



# Terri A. Pawelski

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## *Shareholder*

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## *Services and Industries*

- Investigations and Criminal Defense
- Commercial Litigation

## *Education*

Boston University School of Law, J.D., *cum laude*, 1999

Dickinson College, B.A., *magna cum laude*, English, 1996

## *Admissions*

Pennsylvania

New Jersey

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit

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

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

Terri is a seasoned trial lawyer in the firm's [Investigations and Criminal Defense Group](#) as well as the [Commercial Litigation Group](#). She has vast experience in defending both individuals and companies facing criminal

investigations and indictments. She has been involved in more than 100 criminal investigations in Pennsylvania and 20 trials in courts in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York.

For white collar clients, she handles bail, change of plea hearings, motions and sentencing hearings in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. When the federal or state government investigates a business or individual client, she defends those clients against any possible litigation that results from investigations.

In the last 20 years, she's represented corporate and individual clients in numerous government investigations that largely resulted in no-prosecution decisions by the U.S. Department of Justice. During this time, she has tried more than 20 lengthy and complex federal jury trials where more often than not, the jury trials resulted in total or partial not-guilty verdicts in the criminal cases and have always resulted in defense verdicts following the antitrust civil trials.

Terri also is a member of the Criminal Justice Act Felony Defense Panel for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. In that role, the court often appoints her to defend someone charged with a crime that could result in prison time but cannot afford an attorney.

The Boston University School of Law *cum laude* and Dickinson College *magna cum laude* graduate has been named to the Pennsylvania Super Lawyers list each year from 2014 to 2021 and named her to its "Rising Star" list in 2008 and each year from 2010 to 2013.

## ***Relevant Experience***

### Criminal

- Not guilty verdict for New Jersey medical doctor on federal bankruptcy fraud charges
- Not guilty verdict for prominent Philadelphia investment banker alleged to have made false statements to the government regarding a high-profile political corruption scheme
- Not guilty verdict for prominent Delaware stockbroker on all 44 counts of indictment charging securities fraud and forgery
- Not guilty verdicts for Philadelphia attorney alleged to be part of a scheme to influence zoning legislation by Philadelphia City Council
- Not guilty verdicts for Philadelphia Traffic Court judge on multiple count of federal Indictment alleging multiple mail and wire fraud schemes to fix traffic tickets
- Not guilty verdict for executive of infrastructure maintenance company on federal indictment alleging immigration and witness tampering charges
- Not guilty verdict for corporation and corporate officer alleged to have engaged in a wire fraud scheme with hung jury on other charges
- Obtained prosecution declination from U.S. Department of Justice - Antitrust Division on behalf of corporate executives in polyurethane foam and generic drug investigations
- Obtained prosecution declination from U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of staff members of two Pennsylvania senators each charged with political corruption and on behalf of a business executive alleged to have bribed a Pennsylvania senator
- Representation of the general counsel of a major Scranton area commercial construction company in connection with the "Cash for Kids" investigation resulting in no prosecution of our client.

## Civil

- Obtained substantial settlement as lead counsel in federal class action on behalf of minors and young adults charged with violation of an invalid N.J. municipal ordinance
- Member of trial team that obtained defense verdicts following six-week class action jury trial in *In re. Egg Products Antitrust Direct Purchaser Litig.*
- Obtained favorable settlements as lead counsel for defendant companies in *In re Mushroom Antitrust Litigation* on the eve of trials in 2019 and 2020
- Obtained defense verdicts for several major mushroom producers and their agricultural cooperative in a direct action antitrust claim by a major food supermarket chain following a 4-week federal jury trial in March 2022

## ***Recognitions***

- Pennsylvania Super Lawyers, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
- Pennsylvania Super Lawyers “Rising Star,” 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

## ***Professional Affiliations***

- American Bar Association Section of International Law
- Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- Criminal Justice Act Felony Defense Panel, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- Pennsylvania Bar Association