

MACKENZIE W. SMITH

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Trial attorney with 10 years' experience handling all stages of litigation matters in various state and federal jurisdictions. In private practice, has broad experience handling commercial, products liability, and criminal defense matters. Served as a criminal prosecutor in Chester County, Pennsylvania, and regularly handles *pro bono* matters in various contexts, including family law, child advocacy, consumer protection, and civil rights.

Professional Experience

Skinner Law Group, Malvern, PA

Attorney, October 2017 – Present

- Directly transitioned from Jacobs Law Group in October 2017 as part of a practice group merger
- Represents manufacturers, airlines, and business owners in high-stakes products liability and commercial litigation nationwide, including through trial and appeal
- Counsels clients regarding risk management and litigation avoidance strategies, resulting in overall multi-year decline in litigation exposure
- Won preliminary dismissal of several claims in complex multimillion-dollar civil fraud case as lead counsel
- Represented aviation component manufacturer in lengthy jury trial with favorable result

Jacobs Law Group PC, Philadelphia, PA

Associate, October 2016 – October 2017

- Represented companies, manufacturers, airlines, and business owners in high-stakes litigation in the Philadelphia area, including through trial and appeal
- Successfully defended client in employment-related preliminary injunction matter in federal court
- Served as trial counsel for manufacturer in wrongful death products liability jury trial in federal court

Mannion Prior LLP, King of Prussia, PA

Associate, June 2015 – October 2016

- Represented high-net-worth individuals in trust and estate-related litigation in Pennsylvania Orphans' Court and at the appellate level
- Handled high-profile estate fraud action and assisted in related criminal insurance fraud investigation
- Won complete verdict in high-value estate litigation in Montgomery County, PA

Chester County District Attorney's Office, West Chester, PA

Assistant District Attorney, April 2012 – April 2014

- Completed a two-year fellowship in conjunction with Blank Rome LLP
- Prosecuted hundreds of criminal cases, ranging from low-level drug offenses to serious violent felonies
- Tried numerous cases before juries and judges, receiving guilty verdicts in several publicized matters

Blank Rome LLP, Philadelphia, PA

Associate, Commercial Litigation, January 2010 – April 2012 and April 2014 – June 2015

- Represented Fortune 500 companies in commercial and products liability disputes at all levels of the Pennsylvania court system and in federal district court in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and other jurisdictions
- Defended pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers in products liability litigation in state and federal court in Pennsylvania
- Winner, Blank Rome Trial Academy, April 2015

- Represented minors in the dependency and criminal justice systems as a child advocate with the Support Center for Child Advocates, Philadelphia
- Blank Rome Pro Bono Hero Award, 2010 and 2014

Education

Temple University Beasley School of Law, Philadelphia, PA

Juris Doctor, June 2009

GPA: 3.57, *cum laude*

- James E. Beasley Merit Scholarship
- Brooklyn Regional Winner, ABA National Appellate Advocacy Competition, March 2009
- Best Oral Advocate award, Gabrielli National Family Law Moot Court Competition, March 2008
- Beasley School of Law Constitutional Law Scholar, Class of 2009

Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT and Florence, Italy

Master of Arts in Italian Studies, August 2006

GPA: 4.00

Tulane University, Newcomb College, New Orleans, LA

Bachelor of Arts with Honors in Linguistics and Italian, June 2005

GPA: 3.79/4.00, *magna cum laude*

- Senior Scholar Award in Linguistics; Senior Scholar Award in Italian; Italian Government Prize, June 2005
- Dean's List, Newcomb College; Distinguished Scholars Award Scholarship

Skills

- Member in good standing of the Bar of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as well as various federal jurisdictions
- Excellent communication and advocacy skills, both written and oral
- Fluency in Italian, basic proficiency in French
- Accomplished pianist and harpist