



HON. JEFFREY A. COHEN

Associate Justice, Supreme Court of the State of New York, Appellate Division, Second Judicial Department (Ret.)

Hon. Jeffrey A. Cohen joined NAM after serving with distinction for over a decade as an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division, Second Department, New York, which he was appointed to by Governor David A. Paterson. During his long tenure in this position, he handled with alacrity virtually every type of civil and criminal case emanating from the 10 counties within and around the city of New York. These cases principally focused on commercial, contract, matrimonial, employment, labor law, election law, and real estate with regards to development/zoning issues, foreclosures and Article 78 proceedings. Justice Cohen authored numerous appellate opinions in the areas noted above.

Prior to his rapid ascension to the appellate bench in 2010, Justice Cohen was elected to New York State Supreme Court, 9th Judicial District which includes Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Dutchess, and Orange counties. He also served as Judge from 2007-2009 on the Westchester County Court, while at the position he was appointed acting Supreme Court justice. During that time, Judge Cohen presided over hundreds of motions, hearings, and as well as numerous jury and bench trials.

He was elected and re-elected as town justice of Yorktown for 17 years. While serving as a town justice, he was a founding partner of Cohen Timko & Moses, LLP in White Plains. As a practicing attorney and litigator, he primarily handled civil and criminal litigation, real estate, bankruptcy, cooperative and condominium board representation, as well as commercial and personal injury matters.

Based upon his experience both on the bench and as an attorney, he has garnered a vast amount of knowledge and experience in a variety of case types which include but are not limited to personal injury, slip and fall, auto accidents, premises liability, attorney malpractice, medical malpractice including nursing home litigation experience, high end matrimonial involving financial disputes and monetary distribution, construction and labor law, employment law including wage and hour, discrimination matters, wrongful termination, sexual harassment, and negligence.

Justice Cohen is well regarded for his patient, fair, respectful, and unbiased manner when deciding cases and assisting parties with the settlement of their disputes. For over eight years, he served as the Chair of the Westchester County Board of Ethics appointed by the Westchester County Executive resolving conflicts between county employees and county government. In 2015, he was appointed by the Chief Judge of the State of New York to the Statewide Commission on Attorney Discipline. The purpose of the commission was to find uniformity with respect to attorney discipline throughout the state of New York. While serving as Justice on the Appellate division, he also served on the Committee to Oversee Representation of the Indigent in Criminal Cases.

Justice Cohen co-authored several articles on consumer protection and autism and the law which outlined the challenging legal issues faced by the courts and how to handle actions and damages. He remains active in bar association activities including serving as the President and Founder of the Justice Brandeis Law Society, 9th Judicial District, and President and Founder of the Jewish Bar Alliance, an umbrella organization of the five Jewish Bar Associations of Greater New York.

The Independent Judicial Election Qualifications Commission rated Justice Cohen as highly qualified. He has been consistently rated "AV" by Martindale-Hubbell Law in legal ability and ethics —the highest rating recognized by this national publication.

Justice Cohen is available to arbitrate and mediate cases throughout the United States.

AREAS of EXPERIENCE

- Attorney Malpractice
- Commercial
- Construction
- Employment
- Matrimonial
- Medical Malpractice
- Negligence
- Product Liability
- Professional liability
- Real Estate
- Torts and Premises Liability

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Noteworthy Civil Appellate Opinions:

- Achieve IT Solutions, LLC v Joseph Lewis, et al. Diagnostic Imaging Group, LLC, (2020 NY Slip Op 04137)
- Bader v. River Edge at Hastings Owners Corp. 159 A.D. 3d 780 (2018) [2d Dept 2018]
- People v. McCullum, 159 A.D. 3d 8 (2018) [2d 2018]
- Evergreen Ass'n, Inc. v Schneiderman, 153 AD3d 87 [2d Dept 2017]
- Matter of Universal Metal & Ore, Inc. v. Westchester County Solid Waste Com'n, 145 AD3d 46 [2d Dept 2016]
- Gotkin v. Allstate Ins. Co., 142 AD3d 17 [2d Dept, 2016]
- Deutsche Bank Tr. Co. Americas v. Vitellas, 131 AD3d 52 [2d Dept 2015]
- Matter of Georgetown Unsold Shares, LLC v Ledet, 130 AD3d 99 [2d Dept 2015]
- Paulus v. Christopher Vacirca, Inc., 128 AD3d 116 [2d Dept 2015]
- People v. Brown, 115 AD3d 155 [2nd Dept 2014], affd, 25 NY3d 247 [2015]
- People v. Webster, 126 AD3d 821 [2d Dept 2015]
- Indep. Bank v. Valentine, 113 AD3d 62 [2nd Dept 2013]
- People v. Sepe, 111 AD3d 75 [2d Dept 2013]
- Trump Vil. Section 3, Inc. v. City of New York, 109 AD3d 899 [2d Dept 2013], affd, 24 NY3d 451 [2014]
- Matter of Hei Ting C., 109 AD3d 100 [2d Dept 2013]

LECTURES and PUBLICATIONS

- Panel Member, *Inside the Mind of the Mediator: Avoiding Impasse and Maximizing Outcomes in Mediation*, New York City Bar, Bridge-the-Gap webinar, 2022
- Speaker, *Successful Mediation: Moving from Gridlock to Settlement*, webinar presented to the New York State Academy of Trial Lawyers, 2021
- Frequent Lecturer, New York State Bar Association, Appellate Practice Section
- Judicial Lecturer (Continuing Legal Education), Westchester County Magistrate's Association and to numerous bar associations

HONORS and AWARDS

- Benjamin N. Cardozo Award, Jewish Lawyers Guild, 2019
- Person of the Year Award, Brooklyn Brandeis Society, 2018

JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE

- Associate Justice, Appellate Division, Supreme Court of the State of New York, Second Judicial Department, 2010-2020
- Justice of the Supreme Court, State of New York, Ninth Judicial District, 2010
- Judge of the County Court, County of Westchester, State of New York, 9th Judicial District, 2007-2009
- Presiding Judge, Sex Offense Part, Westchester County Court, 2008-2009
- Acting Justice of the Supreme Court, State of New York, 2009
- Justice of the Town of Yorktown, New York, 1990-2006

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

- Of Counsel, Abrams Fensterman, LLP, 2021-Present
- Founding Partner, Cohen Timko & Moses, LLP, 1985-2006
- Trial Attorney, The Legal Aid Society of Westchester County, 1977-1981, 1985
- Confidential Law Clerk, Westchester County Court Judge, 1976

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES and ADMISSIONS

- State Bar of New York
- United States District Court of the Southern and Eastern District of New York
- United States Supreme Court
- State of Israel Bar

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS and ASSOCIATIONS

- President & Co-Founder Jewish Bar Alliance NY
- President & Co-Founder Justice Brandeis Law Society, 9th Judicial District
- Member, Brooklyn Brandeis Association
- Member, Statewide Commission on Attorney Discipline
- Member, Historical Society of the New York Courts
- Member, Committee to Promote Gender Fairness, 9th Judicial District
- Judiciary Committee of Westchester County Domestic Violence Council
- New York State Supreme Court Justices Association
- New York State County Judges Association
- New York State Bar Association
- Westchester County Bar Association
- Women's Bar Association of Westchester County and New York State

EDUCATION

- Rutgers University School of Law, J.D.
- New York University, B.A.