia and serves as chairman of the Government Relations Committee of the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce.

While heavily involved in government affairs, Louis also is a practicing tax attorney who frequently addresses issues related to administrative, business and commercial law, business planning, leases, legislative services, mergers and acquisitions, and securities.

Louis is a frequent lecturer at various tax seminars and meetings and has been published in the West Virginia Law Review and the Corporation Law Handbook – West Virginia Practice Handbook, among others. He is listed in Woodward/White's *The Best Lawyers in America*®, has been ranked in Chambers USA, was a West Virginia *Super Lawyer*®, was named West Virginia *Best Lawyers* "Lawyer of the Year" for Corporate Law and for Government Relations, and has been inducted into the Marshall University Hall of Fame.

Louis is actively involved with the American and West Virginia Bar Associations and is a Fellow of the American College of Tax Counsel. He is a trustee of many professional and civic associations and has served as a director of the Charleston Area Medical Center Foundation, the University of Charleston and the Clay Foundation. Since 1999, Louis has served as a member of the Firm's Executive Committee, the governing body of Jackson Kelly and was elected as its Chairman in 2001.

## Awards

- Ranked in *Chambers USA, America's Leading Lawyers for Business* in the area of Tax Law in West Virginia, 2021
- Martindale-Hubbell: AV Preeminent Rating
- Selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Corporate Law, Government Relations Practice, Mergers & Acquisitions Law and Tax Law, 1993-2021
- Ranked in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* in the area of Corporate Law in West Virginia, 2003-2020
- Named the *Best Lawyers*® 2014 Charleston, WV Government Relations Practice "Lawyer of the Year"
- Inducted into Marshall University's Business Hall of Fame, 2013
- Named in the 2011 edition of West Virginia *Super Lawyers*®

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- *Best Lawyers*® West Virginia Corporate "Lawyer of the Year" 2009
- Order of the Coif, 1968
- Editor-in-Chief, *West Virginia Law Review*, 1967-68

## Work History

- Jackson Kelly PLLC (1968-Present)

## Practices

- Business Law
- Government Relations
- Tax

## Industries

- Coal
- Energy
- Banking

## Education

- New York University (LL.M. in Taxation , 1971)
- West Virginia University College of Law (J.D., 1968)
- Marshall University (B.A. in Political Science, 1965)

## Admissions

- West Virginia (1968)
- United States Supreme Court (1971)
- United States Tax Court (1970)
- West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals (1968)
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of West Virginia (1968)

## Professional Organizations

- American Bar Association
- West Virginia Bar Association
- Kanawha County Bar Association
- American College of Tax Counsel, Fellow
- West Virginia Tax Institute
- University of Charleston, Trustee Emeritus
- Clay Foundation, Board Member
- West Virginia Bar Foundation, Fellow
- West Virginia Chamber of Commerce, Board Member
  - Taxation Working Group, Chair (2017-2018)

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## Speaking Engagements & Publications

### Speaking Engagements

- "The Governor's Tax Proposals and Sound Tax Policy," West Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants Annual Meeting, The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, June 16, 2021

- "2015 Legislative Update," West Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants Annual Meeting, The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, June 17, 2015
- Frequent lecturer at various tax meetings and conferences
- Speaker, "Legislative Matters (Term Limits/Supreme Court/Redistricting)," West Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants 93rd Annual Meeting, The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, June 15, 2011

#### **Writings and Publications**

- Case Comments, *West Virginia Law Review*
- Corporation Law Handbook - West Virginia Practice Handbook

#### **Community**

- Edgewood Country Club
- Rotary Club