



PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES FOR:

Plum Borough School District

SUBMITTED BY:

TUCKER | ARENSBERG
Attorneys

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Overview

The firm of **Tucker Arensberg, P.C.**, is pleased to submit this proposal to provide legal services to the Plum Borough School District. With over 75 attorneys and offices in Pittsburgh and Harrisburg, Tucker Arensberg provides a broad variety of legal services in a number of private and public sector industries, including the representation of public school districts and area universities. Tucker Arensberg is the largest law firm in Western Pennsylvania with a concentrated practice in education law. While the Plum Borough School District may consider proposals from other experienced school attorneys, only Tucker Arensberg combines the depth of experience in public school district representation with a broad array of legal specialties, providing our school district clients with a unique combination of quality, service and value.

We commit to providing senior attorneys to attend public meetings, to serve as the primary contacts for school administrators and to be significantly involved in the legal services provided to the Plum Borough School District. If selected as your solicitor, **Matthew Hoffman, John Vogel** and **Fred Wolfe** will serve as attorneys for the School District.

Plum Borough School District can expect us to pursue the School District's work conscientiously and without delay. Every effort is made to return telephone and e-mail contacts on the same day they are received. Because of our experience, we are able to provide prompt, if not immediate, guidance to our school district clients that is sound, reliable and practical. We regularly keep the Board of School Directors and the administration apprised about the status of our work on behalf of the School District and of legal developments that affect it.

Although we have experience in representing a diverse group of public school districts, we recognize that all school districts are unique and have distinctive challenges. It is our goal to understand your particular programs, needs and expectations. Our objective is to provide thorough and useful advice allowing the Board of School Directors and administrators of the Plum Borough School District to make informed decisions.

We welcome the opportunity to meet with you to further discuss how we can assist and serve the Plum Borough School District.

Legal Services Team

Our clients get a team of attorneys who provide school, municipal and public sector clients with a high level of legal services. Our team includes:

Matthew M. Hoffman

Matt Hoffman is the Co-Chair of the firm's School and Municipal Group. His clients include Seneca Valley School District, Freedom Area School District, Shaler Area School District, and Wilkinsburg School District. For a number of years, members of the legal community have selected Matt for recognition in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for his education and construction law practices and as a *Pennsylvania Super Lawyer*® in the Education Law category. Peer reviews conducted by Martindale-Hubbell rate Matt as "AV Preeminent" the highest ranking possible for legal ability and ethical standards.

As solicitor for these districts, Matt: reviews, interprets, and applies constitutional, statutory and regulatory mandates affecting school entities, staff and students; drafts school district operating policies and contracts; and consults on special education and student disciplinary matters. He represents school districts in litigation before administrative agencies, state and federal trial and appellate courts.

Matt frequently serves as the chief negotiator for various professional and non-professional collective bargaining agreements, representing schools throughout the entire Act 88 process. He counsels school clients on the development of personnel policies and procedures, and Matt regularly litigates labor arbitrations, unfair labor practice proceedings and civil actions involving school employee labor matters, and counsels clients on strategies to avoid such problems.

In addition, Matt has comprehensive experience in the area of public construction projects where he has represented school districts, architects, engineers, construction managers and contractors. This includes the negotiation and drafting of project agreements, consultation during the design and construction processes and the litigation of all manners of construction-related claims in federal and state courts, mediation and arbitration proceedings. He has defended and prosecuted claims involving design, professional liability, non-conforming or defective work, payment disputes, delay and acceleration damages, and work scope disputes. He appears before federal and state courts, in both in jury and bench trials, and in mediation and arbitration proceedings. Matt also has been appointed to the American Arbitration Association roster of neutrals for the arbitration of construction claims.

Matt's undergraduate degree is from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown and his law degree (in 1985) is from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, where he served on the Law Review and was awarded the Order of the Coif. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Allegheny County Bar Association's School and Municipal Law Section and Construction Law Section.

Frederick J. Wolfe

Fred Wolfe is a shareholder in the firm and serves as solicitor or special labor counsel to several school districts, municipalities and municipal authorities including the South Fayette Township School District. He has been involved in all areas of school law for over 25 years. As a school district solicitor, he interprets statutory, regulatory and constitutional matters as they apply to school districts, employees and students. Fred drafts and implements school board policies, and negotiates and administrates collective bargaining agreements. He consults on all aspects of personnel and labor relations, including: hiring, discipline and discharge of employees; grievances and arbitration; contracting, bidding and procurement; charter schools; and special education and student discipline matters. For both school and municipal clients, Fred has defended EEOC and PHRA actions.

As solicitor or special labor counsel to several area municipalities and municipal authorities, Fred advises clients on a wide variety of municipal law issues, including municipal powers, duties and obligations, official liability and immunity, law enforcement matters, eminent domain, and preparation and drafting of ordinances, resolutions, and contracts. He also is a member of the firm's Litigation Department and has represented school districts and municipal entities before state and federal courts, boards of arbitration, administrative law judges and regulatory agencies.

Fred is a cum laude graduate of Washington & Jefferson College and the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Allegheny County Bar Association's Civil Litigation, Labor and Employment and School and Municipal Solicitors sections.

John T. Vogel

John Vogel is a Co-Chair of Tucker Arensberg's School and Municipal Group, representing school districts, municipalities and other public entities throughout Western Pennsylvania. He serves as the solicitor for the Brentwood Borough School District and the Borough of Ben Avon Heights. He also is the solicitor for the Scott Township Planning Commission, and special tax counsel for the Upper St. Clair School District, Brentwood Borough, and Edgewood Borough.

John counsels school clients on the entire range of education law issues and on Sunshine Act, Right-to-Know and general Pennsylvania public agency law questions. He has prosecuted and served as hearing officer on student disciplinary matters, and has successfully resolved FERPA student privacy and first amendment (free speech/religion) issues. He provides counsel to school districts on special education matters, and has prosecuted and defended IDEA and Section 504 due process hearings.

John regularly advises school clients on public sector labor issues ranging from discrimination and employee disciplinary matters, to personnel policy formation and administration, to defense of employee grievances and unfair labor practice charges. John negotiates collective bargaining agreements with teachers and support personnel and has designed early retirement programs for school personnel. He negotiates agreements and licenses with outside vendors providing goods and services to schools, and assists in the coordination of client real estate and construction projects. He has counseled public employers in the employee benefits area and has established

or provided advice on cafeteria plans, Section 457 deferred compensation plans and Section 403(b) annuities, and on the impact of federal laws on school medical plans. John regularly handles tax assessment and exemption matters, and has developed a practice initiating tax collection and assessment programs for schools and municipalities. In that role he serves as special counsel.

John received his B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1983 and his J.D. from the Vanderbilt University School of Law in 1989 where he was Authorities Editor for the *Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law*.

David J. Mongillo

David has special insight on municipal and school law issues and advises public sector bodies on the diverse range of issues facing these clients. David has a Masters Degree in Special Education from George Washington University, and regularly advises school district clients regarding special education issues including compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Before entering law school, David spent several years as a high school special education teacher in Prince George's County, Maryland, teaching students with emotional and behavioral disabilities. Prior to that, he was a reporter at a newspaper in Northern Virginia. David earned his B.A. in English from the University of Virginia before obtaining his Masters in Special Education.

David also has significant experience in litigation, at both the trial and appellate levels. Representative matters include successfully arguing a labor arbitration matter before the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court, obtaining the replacement of an arbitrator who refused to clarify her arbitration award and involvement in litigation of several multi-million dollar complex commercial cases for private sector clients, in the areas of construction, banking and energy.

David writes and lectures on public law issues, with an emphasis on special education law. Most recently, David wrote an article for the National Business Institute Seminar titled, "Pennsylvania Special Education Law." In addition, David is a member of the Board of Directors of the ALS Association of Western Pennsylvania and is admitted to practice throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

David graduated cum laude from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. Prior to joining Tucker, he served as law clerk to the Hon. Daniel J. Milliron, Court of Common Pleas of Blair County, Pennsylvania.

Christopher Voltz

As a member of the Municipal and School Group, Chris Voltz concentrates his practice in assisting the firm's school district and municipal clients. Chris addresses issues commonly faced by these clients, including responding to Right-to-Know Law requests, litigating labor disputes, developing policies, ordinances and resolutions, analyzing and negotiating contracts with

employees and third-parties, enforcing regulations, working with, negotiating with and litigating against state agencies and eminent domain proceedings.

Chris regularly attends board meetings for the firm's school district and municipal clients and has extensive experience with issues arising under the Sunshine Act. In addition, Chris has handled hundreds of commercial and residential tax assessment appeals for school districts and municipalities.

As a member of the Municipal and School Group, Chris also maintains an active litigation practice. He has experience representing clients in jury trials, non-jury trials, arbitration hearings and magisterial district justice hearings.

Chris's publications include "Are Attorneys' Fees Provisions in Invoices Enforceable in Pennsylvania?" Lawyers Journal, ACBA, 2010, and "Slaying the First Dragon: Pennsylvania's Unique and Cheap Method for Serving Chinese Defendants Pursuant to the Hague Convention", The Pennsylvania Lawyer, 2011. He was named a "Pennsylvania Rising Star" by Super Lawyers® a publication of Philadelphia Magazine from 2012-2014. While working toward his undergraduate degree at Wake Forest University, he was awarded the prestigious C. Chilton Pearson Research Prize in U.S. History.

Chris is a 2005 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law where he was the Assistant Editor of the Pittsburgh Journal of Technology Law and Policy. He earned his undergraduate degree in History at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Biographies for all of the attorneys mentioned above are attached.

Public Sector Clients

We are proud to serve as solicitors to the following school districts and municipalities:

CURRENT TUCKER ARENSBERG, P.C. SCHOOL DISTRICT REPRESENTATION

1. Allegheny Valley School District	6 Years
2. Apollo-Ridge School District	28 Years
3. Armstrong-Indiana Intermediate Unit No. 28	7 Years
4. Brentwood Borough School District	21 Years
5. Freedom Area School District	17 Years
6. Freeport Area School District	16 Years
7. Mon Valley Career & Technology Center	24 Years
8. Mt. Lebanon School District	21 Years
9. Seneca Valley School District	29 Years
10. Shaler Area School District	20 Years
11. South Fayette Township School District	33 Years
12. West Jefferson Hills School District	2 Years
13. Western Area Career & Technology Center	26 Years
14. Wilkinsburg School District	25 Years
15. Woodland Hills School District	1 Year

CURRENT TUCKER ARENSBERG, P.C. SCHOOL SPECIAL COUNSEL ARRANGEMENTS

1. Forest Hills School District
2. Hempfield Area School District
3. Northwestern School District
4. Upper St. Clair School District

Tucker Arensberg, P.C. also serves as panel defense counsel for various insurers that insure school district claims, including CM Regent Insurance Company and Utica National Insurance Company.

Our attorneys are involved in the following professional associations/organizations:

- Pennsylvania School Boards Association's Solicitors Association
- National School Boards Association's Council of School Attorneys
- National Association of College and University Attorneys
- Allegheny County Bar Association Municipal and School Solicitors Section

In cooperation with the University of Pittsburgh Tri-State Area School Study Council, the firm publishes the *Education Law Report*, a periodical summarizing recent legal developments affecting school districts and their administration. Members of the firm are regularly invited to present to school officials, employees and attorneys on topics of school law.

Services to be Provided

We have the experience and capability to provide professional services as to the entire scope of services that might be required by Plum Borough School District, including the following areas:

1. School Law -- As well as representing the district at all regular and special meetings, executive sessions, and hearings of the Board of School Directors, our legal team will advise the Board and District Administrators on all school law issues, including:

- Reviewing, interpreting and drafting contracts
- Reviewing, interpreting and drafting policies and administrative regulations
- Interpreting the statutory, regulatory and precedential authority for the purpose of providing daily operational advice to local governing bodies.
- Parliamentary rules of order (typically, Robert's Rules of Order)
- Sunshine Law compliance
- Right to Know Law requests
- State Ethics Act issues and compliance
- Procurement matters, including bidding requirements
- Intellectual property rights
- First Amendment rights of students, employees and others
- Fourth Amendment issues involving searches of students and staff
- Title IX compliance
- School district residency, enrollment, truancy and attendance
- Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act compliance
- Student disciplinary investigations, suspensions and expulsions
- Student transportation issues
- Social media

2. Personnel Matters -- Our team will advise you on all legal issues affecting or involving school district personnel, including:

- Consultation on, and prosecution of, employee reprimands, suspensions, demotions and terminations
- Analysis of, and responses to, grievances and the litigation of grievance arbitrations
- Defense of workers compensation and unemployment insurance claims
- Veterans Preference Act compliance
- Negotiation of collective bargaining agreements, including Act 88 processes
- Defense of employment discrimination claims before the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- Federal labor law issues (e.g., FLSA, FMLA, ADA and COBRA)
- Employee clearance statement requirements

3. Capital Programs -- Our roster of construction-related clients is varied, consisting of design professionals, construction managers, contractors (large and small), sureties and project owners, providing a 360° perspective of the construction process that enhances our capability of assisting our school district clients on construction matters. Our construction services to school clients commonly include:

- Drafting of design, construction management and general construction contracts
- Consultation on public bidding and prevailing wage issues
- PlanCon
- Litigation of construction-related claims in federal and state courts, mediation and arbitration proceedings involving design, professional liability, non-conforming or defective work, payment disputes, delay and acceleration damages and work scope disputes

4. Bond Counsel -- Our attorneys are nationally recognized bond counsel, listed in The Bond Buyer's Municipal Marketplace. Our attorneys are members of the Pennsylvania Association of Bond Lawyers, the Government Finance Officers Association and the National Association of Bond Lawyers and routinely participate in national seminars sponsored by one or more of these organizations each year.

Our attorneys have experience serving as bond counsel and borrower's counsel in many areas including:

- Economic development projects
- Tax exempt financing
- Interim financing techniques, including commercial paper programs, auction rate securities or any other temporary financing options

5. Property Tax and Finance Matters -- We represent and counsel school clients on tax and finance issues, including:

- Initiation and defense of real estate tax assessment appeals
- Defense of real estate tax exemption appeals
- Tax collector compensation and responsibilities
- Act 1 budgeting requirements
- Tax collection
- Incurrence of school indebtedness through notes, leases and bonds
- LERTA and TIF

6. Special Needs Students -- Our firm is experienced in all facets of school law involving students with disabilities, including:

- Interpreting and assisting in compliance with the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, Section 504, Americans With Disabilities Act and other state and federal laws and regulations
- Review and assistance with the preparation of individualized education programs and the conduct of IEP-team meetings
- Representation of school districts in due process hearings
- Litigation of appeals of due process adjudications

7. Charter Schools --We advise and represent school district clients on charter school issues including:

- Review and counsel on charter school applications and renewals, including representing districts at approval hearings and appeals
- Analysis of charter school payment requests or demands for district services
- Assistance on coordination of school services for charter school students who reside in client districts (e.g., special education services, transportation matters)
- Counsel school district clients in charter school termination proceedings and appeals.

8. Litigation -- All of our school attorneys have wide-ranging experience in the representation of school districts in state and federal court litigation, administrative proceedings and alternative dispute proceedings, such as mediation and binding arbitration. Unique among firms that regularly represent school districts, Tucker Arensberg offers the resources of a large firm, including more than 30 attorneys and paralegals whose practice is primarily devoted to litigation.

Fee Structure

The hourly rate for services in each of the following categories follows:

Monthly Retainers	<u>\$500.00 per meeting plus mileage</u>
General Counsel	<u>\$150.00 per hour</u>
Special Education	<u>\$160.00 per hour</u>
Labor/Personnel	<u>\$160.00 per hour</u>
Construction	<u>\$170.00 per hour</u>
Court Time	<u>No special rate-follows subject area</u>
Other (specify)	<u>Tax Assessment: \$160.00 per hour</u>

Please provide the hourly rate for the services of the following personnel:

Paralegals	<u>\$100.00 per hour</u>
Associates	<u>Follows general attorney rate</u>

Tucker Arensberg must be reimbursed for all out-of-pocket expenses such as filing fees, long-distance telephone and fax fees, postage, photocopying expense, etc. Mileage will be reimbursed at the prevailing rate recognized by the Internal Revenue Service.

All time devoted to legal matters of the School District are billed at our hourly rate in increments of one-tenth of an hour (i.e., six minute intervals). The School District will receive monthly detailed billing statements.

References

Patrick Graczyk
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Allegheny Valley School District
300 Pearl Avenue
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724-274-5300

Dr. Matthew Curci
Superintendent
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Box 219
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Dr. Amy Burch
Superintendent
Brentwood Borough School District
3601 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15227
412-881-2227

Dr. Jeffrey Fuller
Superintendent
Freedom Area School District
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724-775-5464

Ian Magness
Superintendent
Freeport Area School District
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Superintendent
Mt. Lebanon School District
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Superintendent
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Dr. Bille Rondinelli
Superintendent
South Fayette Township School District
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724-221-4542 x 3003

Dr. Patrick O'Toole
Superintendent
Upper St. Clair School District
1820 McLaughlin Run Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15241
412-833-1600

Dr. Linda Iverson
Superintendent
Wilkinsburg School District
718 Wallace Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15221
412-871-2104

Dr. Michael Ghilani
Superintendent
West Jefferson Hills School District
835 Old Clairton Road
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025
412-655-8450

Alan Johnson
Superintendent
Woodland Hills School District
531 Jones Avenue
N. Braddock, PA 15104
412-731-1300



Matthew M. Hoffman

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Matt is a shareholder and works with school clients, involving the representation of public school districts and school entities as solicitor, labor counsel and special counsel. He also serves private sector clients predominantly in general commercial litigation, most frequently in construction-related disputes.

Areas of Practice: School & Municipal Law, Construction, Construction Litigation

Education Law: Matt currently serves as solicitor for various school entities throughout Western Pennsylvania, including several public school districts, vocational-technical schools and charter schools. As solicitor for these entities, his experience includes:

- Review, interpretation and application of constitutional, statutory and regulatory matters affecting school entities, staff and students
- Drafting of school district operating policies and contracts
- Special education compliance and disputes
- Student disciplinary matters
- Personnel and employment matters, including:
 - Americans With Disabilities Act
 - Family Medical Leave Act
 - Pennsylvania Human Relations Act
 - Federal discrimination law
- Resolving specific labor issues affecting school clients
- Hiring
- Wage
- Benefit
- Working conditions
- Demotion, furlough, discipline and termination issues
- Matt represents school districts before administrative agencies and state and federal trial and appellate courts

In representing school entities, Matt has served as chief negotiator for various professional and non-professional collective bargaining agreements, representing schools throughout the entire Act 88 process including mediation, fact-finding, non-binding arbitration and court injunctions. He has also consulted on, and litigated a broad range of school personnel issues including labor grievances, unfair labor practice charges, demotion and discharge proceedings.

Commercial Litigation/Construction Law: Matt has comprehensive experience in the areas of construction law and litigation including:

- Negotiation and drafting of design, construction management and construction contracts
- Mediation, arbitration and litigation of construction-related claims involving:
- Design professional liability
- Non-conforming or defective work
- Payment disputes
- Delay and acceleration damages
- Work scope disputes
- Matt has tried cases before federal and state courts, in both jury and bench trials, in mediation and arbitration proceedings and has served as an arbitrator in construction disputes

Articles and Presentations: In cooperation with the University of Pittsburgh's Tri-State Area School Study Council, Matt and others in the firm's School and Municipal Group publish the Education Law Report, a periodical summarizing recent legal developments affecting school entities. He regularly presents to school officials, employees and attorneys on topics of education law.

Honors and Awards: Matt has been selected by his peers for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America® in the Education Law and Construction Law categories. He has been named as one of Pennsylvania's Super Lawyers® in education law. Matt received an "AV® Preeminent" peer review rating through Martindale-Hubbell for legal ability and ethical standards.

Memberships and Activities: Matt is a member of the Allegheny County Bar Association, Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Pennsylvania School Board Solicitors Association.

Jurisdictions: Matt is admitted to practice in the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, the US Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, the U.S. District Courts for the Western and Eastern Districts of Pennsylvania and U.S. Tax Court.

Education and Background: Matt received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown in 1982 and his law degree from the University Of Pittsburgh School of Law in 1985 where he served on the Law Review and was awarded the Order of the Coif



Fred is a shareholder and his practice is concentrated in the areas of school and municipal law, traditional labor & employment law and litigation in a broad variety of issues in these areas.

His experience includes:

- Negotiation, drafting and implementation/administration of collective bargaining agreements for both private sector clients and numerous school districts, municipalities and municipal authorities under Acts 88 and 195, as well as collective bargaining and interest arbitration with police under Act 111
- All aspects of employee hiring, promotion, discipline and discharge with a particular emphasis in professional and non-professional public school employees and police both under civil service and the Police Tenure Act
- Interpretation of statutory, regulatory and constitutional matters as they apply to municipalities, school districts and their employees; advising clients on matters involving municipal powers, duties and obligations under applicable statutory and regulatory authority, public official liability and immunity, student and student discipline matters and drafting of ordinances, policies, resolutions and related matters
- Grievances and arbitration hearings involving a broad range of issues
- Practicing before the PLRB and NLRB, litigating numerous unfair labor practice charges, election and certification/decertification issues and unit clarification petitions

Fred serves as solicitor or special labor counsel to several school districts, municipalities and municipal authorities. He has frequently represented employers before the:

- Equal Employment Authority Commission
- Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission
- Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations and in State and Federal Courts for alleged violations of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Rehabilitation Act, Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, Family Medical Leave Act, Equal Pay Act and common law tort claims

He routinely counsels clients regarding their obligations and potential for liability to those above referenced regarding all employment legislation and other topics such as wage and hour matters. He has also drafted numerous employee policies, employee handbooks and Civil Service Rules & Regulations.

Areas of Practice: Fred's areas of practice include School and Municipal Law, Labor & Employment, Litigation

Jurisdictions: Fred is admitted to practice before all Pennsylvania State Courts.

Education and Background: Fred received his BA, *cum laude*, from Washington and Jefferson College in 1986 and his Juris Doctor, *cum laude*, from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 1989.



John is a shareholder and handles corporate, business, land use and tax assessment/tax exemption matters for businesses, institutions and individuals. He also represents school districts and municipal entities as solicitor or special counsel.

In representing clients in business law areas, John's experience includes:

- Entity formation, acquisition and dissolution, contract drafting and negotiation
- Development of curative land use amendments and litigation of land use approvals and zoning variances
- Lease development and review, counseling on lease disputes and interpretation
- Litigation of, and advice on, commercial, industrial, residential and non-profit tax appeals and tax exemption applications

As solicitor or counsel for public entities, John's duties encompass:

- Counseling clients on general municipal and school law issues ranging from policy development to statutory and regulatory interpretation to advice on administrative and operational matters
- Negotiation of collective bargaining agreements, prosecution for and defense of clients in employee discipline matters and arbitrations
- Development of land use ordinances and amendments and counseling municipalities on zoning approvals
- Development of tax assessment and tax collection programs to ensure proper revenue for municipal/school operations
- Drafting of contracts and advising on employee benefits, intergovernmental cooperation and special education matters

Articles and Presentations: John has written about assessment/collection issues in local publications and has been quoted in the media concerning property tax matters. He has given presentations and participated in round-table discussions on zoning and land use law, and on local tax matters. John has also given presentations on municipal/school law issues.

Memberships and Activities: John is a Board Member for the Allegheny County Bar Association (ACBA) Real Estate Section and is a former officer of the ACBA Association of Municipal and School Solicitors. He is a member of the Municipality of Mt. Lebanon Economic Development Council and has been a member of several of the Municipality's advisory committees. John is also a member of the St. Bernard's Parish Pastoral Council.

Jurisdictions: John is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania before the United States District Courts for the Western District of Pennsylvania, the District of New Jersey, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

Education and Background: John received his B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1983 and earned his J.D. from the Vanderbilt University School of Law in 1989.

David J. Mongillo

412.594.5598

dmongillo@tuckerlaw.com



As a former special education teacher and newspaper reporter, David has special insight on municipal and school law issues and advises public sector bodies on the diverse range of issues facing these clients. David has a Masters Degree in Special Education from George Washington University, and regularly advises school district clients regarding special education issues including compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

David also has significant experience in litigation, at both the trial and appellate levels. Representative matters include:

- Successful defense of a zoning appeal before the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court, upholding variances and conditional use approval granted by a municipality for development of a multi-million dollar fitness center
- Successfully argued a labor arbitration matter before the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court, obtaining the replacement of an arbitrator who refused to clarify her arbitration award
- Involved in litigation of several multi-million dollar complex commercial cases for private sector clients, in the areas of construction, banking and energy

Areas of Practice: Municipal and School Law, Litigation

Articles and Presentations: David writes and lectures on public law issues, with an emphasis on special education law.

National Business Institute Seminar “Pennsylvania Special Education Law,” October 2016.

Memberships and Activities: David is a member of the Board of Directors of the ALS Association of Western Pennsylvania. He formerly volunteered as an attorney advisor for the mock trial team at Tyrone Area High School in Tyrone, Pennsylvania.

Jurisdictions: David is admitted to practice throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Education and Background: David graduated *cum laude* from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. Prior to joining Tucker, he served as law clerk to the Hon. Daniel J. Milliron, Court of Common Pleas of Blair County, Pennsylvania.

Before entering law school, David spent several years as a high school special education teacher in Prince George’s County, Maryland, teaching students with emotional and behavioral disabilities. Prior to that, he was a reporter at a newspaper in Northern Virginia. David earned his B.A. in English from the University of Virginia and his Masters in Special Education from the George Washington University.

Chris Voltz

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cvoltz@tuckerlaw.com



As a member of the Municipal and School Group, Chris assists clients with issues commonly faced by municipalities including analyzing and drafting proposed ordinances, drafting intergovernmental cooperation agreements, attending property tax assessment appeal hearings and responding to requests made pursuant to the Right-to-Know Law. As a member of the Business and Finance Group, he helps existing clients by analyzing and drafting contracts including participation releases and waivers. He also assists newly formed corporate clients by drafting corporate governance documents. With respect to civil litigation, he also has experience representing clients in jury trials, non-jury trials, arbitration hearings and magisterial district justice hearings.

Chris currently serves as the Solicitor for Cecil Township.

Areas of Practice: Chris's areas of practice include municipal and school law, commercial litigation and corporate law.

Articles and Presentations: Chris's publications include "*Are Attorneys' Fees Provisions in Invoices Enforceable in Pennsylvania?*" *Lawyers Journal*, ACBA, 2010, and "*Slaying the First Dragon: Pennsylvania's Unique and Cheap Method for Serving Chinese Defendants Pursuant to the Hague Convention*", *The Pennsylvania Lawyer*, 2011.

Honors and Awards: Chris selected as a "Pennsylvania Rising Star" by Super Lawyers. While working toward his undergraduate degree at Wake Forest University, he was awarded the prestigious C. Chilton Pearson Research Prize in U.S. History.

Jurisdictions: Chris is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania, the District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, the Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

Education and Background: Chris is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law where he was the Assistant Editor of the *Pittsburgh Journal of Technology Law and Policy*. He earned his undergraduate degree in History at Wake Forest University.