

# WILENTZ

—ATTORNEYS AT LAW—

WILENTZ, GOLDMAN & SPITZER, P.A.

## John A. Hoffman

Of Counsel

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### Practices

Administrative Law & Government  
Agencies

Energy Law

Redevelopment

### Education

J.D., Georgetown University Law  
Center, 1963

B.S., Seattle University, 1960

### Admission

New Jersey, 1963

### Memberships

New Jersey State Bar Association,  
Public Utility Section

American Bar Association, Fellow

Federal Energy Bar Association

John A. Hoffman is Of Counsel at Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A. and formerly served as the firm's Chairman of the Board, President and Managing Director, and Treasurer. Mr. Hoffman is an esteemed member of the New Jersey legal and business communities and has practiced at Wilentz for over 55 years.

Mr. Hoffman has served as general counsel to Middlesex County College for over 50 years and as special counsel to New Brunswick Housing Authority and New Brunswick Parking Authority in major redevelopment projects in the city since the 1970s. He has represented the Middlesex County Improvement Authority and Middlesex County in the acquisition of open space in the County, and the Middlesex County Utilities Authority for over 30 years. He serves on the Board of Directors of New Jersey American Water Company and New York American Water Company. Mr. Hoffman has represented major public utilities in regulatory proceedings for many years and served as co-chair of the Board of Public Utilities Transition Committee for former Governor James E. McGreevey. Recently, he was appointed and served two years as a Commissioner of the State Commission of Investigation, which investigates and issues reports on organized crime and inappropriate actions by public agencies. He previously served as a commissioner of the New Jersey Racing Commission. He is a member of the Middlesex County College Foundation.

In 2017, Mr. Hoffman was honored by the Auxiliary and the Robert Wood Johnson (RWJ) University Hospital for his dedicated commitment to the Auxiliary and RWJ University Hospital as a member of RWJBarnabas Health Board of Trustees, and former Chair and current member of RWJ University Hospital Board of Directors. In 2015, Mr. Hoffman received the Distinguished Citizen Award from the Boy Scouts of America organization. In 2014, he and his late wife Judith received honors from the American Cancer Society. Mr. Hoffman received the Lawyer Achievement Award from the Middlesex County Bar Association in 2011, and the L'Hommedieu Award from Middlesex County College in 2010. He was presented with the Saint Thomas More Award from the Diocese of

Metuchen in 2007, and received the Community Leadership of Distinction Award from the Middlesex County Regional Chamber of Commerce in 2003. The Woodbridge Chamber of Commerce named Mr. Hoffman "Citizen of the Year" in 2000. In 1998, he was presented the "Torch of Liberty" award from the Anti-Defamation League—an honor recognized in a Joint Legislative Resolution of the New Jersey Senate and General Assembly. Mr. Hoffman was named an *NJBIZ* 2022 ICON Award honoree, the list recognizes New Jersey's most influential leaders in business over the age of 60. Since 2021, Mr. Hoffman has been ranked by *Chambers USA*, and selected for inclusion in the *Best Lawyers in America* list since 2001 for Administrative/Regulatory Law and Energy Law, including as "Lawyer of the Year" in 2020 and 2024. He has also been named to the New Jersey *Super Lawyers* list since its inception in 2005.

Chambers USA® (<https://chambers.com/about-us/methodology>) is published by Chambers and Partners.

Super Lawyers® ([http://www.superlawyers.com/about/selection\\_process\\_detail.html](http://www.superlawyers.com/about/selection_process_detail.html)) is published by Thomson Reuters.

Best Lawyers in America® (<https://www.bestlawyers.com/methodology>) is published by Best Lawyers.

NJBIZ ICON honorees (<https://njbiz.com/introducing-the-2022-njbiz-icon-honorees/>) is published by BridgeTower Media. Chosen by a panel of independent judges with experience in business and the justice system, honorees were selected based on their accomplishments as "business leaders over the age of 60 for their notable success and demonstration of strong leadership both within and outside of their chosen field."

A description of the selection processes may be accessed via the above links. The aforementioned organizations are private peer review organizations, not court-specific, public certification vehicles. No aspect of this advertisement has been submitted to or approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

Mr. Hoffman serves on the Boards of Directors of RWJBarnabas and Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. He served as chairman of the Board of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital from 2009-2012, and as chairman of the Board of Trustees for Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Foundation from 2001-2004. In 2012, Mr. Hoffman was named Hospital and Healthcare System Trustee of the Year by the New Jersey Hospital Association. He served on the Board of Trustees, legal and executive committees for the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey from 2003-2009. Mr. Hoffman was a speaker at the Administrative Law Conference of the Public Utility Section of the New Jersey State Bar Association (NJSBA) in 1976 and 1978 in connection with regulatory issues. He also attended various meetings of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, New Jersey Utilities Association, and Great Lakes Conference of Public Utilities Commissioners.

Mr. Hoffman resides in New Brunswick, New Jersey. He was married to his late wife Judith for 53 years. Mr. Hoffman has two children, John Jay Hoffman, the former Attorney General of the State of New Jersey and now Chief Counsel for Rutgers University, and Beth Driscoll, a teacher in Massachusetts. Mr. Hoffman has four grandchildren, Casey, Aiden, John Stuart, and Margaret Rose.

## **Selected Matters**

Results achieved in prior matters are not meant to be a guarantee of success as the facts and legal circumstances vary from matter to matter.

- Acted as attorney for the Board of Trustees of Middlesex County College from the formation of the college to the present.
- Acted as construction and general counsel to the Middlesex County Utilities Authority.
- Acted as attorney for Middlesex County Improvement Authority and Middlesex County in connection with acquisition of open space in the County.
- Acted as special redevelopment and condemnation counsel to the Housing Authority and Urban Redevelopment Authority of the City of New Brunswick on various redevelopment projects from 1980 to the present, including but not limited to the Hyatt Hotel Project, Golden Triangle Project, Kilmer Square Project, Riverwatch Project, Providence Square Project, HOPE VI Revitalization Project, Civic Square II, III and IV Projects, the Heldrich Center for Workforce Development, Gateway Project, Wellness Center Project and Cultural Center Project.
- Represented the New Brunswick Parking Authority on its recent Gateway, Wellness Center and Cultural Center Project.
- Represented New Jersey Bell Telephone Company, as special counsel, before New Jersey Appellate Division, defending Board of Regulatory Commissioners (BRC) approval of Plan for deployment of fiber optic technology in connection with a relaxed form of regulation of telecommunication service rates.
- Represented Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) in connection with its rate unbundling, stranded costs, and restructuring filings before the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, its related petition for a bondable stranded costs rate order, and the subsequent resolution of those cases by a stipulation of settlement that was adopted by the Board. Mr. Hoffman successfully defended that settlement in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Appellate Division and subsequently in the Supreme Court of New Jersey, where the settlement was upheld.
- Represented PSE&G as special counsel in connection with various rate proceedings: prepared witnesses; cross-examined adverse witnesses; briefed rate of return, taxes, accounting and related matters, and various accounting and rate design issues in connection with appeal.
- Represented Williams Telecommunications in connection with property acquisition for transmission line.
- Represents New Jersey Natural Gas Company in connection with various regulatory issues.
- Represented municipal intervenor in water company petition for

rate increases by West Keansburg Water Company, 1980-83; represented intervenors in Jersey Central Power and Light Company and in New Jersey Natural Gas Company rate cases, 1978-83.

- Retained as legal consultant and/or counsel to the consumer advocate(s) or utility commission staff(s) in electric and telephone rate cases in Colorado, Delaware, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Guam.
- Retained by municipalities and private industry to intervene in connection with rate increase applications before the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities by gas utilities, electric utilities, water utilities and solid waste utilities.
- Retained as special rate counsel by the Attorney General and the Department of the Public Advocate, Division of Rate Counsel, to appear before the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities in the following rate increase application proceedings: Jersey Central Power and Light Company; New Jersey Bell Telephone Company; and Public Service Electric & Gas Company.