



RAINONE
COUGHLIN
MINCHELLO
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



MARGUERITE M. "PEG" SCHAFFER

OF COUNSEL

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Education

Juris Doctor, Seton Hall University
Bachelor of Arts, University of
Dayton

Bar Admissions

New Jersey

Professional Associations and Memberships

Somerset County Bar Association
New Jersey State Bar Association,
Banking Law, Director Emeritus
American Bar Association, Land Use
Committee on the Judiciary Budget
and the Supreme Court Ethics
Committees of Essex and Morris
Districts
Essex County Women Lawyers
Association, Founding Member
Executive Women of New Jersey,
Board of Directors
Advisory Committee of the Institute
for Women's Leadership at Rutgers

BIOGRAPHY

Marguerite M. "Peg" Schaffer, who specializes in commercial litigation, banking, land use and real estate law, is Of Counsel to Rainone Coughlin Minchello. Ms. Schaffer, who currently serves as Chair of the Somerset County Democratic Committee, was elected as a Delegate to the 2008, 2012, 2016, 2020 and 2024 Democratic National Conventions. She was appointed Vice-Chair of the New Jersey Democratic State Committee in 2019. In 2023 she was appointed as a Board Member to the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority

Ms. Schaffer received her law degree, *cum laude*, from Seton Hall University and was Editor of its Legislative Journal. She also earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Philosophy at the University of Dayton. She holds a Teacher's Certification in Secondary English from the State of New Jersey and prior to law school taught in an inner city high school.

Ms. Schaffer served as an Adjunct Professor at Seton Hall Law School where she taught legal writing, and at Fairleigh Dickinson University where she taught commercial law. She was the Assistant Counsel and Municipal Prosecutor, City of East Orange, NJ; Counsel and Secretary to the Board of Adjustment, City of East Orange, NJ; Counsel to the Planning Board, City of East Orange; and Counsel to and Member of the Board of Directors of Mountain Ridge State Bank. She currently serves as Counsel to the Boroughs of Lake Como and Atlantic Highlands, and Special Counsel to the Township of South Brunswick and the Borough of Roselle.



Ms. Schaffer acts as Special Counsel to a number of domestic and foreign commercial banks. She is an expert in the burgeoning field of Cannabis Law and represents a number of out-of-state entities anxious to do business in New Jersey when legislation permits.

Ms. Schaffer is a past President of Executive Women of New Jersey, the State's premier organization for Professional Women, and a member of its Board of Directors. She serves on the Advisory Committee of the Institute for Women's Leadership at Rutgers. She holds memberships in the Somerset County, New Jersey State and American Bar Associations. For ten years Ms. Schaffer was on the Board of Directors of the New Jersey State Bar Association, Banking Law Section, served as its Chair, and is presently a Director Emeritus.

Professional memberships held by Ms. Schaffer include: Committee on the Judiciary Budget and the Supreme Court Ethics Committees of both Essex and Morris Districts; Land Use Section of the American Bar Association. She was a Founding Member and Secretary of the Essex County Women Lawyers Association.

Ms. Schaffer was honored as a "Woman of Distinction" by Somerset Hills Girls Scouts and named to Business New Jersey's Top 500 Leaders List. In 2006, she received the Eleanor Roosevelt Distinguished Service Award from the Somerset County Federation of Democratic Women. Ms. Schaffer, who currently serves as Chair of the Somerset County Democratic Committee, was elected as a Delegate to the 2008, 2012, 2016, 2020 and 2024 Democratic National Conventions. She was appointed Vice Chair of the New Jersey State Democratic Committee in 2019 and continues to serve in that capacity. She has been named a Super Lawyer by New Jersey Monthly Magazine since 2014.