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# LEGAL GUIDE

**2023**

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## President Judge Roger N. Nanovic

**Lead Judicial Secretary:**  
**Joanne M. Maurer**  
**Law Clerk: Kailey Jones**  
**Telephone: 570-325-3661**  
**Fax: (570) 325-4552**

Roger N. Nanovic was sworn into office as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Carbon County on August 1, 2001. Endorsed by both the

Carbon County Republican and Democratic parties, he was elected on November 6, 2001, and was retained for another 10 years in 2011 and 2021. Judge Nanovic is a lifelong resident of Carbon County. He is a 1972 graduate of the Palmerton Area High School, a 1976 graduate of the University of Notre Dame, and a 1979 graduate of the Dickinson School of Law of The Pennsylvania State University.

Prior to being a member of the judiciary, Judge Nanovic was engaged in the general practice of law for 22 years. During this period, Judge Nanovic was

actively involved in a broad range of legal issues. Judge Nanovic has extensive experience in municipal law and civil litigation in both the state and federal courts. He served as Carbon County Solicitor from 1992 to 1996.

Judge Nanovic resides in the Jim Thorpe area with his wife, Cindy. Judge Nanovic and his wife are the parents of three children.



## Judge Joseph J. Matika

**Judicial Secretary: Carla Hill**  
**Law Clerk: vacant**  
**Phone: (570) 325-9419**  
**Fax: (570) 325-9449**

On November 8, 2011, Joseph J. Matika was elected as the nineteenth judge to serve on the bench of the Court of Common Pleas of Carbon County. Judge Matika began his duties as judge after being sworn in on January 2, 2012. On January 2, 2022, after having been

retained, began his second ten-year term on the bench.

Judge Matika is a 1980 graduate of Panther Valley High School. He furthered his education at King's College in Wilkes-Barre where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice and Government. Judge Matika obtained his Juris Doctor (J.D.) Degree from the University of Bridgeport School of Law in Bridgeport, Connecticut in June 1987.

Judge Matika served as Assistant District Attorney from 1994-2011. Additionally, prior to taking the bench, he was a sole practitioner from 1988 until 2000. In 2001, Judge Matika along with Attor-

ney Joseph Velitsky established the law firm of Velitsky and Matika in Summit Hill where for 12 years they maintained a general practice of law. He has also held many solicitorships throughout Carbon and Schuylkill counties over the years.

Judge Matika handles a variety of civil, criminal and orphan's court matters along with children & youth and domestic relations cases. He also oversees the County's Veterans and Drug Treatment Court.



## Judge Steven R. Serfass

**Judicial Secretary:**  
**Rayonna Fedor**  
**Law Clerk: Shannon Masington**  
**Phone: (570) 325-3791**  
**Fax: (570) 325-3288**

Judge Steven R. Serfass is currently serving his tenth year on the Court of Common Pleas, having been elected by the voters of Carbon County in 2009. He became Carbon County's

eighteenth Judge when he was sworn into office on January 4, 2010. He was retained to another 10 year term in 2019.

During his tenure on the bench, Judge Serfass has attained extensive experience in handling all types of civil and criminal proceedings.

A lifelong resident of Carbon County, Judge Serfass graduated from Lehigh-ton Area High School and continued his education at Dickinson College where he obtained a bachelor of arts degree in political science and history, cum laude. He went on to earn his juris doc-

tor degree at Temple University School of Law.

Judge Serfass maintained a general law practice in Palmerton for fourteen years concentrating on municipal law, business law and civil litigation.

He served as Carbon County Solicitor from 2000 to 2004.

Judge Serfass and his wife, Jenny, reside in Palmerton with their children, Benjamin and Hannah.



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**Jason M. Rapa, Esquire**, is a lawyer licensed and admitted to practice law in the State of Pennsylvania and before all three Pennsylvania Federal Courts, the Eastern, Middle and Western Districts of Pennsylvania and the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. He is the founder of Rapa Law Office, where he handles all matters of general practice law, with a focus on bankruptcy, civil litigation and estate administration.

Since 2002, Jason has successfully represented hundreds of consumers in cases against debt collection agencies, collection law firms and credit reporting agencies, recovering millions of dollars for his clients. Super Lawyer Magazine has recognized Jason for his work in defending and vindicating the rights of consumers in his consumer rights litigation practice. Jason maintains memberships in the National Association of Consumer Advocates and the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, keeping him on top of the latest developments and trends in the fields of bankruptcy and consumer protection law. He is a two-time attendee of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act boot camp held by Peter F. Barry of Minnesota and Jason routinely lectures on the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act at state and national consumer law conferences, as well as Continuing Legal Education seminars for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute and local bar associations.

In addition to bankruptcy and civil litigation, Jason devotes a significant portion of his practice to estate planning and administration. Jason has participated in the Wills for Heroes Program providing no-cost estate planning documents to veterans and first responders. Jason also assists the Carbon County Area Agency on Aging by preparing wills, powers of attorney and healthcare powers of attorney for Carbon County senior citizens.

**Matthew J. Rapa, Esquire**, is an attorney licensed to practice in the State of Pennsylvania, as well as in Federal Court for the Eastern and Middle Districts of Pennsylvania. Matthew is a native of the Lehigh Valley and is a founding partner of Rapa Law Office, P.C. He attended East Stroudsburg University, where he graduated summa cum laude and was a captain of the East Stroudsburg University football team. Following college, Matthew continued his education at Widener University School of Law. While at Widener, Matthew participated in the Trial Advocacy Program and discovered his passion for criminal law. Before graduating, he volunteered in the Widener Law Clinic to assist indigent citizens and interned at the Monroe County Public Defender's Office.

Upon graduation, Matthew partnered with his brother at Rapa Law Office, P.C. and began dedicating himself to criminal defense. In addition to representing individuals privately in criminal cases, Matthew served as a part-time public defender in Carbon County for three years in order to assist indigent individuals while gaining invaluable experience in cases ranging from traffic offenses to homicide charges. Through his training and experience, Matthew has learned that no two cases are exactly alike and each case deserves an individualized strategy based on the facts of the case and each client's needs. With keen attention to detail and relentless work ethic, Matthew has achieved countless victories in the courtroom which include numerous trial acquittals and complete dismissals based upon violations of clients' constitutional rights.

As a result of his accomplishments in the courtroom, Matthew has received various awards recognizing his skill as a defense attorney. From 2013 through 2018, Matthew was named a "Rising Star" by Super Lawyers Magazine. Only 2.5% of the attorneys in Pennsylvania are selected to Rising Stars. The American Society for Legal Advocates has recognized Attorney Rapa as one of the Top 40 Under 40 Criminal Lawyers in Pennsylvania. Most recently, in 2019 and 2020, Matthew was named a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer in the area of criminal defense by Super Lawyers Magazine.



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Attorney at Law



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## **Bowe & Odorizzi Law Offices**

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## **Carbon Court Administration**

*District Court Administrator - Kelly Hamm  
Assistant Court Administrator - Cynthia Kocher  
and Karen Sweeney  
Administrative Assistant - Kristin J. Leffler,  
Sherry Snyder and Sarah Sherer*

**Phone: (570) 325-8556  
Fax: (570) 325-9449**

The office of the District Court Administrator assisted by her experienced staff is responsible for the day-to-day non-judicial operations of the Court of Common Pleas and the Magisterial District Courts. She is responsible for fiscal administration, case-flow management, policy development, personnel, facilities, jury and information technology management and acts as liaison for the Court.

Implementing the annual Court calendar is a major responsibility of Court Administration. This office schedules all hearings, arguments, pre-trials, jury trials, non-jury trials, master hearings, arbitration, management conferences and orphans court matters. Court Administration receives and monitors civil and criminal motions, petitions, stipulations and continuance applications.

The District Court Administrator oversees the following departments: Court Administration including Judicial Chambers Staff, Court Reporters and Tipstaves; Adult Probation; Juvenile Probation; Domestic Relations; Court Computer Information Systems and the Magisterial District Courts. A close working, cooperative relationship exists between the Court Administrator and the Court-Related Offices which include Children and Youth, Prothonotary's Office, Register of Wills/Orphans' Court, the Clerk of Courts/Bureau of Collections, District Attorney, Public Defenders Office and Sheriff's Office.

## **Carbon County Prothonotary**

**PROTHONOTARY  
KAYLA SEMMEL**

**First Deputy: Kelly S. Solt**

**Second Deputy: Heather L. Williams**

**PFA Clerk/Coordinator: Karen Flexer**

**Automation/Passport Clerk:**

**Daphne C. Gasker**

**Phone: (570) 324-2481**

**Fax: (570) 325-8047**

In November of 2019, Kayla Semmel was elected as Prothonotary of Carbon County.

Family matters of Divorce, Custody, and Protection from Abuse account for the largest areas of case filings. Passport applications and notary affidavits are part of the daily process that takes place in this office. Electronic imaged documents are available to the Court since 2000. Since December 2014, all civil cases can now be viewed on the internet for a yearly fee.

In 2022, a total of 60,764 docket entries, 20,703 pleadings imaged, and 118,570 scanned pages, 1,388 letters imaged and 1,470 scanned letter pages were processed. Attorneys and interested persons can contact Court Administration.



Eric R. Strauss, Esquire, a shareholder at the law firm of Worth, Magee & Fisher, practices exclusively in the area of probate, trust and estate law and related fields of estate planning, trust and estate taxation, and fiduciary litigation in the firm's Allentown and Lehighton offices. He is a past Chair of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section and has presented numerous seminars in his field of practice to lawyers, community and professional groups. He is also a Fellow of The American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC), an international organization of approximately 2,600 lawyers elected to membership by demonstrating the highest level of integrity, commitment to the profession, competence, and experience as trust and estate counselors.



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# Carbon County Domestic Relations

## **Domestic Relations Director:**

*Bridget Johnston*

## **Domestic Relations Assistant Director:**

*Lauren Holland*

## **Domestic Relations Officer I:**

*Carla Ferguson, Molly Sheridan*

## **Domestic Relations Officer II:**

*Rashunda Yuhas, Rachel Moyer, and Emma Kelsall*

## **Domestic Relations**

## **Domestic Relations Intake Officer II:**

*Stacy Kattner*

## **Domestic Relations Specialist II:**

*Tracy Smith, Kimberly Swartz and Kaitlyn Harris*

## **Domestic Relations Specialist I:**

*Jennifer Rossino*

## **Domestic Relations Hearing Officer:**

*Debra Smith, Esquire*

## **Domestic Relations IV-D Attorney:**

*Cynthia Dyrda-Hatton, Esquire*

**Phone: (570) 325-2681**

**Fax: (570) 325-2443**

## **Mission Statement**

The functions of the Domestic Relations Office are to:

- Establish paternity
- Establish and maintain Support Orders
- Enforce financial and medical Orders
- Locate absent parents.

Since July 1, 1998, the Carbon County Domestic Relations Office has been a part of the Pennsylvania Child Support Enforcement System, known as PACSES. All counties in Pennsylvania are a part of this statewide-computerized system. As of October 1, 1999, a centralized office in Harrisburg, known as the State Collection and Disbursement Unit (SCDU), handles all support payments and check processing. This has changed the way support money is collected and disbursed in Carbon County. All other services are still provided through the Carbon County Domestic Relations Office.

The Domestic Relations Office does not address problems with custody and visitation. The appropriate legal authority to handle these matters is either an attorney or the Court. You can contact the Prothonotary's office for more information at (570) 325-2481, or click on the CUSTODY link here for forms and instructions on filing a custody complaint.

## **How to Contact Us**

The Carbon County Domestic Relations Office is located at 76 Susquehanna St., 2nd floor, Jim Thorpe, PA. 18229.

Our mailing address is P.O. Box 30, Jim Thorpe, PA. 18229. Office hours are 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

You can contact the office by phone at (570) 325-2179 or (570) 325-2681 or by fax at (570) 325-2443. You can contact SCDU for payment information at their toll free number, 1-877-727-7238. You can also access your case through the Internet by using the PACSES portal at [www.support.state.pa.us](http://www.support.state.pa.us)



# Office of the District Attorney

**District Attorney:**  
**MICHAEL S. GREEK, Esquire**  
**Carbon County Courthouse, 2nd Floor**  
**Phone: (570) 325-2718**  
**Fax: (570) 325-3525**  
**Website: carboncountydacounty.com**

*First Assistant District Attorney:*  
*Cynthia A. Dyrda-Hatton*

*Special Assistant District Attorney: Gary F. Dobias*

*Assistant District Attorney: Jennifer L. Rapa*

*Assistant District Attorney: Seth E. Miller*

*Assistant District Attorney: Joseph D. Perilli*

*Assistant District Attorney: Brian B. Gazo*

*Assistant District Attorney: Kara M. Beck*

*County Detective: Jack Soberick*

*Victim/Witness Coordinator: Olivia Dacey*

*Office Administrator: Renee Russell*

*Deputy Office Administrator: Denise Williams-Amill*

*Legal Secretary 1: Adriana Bradley*

*Clerical Specialist: Marcella Reeser*

*Part Time Legal Secretary: Olivia Dacey*

## Carbon Court Reporters

**Certified Court Reporters:**

**SHERRI KLEINTOP**

**(570) 325-3791**

**PATRICIA LAWLESS**

**(570) 325-9419**

**ANGELA SALLEMI**

**(570) 325-3661**

Carbon County employs three Court Reporters each assigned to a Judge. The Court Reporter utilizes a computerized steno machine for recording, transcribing and filing the verbatim records of all Court proceedings.



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## Frank W. Yandrisevits

### Attorney-at-law

Do you need assistance planning for your own or your family's future?

I have been an attorney, with my practice primarily in Northampton and Lehigh Counties, since 1979. Since then, I have helped countless numbers of people with legal issues affecting them in their senior years. I have prepared Wills and Trusts, Durable Powers of Attorney, Pre-Nuptial Agreements, Living Wills and Advanced Health Care Directives. I have also assisted many families with the administration of the estates of their loved ones who have passed away.

I am a member of the Pennsylvania and Northampton County Bar Associations and the Lehigh Valley Estate Planning Council. I would be honored if you would consider allowing me to help you with any of your legal needs.

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# Lehigh County

## Departments / Divisions

### Adult Probation & Parole Department

Phone (610) 782-3933  
Fax (610) 871-2784

### Domestic Relations

Phone (610) 782-3185  
Fax (610) 782-3725

### Juvenile Probation Department

Phone (610) 782-3143  
Fax (610) 871-2781

### CASA

Phone (610) 782-3858  
Fax (610) 782-3734

### Clerk of Orphans' Court

Phone (610) 782-3172  
Fax (610) 782-3928

### Lawyer Referral Service

Phone (610) 433-7094  
Fax (610) 770-9826

### Court Administration

Phone (610) 782-3014  
Fax (610) 871-2779

### Library and Information Services

Phone (610) 782-3385

### Court Transcription Unit

Phone (610) 782-3300  
Fax (610) 782-3648

### Marriage License Office

Phone (610) 782-3173

### Custody Office

Phone (610) 782-3390  
Fax (610) 782-3866

### PFA Office

Phone (610) 782-3390  
Fax (610) 782-3866

### Divorce Master

Phone (610) 782-3820  
Fax (610) 871-1456

### Pretrial Services

Phone (610) 289-2410  
Fax (610) 289-2440

## Lehigh Domestic Relations

### Domestic Relations

455 W. Hamilton Street - Room 320  
Allentown, PA 18101

(610) 782-3185

Fax (610) 782-3725

Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Lehigh County Domestic Relations Section is to provide services to dependent children and spouses through establishment of paternity, establishment of support orders, and enforcement of support orders. This mission is accomplished with respect for the needs of all parties involved in the support case.

The Domestic Relations Section provides all services in compliance with Federal, State, and local laws, and local Rules of Court.

### Introduction

The Domestic Relations Section (DRS) is part of the Family Court of the Lehigh County Court of Common Pleas which provides support services to custodial parents seeking financial support from an absent or non-custodial parent. Additionally, the DRS establishes support orders for dependent spouses.

The DRS consists of judges, managers, hearing officers, conference officers, and various technical and clerical support staff. The DRS staff is assisted by the PACSES (Pennsylvania Child Support Enforcement System) statewide computer system and is trained to make recommendations to the Court for support amounts when the parties involved in the support case are unable to come to an agreement.



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**Frank W. YANDRISEVITS**  
Attorney-at-Law  
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Northampton  
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# Lehigh County Magisterial Districts

## District 31-1-01

Magistrate:  
Linda D. Vega  
1201 Sumner Ave  
Allentown, PA 18102  
Phone: 610-432-3080  
FAX: 610-433-0130

## District 31-1-08

Magistrate:  
Michael J. Pochron  
2851 South Pike Ave  
Allentown, PA 18103  
Phone: 610-797-8724  
FAX: 610-791-1401

## District 31-1-02

Magistrate:  
Rashid Santiago  
501 Hamilton Street  
Allentown, PA 18101  
Phone: 610-432-8700  
FAX: 610-432-0140

## District 31-2-01

Magistrate:  
Karen C. Devine  
501 Hamilton St  
Allentown, PA 18101  
Phone: 610-782-3834  
FAX: 610-871-2793

## District 31-1-03

Magistrate:  
Ronald S. Manescu  
1428 Hamilton St  
Allentown, PA 18102  
Phone: 610-434-7903  
FAX: 610-434-0213

## District 31-2-02

Magistrate:  
Jacob E. Hammond  
3900 Hamilton Blvd  
Allentown, PA 18103  
Phone: 610-434-2070  
FAX: 610-434-0215

## District 31-1-04

Magistrate:  
David M. Howells, Jr.  
1501 Lehigh St  
Suite 104  
Allentown, PA 18103  
Phone: 610-797-0906  
FAX: 610-797-3292

## District 31-1-05

Magistrate:  
Michael D. D'Amore  
1007 Union Blvd  
Allentown, PA 18109  
Phone: 610-439-0661  
FAX: 610-439-1257

## District 31-3-01

Magistrate:  
Tom Creighton  
106 S Walnut St  
Slatington, PA 18080  
Phone: 610-767-8641  
FAX: 610-767-0164

## District 31-1-06

Magistrate:  
Amy Zanelli  
623 W Union Blvd  
Suite 4 & 5  
Bethlehem, PA 18018  
Phone: 610-691-3950  
FAX: 610-691-0471

## District 31-3-02

Magistrate:  
Michael Faulkner  
Green Hills Commerce  
Center  
5925 Tilghman, Suite  
500  
Allentown, PA 18104  
Phone: 610-398-1167  
FAX: 610-398-2185

## District 31-1-07

Magistrate:  
Todd P. Heffelfinger  
3678 Crescent Court  
East  
Whitehall, PA 18052  
Phone: 610-437-6096  
FAX: 610-437-3462

## District 31-3-03

Magistrate:  
Daniel Trexler  
21 N Main St  
Coopersburg, PA 18036  
Phone: 610-282-1555  
FAX: 610-282-2642

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# Carbon County Clerk of Courts Criminal Division and Collections Division

**Tyra L. Boni – Clerk of Courts**

**Adam Nevenglosky – First Deputy**

**Zachary Kemmerer – Second Deputy**

**Lisa Dussault – Collections Coordinator**

**Jamie Turner – Administrative Assistant,  
Bench Warrant**

**Valerie Saveri – Administrative Assistant**

**Amy Kubishin – Deputy Clerk**

**Morgan Neumann – Deputy Clerk**

**Patricia Flood – Part Time Clerical Specialist**

The Clerk of Courts office is the Criminal and Collections Division for the county. We are a staff of nine employees. Together we are responsible for filing and maintaining the pleadings and court records for all criminal proceedings. We also assess and collect court costs, fines, and fees. Additionally, our office sits in attendance at criminal court sessions for sentencing and disposition hearings. The entire criminal docketing process from arrest through final disposition has been fully computerized since 1984. Public records can be accessed online at [www.UJSportal.pacourts.us](http://www.UJSportal.pacourts.us) with the exception of limited access dockets or clean slated dockets. In addition, payments can also be made online at the same website: [www.UJSportal.pacourts.us](http://www.UJSportal.pacourts.us).

## Victims Resource Center

### VRC SERVICES INCLUDE:

- A 24 hour hotline
- Information about the criminal justice system
- Advocacy for victim's rights
- Accompaniment to hospitals, police stations, and Courts
- Assistance in filing for Crime Victims Compensation
- Counseling to handle the fear, anger and depression
- Emotional support
- Referral to community resources and social service agencies for additional help

All services are free and confidential. Services are available to men, women, teens and children.

The chances of being a victim of sexual assault in your lifetime are 1 in 4 for females and 1 in 10 for males.

VRC presents programs to the public and professionals in our community.

The purpose of these programs is to prevent violence and crime in our homes, workplace and community. Further, our goal is to reduce the impact of sexual violence upon victims and their families and to increase the quality of care to victims.

You can contact VRC in person at: 1001 Mahoning Street, Lehigh, PA 18235, or by calling toll-free at 1-866-206-9050 or call the local hotline at 610-379-0151.



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# Lehigh County Jury Duty

**CONTACT INFORMATION**  
**Juror Reporting Information**  
**(610) 782-3433**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**  
**24 hour taped message (610) 782-3950**  
**QUESTIONS TO DISTRICT COURT**  
**Administrator (610) 782-3014**

## The Importance of Jury Service

When our ancestors came to the United States, they brought with them the concept of trial by jury. This great privilege, which they regarded as their birthright, protected them from the oppressive power of the king and the arbitrary or partial judgment of the court. It is not surprising, then, that the Founding Fathers incorporated the concept of trial by jury into the Constitution of the United States. Article III, Section 2, and the Sixth and Seventh Amendments provide each of us with this fundamental and basic right. Accompanying this right and privilege, however, is the obligation to participate actively in the judicial process as a juror. The successful operation of the judicial system which is designed to protect the rights of each of us depends upon the willingness of men and women of sound judgment and absolute honesty and fairness to serve.

Each month approximately 2,000 prospective jurors are summoned under the direction of the Court Administrator and the Board of Judges. The selection is at random by computer from the drivers' license list.

Serving as a juror is one of the fundamental rights and privileges of being a United States citizen. You should welcome the experience. Most people who actually serve as a juror on a trial will tell you that it is a very educational and interesting experience. The Court recognizes the inconvenience jury service may cause. However, the success of the jury system depends upon the willingness of men and women of integrity and intelligence to accept jury service, and upon the fidelity with which they discharge that responsibility.

# Lehigh Judges of the Court

**President Judge J. Brian Johnson**  
**Judge Robert L. Steinberg**  
**Judge James T. Anthony**  
**Judge Michele A. Varricchio**  
**Judge Douglas G. Reichley**  
**Judge Melissa T. Pavlack**  
**Judge Anna-Kristie M. Marks**  
**Judge Thomas M. Caffrey**  
**Judge Thomas A. Capehart**  
**Judge Zachary J. Cohen**  
**Senior Judge Carol K. McGinley**  
**Senior Judge Kelly L. Banach**  
**Senior Judge Edward D. Reibman**

The District Court Administrator, Kerry R. Turtzo, and the Deputy District Court Administrator, John Sikora, are responsible for the supervision of all court-related departments of the Judiciary, to include Adult Probation, Juvenile Probation, Domestic Relations, Magisterial District Court personnel, the Law Library, the Court Transcription Unit, and court staff personnel.

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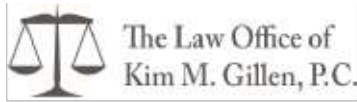



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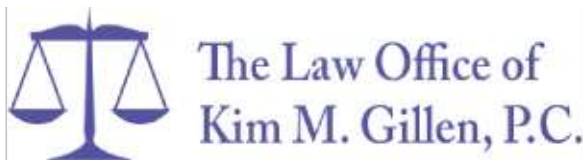
Attorney Kim Gillen received her Juris Doctor degree from Widener University School of Law — Harrisburg Campus in 2007 and was admitted to the Pennsylvania bar the same year. Through many years of practice, she has acquired deep experience in essential legal disciplines, with particular concentrations in family law, estate planning, labor law, landlord/tenant law and contracts. On the criminal side, her caseload includes defense for traffic offenses, misdemeanors, felonies, DUI offenses, and juvenile cases.

She is appointed as Conflicts Counsel in Carbon County for criminal cases and is also a court-appointed arbitrator, having served as chair on arbitration panels. In 2021, she was named the first dependency review Hearing Officer in Carbon County; she continues in this role today.

Attorney Gillen is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Carbon County Bar Association, where she has been association secretary since 2015. From 2012 through June 2021, Attorney Gillen was solicitor for the Carbon County Office of Children and Youth Services. In addition, in January 2023, she joined the Juvenile Court Hearing Officer Committee. In March of 2023, she began working as a GAL/Parent Attorney in Lehigh County.

She has served as the Carbon County Bar Association Zone II Delegate to the state bar association. Since 2009, she has been a member of the Carbon County Board of Directors.

A 2000 graduate of Pocono Mountain High School, Kim received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a minor in Sociology from Penn State University in 2004 with honors. At university, she performed with the Penn State Blue Band at Beaver Stadium. She resides in Lehigh County with her husband, Jim, and their two young sons.



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# Carbon County Magisterial District Courts

## Jurisdiction of District Justices

District Justices are authorized to hear the following types of cases:

### Civil Cases:

1. Claims for money up to \$12,000 (not including interest and court costs).

Note that a district justice does not have jurisdiction to hear any claim in which legal ownership of real estate is at issue.

2. Claims under the Landlord and Tenant Act.

### Criminal Cases:

1. Summary offenses, including motor vehicle violations.

2. DUI cases if : (a) it is a first offense, (b) there are no personal injuries, and (c) the defendant pleads guilty.

3. Third degree misdemeanors if the defendant pleads guilty. District judge also preside over arraignments, fix bail, and issue arrest and search warrants.

They also issue Emergency Protection from Abuse Orders on nights, weekends and holidays when the Court of Common Pleas is closed.

## District Court #56-3-01

**340 Center Avenue  
P.O. Box 356,  
Jim Thorpe, PA 18229**

Boroughs of Jim Thorpe, Lehigh County and Weissport; Packerton, Jamestown and Penn Forest Township

Phone: (570) 325-2751  
Fax: (570) 325-5538

District Judge: Eric M. Schrantz  
Office Supervisor I: Wendy Smelas  
Secretary II: Kym Houser  
Secretary I: Susan Joyce & Kelly Sheridan

## District Court #56-3-02

**401 Delaware Avenue  
2nd Floor,  
Palmerton, PA 18071**

Boroughs of Palmerton, Bowmanstown and Parryville; Townships of Towamensing, Lower Towamensing, and Franklin  
Phone: (610) 826-3707  
Fax: (610) 826-6914

District Judge: William J. Kissner  
Office Supervisor I: Jamie Graver  
Secretary II: Michelle Huszar  
Secretary I: Lorrie Young

## District Court #56-3-03

**417 East Ridge  
Street  
P.O. Box 203,  
Lansford, PA 18232**

Boroughs of Lansford, Nesquehoning, Summit Hill, Township of Mahoning, East Penn & New Mahoning  
Phone: (570) 645-3024  
Fax: (570) 645-5544

District Judge: Casimir Kosciolk  
Supervisor I: Donna Peck  
Secretary II: Carla Bartelt  
Secretary I: Timothy Wutke

## District Court #56-3-04

**71 West Main Street,  
Weatherly, PA  
18255-0017**

Boroughs of Weatherly, Beaver Meadows, and East Side; Townships of Packer, Lausanne, Lehigh, Banks and Kidder

Phone: (570) 427-4100  
Fax: (570) 427-8730

District Judge: Joseph Homanko  
Office Supervisor I: Karen Rayno  
Secretary II: Dianna Berry  
Secretary I: Tracey Sell & 2 vacancies



# *Welcome to Strubinger Law*

The attorneys of Strubinger Law, P.C., are local lawyers who have aggressively represented clients in the courts of Carbon County, Monroe County, Lehigh County, Northampton County and Schuylkill County. Also, our attorneys have represented clients in the Federal Courts in the Eastern and Middle Districts of Pennsylvania. In addition to trying jury trials in the state and federal courts, the attorneys of Strubinger Law, P.C. have extensive experience handling cases before governmental agencies. Specifically, our attorneys regularly appear before the Pennsylvania Workers' Compensation Judges and the Federal Administrative Law Judges hearing Social Security cases representing the injured and disabled.

Our attorneys have vigorously acted on behalf of their clients with respect to work related injuries, auto accidents, and slip and falls. These instances have resulted in cases for workers' compensation benefits, personal injury and social security disability.

With more than 30 years of experience, Attorney Strubinger is the only lawyer in Carbon County to be certified as a specialist in the practice of Workers' Compensation as authorized by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. This is an accomplishment of a limited amount of attorneys throughout the Commonwealth.

# STRUBINGER LAW P.C.

*Attorneys At Law*



Seated: Attorney Matthew G. Schnell, Attorney Gerald F. Strubinger, Jr. and  
Attorney Sarah A. Seman

Standing: Sarah Rarick, Donna Engelhardt, Denise Windbeck, Michele Behler,  
Daniel Martin, Elizabeth Marzen, Kimberly Kistler, Karen Strubinger, Elizabeth  
Eickhoff and Mathew Strubinger

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