SAXTON & STUMP
LAWYERS AND CONSULTANTS

Ansley Westbrook

Shareholder

Email: lwestbrook@saxtonstump.com
Phone: (412) 430-0301

Services and Industries

- Business Litigation and Strategic Solutions
- Business and Corporate

Education

University of Denver Sturm College of Law, J.D.

Ohio University, B.S.

Admissions

Pennsylvania

West Virginia (inactive)

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania

U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of West Virginia

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia

Ansley (Lee) Westbrook is a Pittsburgh based shareholder in the firm's Business Litigation and Strategic Solutions and Business and Corporate groups. A litigator with more than 25 years of experience in the courtroom, Lee's work centers on representing licensed professionals across a broad range of state and federal venues — from prosecuting and defending malpractice claims in civil court and navigating disciplinary proceedings before administrative tribunals, to handling white collar criminal matters involving the diversion of narcotics in the workplace.

Over the past two decades, Lee has built a reputation for skillfully representing attorneys and health care professionals before a wide range of licensing boards — including those governing dental, medical, nursing, and pharmacy practice. His strategic approach has helped many clients resolve matters before reaching a formal hearing, through the negotiation of DMU and VRP Consent Agreements. When hearings are necessary, he has successfully litigated numerous hearings before various licensing boards.

On the civil side, Lee spent 15 years as outside counsel for a national insurer, managing a significant docket of bad faith and breach of contract litigation in both federal and state courts across Pennsylvania and West Virginia. His extensive courtroom experience has left a lasting mark on the law, producing precedential and non-precedential opinions that date back to his early work on *Lockhart v. State Farm* in the Western District of Pennsylvania. Having litigated more than 100 cases, he possesses the depth of experience needed to confidently navigate any venue or forum and deliver aggressive, effective advocacy on behalf of his clients.

Lee has also contributed to the legal profession in a formal capacity, having served six years as a Hearing Committee Member with the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Effective July 1, 2026, he was appointed to another three-year term as a Senior Hearing Committee member.

He launched his career in public service as an Assistant District Attorney in the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office from 1996 to 1999, where he took more than 100 cases to trial in the Court of Common Pleas and handled a substantial volume of preliminary hearings at both the City Court and District Justice levels. While in law school, Lee gained valuable experience clerking for the Colorado Attorney General's Office in Denver and the Native American Rights Fund in Boulder.

Prior to joining Saxton & Stump, he spent more than a decade as an equity partner at a full-service national law firm.

Outside the office, Lee is committed to giving back to the community. He serves on the Board of the Cultural Trust's Three Rivers Arts Festival and volunteers with Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers. He was previously a member of the Strengthening Communities Partnership of the Allegheny Conference and taught Confirmation classes at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Mt. Lebanon, also serving on the Episcopal Diocese Constitutions and Canons Committee.

Representative Experience

Legal Malpractice Litigation

- Represents client-plaintiffs against law firms and accounting firms in litigation involving trusts, corporate governance transactions, and litigation.
- Represented a law firm in Allegheny County against malpractice claims exceeding $1,000,000 stemming from allegations of negligent patent prosecution for an infrared microscope.
- Represented a law firm in Blair County against claims exceeding $20,000,000 where the plaintiff alleged deficient drafting of manufacturing and distribution agreements, inadequate counsel on avoiding contractual breaches, improper handling of underlying litigation, and a conflict of interest throughout the engagement.
- Represented a law firm in Allegheny County against claims exceeding $2,000,000 with plaintiffs alleging a non-waivable conflict of interest, negligent structuring of a corporate interest sale, and careless exposure of corporate and personal assets to ongoing debt liability.
- Represented a law firm in Allegheny County against allegations of negligent drafting of an Operating Agreement in connection with a real estate project.
- Represented a large law firm in Allegheny County against claims exceeding $50,000,000, including individual and derivative malpractice and misrepresentation claims arising from a company sale, tax guidance, and alleged transferee liability to the IRS.
- Represented a law firm in Allegheny County against claims exceeding $2,000,000 where the plaintiff alleged a conflict of interest and inadequate protection of his personal estate during marital estate planning.
- Represented a sole practitioner in Bucks County before the Orphans Court against objectors who alleged malpractice in converting a trust to a unitrust in violation of the Pennsylvania Uniform Principal and Income Act.
- Represented a law firm in responding to a former client’s defamation complaint.
- Represented a sole practitioner in Mercer County, West Virginia against a plaintiff who alleged defamatory statements were made during the course of underlying litigation.
- Represented a law firm in Allegheny County against malpractice claims arising from representation in a criminal matter involving the alleged misuse of public funds for campaign-related activities by the House Republican Caucus.
- Represented a law firm in Westmoreland County in a malpractice matter arising from domestic relations proceedings.
- Represented a law firm in Westmoreland County against a plaintiff who alleged intentional interference with client relationships in complex litigation involving multiple homeowners associations, a developer, and a residential development.
- Represented a law firm in Mercer County, West Virginia against a plaintiff who alleged that counsel missed the deadline to appeal a denial of Social Security Benefits.

Insurance Coverage and Bad Faith

- Provided coverage analysis to an international insurer in connection with Eastern District of Pennsylvania litigation involving RICO claims and third-party litigation funding.
- Represented an international insurer in coverage litigation filed in Philadelphia County against claims involving a failed notice of claim arising from a disciplinary proceeding.
- Represented an international law firm insurer in coverage and bad faith litigation filed in Bucks County arising from a denial of defense and indemnity coverage based on untimely notice under a claims-made policy.

Recognitions

- Super Lawyers® (2008, 2015 – 2026)
- Pennsylvania Super Lawyers “Rising Stars” (2005 – 2007)

Speaking Engagements

- “Through the Looking Glass: The Legacy of Florence Nightingale in the Time of Covid: Vaccine Mandates, Exemptions, Termination, Staffing Shortages, Diversion and Criminal Prosecutions” Presenter, National Organization of Alternative Programs (NOAP), Albuquerque, NM (May 18, 2022)
- “Non-Profit Board of Directors: Legal Duties and Responsibilities” Presenter, Non-Profit Boards, Carlisle, Pa (2019)
- “Workplace Diversion: Legal Considerations for Employers and Employees” Presenter, Appalachian Addiction & Prescription Drug Abuse Conference with West Virginia Restore, Charleston, WV (October 22 and 23, 2016)
- “Legal Anatomy of Addiction and Diversion: A View from the Attorney” Presenter, National Organization of Alternative Programs (NOAP) Annual Conference, San Diego, California (March 24 – 28, 2014)
- “Defense of the Health Care Practitioner: Sex, Drugs and Professional Licensure” Faculty Member, Pennsylvania Bar Institute, Mechanicsburg, Pa (December 10, 2014)
- “Legal Anatomy of Addiction and Diversion: A View from the Attorney” Presenter, Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists (PANA), Bedford Springs, Pa (2009)

Community Involvement

- The Cultural Trust, Three Rivers Arts Festival, Board Member
- Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers, Volunteer
- Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, Constitution and Canons Committee Member (2014 – 2017)
- Paul’s Episcopal Church, Confirmation Class Teacher (2013 – 2020)
- Allegheny Conference on Community Development, Strengthening Communities Partnership Working Group (2015 – 2020)

Professional Affiliations

- Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, Hearing Committee Member (2012 – 2018, and July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029)