



Steve M. LaCagnin

Of Counsel

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Stephen M. LaCagnin is Counsel in the Energy industry group, focusing primarily on coal, labor and employment, and products liability litigation. He practices out of the Firm's office in Morgantown, West Virginia.

Steve has more than 30 years of experience defending clients in state and federal courts. Steve prides himself on devoting the same time and attention to all his clients, whether they are small mom-and-pop businesses or nationally-known Fortune 500 companies. While Steve's current practice primarily focuses on litigation in the coal industry, he has defended a diverse range of clients in matters including personal injury, labor and employment, wrongful death, product liability, and aviation accidents.

Steve is heavily involved in the North Central West Virginia community. He has twice served as campaign chair and board president of the United Way of Monongalia and Preston Counties, President of the Morgantown Rotary Club and spokesperson for the Tri-County Well Region Initiative. He served as the Chairman of the Morgantown Chamber of Commerce Board, the Board of the Wellness Council of West Virginia and local hospital and hospice boards, the Morgantown Rotary Club Foundation Board and Your Community Foundation Board. He currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Wellness Council of America (WELCOA).

In 2012, Steve was honored by Benchmark Litigation for his work as lead counsel representing West Virginia University in the West Virginia "Case of the Year" against the Big East Conference. He has been named a West Virginia *Super Lawyer*®, listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*®, and ranked in Chambers USA *Leading Lawyers*.

In 2002, 2003, and 2004, Steve was named one of the most influential people in the North Central West Virginia area by the Dominion Post newspaper. The West Virginia Bar Foundation named him the 2004 Lawyer Citizen of the Year and honored him as a West Virginia Bar Foundation Fellow in 2011. Steve has received the Earl L. Core Award, the highest honor conferred by the Morgantown Chamber of Commerce and given to individuals who have demonstrated outstanding ability and success in a chosen field or in a community activity.

Awards

- West Virginia *Super Lawyers*® - Employment & Labor Law (2013-2022)
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Commercial Litigation, Employment Law - Management, Labor Law - Management and Personal Injury Litigation - Defendants (2003-2021)
- Recognized as "Local Litigation Star" in West Virginia Section of Benchmark Litigation (2013-2016)
- Listed in the Employment Section of *Super Lawyers*® Business Edition for Employment & Labor (2013-2015)
- Ranked in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers* for Business in the area of Litigation: General Commercial Law in West Virginia (2005-2015)
- Selected by American Lawyer Media and Martindale-Hubbell as a Top Rated Lawyer in Labor & Employment (2013)

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- West Virginia *Super Lawyers*® (2012)
- West Virginia Bar Foundation Lawyer Citizen of the Year (2004)
- West Virginia State Bar Foundation Fellow
- Order of the Barristers
- Moot Court Board
- Baker Cup Finalist
- Earl L. Core Award

Work History

- Jackson Kelly PLLC (1987-Present)
- Foster, Conner, Robson & Gumbiner (1986)
- Jackson Kelly PLLC (1983-1986)

Practices

- Class Action & Complex Litigation
- Construction Law
- Product Liability Litigation

Industries

- Energy
- Coal
- Construction
- Education

Education

- West Virginia University College of Law (J.D., 1983)
- West Virginia University (B.S. in Journalism , 1975)

Admissions

- North Carolina (1986)
- West Virginia (1975)
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of North Carolina (1986)
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of West Virginia (1984)
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of West Virginia (1983)

Professional Organizations

- American Bar Association
- West Virginia State Bar
- Monongalia County Bar Association
- Defense Trial Counsel of West Virginia
- Defense Research Institute
- North Carolina Bar Association (inactive)

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Speaking Engagements & Publications

Speaking Engagements

- Lecturer, Marlyn E. Lugar Trial Association, West Virginia University College of Law
- Sexual Harassment in the Workplace
- Sexual Harassment in the Medical Workplace
- Violence in the Workplace
- The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993
- Guidelines for Handling Shoplifters

Writings and Publications

- Editorial Board of Construction Law Digest (1986-1987)

Community

- United Way Board of Directors, Morgantown, President (2001)
- United Way of Monongalia and Preston Counties of West Virginia, Campaign Chairman (2000, 2004)
- Rotary Club, President (1998, 2001)
- Foundation Board, Monongalia General Hospital
- Morgantown Chamber of Commerce, Chairman (2006-2008)
- West Virginia Wellness Council Board
- Wellness Councils of America Board of Directors, Chairman