

Curriculum Vitae  
**COLIN G. BELL, Esquire**  
of  
**Hankin Sandman Palladino & Weintrob**

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**Education**

Education: American University (B.A., 2002, University Honors); American University Washington College of Law (J.D. 2005, cum laude). Recipient, Newman Prize for Trial Advocacy; Semi-Finalist 2005 ABA National Trial Advocacy Competition; Mock Trial Honor Society; Moot Court. Admitted in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and United States Court of Federal Claims.

**Background**

Mr. Bell began his legal career as a law clerk to Honorable Michael Donio, P.J. Cr. of the New Jersey Superior Court during the 2005-2006 term. Bell then joined the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office, where he was assigned to the Grand Jury and Trial Sections. During his tenure as an Assistant County Prosecutor, Bell gained substantial courtroom experience, including numerous jury trials. He also served as a police legal advisor and police academy instructor, and receive advanced training at the Justice Department's Trial Advocacy Center.

Mr. Bell joined the Hankin Sandman Palladino & Weintrob firm in 2008, and practices in all areas of civil litigation, with an emphasis on commercial, construction, employment discrimination and police disciplinary matters. Mr. Bell also has significant experience in election law and local government law. He is certified by the New Jersey Supreme Court as a Civil Trial Attorney, a distinction held by only 2% of New Jersey lawyers.

Mr. Bell was elected to and served a three year term as an at-large member of the Atlantic County Board of Chosen Freeholders from 2012 through 2015 and has also served as deputy vice-chair of the New Jersey Democratic State Committee.

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND RECOGNITION:**

Mr. Bell was recognized as one of the Greater Atlantic City area's "Top 40 Under 40" by Atlantic City Weekly in 2008. The New Jersey Law Journal selected him as a New Leader of the Bar in 2015 and New Jersey Super Lawyers also named him a "Rising Star" in the field of Business Litigation from 2010-2015. Mr. Bell has served on the Board of Directors of the Atlantic City Boys & Girls Club, Atlantic City Veterans' Initiative, and Stockton University Holocaust Resource Center.

## **SIGNIFICANT CASES**

Willow Creek Winery, Inc. et al. v. Borough of West Cape May, et al, 1:12-cv-06329 (D.N.J.) (obtained \$550,000 settlement for plaintiff in federal civil rights claim against municipality and its mayor for unlawful interference with land use and development rights).

A.R.B. Construction, Inc. et al v. Ernest Bock & Sons, Inc., 13:3883 (E.D.Pa.) (Obtained summary judgment dismissing claims against defendant and following a bench trial on damages obtained total judgment of \$201,697.88 plus attorney's fees of \$77,417.60 in favor of defendant on its counterclaim).

Jaimie Ablett v. Kristin McGee and Dennis McGee, ATL-L-1852-10 (obtained \$250,000 jury verdict on defamation claim for state trooper falsely accused of misconduct by defendants)

Mae Yuez-Stetz v. GEICO, ATL-L-3500-11 (obtained \$200,000 jury verdict on personal injury claim for victim injured in motor vehicle accident)

Barbara Bray Wilde v. Borough of West Cape May, A-55-3-13T4 (successful appeal reversing trial court decision denying attorney's fees under Open Public Records Act)

L.R. v. D.G.K., A-2096-09T2 (successful appeal reversing trial court's decision to dismiss domestic violence victim's restraining order against abuser, matter remanded to trial court for new trial)

O'Brien v. BioBancUSA, 1:09-cv-2289 (D.N.J.) (obtained \$400,998.35 judgment against biotech startup for breach of contract to issue stock)

Wisser v. Basement Services 911, LLC, ATL-L-2385-10 (obtained \$156,000 settlement for plaintiff in consumer fraud case alleging improper installation of basement waterproofing)

Adair v. City of Wildwood & DeMarzo, A-2911-10T4 (obtained trial court judgment compelling mayor/police officer to immediately resign one position and successfully defended judgment on appeal).

Ernest Bock & Sons, Inc. v. Mercer County Improvement Authority and Hunter Roberts Construction Group, LLC, BUR-L-2503-09 (co-counsel at trial and appellate courts) (Obtained order compelling MCIA to reject low bid of Hunter Roberts based on incomplete ownership disclosure. The **\$51,643,000** project was then awarded to Ernest Bock & Sons, Inc.) This decision was the **3<sup>rd</sup>** most requested opinion in New Jersey as reported by the New Jersey Law Journal in 2010. Affirmed by New Jersey Appellate Division February 18, 2010.