

Bill No. 3320-07


APPOINTMENT

Approving the appointment of Paul W. O'Hanlon, Esq., to serve as a member of Allegheny County Citizens' Election System Advisory Panel for a term to expire on December 31, 2007.

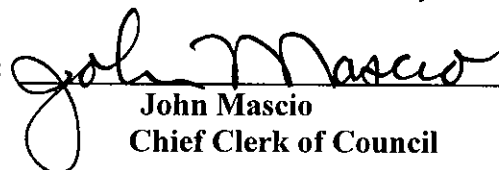
SPONSORED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT FITZGERALD

In Council July 10, 2007.

Received and approved by Motion of Council.



Rich Fitzgerald
President of Council

Attest: 

John Mascio
Chief Clerk of Council

Paul W. O'Hanlon, Esq.
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Employment

Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania (formerly known as Disabilities Law Project of Pennsylvania)

September 2001 to present

2003 to present **Voting Rights Specialist**

- assigned to advocate on behalf of Pennsylvania voters with disabilities in the implementation of the Help America Vote Act.

Major Litigation:

Three Rivers Center for Independent Living v. Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh; class action lawsuit on behalf of individuals with disabilities who have been denied accessible housing as a result of Defendant=s failure to comply with Section 504 and other relevant federal laws. Comprehensive settlement will provide for approximately 321 accessible units to be built/renovated over the next 5 years.

Neighborhood Legal Services Association

July 2000 - August, 2001 **Senior Housing Attorney**

- Senior Housing Attorney required keeping abreast of changes in the law regarding housing issues of concern to low income individuals; determining training needs of staff attorneys handling housing cases; conducting regular meetings of legal services attorneys in the southwestern part of Pennsylvania to discuss emerging issues in housing advocacy; and to plan and present continuing legal education presentations to legal services and pro bono attorneys in housing issues.

1987 - July, 1999 **Housing Specialist**

Housing Specialist duties include:

- handling an active case load of 30 to 50 cases
- eviction and housing actions at all levels of State and Federal Courts
- developing expertise in Motions and Civil Procedure of Landlord/Tenant law
- extensive practice in U.S. Bankruptcy Court
- developing expertise in federal law and HUD regulations regarding Public, Subsidized, and Section 8 housing
- litigating Fair Housing, Civil Rights, and Americans with Disability Act violations
- litigating personal injury, habitability and Consumer Protection counter-claims by Tenants
- raising Constitutional challenges in Federal Court to eviction practices and procedures
- providing legal trainings, and technical support to attorneys in other NLSA offices and Pro Bono attorneys
- attending meetings and providing representation to community and tenant

organizations

August, 1999 - June 2000 **Visiting Clinical Assistant Professor of Law,
University of Pittsburgh School of Law**

Hired for a one-year position in the Family Supports Legal Clinic to replace a faculty member who took a leave of absence. Duties included creating and teaching a Landlord-Tenant Housing Clinic program. In the Housing Clinic I established a relationship with the local District Justice to have her office send out notices of the availability of representation through the Clinic to tenants receiving hearing notices. I taught ten second and third year students the basics of housing/landlord-tenant law, and supervised them as they represented clients.

1985 - 1987 **Staff Attorney**
Hill District Office, NLSA

1979 - 1985 **Staff Attorney**
Homewood Office, NLSA

Staff Attorney responsibilities included:

- handling an active caseload of 75 to 100 cases
- representing clients in local, state and federal courts
- having a law practice in a wide variety of legal areas
- attending meetings and providing representation to community and tenant organizations

1977 - 1979 **Legal Intern**
Housing Unit, NLSA

1976 - 1977 **Legal Intern**
District Attorney's Office

Professional

1979 Admitted to Bar Pennsylvania & Federal Courts

1992 - 2001 Member, Common Pleas Court Landlord/Tenant Advisory Committee

1993 - Present Invited Lecturer, Landlord/Tenant law Continuing Legal Education seminars

Education

1976 - 1979: University of Pittsburgh Law School
Juris Doctor

1972 - 1976: University of Pittsburgh
B.A., Politics and Philosophy

Community

City-County Taskforce on Disability

1994 - Present

Appointed by Pittsburgh Mayor to the Taskforce on Disability to advise the City and County on issues of concern to individuals with disabilities. Major accomplishments include:

- Disability Agenda 2000 - broad community agenda-setting process that included the many different sectors of life for persons with disability: housing, transportation, education, employment, neighborhoods and community.

- Visitability legislation in the City and County to promote at least minimal accessibility in single family homes in our community.

Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council

1992 - 2006

In 1998 I was appointed by Governor Ridge as the Chairperson of the D.D. Council, and served as Chair until 2001. Previous to being appointed chair, I served as Vice-Chair of Council for two years.

The Developmental Disability Planning Councils were created by Federal law in each state to administer funds allocated to improve the lives of citizens with developmental disabilities. Pennsylvania's D.D. Council receives approximately \$4 million per year.

For six years I served on the Homes and Advocacy Committees of Council. My duties on the Homes and Advocacy Committees was to design Requests for Proposals, serve on review committees to review proposals and select winning proposals, and to serve as "Lead Person" to review compliance with the terms of the Council contract. I was Lead Person on four Council projects: Housing Coordination Objective, Citizen Owned Housing, Accessible Transportation Objective, and Leaders Network Objective.

Accessible Transportation Work Group / Committee for Accessible Transportation

1992 - 2000

Served as Chairperson of the Work Group; elected for the six years to serve on the C.A.T. Steering Committee. Invited to participate with the Executive Directors of P.A.T. and ACCESS (the local paratransit provider) on a panel at a national conference of transit providers to discuss effective public participation models. These are two related, over-lapping organizations. The Work Group is an independent, "consumer-driven" advocacy organization. The C.A.T. is an official Committee of Port Authority Transit. These two groups have achieved spectacular results in working with Port Authority to bring their transit system into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Port Authority has received national recognition for their community participation results. The Work Group and C.A.T. are excellent examples of aggressive, but collaborative, non-adversarial citizen advocacy groups.

Personal

- life-long resident of Pittsburgh

- married with one child -- Samuel, born 9/27/95; wife is Associate Research Professor at Carnegie Mellon University

References and writing samples available upon request.