# ARMANDO A. PANDOLA, JR

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## LAW OFFICES OF ARMANDO PANDOLA 1990-Present

- Practice is concentrated in professional liability, personal injury, products liability, civil rights, employment discrimination, and commercial litigation.
- Experience in all phases of litigation.
- Extensive trial experience and appeals court experience, including setting precedential law in several leading cases such as *Collas v. Garnick*, 624. A.2d 117, 120-21 (Pa. Super. 1993) and *Thomas v. City of Philadelphia*, 681 A.2d 1023 (Pa. Cmwlth 2004).
- Neutral arbitrator in hundreds of cases.
- Expert Witness in Legal Malpractice cases.

#### Cozen and O'Connor 1986-1990

- Tried dozens of professional liability claims, including major claims in medical and legal malpractice and employment claims.
- Assigned to both the Subrogation and Defense departments,
- Worked directly with the name partners.
- Handled claims from the investigation stage to completion.
- Worked on several international insurance claims, including claims litigated in Spain and England.

- Worked closely with several insurance companies to initiate claims program in catastrophic injury claims. This program helped insurance companies to assess and manage those claims by actively becoming involved with a potential claim as soon as the catastrophe occurred rather than waiting for the claims to come in.
- Based on experience with the City Of Philadelphia's law Department,
  handled many of the firm's defense litigation for various local municipalities,
  including civil rights claims.

### City of Philadelphia Solicitor's Office

#### 1978-1986

- Appointed an attorney in the City of Philadelphia Law Department, beginning in the Major Trials Division, promoted to Chief of General Trials, then to Chief Deputy for Litigation.
- Part of the team that re-structured the City's Law Department, making it a professional office of full time attorneys.
- As a trial attorney, tried dozens of cases to verdict involving numerous types of claims, and specialized in the defense of catastrophic injury claims and civil rights claims.
- Tried cases in both state and federal court.
- Created new law involving municipalities pursuant to the Political Subdivision and Sovereign Immunity Acts.
- Upon promotion to Chief of General Trials, supervised thirty attorneys and fifty non-attorney staff and was responsible for training the incoming, entry-level

attorneys. The General Trial division handled a large percentage of cases in the Philadelphia Arbitration system. Became involved in changing the old arbitration system in Philadelphia, making it into the modern centralized system we have, currently.

- While Chief Deputy, continued to try important cases, many of which resulted in landmark decisions such as <u>Love v. City of Philadelphia</u>, 509 A.2d 1388 (1986) and <u>Mascaro v. City</u>, 523 A.2d 1118 (1987).
- Initiated a program of reviewing all city contracts, installing a requirement of insurance protection for the city; then, created a unit whose sole purpose was to pursue, vigorously, the enforcement of those defense and indemnification contract provisions.
- Extensive experience in supervising attorneys, managing litigation and providing advice and counsel on legal issues such as personal injury claims, employment, civil rights, contracts, appellate issues. etc.
- Tenure as Chief Deputy under Barbara Mather and Handsell Minyard helped to create a modern, professional Law Department, treating the various city departments as clients and providing top grade professional legal services and advice to them.

### **EDUCATION**

St. Joseph's University 1968-1972

Graduated in the top 5% with a BA in English and Theatre Arts.

Temple University School of Law 1975-1978

Graduated in the top 5% with firsts in Constitutional Law, Contracts and Remedies.

# **MEMBERSHIPS**

Philadelphia Bar Association

Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association

American Trial Lawyers Association

United States District Court for Eastern Pennsylvania

United States Third Circuit Court of Appeals

AV Martindale-Hubbell rating

Philadelphia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts

Judge Pro Temp

AAA - Arbitrator

**Settlement Master** 

Pro hac vice into New Jersey, Delaware, New York and numerous other jurisdictions.

### **PUBLICATIONS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS:**

- Published numerous articles in the Legal Intelligencer.
- Taught Philadelphia Bar Association Sponsored Courses in Civil Rights
  Litigation, Legal Malpractice Law and Litigation against Government Entities.
- Regular Contributor to The Broad Street Review, an online arts magazine,

and have been published in the Philadelphia Inquirer and Daily News.

# **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:**

- Co-Founder along with Alexandria Dilks Pandola of Green Light
  Arts. a non-profit 501 (c)(3) devoted to exploring woman's role
  in society and increasing women participation in the arts.
- Board of Directors of Luna Theatre Company
- Board of Directors of The Irish Heritage Theatre.
- Member of the Dramatist Guild of America
- Winner of the Edwin Forrest Playwriting Competition at the
  Walnut Street Theatre Ten plays produced in last ten years,
  including at The Walnut Street Theatre