



Leo J. Athas

Mr. Athas is a recognized authority in education law, with more than 30 years of experience in the field. He represents more than 400 independent schools nationwide and handles general school law problems for public schools as well as special education and vocational cooperatives. In addition, Mr. Athas is also retained legal counsel to 20 charter schools located in four states, and handles all legal matters relating to their day-to-day operation.

Mr. Athas also is well versed in representing public and private schools in all special education matters, including the development of policies and procedures, litigating due process hearings and appeals, and managing the formation and dissolution of cooperative entities, as well as addressing reasonable accommodation requests of persons with disabilities.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

He is the only person to have ever served as General Counsel and Chief Legal Officer to both the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Illinois State Board of Education.

He is often called upon by state and federal regulators to testify regarding legislative matters.

Mr. Athas has been recognized as a Leading Lawyer in the category of School Law. In addition, he holds the AV® Peer Review Rating From Martindale-Hubbell, its highest rating for ethics and legal ability.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Athas frequently lectures to educational professionals and associations at national and international annual gatherings on topics ranging from labor matters to the educational rights and responsibilities of teachers, students and parents.