

DECOTIIS, FITZPATRICK & COLE, LLP

LITIGATION

LITIGATION TENDS TO FALL INTO TWO GENERAL CATEGORIES. The first, and by far the most common, is a matter in which the goal is a rapid, favorable settlement. The second is a case that affects an issue critical to the client – a case that must be taken to trial and won. The Litigation Group at DeCotiis has expertise in handling both.

The Litigation Group consists of more than twenty-five lawyers who collectively have decades of trial experience at every level of both Federal and state courts. They have hundreds of published opinions to their credit, reflecting the breadth of their experience in trial and appellate courts alike, up to and including the Supreme Court of the United States.

Although we are primarily a defense firm, with an emphasis on commercial litigation, we routinely handle matters in other practice areas. These include labor and employment and civil rights law, white collar criminal defense, environmental law, public procurement and contracting law, land use, healthcare law, and personal injury. By working closely with other practices within the firm, we provide clients with a coordinated, cost-effective combination of trial expertise and in-depth subject knowledge.

The Litigation Group has particular talent, and an unmatched record, in representing public entities in significant or politically sensitive matters. Many of our members have held high-level government or regulatory posts. For example, Michael R. Cole served as Chief Counsel to Governor Thomas H. Kean, First Assistant Attorney General of New Jersey, Director of the Division of Law in the New Jersey Attorney General's Office and Assistant Attorney General in Charge of Litigation.

Our approach to litigation combines aggressive advocacy with flexibility. If a case goes to court, we are aggressive, strategic trial lawyers, respected by both opposing counsel and the judiciary. Every case is unique, and we will pursue and try it that way. Our goal is always to win.

While we are justifiably proud of our record of success in court, some of our most significant successes

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involved negotiated solutions to problems that appeared to require litigation, and the utilization of alternate dispute resolution techniques to cut short matters that were already in litigation. The firm's efforts to resolve disputes at an early stage reflect its commitment to avoid the expense, delay and uncertainty of litigation wherever possible - a commitment that we make and uphold to all of our clients, be they major corporations or private citizens. Where recourse to the courts is a necessity, however, the Litigation Group has the resources, experience, and expertise needed to pursue relief until it is achieved.

Please contact us to inquire how we may assist you.

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