

# Carly P. Edman

Associate

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Carly is a member of the Professional Liability Department where she focuses her practice on the defense of various professionals, public sector entities, and businesses, with respect to claims based on civil rights issues.

Carly's practice is particularly focused on public entity and civil rights litigation. In this role, she has achieved many favorable results. Carly has successfully defended public entities in a variety of matters from slip and falls to constitutional claims. For example, Carly obtained a win for her client in Magisterial District Court in Pennsylvania in a matter alleging civil rights violations by a Plaintiff who refused to leave government owned property.

In 2021, Carly received her *juris doctor* from Duquesne University School of Law with a concentration in civil and criminal litigation. During law school, Carly served as a research and teaching assistant, conducting extensive research in the fields of both civil and criminal law. Carly was also an active participant in the Veterans Clinic where she defended veterans in criminal matters at the Allegheny County Veterans Court. She also worked with incarcerated individuals at the Allegheny County Jail as a tutor.

Carly was previously a summer associate at Marshall Dennehey in 2020. She obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Corporate Communications and Intercultural Engagement from Duquesne University in 2018.

Carly is currently admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

## Education

- Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University (J.D., 2021)
- Duquesne University (B.A., 2018)

## Practices

- Miscellaneous Professional Liability
- Public Entity & Civil Rights Litigation
- Lawyers' Professional Liability
- Real Estate E&O Liability

## Admissions

- Pennsylvania, 2021
- U.S. District Court Western District of Pennsylvania, 2021

## Associations & Memberships

- Allegheny County Bar Association
- Pennsylvania Bar Association
- Pennsylvania Defense Institute

## Classes/Seminars Taught

- *Hills and Ridges Doctrine Update*, Client Seminar, February 25, 2022

## Published Works

- "Retooling the Client Engagement Letter to Minimize Liability Claim Exposure," *PLUS Blog*, March 23, 2023
- "Jane Doe: Navigating Gender Identity and Law," *Defense Digest*, Vol. 28, No. 12, December 2022

## Significant Representative Matters

- Obtained a dismissal of plaintiff's legal and accounting malpractice claims in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania. The plaintiff filed suit against a number of defendants as a result of tax liability stemming from a prior unrelated legal settlement. The plaintiff claimed that our attorney client was negligent in providing legal and accounting advice in regard to corrective tax filings following a legal settlement with a state entity. The plaintiff asserted claims of legal malpractice, accounting malpractice, fraud, and a host of constitutional violations. Carly sought dismissal via a number of arguments, including a lack of subject matter jurisdiction. After multiple rounds of amended pleadings and briefing, the court entered an order adopting our jurisdictional argument and dismissed the plaintiff's latest complaint without prejudice based upon a Rule 8 violation for his failure to plead a proper jurisdictional basis. While the dismissal order was without prejudice, the running of the statute of limitations results in our client obtaining the win.

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## Results

### **Dismissal with Prejudice Obtained in Dragonetti Action in Federal Court**

We obtained a dismissal with prejudice of all claims in a Dragonetti action in federal court in the Western District of Pennsylvania. Our clients, a family law attorney and her law firm, were sued after they filed a series of emergency motions on behalf of a mother embroiled in a contentious divorce. The emergency motions concerned the welfare of children and contained sensitive allegations relating to purported abuse. Following the disposition of these motions, the husband and his current partner sued our clients for wrongful use of civil proceedings, abuse of process and defamation. Notably, the court's

opinion quoted our brief in support directly for its analysis of the controlling cases. The court dismissed all claims against our clients with prejudice.

### **Legal and Accounting Malpractice Claims Successfully Dismissed**

We obtained a dismissal of plaintiff's legal and accounting malpractice claims, in which the plaintiff claimed a prior unrelated legal settlement led to an avoidable tax liability. The plaintiff alleged that our attorney client was negligent in providing legal and accounting advice in regard to corrective tax filings following a legal settlement with a state entity. After multiple rounds of amended pleadings and briefing, the court entered an order adopting our lack of subject matter jurisdiction argument and dismissed the plaintiff's complaints based upon a Rule 8 violation.

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## **Thought Leadership**

May 7, 2026

### **Limiting Agent Liability in Pennsylvania: Knowledge, Reliance, and the E&O Landscape**

April 1, 2026

### **Pennsylvania Court Affirms No Duty for Brokers on Property Suitability Under the Real Estate Licensing and Registration Act.**

March 23, 2023

### **Retooling the Client Engagement Letter to Minimize Liability Claim Exposure**

December 1, 2022

### **Jane Doe: Navigating Gender Identity and Law**