

## **Attorney Profile**

**Eric M. Brown**  
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Eric M. Brown is an Associate in the Chester Springs office of Siana, Bellwoar & McAndrew. He practices in the areas of municipal law, labor and employment law, civil rights, public official and police liability, land use and zoning, election law, and school law.

Mr. Brown serves as labor counsel for a number of municipalities throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In this role, Mr. Brown provides advice and representation on collective bargaining, including Act 111 interest arbitrations, unfair labor practice charges, and grievance arbitrations. Mr. Brown also advises municipalities on personnel management issues, including appropriate employee policies, employee investigations and discipline, claims of harassment, discrimination, and retaliation. As a member of the Firm's litigation team, Mr. Brown defends municipalities in numerous federal lawsuits, including constitutional rights claims brought pursuant to Section 1983, as well as lawsuits brought in state court, including claims involving the Municipalities Planning Code and the Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act.

Mr. Brown is a native of Chester County, Pennsylvania. Prior to joining the Firm, Mr. Brown taught history at a local public high school. Mr. Brown has a long history of political and community service, and has held elected office on a local school board.

Mr. Brown is a member of the American Bar Association and its Labor/Employment and Litigation sections, the Pennsylvania Bar Association and its Municipal Law and Education Law sections, the Allegheny County Bar Association and its Municipal and School Law section, and the Chester County Bar Association and its Municipal and Land Use Law section. Mr. Brown also actively participates in the Pennsylvania School Solicitors' Association, and is a member of the Rotary Club of Coatesville.

### **Representative Cases:**

Victoria Gardens Cond. Ass'n v. Kennett Township, 23 A.3d 1098 (Pa. Cmwlth. 2011), *app'l denied*, 24 A.3d 365 (Pa. 2011) (Commonwealth Court affirmed the decision of the Court of Common Pleas granting preliminary objections in favor of a township when plaintiff homeowners' association alleged that the township had unlawfully failed to require a developer to post financial security in an amount sufficient to secure required improvements in the development as required by the MPC and local ordinance)

Stockham Interests v. Borough of Morrisville, Civ. No. 08-3431 (E.D. Pennsylvania) (successfully negotiated a resolution with terms favorable to the borough that resolved a First Amendment claim brought by an applicant seeking to operate an adult entertainment business in the borough. The non-monetary settlement successfully prevented the applicant from operating the adult business in the borough.)

Santiago v. Warminster Township, 629 F.3d 121 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 2010) (affirmed the grant of a motion to dismiss complaint filed by a resident alleging an excessive force claim against numerous police officers and a municipal liability claim against the township)

Teeple v. Carabba, 398 Fed.Appx. 814, 2010 WL 4249883 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 2010)(affirmed summary judgment in favor of a police officer in false arrest and malicious prosecution claim brought by a plaintiff alleging that the officer had violated plaintiff's Fourth Amendment rights by misrepresenting and/or omitting relevant facts in an application for a search warrant)

Knight v. Borough of Chalfont, 375 Fed.Appx. 280, 2010 WL 1473784 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 2010), cert. denied, 131 S.Ct. 463 (2010) (motion for summary judgment in favor of all municipal defendants affirmed where terminated police officer claimed violations of the First Amendment and Pennsylvania labor law)

Green v. Caln Township, Civ. Act. No.09-4622 (E.D. Pa. 2010) (motion to dismiss complaint granted wherein plaintiff alleged false arrest and malicious prosecution in violation of his Fourth Amendment rights).

Diesinger v. West Pikeland Township, 2009 WL 2837743 (E.D. Pa. 2009) (motion to dismiss complaint granted where former township manager who had been discharged claimed unlawful retaliation in violation of the First Amendment)

Hitner v. Hallman, 2008 WL 583898 (E.D. Pa. 2008) (motion for summary judgment granted where former township treasurer who had been discharged claimed unlawful retaliation in violation of the First Amendment)

Bartal v. Borough of Laureldale, 283 Fed.Appx. 69, 2008 WL 2469172 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 2008) (a case of first impression in the Third Circuit where the court dismissed a civil rights claim filed by a fired police officer alleging entitlement to tenured status after his probationary period had expired)

### **Selected Speaking Engagements**

- *Challenges Confronting Fire Services in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Adams County Association of Township Officials, Gettysburg, PA (September 2011)
- *Collecting Delinquent Municipal Fees*, Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, various locations throughout the Commonwealth (September 2011, January, 2011, October 2010, September 2010, June 2010)
- *Zoning Law Update 2011*, Adams County Association of Township Officials, Gettysburg, PA (April 2011)
- *In the Line of Fire*, concerning effective administration and risk management of municipal police departments, Adams County Association of Township Officials, Gettysburg, PA (April 2011)
- *Local Government 101 Symposium*, the Western Chester County Chamber of Commerce, Coatesville PA (November 2009)

### **Education**

Widener University School of Law, Wilmington, Delaware, J.D.  
Villanova University, Villanova, Pennsylvania, B.S., Secondary Education

### **Bar Admissions**

Supreme Court of Pennsylvania  
Supreme Court of the United States  
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit  
U.S. District Court Eastern District of Pennsylvania  
U.S. District Court Middle District of Pennsylvania  
U.S. District Court Western District of Pennsylvania

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