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Areas of Practice

Alternative Dispute Resolution Executive Compensation and Employee Benefits Labor & Employment Employment Practices Liability

Bar Admissions

New Jersey U.S. District Court District of New Jersey U.S. Court of Appeals Third Circuit

Education

Seton Hall University School of Law J.D., *cum laude*, 1983 Glassboro State College, B.S., 1979

Professional Affiliations

American Bar Association, Labor & Employment Section New Jersey State Bar Association, Labor & Employment Section Somerset County Bar Association Legal Services of Northwest New Jersey, Board of Directors Supreme Court of New Jersey Former Member– District XIII Ethics Committee Sidney Reitman Employment Law Inn of Court Former Member Somerset Valley YMCA Advisory Board 400 Crossing Boulevard 8th Floor

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Patrick T. Collins | Member

Patrick T. Collins, Chair of the Labor & Employment Group, practices labor, employment and personnel law on behalf of employers, and management personnel. He has a wide range of experience in all areas of litigation in both federal and state courts, defending discrimination and sexual harassment claims, wrongful discharge and whistleblower suits, and claims brought under the Americans With Disabilities Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, and the multitude of other civil rights and anti-discrimination laws. In addition, Pat represents parties in breach of contract claims and in actions involving unfair competition, restrictive covenants, and confidentiality agreements.

Pat has appeared before state human rights agencies throughout the country, as well as the EEOC, the National Labor Relations Board, and various wage and hour agencies. He has represented employers in numerous labor grievance/arbitration proceedings and in a variety of other matters relating to the unionization of employees and collective bargaining. He has also worked extensively with employers on public works contracts to ensure compliance with prevailing wage laws.

A great deal of Pat's practice concentrates on counseling employers in making workplace decisions, which will reduce or avoid entirely the risk of litigation. Pat regularly counsels his clients on matters concerning independent contractors and contingent workers, employment policies, employee discipline and terminations, reductions in workforce, and plant closings. He has conducted sexual harassment investigations and employment law audits, and has drafted numerous employee handbooks and substance abuse and workplace privacy policies. Pat has also conducted management and employee training and legal compliance sessions in a variety of areas, including the performance appraisal process and anti-harassment.

Pat is a former member of the Supreme Court of New Jersey, District XIII Ethics Committee, and the Sidney Reitman Employment Law Inn of Court.