



James A. O'Shaughnessy

Attorney

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PRACTICE AREAS

Employment & Labor

Collective Bargaining

School & Education

School Employment

EDUCATION

Hamilton College, B.A.

University of New Hampshire
School of Law, J.D., *magna
cum laude*

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

New Hampshire

Jim O'Shaughnessy focuses his practice on the representation of public school districts and school boards, and other educational institutions, including charter schools and child care centers.

Jim's practice involves all aspects school law, including board representation and governance, school district organization and finance, policy development and implementation, school safety and guns in schools, and student discipline. Jim advises schools boards and superintendents regarding New Hampshire's Right to Know Law, crisis management, rights of students and school employees, and compliance with state and federal laws and regulations. He conducts seminars and trainings on a variety of topics, including school district organization and board governance, effective teacher evaluations, staff misconduct investigations, employees' and students' rights under the First, Fourth, and Fourteenth Amendments, collective bargaining, bullying and cyberbullying.

Jim represents public employers at the bargaining table, in grievance arbitration proceedings and mediation, in state and federal court proceedings, and before state administrative agencies, including the Public Employee Labor Relations Board, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor, and the Department of Education.

Jim was elected in 2019 to serve a two-year term as the Chair of the NH Council of School Attorneys and was appointed by the Council to serve as its representative on the NH Legislative Commission to Study Cooperative School District Issues.

Jim is a presenter at Drummond Woodsum's Annual New Hampshire Principals Academy, which is a two-day intensive seminar designed specifically for school district administrators. Jim has presented at the Bradley F. Kidder Education Law Conference every year since 2010. He was a presenter at the 2019 NH Association of School Principals "Legal Essentials for Busy School Leaders" conference and is a frequent presenter at the NH Association of

School Business Officials. Jim authored the New Hampshire Bar Journal Article: Is Cyber-Bullying the Next “Columbine”: Can New Hampshire Schools Prevent Cyber-Bullying and Avoid Liability?

Jim graduated from Hamilton College and in the top ten percent of his class from the University of New Hampshire School Of Law. While in law school, he participated in the Daniel Webster Scholar Honors Program, a rigorous two-year honors program. Jim is also a graduate of the 2019 class of Leadership New Hampshire.

REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS & MATTERS

- Baer v. N.H. Dep't of Educ.
- Avery v. N.H. Dep't of Educ
- Appeal of Michael Silverstein
- Taylor v. SAU 55

MEMBERSHIPS

- New Hampshire Bar Association Labor & Employment and Municipal Sections
- New Hampshire Council of School Attorneys
- National School Boards Association Council of School Attorneys
- The Alliance of Public Charter School Attorneys

COMMUNITY/PUBLIC SERVICE

- New Hampshire Bar Journal Advisory Board
Member
- New Hampshire Bar Legislation Committee
Member
- Kimball Jenkins Estate, Paint the Town Committee
Member
- New Hampshire Bar Foundation & New Hampshire Bar Association, Civics in Action
Ambassador
- Daniel Webster Scholar Selection Committee
Member