

## Patrick M. Hitchens

Associate

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*Effective representation often requires more than a willingness to go to trial. It requires a good understanding of the issues and client goals.*



Patrick Hitchens joined Timoney Knox as an associate in 2011. Since then, his practice has focused on civil litigation and municipal law with an emphasis on real estate tax and local business tax assessment matters.

In the municipal context, Mr. Hitchens works with many of the firm's municipal clients which include school district, township, borough, and authority entities. Mr. Hitchens serves as the primary working attorney for municipal clients in all of their assessment appeal matters including both valuation appeals and exemption appeals as well as local business tax matters. In addition to drafting ordinances, resolutions, policies and agreements, Mr. Hitchens also advises municipal clients on compliance issues relating to the Pennsylvania Right-to-Know Law, zoning issues, procurement issues and contract review. Mr. Hitchens also represents municipal entities in code and zoning enforcement matters before zoning hearing boards and Pennsylvania courts. Mr. Hitchens serves as acting solicitor at municipal meetings and executive sessions.

In addition to providing legal advice and counsel to elected officials and municipal clients, Mr. Hitchens also assists in all aspects of civil litigation for private individuals, corporate entities as well as non-profit organizations. The scope of representation has included negligence, slip-and-fall, corporate governance, boundary disputes, code compliance cases, zoning and variance appeals, and tax assessment appeals among other legal issues and concerns.

### Areas of Practice

- Municipal Law
- Real Estate and Zoning Law
- Education Law
- Commercial and Civil Litigation
- Personal Injury Law

### Bar Admissions

- Pennsylvania, 2009
- New Jersey, 2009

### Education

- George Mason University School of Law, Arlington, Virginia, 2009
- Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, *magna cum laude*, 2003

Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Hitchens worked as an attorney and law clerk at two firms specializing in medical malpractice and general liability defense. Mr. Hitchens also served as a certified legal intern for the Montgomery County District Attorney's office. Additionally, prior to starting and during law school, Mr. Hitchens worked for a United States Senator in Washington D.C. as a legislative correspondent and correspondence manager.

Mr. Hitchens was born and raised in Berks County. He served as a Commissioner on the Upper Dublin Historic Commission and is a former member of the Upper Dublin School District Educational Advisory Committee. When not busy with their three young children, he and his wife, Katharine, have a strong interest in historical preservation and spend time together working to preserve their late 18th- early 19th century farmhouse that once belonged to the Fitzwater family who traveled to America aboard the ship *Welcome* with William Penn.