



Thomas McGonigle

Partner, Wilmington and Philadelphia Managing Partner

Wilmington

Philadelphia

P 302 300 3472

Managing partner of the Wilmington, Delaware, office and a member of the firm's Management Committee, Tom McGonigle brings more than two decades of experience within Delaware state government paired with tactical insight. He is dedicated to finding successful outcomes for his clients in complex transactions and regulatory matters.

His deep understanding of governmental intricacies and legal complexities positions him as a trusted adviser and effective advocate in navigating high-stakes challenges.

Tom's deep-rooted and extensive experience within Delaware state government has shaped his shrewd strategic insight. He served as former Gov. Jack A. Markell's chief of staff, overseeing senior advisers and cabinet operations during the aftermath of the 2008 global financial crisis.

As chief legal counsel and policy director to former Delaware governor and current U.S. Sen. Thomas R. Carper, Tom helped to shape policy agendas and supervised legal operations, enhancing his experience in regulatory and compliance matters. His tenure as a deputy attorney general handling securities and consumer fraud cases further deepened his understanding of legal complexities.

His profound background and legal acumen make Tom an asset to his clients, whether they are governmental entities or private sector clients. He represents clients in complex transactions and regulatory matters before state and local governments, the Delaware Supreme Court, the Delaware Court of Chancery, the Delaware Superior Court, and the Delaware Public Service Commission.

Tom is well-respected for his strategic approach, combining strong legal skills with solid insight into government, media, and politics to help clients achieve significant objectives.

Recognized for his ability to manage and solve challenging issues and disputes, Tom has conducted state-appointed investigations in high-profile matters and has been nominated to various boards and commissions. His strategic acumen, built on a foundation of significant roles within the highest levels of state government, equips him uniquely to navigate the intricacies of state affairs and serve his clients effectively.

Tom's distinguished proximity to Delaware politics and his adeptness as a commercial litigator make him a trusted adviser and formidable advocate. He is dedicated to providing strategic guidance and leadership on high-profile initiatives.

Collapse All ×

Areas of Focus ×

Economic Development

Financial Services

Government Services

Government Services, Finance and Lobbying

Licenses and Permits

Life Sciences

Public Policy and Lobbying

Public-Private Partnerships

Real Estate

State and Local Government - Delaware

View Less ^

Experience

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- Led federal, state, and local permitting approval process on behalf of the Diamond State Port Corporation for a new deep-water marine terminal facility on the Delaware River
- Helped navigate and effectuate a complex merger/unification of a multi-chapter national nonprofit, including successfully resolving multi-party litigation in the Court of Chancery
- Served as lead attorney on the acquisition of a large hospital property and extensive redevelopment effort, including securing various state and local approvals, and economic development incentive agreements
- Served as lead attorney on behalf of utility seeking and securing the required Delaware Public Service Commission approvals for a significant merger transaction
- Led the effort to secure the future of minor league baseball in Delaware by achieving a long-term affiliation with the Washington Nationals in the face of nationwide minor league baseball contraction

Honors

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- Delaware, Law360 Editorial Advisory Boards, 2026
- The Best Lawyers in America, 2025-2026
- Delaware Business Times' Delaware 222, 2025

- Law360 Delaware Editorial Advisory Board, 2025

Professional and Community Involvement



Member, Law360 Delaware Editorial Board Member

Chair, Delaware Stadium Corporation

Co-chair, Administrative Law Improvement Task Force

Executive committee member, Delaware State Bar Association

Member, Court Modernization Review Committee

Credentials

Education

- Elizabethtown College, B.A.
- Penn State Dickinson Law, J.D.

Bar Admissions

- Delaware
- Pennsylvania