

Joseph D. Richardson

Partner

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Joseph Richardson concentrates on traditional labor law, advising union clients on strategy and counseling them on all aspects of collective bargaining and employee representation. His work includes representing unions before the National Labor Relations Board and in court and labor arbitration, contract negotiation, assisting and advising unions with organizing campaigns, and providing advice and counsel on internal union matters. Joe believes that representing clients begins with listening to them, understanding where they are coming from and working with them to protect and advance their interests.

Before joining the firm, Joe spent seven years as a field attorney with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) in San Francisco and Philadelphia. As an NLRB attorney, he investigated and litigated unfair labor practice charges and represented the Board in administrative hearings and injunction proceedings in U.S. District Court. He also represented his co-workers as an NLRB Union local president and served as a pro bono arbitrator for denials of service at homeless shelters in San Francisco. In law school, he represented underserved D.C. residents in eviction proceedings as part of a student law clinic, and he now volunteers his time representing individuals facing eviction in Philadelphia. Before attending law school, Joe proudly served five years in the Marine Corps, where he learned Arabic and was selected for an elite Marine reconnaissance unit. He served in both Iraq and Afghanistan as a servicemember and civilian contractor.

WHAT INSPIRES ME ABOUT MY WORK

“For most people, the single most important economic relationship in their life is with their employer—their access to opportunity and a decent standard of living for their families depend on the terms of that relationship. I am inspired by the clients I work with who are out there every day striving to improve the lives of working people.”

AWAY FROM WORK



“I have two young boys and so there is a lot of wrestling, bike riding, and getting out in nature with them—we spend a lot of time playing in the Wissahickon, and we love camping. I am a former amateur bicycle racer and I still like to ride whenever I have time.”

Practice Areas

- Grievance and Interest Arbitration
- Union Officer Training and Education
- Union Rights – NLRB and PLRB Proceedings
- Collective Bargaining and Negotiations
- Labor Law – Unions

Education

- American University, Washington College of Law (J.D. *magna cum laude*, 2011)
 - Editor, Administrative Law Review
 - Member, Order of the Coif, American University Washington College of Law
- St. John's College, Annapolis (B.A. , 1999)

Honors and Awards

- Received the Mussey Prize and the Wallace L. Duncan Award for Outstanding Scholarship in the Field of Administrative Law, American University Washington College of Law
- Received the Thomas O. Sargentich Award for Administrative Law Review Outstanding Junior Staff, American University Washington College of Law
- Selected to the Pennsylvania Super Lawyers – Rising Star list, Super Lawyers (Thomson Reuters), 2020-2021