

Luke J. Kealy

PARTNER / VICE CHAIR, LITIGATION DEPARTMENT

99 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, New Jersey 08830
T: 732.476.3240
F: 732.476.3241
lkealy@greenbaumlaw.com



I became a lawyer after serving in the Air Force. That background has given me a unique perspective on working with people and resolving their problems. In addition to achieving a successful outcome, my goal is also to alleviate the anxiety that comes with disputes and ensure that my clients are confident in my ability to protect their interests. Clients need that reassurance from their lawyer.

Luke's practice is focused on the litigation of complex commercial matters. His diverse experience includes the resolution of business disputes involving contracts, real estate, real estate brokerage, landlords/tenants, partnerships, professional malpractice, franchises, construction, insurance, intellectual property and environmental law issues. He has represented clients in proceedings before various federal and state regulatory agencies, has tried cases in the Superior Court of New Jersey, argued appeals before the Appellate Division, and represented clients in arbitration hearings and mediations throughout New Jersey.

Results may vary depending on your particular facts and legal circumstances.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

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- Successfully obtained summary judgment in New Jersey Superior Court on behalf of the firm's client, an accountant who investigated an Israeli company involved in operating movie theaters in Israel. Our

Departments

Litigation

Practice Groups

Alternative Dispute Resolution
Community Association
Construction Disputes
Environmental
Real Estate Brokerage

Education

New York University School of Law, J.D., 1992
University of Southern California, M.S., 1986
U.S. Air Force Academy, B.S., 1982

Bar Admissions

New Jersey, 1992
New York, 1993
U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey, 1992
U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit, 1995
U.S. Supreme Court, 2010

client conducted a comprehensive financial review of the company, during which he uncovered allegedly fraudulent activity including unapproved loans and the issuance of unrecorded checks as loan collateral. After reporting his findings to the company, the company CEO accused the accountant of defamation, tortious interference, participating in a civil conspiracy, and intentional infliction of emotional distress based on alleged conduct that occurred during the course of the investigation. After reviewing the briefs and hearing the firm's argument, the Court agreed with the firm's motion and dismissed all claims against the accountant. More about this case [here](#).

UNIQUELY NJ

- New Jersey State Bar Association; Business and Commercial Litigation Special Committee; Equity Jurisprudence Special Committee
- Middlesex County Bar Association
- Holmdel Theater Company Board of Directors
- Hackensack Meridian Health Hospitals Corporation: Treasurer, Board of Trustees
- Meridian Health Board of Trustees (Former Member)
- Bayshore Community Hospital Board of Trustees (Former Member)
- Holmdel Foundation for Educational Excellence Board of Trustees (Past Chair)

MORE ACTIVITIES & EXPERIENCE

- Luke was commissioned as an officer in the United States Air Force following his graduation from the U.S. Air Force Academy. During his active duty career he served as an aircraft commander, instructor, flight examiner and executive officer at various locations in the U.S. and abroad. As a member of the Air Force Reserve, Mr. Kealy deployed to the Persian Gulf during Operations Desert Storm, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. He accumulated over 400 combat hours during missions flown into Kuwait, Afghanistan and Iraq. He is a former squadron commander and wing vice commander, and most recently served as the Air Force Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer to the State of New Jersey. An outstanding graduate of the Air War College, his military decorations include three awards of the Air Medal, four awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, two awards of the Air Force Commendation Medal, and the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal. He retired as a Colonel in the United States Air Force Reserve.

PRESENTATIONS & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Panelist, Small Businesses and the Impact of COVID-19

Sponsor: *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*, April 15, 2020

Panelist, COVID-19 FALLOUT: How Does My Business Survive?

Sponsor: *Withum*, April 8, 2020

Presenter, Fundamentals of Landlord-Tenant Law

Sponsor: *Monmouth County Women's Council of REALTORS®*, February 27, 2015

Presenter, Fundamentals of Landlord-Tenant Law

Sponsor: *REALTORS® Triple Play Convention*, December 11, 2014

Panelist, 2nd Annual Landlord Tenant Law Seminar

Sponsor: *Sterling Education Services*, February 12, 2014

Panelist, Superstorm Sandy Information Session

Sponsor: *New Jersey Association of REALTORS®*, August 14, 2013

Panelist, Collections & Evictions

Sponsor: *2013 New Jersey Cooperator's Condo, HOA, Co-Op & Apt. Management Expo*, May 1, 2013

Presenter, Commercial and Residential Landlord-Tenant Law

Sponsor: *Sterling Education Services, Inc.*, February 15, 2013

Presenter, Commercial Landlord/Tenant Issues: Lessons Learned from Litigation

Sponsor: *Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP Webinar*, April 20, 2010

PUBLICATIONS & ALERTS

Co-Author, Landlord and Tenant Rights and Obligations

Program Material for "2nd Annual Landlord Tenant Law Seminar"

Sterling Education Services, February 2014

Co-Author, Ethical Considerations in Landlord Tenant Law

Program Material for "Commercial and Residential Landlord-Tenant Law"

Sterling Education Services, February 2013

Co-Author, The ABC's of Commercial Tenancy Litigation

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis Client Alert, Summer 2010