



Partner

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(215) 963-3300

Philadelphia, PA

Practice Areas

Civil Rights

Commercial Litigation

Education

Government Affairs

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Task Force

Admitted

New Jersey

Pennsylvania

Education

University of Dayton School of Law, (J.D., 1990)

Dickinson School of Law, (Visiting Student,
1989-90)

Temple University, (B.A., Political Science 1987)

Jeffrey M. Scott is a partner in the firm's Litigation Department. Mr. Scott provides legal representation to local municipal and State employees in areas of police administration, social services, corrections, labor and employment, and risk management. Mr. Scott's practice also includes the representation of individuals and companies in the area of corporate and regulatory compliance, employment contracts, non-compete agreements and attorney's fees disputes. Mr. Scott's labor practice includes representation of individuals and corporations before the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission; and legal representation to management in labor disputes, employee disciplinary proceedings, and ACT 111 Arbitrations.

Mr. Scott has extensive experience in the defense of catastrophic injury claims involving gunshot wounds, in-custody deaths, suicide, school violence, physical and sexual abuse of children in foster care, catastrophic motor vehicle accidents and excited delirium. Jeff's working knowledge of cause and manner of injury makes him a valuable resource in all cases involving catastrophic injury. Likewise, Mr. Scott's extensive working knowledge of forensic economics and vocational rehabilitation provides our clients with expertise in the prosecution of, and defense of, claims involving past and future wage loss, past and future medical expenses, insurance claims and lost business profits.

Mr. Scott also provides the following Risk Management services to law enforcement clients: (a) Development of data tracking systems that are designed to identify specific claims (e.g., denial of medical treatment, use of baton, use of firearms, pursuits, O.C. Spray...) and trends that could lead to potential liability for the agency and municipality. (b) Review and analysis of all critical incidents, including but not limited to, in-custody deaths, alleged excessive use of force and claims of alleged corruption; (c) Comprehensive review of an agency's current labor policies, hiring policies and current disciplinary system. This aggressive form of risk management has shown to reduce the cost of litigation, while reducing injuries to both law enforcement officers.

Representative Experience

- Worked in conjunction with Family Planning Council and Women's Law Project to successfully defend First and Fourteenth Amendment challenge by parents seeking to prohibit local government from supplying emergency contraception to minors without parental consent. *Anspach v. City of Philadelphia*.

- Successfully resolved Class Action Suit alleging failure to provide appropriate medical treatment to arrestees with Diabetes. Worked in conjunction with the American Diabetes Association, City of Philadelphia and Prison Health Services, Inc. to develop national and best practice protocols, procedures and training video for providing appropriate medical treatment to arrestees and inmates with Diabetes. *Rosen v. City of Philadelphia*.
- Successfully defended and tried to jury verdict, First Amendment retaliation case, brought by former Deputy Police Commissioner, alleging unlawful employment action by John Street, former Mayor for the City of Philadelphia. *Mitchell v. Mayor Street*.
- Successfully resolved Class Action Suit alleging unconstitutional conditions of confinement due to triple-celling in the City of Philadelphia of Prison System. *Williams et al. v. City of Philadelphia et al.*
- Successfully defended and tried to jury verdict, a Fourteenth Amendment Equal Protection claim alleging unequal treatment of women who were victims of sexual assault in City of Philadelphia. Case was brought by family of former University of Pennsylvania Wharton Graduate Student who was raped and murdered by serial rapist, Troy Graves. *The Estate of Shannon Schieber v. City of Philadelphia et al.*
- Obtained summary judgment in favor of School District of Philadelphia in civil rights case brought by female student who was allegedly sexually assaulted by several male students. *Brown v. School District of Philadelphia*.
- Obtained favorable evidentiary ruling that an administrative hearing officer's finding that a school district's failure to provide a free appropriate education (FAPE) was not binding in subsequent civil case seeking compensatory damages under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. *Chambers v. School District of Philadelphia*.
- Mr. Scott defended a high-speed police pursuit case brought under Civil Rights Act. The police pursuit resulted in the death and catastrophic injuries to several motorists and passengers that were struck by a fleeing suspect traveling northbound in the southbound lanes of I-95. Mr. Scott obtained a jury verdict in favor of the pursuing police officer and a directed verdict in favor of the City of Philadelphia on the municipal liability claim. On appeal, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court affirmed the jury verdict. *Thomas et al. v. City of Philadelphia, et al.*

Professional and Community Involvement

- *The Brith Sholom Foundation* -- In the late 1960's, The Brith Sholom House, located at 3939 Conshohocken Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was built as a permanent national Home to provide safe, secure, and affordable housing for senior citizens and persons with disabilities, free of discrimination. Assisted the Brith Sholom Foundation in preventing United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) from forcing the closure of the Brith Sholom House. As a result, the Brith Sholom Foundation's mission of providing

affordable housing for senior citizens will be allowed to carry on; providing much needed social services to the community.

- *The Bucks County Foodshed Alliance, Board Member*
- *City of Philadelphia Police Department.* Assisted in the development of Pennsylvania Municipal Police Officers Education and Training Commission approved 80 hour Use of Force Certification Training Program for Train-the-Trainers.

Awards and Recognition

- Named a "Top Attorney" for School/Special Education by SJ Magazine (2021)
- Certification of Appreciation from Philadelphia Police Department, Development of 80 hour Course in Application of Force, 2002
- Liberty Bell Award, Service to City of Philadelphia, 1991-2005
- Recognized as a "Super Lawyer" by Philadelphia Magazine (Civil Litigation: Defense, 2014)

Articles and Presentations

- How to Get Your Social Media, Email and Text Evidence Admitted (and Keep Theirs Out), December 14, 2017
- Lecturer, Lorman Education Services, Police Liability, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 11, 2012.
- Guest Lecturer, "Current Issues in Constitutional Law," Rutgers Law School," Spring Semester 2011 and Spring Semester 2012.
- Lecturer, "First Amendment Law," Bensalem Police Department, April 2010.
- Guest Lecturer, "Current Legal Issues in Policing." Conducted classroom training for police officers, supervisors and command staff discussing current legal issues. The subject matters included the use of non-lethal and lethal force, qualified immunity, suicide prevention, in-custody deaths, police pursuits, supervisory liability and internal investigations, Philadelphia Police Academy and Advanced Training Bureau.
- Guest Lecturer, Rutgers School of Law – Camden. Spoke to Professor Sarah E. Ricks' Civil Rights Litigation classes on various topics including practical steps in litigating Section 1983 claims, pre-suit negotiation with a plaintiff, evaluating a claim for settlement, decisions regarding the type and timing of motions, client contact and preparation, and other litigation topics.