

MICHAEL B. KATES

KATES NUSSMAN RAPONE ELLIS & FARHI, L.L.P.

190 Moore Street - Suite 306
Hackensack, N J 07601-7418
website: katesnussman.com

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

- **Master** - “Mount Laurel” case, Tice Associates v. Borough of Saddle River - by appointment of the Hon. Jonathan N. Harris, J.S.C., May 26, 1998. Court entered judgment of repose (oversight compliance reviews ongoing).
- **Ethics Committee** - District VI (Hudson County), by appointment of the Supreme Court of New Jersey, 1988 to 1992.

REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS (Municipal Law, Zoning and Planning)

- **General counsel**, New Jersey Planning Officials, serving zoning and planning board members, elected officials and land-use professionals, and affiliated with the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.
- **General counsel** to **Skylands CLEAN, Inc.**, an environmental not-for-profit corporation based in Passaic County, New Jersey, funded by the Dodge Foundation.
- **Counsel** to the **Zoning Board of Adjustment, Borough of Closter**, February 1992 to date.
- **Counsel** to the **Zoning Board of Adjustment, Borough of Alpine**, August 2005 to date.
- **Counsel** to the **Planning Board, Borough of Englewood Cliffs**, January 2006 to date.
- Previously municipal attorney for the **Township of Teaneck** and **Borough of Fair Lawn**.

EMPLOYMENT

1969 to date	Kates Nussman Rapone Ellis & Farhi, L.L.P. Hackensack, NJ; partner since January 1978.
1988 to date	Co-adjunct professor, Rutgers University, Department of Government Services, Division of Continuing Education, instructing public officials on NJ zoning and planning law.

EDUCATION

B.A. **Colgate University, 1964;**

High Honors, Political Science; Austen Colgate Scholar.

J.D. Rutgers University, School of Law, 1967;
American Jurisprudence Award, Appellate Moot Court;
Chairman, Law Students Civil Rights Research Council.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Member of American Bar Association, New Jersey State Bar Association, Bergen County Bar Association;

Member of the bar of the Supreme Court of the United States (1989) and the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit (1984).

Municipal Land Use Law Technical Review Committee of the NJ State League of Municipalities, appointed February 1993; previously on predecessor MLUL drafting committee of NJ State League of Municipalities from 1986 to 1992.

PUBLICATIONS

"Pop Quiz: Spot the 'Poison Pill' Conflict of Interest", New Jersey Law Journal, January 25, 1993 (133 N.J.L.J. 236).

"Civilian Complaint Review Boards - A Prototype", Municipal Law Review, Vol. 14, No. 1 (March 1992).

"Private Clubs That Discriminate: Can Liquor Licenses be Withheld by the Municipality?", Municipal Law Review, Vol. 12, No. 4 (December 1990).

"Public Relations and Public Information Services - To Bid or Not to Bid", Municipal Law Review, Vol. 12, No. 4 (March 1992).

MARTINDALE-HUBBELL RATING - AV¹

NEW JERSEY SUPER LAWYER 2009 – LAND USE/ZONING

PERSONAL HISTORY

Michael Kates is a life-long resident of Teaneck, where he served as Teaneck municipal

¹ Martindale-Hubbell is a national and international database for the legal community, with ratings based upon peer reviews in the locality where the lawyer practices. Legal ability ratings are: “C” (from Good to High), “B” (from High to Very High) and “A” (from Very High to Preeminent). General ethical standards, if included, have only one rating: “V” (Very High).

attorney for six years (1986-87, 1990-94) and planning board attorney for sixteen years (1970-1986). He is a partner in the Hackensack law firm of Kates, Nussman, Rapone Ellis & Farhi, L.L.P. The firm has an eighty-year history in Union City, New Jersey, and relocated to Hackensack in 1993.

Mr. Kates specializes in municipal law, zoning and planning, land development, and legal services to special needs populations. In 2004 he was appointed as General Counsel to the New Jersey Planning Officials, the State-wide organization of municipal planning boards and zoning boards. The position of General Counsel has been held by William M. Cox, who wrote the definitive treatise relied on by land use practitioners and boards and to which Mr. Kates is a contributor.

Mr. Kates is also general counsel to Advance Housing, Inc., a consortium of the residential directors of mental health agencies in Bergen County, providing supportive housing and clinical services to the mentally ill. He is also general counsel to Skylands CLEAN, non-profit advocacy group protective of the watershed areas of the Highlands Region. CLEAN was an instrumental force in the adoption of the Highlands Water Protection & Planning Act.

Mr. Kates was honored in 1998 by the Bergen County Bar Foundation with its Community Service Award. His other community activities include:

- Chairman of the Board of North Jersey Friendship House, a not-for-profit agency that is a leader in vocational training and job placement for persons with disabilities.
- Advisory Board of Jewish Family Service of Bergen County and a former President of that organization (1986-88). JFS financed the purchase of its office building in Teaneck with a charitable remainder trust that Mr. Kates conceived of and helped to negotiate with the prior owners of the property.

Mr. Kates is married to Jacqueline B. Kates, the former Mayor of the Township of Teaneck, who is a community relations consultant for Holy Name Hospital and Fairleigh Dickinson University. They have two children, Meredith, an elementary education teacher, Brian, a film editor, and one grandchild, Maya.