



THE HONORABLE FRANK M. CIUFFANI OF COUNSEL

Retired New Jersey Superior Court Judge Frank M. Ciuffani rejoined Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A. as Of Counsel on April 3, 2017.

Judge Ciuffani draws on over forty years of knowledge and experience on the bench and in private practice. Prior to rejoining the firm, Judge Ciuffani served as the Presiding Judge of the New Jersey Superior Court, General Equity Division, and Probate Judge of Middlesex County from 2008 to 2017. He also served as New Jersey Superior Court Judge, Civil and Family Divisions of Middlesex County from 2003 to 2008. During his tenure on the bench, Judge Ciuffani presided over numerous decisions of import that included the Archdiocese of Newark entering the tombstone business and health insurer Horizon's tiered approach method to product billing. In 2008, he launched a pilot mediation program for home-mortgage foreclosures. Praised by New Jersey Supreme Court Chief Justice Rabner, the program became the model for a statewide foreclosure mediation program that has helped thousands of homeowners remain in their homes. In 2012, Judge Ciuffani presided over a complex, multiparty litigation which started with an emergent application that would have halted construction of the World Trade Center Freedom Tower. As a result of several marathon settlement conferences he facilitated, the construction continued and the case was quickly and efficiently resolved to the satisfaction of the litigants. The 2009 and 2012 New Jersey Law Journal Superior Court Judicial Survey ranked Judge Ciuffani as the top rated civil judge in Middlesex County.

As Of Counsel with the Wilentz' litigation practice group, Judge Ciuffani concentrates his practice on mediating, arbitrating and serving as special master in complex commercial, business, employment, probate, and family matters. Judge Ciuffani chairs the Alternative Dispute Resolution department.

Prior to his judicial career, Judge Ciuffani was with Wilentz for almost thirty years. A certified civil trial attorney, he concentrated his practice in commercial litigation and employment law. Judge Ciuffani is a former Assistant Prosecutor in Middlesex County. He is member of the Middlesex County, New Jersey State and American Bar Associations. He is also an elected Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, an honor bestowed upon only one percent of the bar whose public and private careers have demonstrated outstanding dedication to the welfare of their communities and to the highest principles of the legal profession.

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Practice Areas:

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Commercial Litigation

Bars and Courts:

- New Jersey
- United States District Court for the District of New Jersey
- United States Supreme Court and Second Circuit Court of Appeals

Education:

- J.D., Villanova University
- B.A., University of Notre Dame, *cum laude*