



HOPE R. BLACKBURN

COUNSEL

EDUCATION LAW | PUBLIC LAW

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BIOGRAPHY

Hope R. Blackburn primarily focuses her practice on Education Law. She has decades of experience providing legal representation to dozens of public school boards, various educational institutions and school administrators. She also has experience handling matters related to labor & employment, public law, contract negotiation and drafting, governance, litigation and more.

Prior to joining Scarinci Hollenbeck, Ms. Blackburn served as General Counsel for Jersey City Public Schools, where she provided advice and counsel to the Jersey City Board of Education in all areas of school district operations ranging from public procurement to student due process and was responsible for providing legal guidance to transition the District back to local control.

Ms. Blackburn is the former Director of Purchase and Property for the State of New Jersey, a former Assistant Counsel in the Office of Governor's Counsel, and was Special Assistant for Policy and Planning to the Commissioner of Education responsible for managing the Englewood School District regionalization study. As the Director of the Bureau of Controversies and Disputes for the Department of Education she co-authored the Commissioner's decision creating the State-operated Newark Public Schools. Ms. Blackburn subsequently served as part of the Newark Public Schools transition team and as the General Counsel for the Newark Public Schools.

Ms. Blackburn is a Trustee of the Educational Leadership Foundation of New Jersey (ELFNJ), immediate past President of the New Jersey Association of School Attorneys, and a member of the New Jersey State Bar Association, the New Jersey Women Lawyers Association and the National Association of Women Lawyers. She a

co-chair of the Princeton Prize in Race Relations for Northern New Jersey and is a member of the Asperger's Parents Education Network. Ms. Blackburn earned her Juris Doctor from the Villanova University School of Law in Villanova, PA. She earned her undergraduate degree from Princeton University in Princeton, NJ where she majored in History.

EDUCATION

- Villanova University (J.D., 1984)
- Princeton University (B.A., 1981)

BAR ADMISSIONS

- New Jersey
- Pennsylvania
- US District Court of New Jersey

AFFILIATIONS

- New Jersey State Bar Association, Education Law and Women in the Profession Subcommittee
- New Jersey Women Lawyer's Association, In-House Counsel Subcommittee
- National School Boards Association (NSBA), Council of School Attorneys and Council of Urban Boards of Education
- New Jersey Association of Black Women Lawyers
- New Jersey Association of School Administrators (NJASA)
- New Jersey Association of School Business Officials (NJASBO)
- National Association of Women Lawyers
- Aspergers Syndrome Parents Education Network