



Macy T. Laster

Of Counsel

Plymouth Meeting, PA

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Services and sector groups

- Litigation
- Title IX
- Education
- School Districts

Macy advises and represents school and educational entities on complex and sensitive student and school-related legal issues, with a particular focus on special education, student discipline, and pupil services. She has served as lead special education and pupil services counsel, guiding school administrators through day-to-day compliance questions, due process proceedings, investigations, litigation, and appeals.

Macy counsels superintendents, special education directors, and other school administrators on compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and related state and federal education requirements. She advises on school board policies, student handbooks, special education documentation, disciplinary and expulsion matters, settlement agreements, and contracts with service providers.

When disputes arise, Macy represents educational entities in Office for Dispute Resolution due process proceedings, Pennsylvania Department of Education complaints and investigations, and related state and federal litigation. Her pupil services work also includes Title IX, truancy, and McKinney-Vento matters. She has served as a board-appointed decision-maker and hearing officer in student disciplinary matters and regularly provides training to school administrators and staff on special education and school law issues.

Before joining McNees, Macy practiced with law firms in southeastern Pennsylvania, where she managed substantial special education and pupil services caseloads for local education agencies. Her work included disciplinary matters, administrative proceedings, policy development, settlements, and state and federal appeals. Macy's focus on education law began in law school, where she spent a year with Syracuse Law's Disability Rights Clinic, with the majority of her work addressing school-related matters in Upstate New York.

Education

- Syracuse University College of Law, J.D., Certificate of Advanced Study, disability law and policy
- Pennsylvania State University, B.S., education and public policy, minors in sociology and women's studies

Admissions

- Pennsylvania
- Supreme Court of the United States
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania

Recognition

- Best Lawyers, Ones To Watch in Schools and Education Law, Best Lawyers in America, 2024, 2025, 2026
- Super Lawyers: Rising Stars in Schools and Education Law, 2025, 2026

Publications

- “How I Advise My Clients: How Should a District Respond if Parents Seek a Publicly Funded Independent FBA?” *Special Ed Connection*, May 2022

Speaking engagements

- Introduction to Special Education Law, Exceptional Children Conference, October 2024
- Guest Lecturer, Education and Public Policy Program, Pennsylvania State University, multiple occasions (most recently October 2024)
- Hot Coffee, Topics and Takes on Special Education, Pennsylvania School Board Solicitors Association School Solicitors Symposium, June 2024
- Special Education Introductory Presentation, Arcadia University, Spring 2023
- Special Education 101, Montgomery County Bar Association CLE, March 2023