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*2025 Insider 100*

**LEGAL POWER LIST**

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## Herein find **InsiderNJ's** compilation of the state's top attorneys, whose worlds include New Jersey's political universe.

*"Our legal system is the linchpin of democracy because without the rule of law our society would devolve down into a '**might makes right**' or a '**survival of the fittest**' decision-making process. Litigation is the engine that makes the legal system operate whereby skilled lawyers-on both sides-bring or defend legal claims, produce evidence and help achieve 'due process' based upon a decision by competent and honorable judges. Our country needs a strong judicial branch every bit as much as it did during the civil rights era. It also needs lawyers to come to the defense of judges who make difficult decisions, if these judges are unfairly attacked in the media, because the judges can not come out and defend themselves." **-Joe Hayden***

This year's InsiderNJ Legal Power List contains obvious overriding themes central to constitutional protections amid the ongoing federal prosecution of illegal immigrants. Within that, the May 9th arrest of Newark Mayor Ras Baraka in his own city outside an ICE detention facility and subsequent indictment of U.S. Rep. LaMonica McIver for

allegedly assaulting, impeding and interfering with masked agents carrying assault weapons placed NJ in the country's legal crosshairs.

Said U.S. Magistrate Judge André Espinosa in the aftermath: "An arrest, particularly of a public figure, is not a preliminary investigative



tool. It is a severe action, carrying significant reputational and personal consequences, and it should only be undertaken after a thorough, dispassionate evaluation of credible evidence.”

What about the arrest of an unknown and supposedly un-honored individual? The Constitution protects his or her rights to due process, and against unreasonable searches and seizures, a fundamental priority of our system, in fact, which, in its protection of the innocent and the accused, distinguishes the United States of America.

As Americans, we crave a strong legal process to preserve the rights of both sides to argue and refine our brilliant and imperfect system. On the following list you will find prioritized parties at the heart of not only the Baraka and McIver cases, but others, all of them players immersed in arguments with tremendous national implications.

Preceding this list, you will find a quote by our friend, Joe Hayden, whose personal history goes back to that journey he made from Newark to Selma, Alabama, to peacefully participate with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the civil rights marches from Selma to Montgomery.

Then, as now, the country’s legal system – embodied by the men and women hereon, lawyers – must rise to negotiate and argue before judges, those delicate matters of constitutional power, which finally forge that sacred province otherwise known as “We, the people.”



*Max Pizarro*

Editor-in-Chief





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Vice President

**Petal Robertson**  
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**Sean M. Spiller**  
President



# 1. **Matt Platkin**

***ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR NEW JERSEY***



You can agree or disagree with Platkin on the issues. Just don't ever say he went to sleep on the job. The Attorney General of New Jersey in the Phil Murphy Administration this year assumed a leading national role by repeatedly legally challenging the policies of the Trump Administration. "Given that we've had the president, the vice president, the attorney general and their representatives in court

openly either defying or threatening to defy court orders, I think we are [in a constitutional crisis]," Platkin told MSNBC. Earlier this month, the AG said he was "confident" Trump's birthright citizenship order "could still be blocked nationwide following a Supreme Court ruling that broadly restricted the ability of the court system to halt the president's policies," according to The Hill.



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David Glass  
Partner



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## 2. Cory Booker

### **UNITED STATES SENATOR**



New Jersey's first African American Senator. Graduate of Yale Law School. Ran for president in 2020. Celebrated former Mayor of Newark. Booker signaled his willing occupancy of the front line in the civil liberties fight after law enforcement officials forcibly removed his colleague, Senator Alex Padilla, from a DHS Secretary Kristi Noem press conference. Booker got a lot of press coverage for his record-breaking marathon senate floor speech, but his eloquent and impassioned defense of Padilla in a much shorter floor speech went to the core of the senior Senator's constitutional conviction. Asked Booker: "If you can make Senator Alex Padilla forcibly kneel before this executive, when does it stop?"

## 3. Alina Habba

### **ACTING US ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**



Vowing to clean up corruption in her home state, President Trump's counselor and interim U.S. Attorney started by filing charges against U.S. Rep. LaMonica McIver for allegedly slamming a federal agent with her forearm, "forcibly" grabbing him, and striking another agent. The incident, captured from multiple angles on film outside immigration detention center Delaney Hall in Newark, occurred as McIver appeared to try to defend her friend, Newark Mayor Ras Baraka, and her colleague, U.S. Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-12) from masked agents outside the facility.



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## 4. Craig Coughlin

### ***SPEAKER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, LD-19***



Exceedingly mild-mannered but powerful, a municipal attorney and partner at Rainone Coughlin Minchello, Coughlin occupies one of the key playing pieces in the Middlesex County Democratic Committee, arguably the strongest political organization in the state right now. Critically, Middlesex was early getting behind the candidacy of the Democratic nominee for Governor, Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill.

## 5. Amol Sinha

### ***AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF NJ***



Director of the ACLU of New Jersey (ACLU-NJ). Respected advocate and civil rights leader, Sinha was right out front when federal agents arrested Newark Mayor Ras Baraka outside Delaney Hall. Said the ACLU Director: "Mayors are not agents of federal immigration enforcement and their job is to protect their constituents, especially from federal policies that place limits on fundamental rights at the core of our democracy. Mayor Baraka was targeted by the Trump administration for refusing to be complicit with its ongoing violations of due process. His arrest is all part of the president's shameful intimidation campaign against those who will not do his bidding. It's clear that the Trump administration is trying to silence opposition through fear. But New Jersey will not be intimidated by authoritarianism."





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## 6. Paul Fishman

**ARNOLD AND PORTER**



Former U.S. Attorney for the State of New Jersey, Fishman again assumed a significant legal role this year, representing U.S. Rep. LaMonica McIver as she pleaded not guilty to federal charges accusing her of assaulting and interfering with immigration officers. Fishman last year represented James Biden, brother of then-President of the United States Joe Biden.

## 7. Mike Testa

**TESTA HECK TESTA AND WHITE**



A comer in the pantheon of next-generation Republican leaders in New Jersey. State senator from LD-1. Chair of the Cumberland County Republican Committee. Former co-chair of Donald Trump's presidential campaign in New Jersey. Briefly in the conversation as a possible full-time appointee to lead the U.S. Attorney's Office in New Jersey. Also routinely kicked around as an LG prospect for Jack Ciattarelli, Republican nominee for Governor.

## 8. Nancy Erika Smith

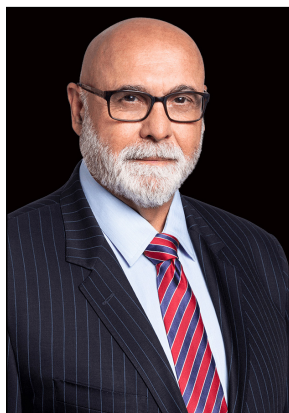
**SMITH MULLIN**



Respected civil rights attorney Smith took on Ras Baraka's Delaney Hall case this year and immediately went on offense. Citing a post on X in which Acting U.S. Attorney Alina Habba said Baraka "committed trespass," Smith argues that N.J.'s top cop defamed her client and authorized his "false arrest" despite "clear evidence that Mayor Baraka had not committed the petty offense of 'defiant trespass.'"

## 9. Angelo Genova

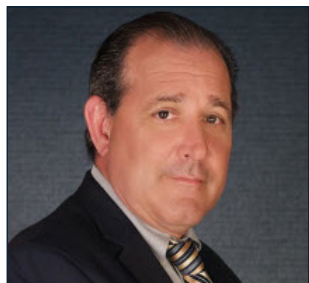
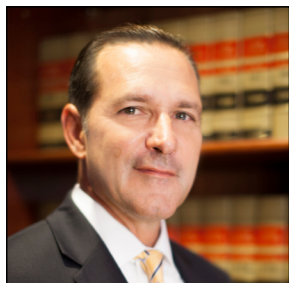
**GENOVA BURNS**



Really, there is only one. The guy you want in your corner on the rainy night when the other team is lawyered and lathered up. Co-founder and chairman of the firm, the state's top veteran campaigns and elections lawyer. A master trial maneuverer, Genova "subscribes to the basic legal tenet that lawyers must know their case inside and out. In his mind, there is no substitute for preparation, attention to detail, and an uncompromising commitment to advancing the client's interests," according to Genova Burns. Many of New Jersey's top politicians continue to rely on the hyperactively legally punctilious Genova, whose presence in their courtroom corner keeps them not just alive, but viable.

## 10. The DeCotiises

**DECOTIIS FITZPATRICK COLE AND GIBLIN LLP**



Headquartered in Teaneck with over 75 attorneys, Decotiis FitzPatrick Cole and Giblin LLP built a profile as one of the top firms in the state of New Jersey, a leader in the state's government, legal, and business communities.

## 11. Mikie Sherrill

**CONGRESSWOMAN, CD-11**



The 2025 Democratic nominee for New Jersey Governor served as a U.S. Assistant Attorney under U.S. Attorney Paul Fishman (see above). A US Navy veteran, she also worked in the NYC litigation department of Kirkland and Ellis.





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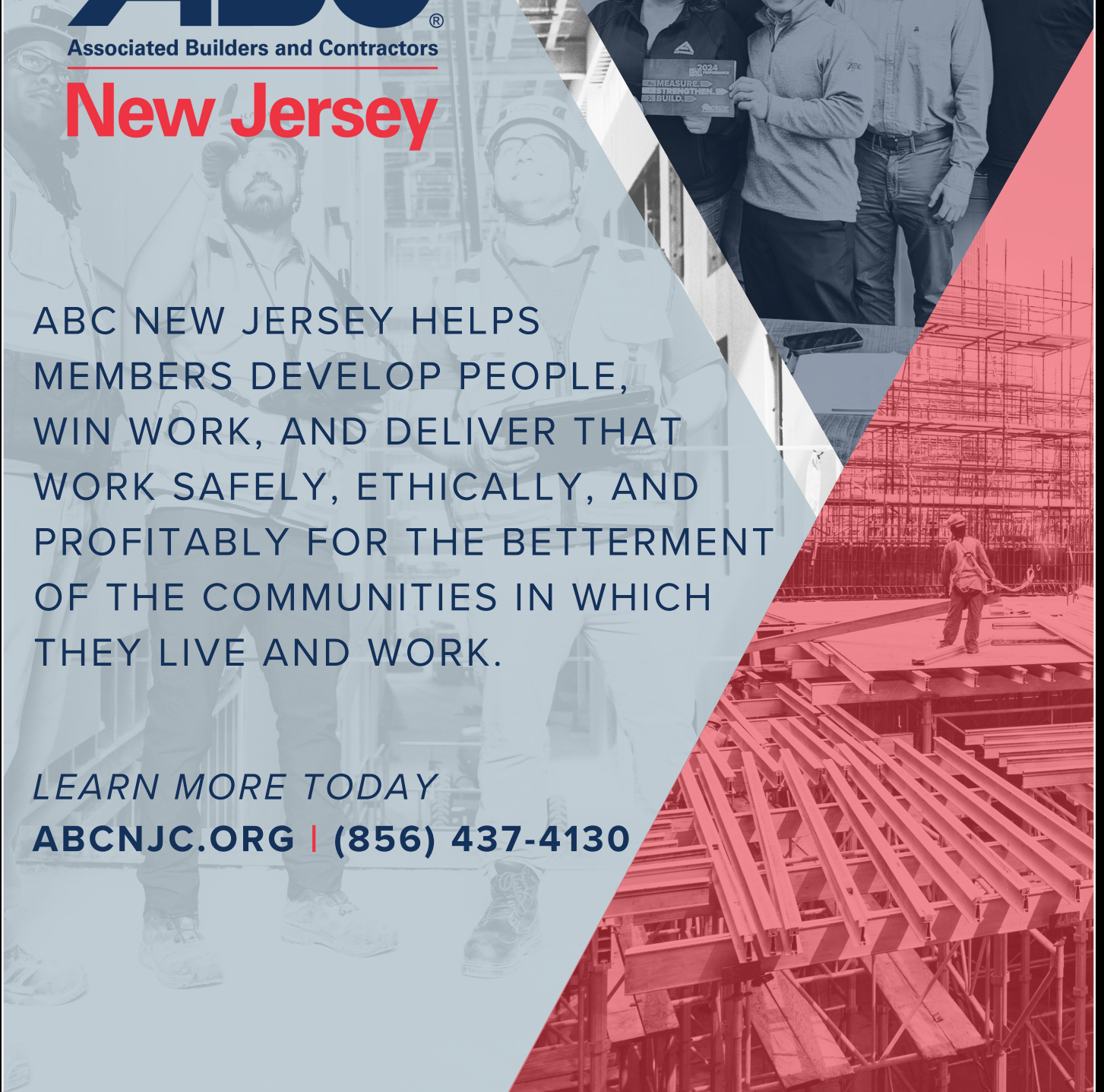
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## 12. Mike Critchley

***CRITCHLEY CURIA AND LURIA***



One of the state's most trusted trial attorneys, Critchley once said, "There are no political parties, just registered opportunists." Riding a big win this year, Critchley played a crucial role in client George Norcross' corruption case, which resulted in a judge throwing out all charges.

## 13. Bill Castner

***CONNELL FOLEY, LLP***



Rutgers Legal Counsel. Former advisor to Governor Phil Murphy on firearms, formerly of the New Jersey Office of Legislative Services, executive director of the New Jersey General Assembly Majority Office, and chief counsel to then-Governor Jon Corzine.

## 14. Joe Hayden

***PASHMAN STEIN WALDER HAYDEN***



A veteran attorney who has represented many a jammed-up New Jersey politician, including the late Bill Muso, mayor of Union City. Born and raised in Newark, Hayden came out of the Civil Rights era. Driving his own car down south at the height of the struggles, Hayden participated in key marches and actions for equal rights.

## 15. Ramon Rivera

### **ANTONELLI KANTOR RIVERA**



Seasoned attorney whose experience includes boards of education and labor. Close to Newark North Ward Councilman Anibal Ramos, state Senator M. Teresa Ruiz (D0-29) and ward leader Sammy Gonzalez. Rivera provides critical support for the North Ward as consigliere in the ward's dealings with the Newark Mayor's Office and Essex County. Also close to Irvington Mayor Tony Vauss. Rivera is board counsel for the Jersey City Board of Education. Rivera is branching out as a statewide player, with work for Mercer County Executive Dan Benson.

## 16. Raymond Brown

### **PASHMAN STEIN WALDER HAYDEN**



An experienced trial attorney, he represented U.S. Senator Bob Menendez as defense co-counsel. Brown is a devoted advocate for human rights.

## 17. Chris Porrino

### **LOWENSTEIN SANDLER**



Former Attorney General for the state of New Jersey. He represented Matt Platkin in the Katie Brennan case.





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## 18. Peg Schaffer

***SOMERSET COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE CHAIR***



Veteran political leader who likes a good scrap. She is the managing Principal at Shain Schaffer PC and Vice Chair of the Democratic State Committee.

## 19. Adam Malamut

***MALAMUT AND ASSOCIATES***



Firm managing partner. Malamut is an expert in government and regulatory affairs who maintains deep political ties in Burlington County.

## 20. Renee Steinhagen

***EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NEW JERSEY APPLESEED***



Civil rights attorney. Strong, effective public advocate for voting rights, defeating privatization of public infrastructure, and expanding access to health care.

## 21. Doug Steinhardt

**STATE SENATOR, LD-23**



Partner at Florio Perrucci Steinhardt Cappelli and Tipton. Chair of the Warren County GOP. Considered for the job of U.S. Attorney.

## 22. Jeff Chiesa

**CSG LAW**



Former Attorney General, former U.S. Senator, and all-around respected gentleman. Chiesa is a graduate of the Catholic University of America School of Law.

## 23. Edward Kologi

**KOLOGI SIMITZ**



Great veteran trial attorney who loves to grapple with complex issues. Deeply involved in augmenting gun safety in New Jersey. Close to Senate President Nick Scutari.



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## 24. John Azzarello

***WHIPPLE AZZARELLO***



Top criminal defense attorney. Former Deputy Chief of the Criminal Division for the United States Attorney's Office in the District of New Jersey, former Counsel to the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States.

## 25. Bill Northgrave

***MCMANIMON SCOTLAND BAUMAN***



Top municipal attorney with deep Hudson roots going back to St. Peter's College. Former Chief of Staff in Hudson County and later Hudson County Counsel.

## 26. David Pascrell

***GIBBONS PC***



The firm's chair for government and regulatory affairs. Pascrell is also a lobbyist with considerable experience in Trenton and Washington, D.C.

## 27. **Kenyetta Stewart**

***HUNT HANDLIN AND RIDLEY***



Corporation Counsel, Newark. Native of Paterson. An ally of Ras Baraka, Stewart in June won the Democratic Primary for an assembly seat in LD-35.

## 28. **Joe Jacobs**

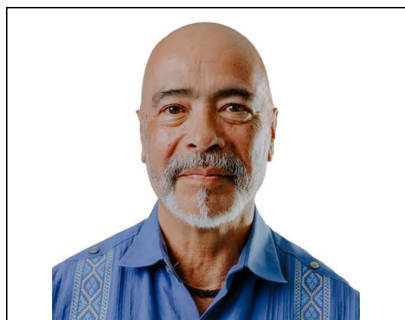
***ATTORNEY***



Veteran Atlantic City/Atlantic County political presence. Close to Atlantic City Mayor Marty Small.

## 29. **Juan Cartagena**

***LECTURER IN LAW, COLUMBIA SCHOOL OF LAW***



Former Municipal Court Judge in Hoboken. Formerly the President and General Counsel of Latino Justice PRLDEF. Big into civil rights issues.

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## 30. Tony Bucco

***STATE SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER, LD-25***



The respected veteran municipal attorney comes from a tightknit, Morris County-based political family. Son of the late Senator Tony Bucco, Sr. Outspoken but politically savvy minority leader.

## 31. Jerome St. John

***ESSEX COUNTY COUNSEL***



Close to Essex County Executive Joseph DiVincenzo, going all the way back to when Joe D. was freeholder director. St. John had a high-powered law career in New York before that and later represented the Jersey Devils. He is a former superior court judge and provides critical input to the county on matters pertaining to the budget and finance.

## 32. Bernard Kenny

***FLORIO KENNY RAVAL***



Former state Senator from Hoboken. Navy veteran. One of the most respected and valued people in NJ politics.

## 33. **Raj Parikh**

***PEM LAW***



Respected, detail-oriented campaigns and elections veteran attorney. One of the state's top legal minds.

## 34. **Joe DeMarco**

***CLEARY GIACOBBE ALFIERI JACOBS***



Former business administrator for Bayonne. Specialist in land use issues, representing both municipal and county governments and private clients.

## 35. **James Gee**

***SOUDER LAW GROUP***



Former Chief of Staff to Bonnie Watson Coleman. Lobbyist with Stono Public Affairs.

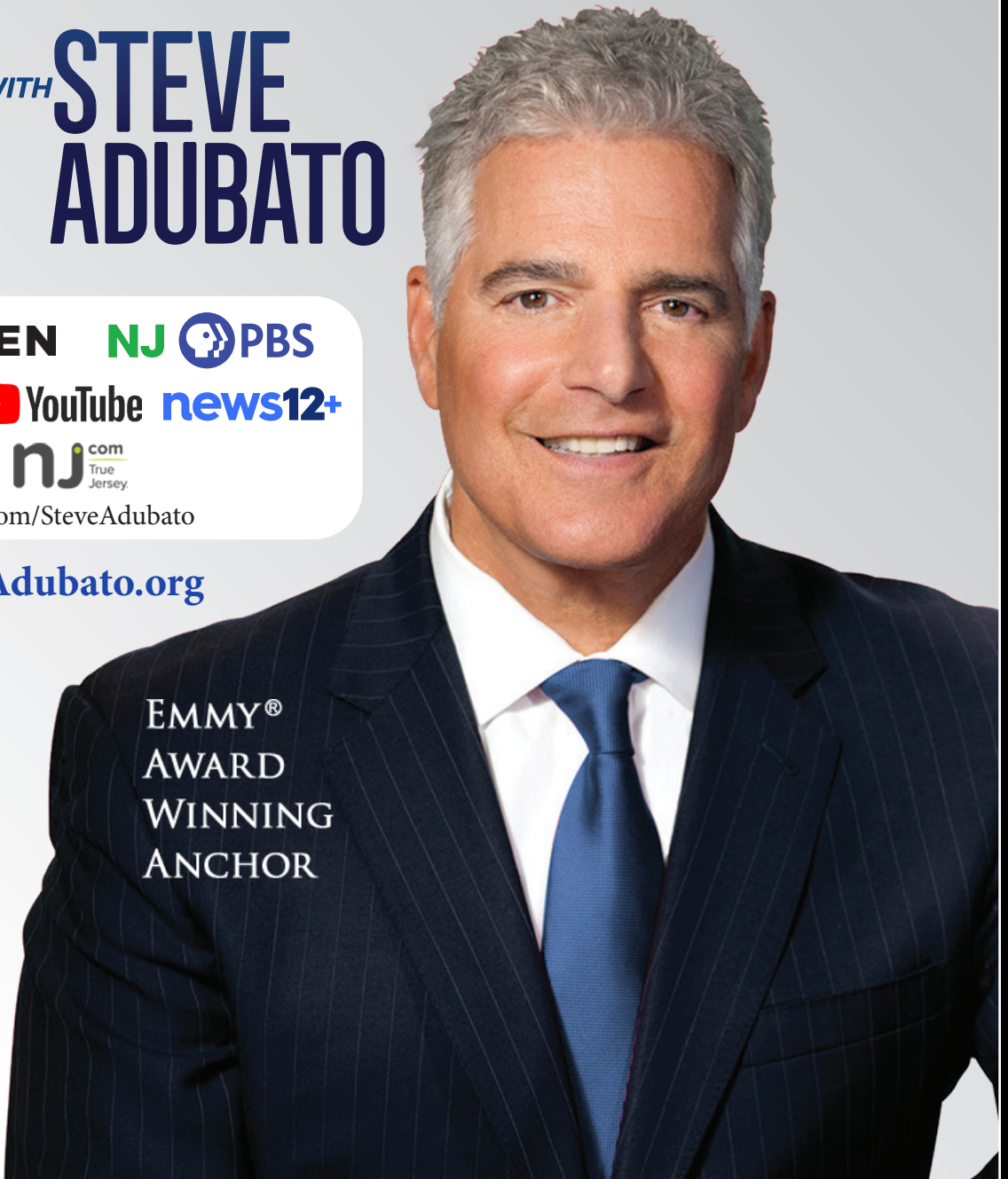
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## 36. Elnardo Webster

**CONNELL FOLEY**



Real estate, regulatory and government affairs expert. Former pro football player. Close to U.S. Senator Cory Booker.

## 37. Phil Sellinger

**GREENBERG TRAURIG**



Former U.S. Attorney appointed by then-President Joe Biden. Respected for his legal acumen and broad legal experience.

## 38. Nick Scutari

**SENATE PRESIDENT**



Just as Bogie and Bacall would always have Paris, Scutari – chair of the Union County Democratic Committee and long-serving senator from the 22nd District – will always have pot. He's mostly the brains behind legalizing the controlled substance in New Jersey.

## 39. **Bill Caruso**

***ARCHER***



Lawyer and lobbyist with deep government experience in New Jersey. Former executive director of the Assembly Majority Office.

## 40. **Tom Prol**

***SILLS CUMMIS AND GROSS***



Chair of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC), past president of the New Jersey State Bar Association.

## 41. **Gail Gordon**

***ATTORNEY***



Commissioner with the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority. Republican fundraiser. She is married to former state Senator Bob Gordon.



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## 42. **Victor Herlinksy**

***SILLS CUMMIS AND GROSS***



Veteran attorney specializes in commercial litigation, land use, redevelopment law, and government relations.

## 43. **William “Bill” Harla**

***DECOTIIS FITZPATRICK COLE AND GIBLIN LLP***



A member of the firm’s executive committee and a member of the Government and Regulatory Affairs and Litigation practice groups.

## 44. **Mike Graham**

***ATTORNEY***



Vice chair of the Montclair Planning Board and Historic Preservation Committee. COO, Fairview Insurance. CEO of InsiderNJ.

## 45. Yael Bromberg

***KIM Yael BROMBERG***



A constitutional rights attorney with over twenty years of experience in community organizing, advocacy, and campaigns. Counsels and represents individuals, organizations, and unions in state and federal courts across the country. Her docket includes election law, voting rights, free speech, ethics, civil rights, and labor cases and projects, including then-U.S. Rep. Andy Kim's successful challenge to elections bracketing.

## 46. Avi Weitzman

***PAUL HASTINGS***



Co-chair of the litigation and arbitration practice and partner in the investigations and white-collar defense practice at Paul Hastings. Representing U.S. Senator Bob Menendez in the senator's corruption trial.

## 47. Alan Ashkinaze

***ATTORNEY***



Environmental lawyer. Land-use expert. Ashkinaze is close to 2025 Republican gubernatorial candidate Jack Ciattarelli, the 2025 Republican nominee for Governor.

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## 48. **Brett Pugach**

***WEISSMAN AND MINTZ, LLC***



Voting rights and labor law expert. A key part of Andy Kim's legal representation in the year's seminal bracketing case.

## 49. **Mark Sheridan**

***SQUIRE PATTON BOGGS***



Veteran trial attorney. Experience as counsel for the NJ Republican Party. Expert in insurance and public policy matters. A detail-oriented, evidence-insistent, just-the-facts, justice-driven lawyer.

## 50. **Joel Shain**

***SHAIN AND SCHAFFER***



Founding partner, expert in governmental, administrative, appellate and banking law. Vietnam veteran.

## **51. Arlene Quinones Perez**

***DECOTIIS FITZPATRICK COLE AND GIBLIN LLP***



Former Hunterdon County Democratic Committee chair. Veteran expert in government affairs and municipal law.

## **52. John Wallace**

***BROWN AND CONNERY, LLC***



Retired New Jersey Supreme Court Justice. Served as the tiebreaker on the 2021 New Jersey Congressional Redistricting Commission.

## **53. Tom Scrivo**

***O'TOOLE SCRIVO***



Managing partner. Expertise includes business litigation, labor and employment law, internal investigations, land use and zoning, local government and redevelopment law, construction litigation, healthcare, estates and trusts litigation.

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## 54. **Kevin O'Toole**

***O'TOOLE SCRIVO***



Managing partner. Former Republican state Senator representing LD-40. Politically experienced.

## 55. **Louis Rainone**

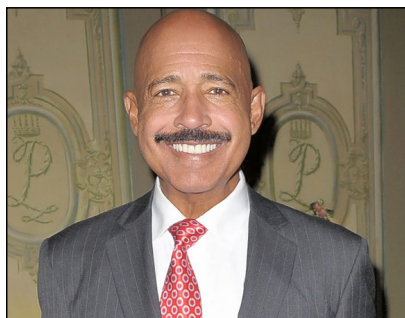
***RAINONE COUGHLIN MINCHELLO***



Managing partner at the firm. Well-connected and experienced municipal attorney. Former Legislative Assistant to the Chairman of the New Jersey General Assembly Committee on Taxation and in the same capacity to the Vice Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

## 56. **Ted Wells**

***PAUL WEISS***



Extensive experience in white-collar defense and complex civil and corporate litigation, including SEC investigations, healthcare fraud, FCPA, AML and OFAC investigations, high-profile environmental matters and complex class action litigation.

## 57. **Steve Gouin**

***GIORDANO HALLERAN CIESLA REAL ESTATE***



Expert in redevelopment, and renewable energy law, Gouin serves on the front line of the solar power movement. General counsel for CEP Renewables, the attorney is positioned to assist in the preservation and enhancement of alternative energy in New Jersey, which is under assault by President Trump.

## 58. **William “Bill” Tambussi**

***RAINONE COUGHLIN MINCHELLO***



Firm partner. Expert in labor and employment litigation. Indicted by AG Platkin in the Norcross case for allegedly helping to illegally obtain property and property rights on the Camden Waterfront and “collecting millions of dollars in government-issued tax credits,” according to the AG.

## 59. **Kevin Marino**

***MARINO, TORTORELLA & BOYLE, P.C.***



Former chairman of the Board of Regents, Seton Hall University. A key player on Team Norcross, Marino was part of the legal apparatus that successfully made the case to a judge to drop charges against George Norcross III and the South Jersey powerbroker’s brother, attorney Philip Norcross, and others.

# Read What Both NJ Gubernatorial Candidates Are Reading!

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- 65 Actionable Solutions for New Jersey



NJ Gubernatorial Candidates Mikie Sherrill (left) and Jack Ciattarelli (right) with NJBIA President & CEO Michele Siekerka at the Blueprint unveiling at NJBIA's ELC Reception.

## NJBIA's Blueprint for a Competitive New Jersey

**What is it?** NJBIA's *Blueprint for a Competitive New Jersey* sets the vision for the next administration ensuring that NJ businesses are at the center of the discussion and the policies that follow. This document will provide a framework to lead our next Governor in an operational and policy direction that will grow jobs and our economy with recommendations for the first 100 days, first year and first term.





## 60. David Minchello

***RAINONE COUGHLIN MINCHELLO, LLC***



Firm partner with considerable experience representing municipalities, counties and authorities throughout the State of New Jersey.

## 61. Jon Bramnick

***STATE SENATOR, LD-21***



Principal of the Scotch Plains-based Bramnick Law, veteran lawmaker Bramnick ran for governor this year in the Republican Primary, faring poorly as the lone GOP candidate in the statewide contest opposed to President Donald J. Trump.

## 62. Chigoze Onyema

***ATTORNEY***



Newark West Ward Democratic Committee Chairman. An effective grassroots leader, Onyema won the Democratic Primary in June for an Assembly seat in LD-28.

## **63. John Farmer, Jr.**

***EAGLETON INSTITUTE***



University Professor of Law; Justice Alan B. Handler Scholar; Director, Miller Center on Policing and Community Resilience. Former NJ Attorney General.

## **64. Herb Conaway**

***ASSEMBLYMAN, LD-7***



A doctor as well as an attorney, the most professionally distinguished member of the New Jersey Legislature in 2024 won the Democratic Primary in his quest to succeed Andy Kim as the Congressman in CD-3.

## **65. John Wisniewski**

***WISNIEWSKI AND ASSOCIATES, LLC***



Firm partner. Based in Sayreville. Former Assemblyman. Former chair, Democratic State Committee. Ran for governor in 2017. Distinguished veteran attorney.

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The New Jersey Apartment Association is the premier statewide organization representing all facets of the multifamily rental housing industry, advancing the success and professionalism of its membership through government affairs advocacy, education, training, and industry events.





## 66. **Stephen Edelstein**

***WEINER LAW GROUP LLP***



A leading New Jersey attorney in labor, employment, and public sector matters, Edelstein's expertise includes "commercial law, complex civil litigation, and election law and finance." The United States Supreme Court has cited his legal writings.

## 67. **Michael Testa, Sr.**

***TESTA HECK TESTA AND WHITE***



Distinguished senior firm partner. Based in Vineland. Connections around the state. Veteran GOP leader.

## 68. **Jeanne LoCicero**

***ACLU DEPUTY LEGAL DIRECTOR***



LoCicero litigates, advocates, and speaks on a wide range of civil liberties issues, including freedom of speech and religion and the rights of LGBT people, youth, and prisoners.

## 69. Calvin Souder

*SOUDER LAW GROUP*



Founding partner and chair of real estate. The powerful attorney from Newark is the go-to legal contact for the City of Newark. Close to the administration of Mayor (and statewide progressive power player and 2025 gubernatorial candidate) Ras Baraka.

## 70. Meghan Barrett Burke

*DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL, COLAS INC., GLOBAL INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION CO., MORRISTOWN*



Barrett Burke navigates legal and compliance issues for Cola USA's operating subsidiaries around the country, with a focus on complex projects and alternative delivery methods. Former partner with Connell Foley LLP, where she specialized in the representation of owners and contractors on a wide range of public and private construction projects, from contracting through dispute resolution. She is a graduate of Seton Hall University Law School.

## 71. Alberico G. De Pierro

*HUDSON COUNTY COUNSEL*



By a unanimous 8-0 vote, the Hudson County Board of Commissioners in June approved De Pierro's appointment. A graduate of St. Peter's University and New York Law School, he has worked in the Hudson County Law Department since 2016.



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\*A description of the selection methodology can be found at <https://www.event.law.com/njlawjournal-njlegalawards/methodology>.  
No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.



## 72. James McGreevey

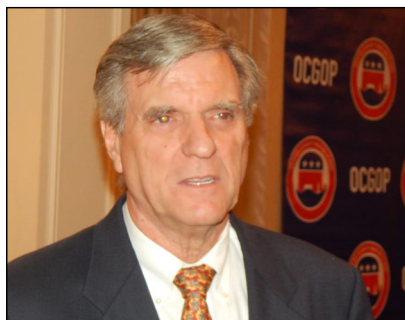
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NJ REENTRY CORPORATION**



Former Governor. The 2025 candidate for mayor of Jersey City is trying to mount one of the state's biggest political comebacks.

## 73. George Gilmore

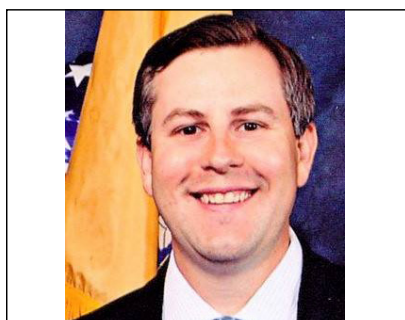
**OCEAN COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**



Founding partner, Gilmore & Monahan P.A. Pardoned by then President Donald J. Trump after getting jammed up for failing to pay payroll taxes, Gilmore took a political hit this year when his candidate for governor, Bill Spadea, went nowhere fast.

## 74. Steve Kleinman

**CLEARY GIACOBBE ALFIERI JACOBS LLC**



Parliamentarian for Hudson County. Serves as General Counsel for the county seat of New Jersey's largest county, directly responsible for oversight for all municipal legal affairs. Also serves as Labor Counsel for two of New Jersey's largest counties.

## 75. **CJ Griffin**

***PASHMAN STEIN WALDER HAYDEN***



One of the most prepared attorneys in New Jersey with real inquisitorial gifts, Griffin serves as Partner and Director of the firm's Stein Public Interest Center. Specializes in a broad range of public interest impact litigation and appellate advocacy that advances social, racial, and economic justice; protects civil liberties and constitutional rights; and promotes an open and transparent government.

## 76. **Kip Bateman**

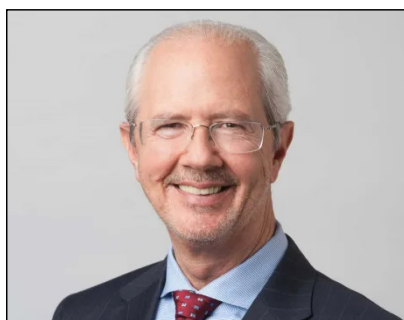
***DIFRANCESCO BATEMAN***



Former state Senator representing the 16th District. Republican. Respected. Former longtime running mate of former Assemblyman Jack Ciattarelli, the 2025 Republican nominee for governor. Bateman cut his legal teeth as the prosecutor of numerous Central Jersey municipalities.

## 77. **Chris Placitella**

***COHEN PLACITELLA AND ROTH***



An attorney and environmental advocate who is skeptical of the state's stepped-up wind energy efforts and their impact on marine wildlife.

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## 78. **Jennifer Carrillo Perez** **CONNELL FOLEY**



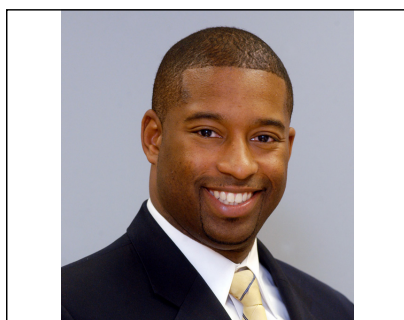
Expertise includes land use and zoning, redevelopment, municipal law, and regulatory and government affairs.

## 79. **Mark A. Fury** **ATTORNEY**



Former Mayor of Plainfield. Renaissance man. Trial attorney. Based in Burlington County. Is there anyone else on this list who can play jazz saxophone?

## 80. **Mohamed Jalloh** **JALLOH AND JALLOH**



Former Union County Freeholder (Commissioner). Close to Newark Mayor Ras Baraka.

## 81. **Matt Moench** ***BRIDGEWATER MAYOR***



Partner at King Moench and Collins. Aggressive and effective general litigation attorney. A star in the courtroom, Moench used his argumentative grit as a public advocate to land the mayoralty, especially in his resistance to the earliest iterations of the Center of Excellence project.

## 82. **Brittany Murray** ***ACTING CORPORATION COUNSEL JERSEY CITY***



Expertise includes legal research, case management, and trial preparation.

## 83. **Noreen Giblin** ***ATTORNEY***



PSEG Executive. Former cabinet secretary with the Murphy Administration. Daughter of Assemblyman Emeritus Tom Giblin, who served with distinction as chairman of the state Democratic Committee.

## 84. **Andrew Leven** ***DILWORTH PAXSON LLC***



White-collar law enforcement and regulatory includes experience as a federal prosecutor, outside general counsel to a hospital system, and criminal defense attorney. Leven conducted numerous insurance, bank, mortgage, wire, tax, and mail fraud grand jury investigations, acquired extensive trial experience, and served as the criminal tax intake prosecutor for the District of New Jersey.

## 85. **John Inglesino** ***INGLESINO TAYLOR***



Former Morris County Freeholder (Commissioner), the founding partner of his firm focuses on redevelopment, land use law, affordable housing litigation, real estate transactions, and municipal/government law.

## 86. **Jason J. Redd** ***STONO PUBLIC AFFAIRS***



2022 appointee of the Amistad Commission by Governor Phil Murphy. Lobbyist. Consulting partner of James Gee (see above).





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## 87. **Lester Taylor** **TAYLOR LAW GROUP**



Former Mayor of East Orange. Founder of Taylor Law Group and Chair of the Education, Labor, and Employment Group. Highly regarded legal professional with a diverse expertise spanning general counsel services, special education, environmental law, litigation, labor, employment, and redevelopment.

## 88. **Richard Trenk** **TRENK ISABEL SIDDIQI SHADANIAN**



Township attorney for West Orange. Distinguished veteran. Former President of the Essex County Bar Association.

## 89. **Taraun Tice McKnight** **ATTORNEY AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS SPECIALIST**



Deputy County Administrator for Mercer County. Former policy advisor and legal counsel to two New Jersey Governors. Tice McKnight manages Mercer County's human services, housing and workforce development operations. Graduate of the Rutgers University School of Law.

## 90. **Avi Kelin**

***PEM LAW***



Expertise includes corporate and non-profit law, and autonomous vehicle law. Known mostly in these parts for his knowledge of political law. Writes well-read column on the subject for InsiderNJ.

## 91. **Christian Callegari**

***MCCARTER AND ENGLISH***



Former Chief-of-Staff to Paterson Mayor Andre Sayegh. Deep experience in government and politics.

## 92. **Ken McPherson**

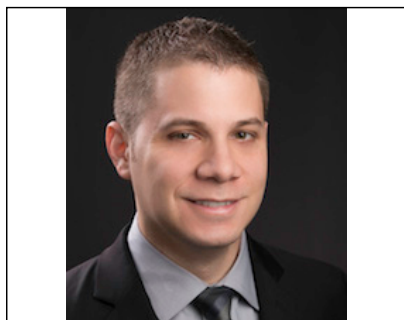
***GIBBONS PC***



Former member of and counsel to the West Orange Planning Board, his areas of expertise include regulatory affairs, land use, redevelopment, affordable housing, environmental contamination, and related litigation.



## 93. **Chris Corsini** ***SAVO SCHALK***



Former deputy counsel for Somerset County, formerly on the leadership staff of the late Assembly Republican Leader Alex DeCroce. Focus areas include land use, procurement, Title 58 liability actions, tax appeals, open space acquisitions, shared services, matters involving the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) and Open Public Records Act (OPRA), local government ethics, and many other areas of local government practice.

## 94. **Brent Bramnick**

***BRAMNICK, RODRIGUEZ, GRABAS, ARNOLD & MANGAN, LLC***



Former assistant prosecutor for Union County. First rate on personal injury, worker's compensation, and criminal matters.

## 95. **James DiGiulio** ***O'TOOLE SCRIVO***



Former chief counsel to then-Governor Chris Christie. Experience includes legal, legislative, and regulatory issues, most prominently in healthcare, economic development, taxation, banking, and insurance.



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## 96. Irene Kim Asbury

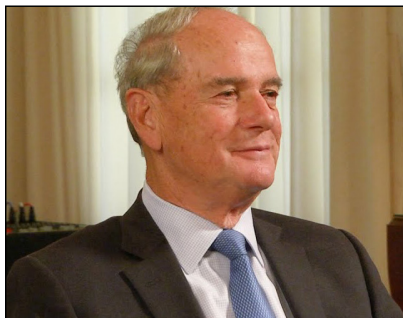
***IRENE KIM ASBURY LAW***



"I deal with governments so you don't have to," says the veteran attorney and former member of the 2011 Legislative Redistricting Commission.

## 97. Donald DiFrancesco

***DIFRANCESCO BATEMAN***



Former Governor. Former decade-long president of the state senate. Daughter Tracy serves as chair of the Somerset Republican Committee.

## 98. Guillermo Artilles

***MCCARTER AND ENGLISH***



An advocate for clients in the courtroom and in the statehouse.



## 99. **Joanne Vos** ***MARAZITI FALCON***



Practice includes environmental law, including contamination and remediation, regulatory compliance, environmental litigation, sustainability, and land use as well as redevelopment and complex transactional work.

## 100. **Reana Garcia** ***DEPUTY HUDSON COUNTY COUNSEL***



The first female and Hispanic person to hold the position, Garcia took over for De Pierro (see above) as deputy counsel when he became county counsel. She is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and Roger Williams University School of Law.