

PARTNER

MIKE DONOFRIO

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Building on decades of experience as a litigator, counselor, educator, and problem-solver, Mike Donofrio proudly leads Stris & Maher’s Pro Bono Practice, with a focus on restoring trust in democratic processes.

Mike’s pro bono work centers on litigating matters related to voting rights, the electoral process, and institutional reform, including a robust Supreme Court amicus practice. He also provides strategic support to organizations and initiatives working to make democratic institutions and processes more representative and transparent.

Since joining Stris & Maher in 2017, Mike has also maintained a dynamic commercial litigation practice, spearheading complex matters in state and federal courts for clients ranging from pensioners asserting ERISA claims to closely-held, non-profit, and major public corporations. His litigation approach leverages the unique experience he gained serving in state government before joining Stris & Maher. Mike was the first general counsel of the Green Mountain Care Board, an innovative, first-of-its-kind regulatory body created by Vermont’s landmark 2011 health care reform law. He also worked as an Assistant Attorney General, representing the State of Vermont as lead counsel in complex constitutional litigation and high-stakes, multi-state arbitration under the tobacco Master Settlement Agreement. Prior to his government work, Mike spent the first seven years of his career in a busy commercial litigation and



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white-collar defense practice in New York City, where he had the chance to participate actively in several weeks-long trials.

Mike's work is also informed by the two years he spent teaching Legal Writing at Brooklyn Law School, where he cemented his commitment to two key principles that still form the core of his approach: (1) talking and writing clearly and simply about complicated problems and solutions; and (2) recognizing the opportunity to learn from every case, client, adversary, and experience he encounters in his practice.

Mike graduated with honors from Williams College and earned his law degree from NYU Law School. Upon returning to his home state of Vermont in 2002, he clerked for Justice Marilyn Skoglund of the Vermont Supreme Court. He currently serves as the Vice-Chair of Vermont's Judicial Conduct Board. Outside of practicing law, Mike is an avid mountain biker, skier, music lover, and bass player.



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