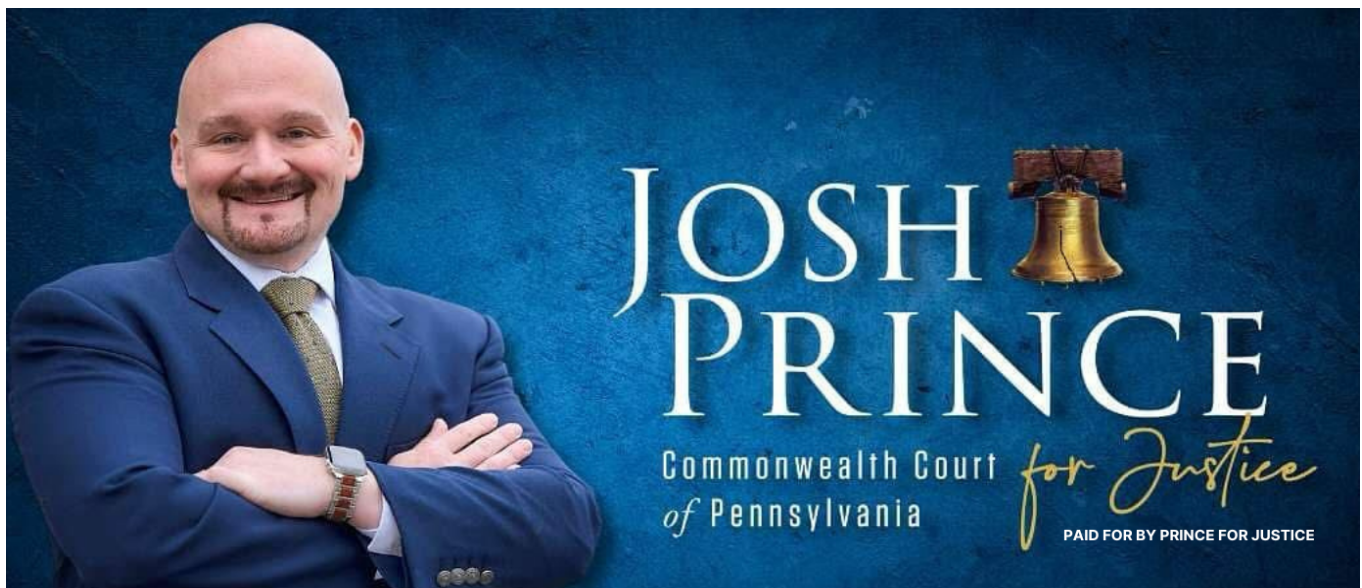




Who is Josh Prince?

In One Sentence

An unparalleled career of holding the Government accountable to the law *as written* and the Constitution *as intended* by our Founding Fathers.

Defining Statement

You don't have to listen to a single word I say; instead, simply review the cases I've litigated and the arguments I've made, and you'll know everything you need to know about who I am, what I stand for, and what I have to offer to the Commonwealth Court.

Judicial Philosophy

A fair and impartial judiciary requires not only a deep understanding of the law but also a commitment to applying it as written to uphold justice for *all*. Compassion for people is at the heart of this approach—treating each person with dignity and recognizing that the law, when applied equally and with integrity, provides a framework for fairness. Even when a ruling does not go in someone's favor, justice cannot be merely punitive; it should also offer a path to restoration.

Restorative justice provides individuals, businesses, and governmental entities with opportunities to regain good standing in society. This can include making restitution, engaging in mediation, participating in community service, adopting corrective policies, or implementing reforms that promote accountability and



positive change. By prioritizing constructive, collaborative solutions, restorative justice strengthens communities, builds trust, and ensures that justice not only enforces accountability but also facilitates healing and reintegration within society.

In my personal and professional life, I strive to uphold these values—demonstrating fairness, patience, and a commitment to solutions that encourage growth and accountability. As an example, when a family was cited, as a result of a neighbor's complaint, for having erected a swimming pool too closely to the property line, when the issue came before our zoning hearing board, I took the time not to just simply explain the problem in relation to the zoning ordinance but to encourage and assist the neighbors in coming to an amicable resolution that would also be acceptable to the township. I have also dedicated time to volunteer work and have provided *pro bono* legal services for people in difficult situations to provide access to justice for those in need. As then-President of the Pottstown Police Athletic League, I drafted completely new bylaws for the organization so that the necessary and proper checks on power were instituted, even in relation to my own powers as the President. I treat employees and colleagues with kindness, recognizing that a supportive and balanced workplace benefits both individuals and the legal profession. I encourage those I work with to take time for themselves and their families, understanding that a well-rounded life fosters stronger professionals and better service to the community.

Additionally, I have always conducted myself with ***integrity***, having never been involved in the criminal justice system - except to the extent I am representing a client - or been found civilly liable. I believe that the judiciary must reflect the ***highest ethical standards***, and I lead by example in both my professional and personal conduct. In fact, when I filed a King Bench Application with the Pennsylvania Supreme Court challenging the forced closure of law firms under the original COVID mandate, in the first sentence, I notified the Court, pursuant to my ethical requirements, that I was actively violating the mandate by preparing and filing the action.

A judge must also ***balance humility and common sense*** with ***decisiveness*** and a well-defined sense of ***justice***—ensuring that every person who comes before the court is heard, respected, and treated fairly and impartially under the law.



Personally

After graduating from the Hill School in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, I went to McGill University in Montreal, Quebec. I double-majored in Political Science and World Religions and graduated with honors. I came back stateside, where I attended Widener Law School. I graduated with honors and as a member of the law review.

More recently, a little over two years ago, I married the love of my life and best friend, Jessica. Since then, she has always been by my side through a prior candidacy (which started 5 days after our wedding!) and life's experiences. We have also embarked on our IVF journey. And

I say journey, because it has taken well over a year in going through the process and unexpected delays. But now, Jessica is pregnant with our little baby girl and we anticipate welcoming her into this world in late September.

We also have two pups - Rocky and Lucia. Rocky, a Husky-Lab-Pit mix, who just turned 12, is my adoptive son, whom Jessica rescued as a pup from a drug house. Lucia, *aka* Baby Shark, is the newest addition to our family, although she's 6 years old. She was a rescue from the Warren County, Ohio, Humane Society because no one wanted to adopt a 6 year old girl. Both of whom have already been out on the campaign trail with us!

Professionally

As many know, I have spent my entire career defending our civil liberties in the state and federal courts, standing up for the voiceless and those who fear using their voice to speak out against the violations of their rights by the Government.

While I am most well-known for my successful Second Amendment advocacy, I have handled all forms of constitutional issues, including freedom of speech, freedom of

religion, equal protection, due process, and what constitutes reasonable suspicion of criminal activity. Beyond constitutional issues, I have handled everything from representing injured workers in Workers' Compensation matters, to unemployment compensation, to family law, to class actions. For a more complete listing, see the below section on areas of law that I've handled.



Most appellate attorneys will tell you that if you have an attorney who is successful 30-40% of the time before the appellate courts, you have a really good appellate attorney. Focusing on the Commonwealth Court and just in relation to the last six years, I have litigated thirteen cases before it, where I have already won ten, am awaiting decisions in two, and the one I lost is expected to be overturned by the Supreme Court. Beyond the possibility of my success rate being an unparalleled 100%, it reflects that my arguments are grounded in the law and Constitution, as acknowledged by the judges of the Commonwealth Court. It is also an almost unheard-of number of cases, in such a short amount of time, to be litigated by an attorney, who is a non-government attorney.

And these are cases that I actually litigated in an adversarial context, generally against the Commonwealth or local forms of government for the purpose of holding them accountable to the law. Several of the cases involve issues of first impression, meaning that it is the first time the court has ever had the opportunity to weigh in on the specific law. Others involve situations where the court had previously issued decisions against the position of my client. Yet, time after time, I was successful in obtaining decisions in my clients' favor.

Areas of Law of Practice

I have handled the following areas of law:

- Administrative Law
- Class Actions, involving the deprivation of individuals' statutory rights;
- Constitutional Law/Civil Rights deprivations at the state and federal level, including the right to keep and bear arms, unlawful seizure, failure to provide procedural and substantive due process, what constitutes reasonable suspicion of criminal activity, and violations of equal rights
- Criminal Law
- Election Law
- Estate Planning and Administration
- Family Law
- Firearms Law, at the state and federal level
- General Civil Law (including landlord/tenant)
- Mental Health Commitments under Pennsylvania's Mental Health and Procedures Act;
- Right to Know Law
- School Law, including requirements to provide students with due process and the appointment of school law enforcement officers
- Social Security Disability Law
- Zoning Law and current District Township Zoning Hearing Board Chairman

Select Major Cases/Issues

COVID

- *Civil Rights Defense Firm, et al. v. Governor Wolf*, 63 MM 2020 – Sued former-Governor Wolf in the Supreme Court, during COVID, to get law firms and firearm dealers deemed essential and allowed to reopen. Thereafter, went on to represent numerous small businesses, parents, students, school officials, and employees in relation to everything from masking and vaccination exceptions to defending against fines being imposed by the Wolf Administration. As just one example, we were successful in having almost \$100,000 in fines thrown out against Taste of Sicily.

Right to Keep and Bear Arms

- *Suarez, et al. v. PSP Commissioner*, 1:21-cv-710, 2024 WL 3521517 (M.D. Pa. July 24, 2024) – Establishing that Pennsylvania's state of emergency provision (18 Pa.C.S. § 6107) was facially unconstitutional in relation to the Second Amendment and its transportation law (18 Pa.C.S. § 6106) was partially, facially unconstitutional to the extent that it precluded the carrying of a loaded firearm in a vehicle without a license and imposed restrictions on the locations to and from that one may transport an unloaded firearm in the absence of a license.
- *Lara, et al. v. Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police*, 91 F.4th 122 (3d Cir. 2024) – Establishing before the Third Circuit that 18-to-20-year-olds are protected by the Second Amendment and resultantly, Pennsylvania's banning of

18-to-21-year-olds from carrying firearms outside of their homes during a state of emergency violated the Second Amendment.

- [*Michael Keyes, et al., v. Lynch, et al.*, 195 F.Supp.3d 702 \(M.D. Pa. 2016\) and 282 F.Supp.3d 858 \(M.D. Pa. 2017\)](#) – Establishing for a first time in the Nation a right to relief under a Second Amendment *as-applied* challenge to a single-isolated involuntary mental health commitment. The court held that 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(4)’s prohibition, in perpetuity, was unconstitutional as applied. Thereafter, I was successful in reinstituting Plaintiff Keyes’ claim and obtaining relief for him, as well.

Reasonable Suspicion of Criminal Activity

- [*Commonwealth v. Hicks*, 652 Pa. 353 \(2019\)](#) – Establishing before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, as an Amicus Curiae, that the mere open or concealed carrying of a firearm does not, in and of itself, result in reasonable suspicion of a crime. More than 80% of the arguments I put forth were adopted by the Court.

Due Process

- [*Alton Franklin v. Sessions, et al.*, 291 F.Supp.3d 705 \(W.D. Pa. 2017\)](#) – Establishing for the first time in Pennsylvania that a 302 evaluation under Pennsylvania’s Mental Health and Procedures Act does not trigger a federal prohibition under 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(4), due to the lack of due process provided. *See also*, [*Wilborn v. Barr*, 401 F. Supp. 3d 501 \(E.D. Pa. 2019\)](#) – Establishing the same.
- [*Andrew Dissinger v. Manheim Township School District*, 72 A.3d 723 \(Pa. Cmwlth. 2013\)](#) – Represented Mr. Dissinger in an action regarding violations of his due process rights, which the Commonwealth Court confirmed. Thereafter, represented Mr. Dissinger in a federal civil rights deprivation action, 5:14-cv-2741 in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, which resulted in a settlement.
- [*Caba v. Weaknecht*, 64 A.3d 39 \(Pa. Cmwlth. 2012\)](#) – Before the Commonwealth Court, successfully established both a liberty and property interest, for procedural due process purposes, in an issued license.

Administrative Law

- [*Nathaniel Fick v. Col. Robert Evanchick*, 51 M.D. 2022 \(Pa. Cmwlth. 2022\)](#) – Obtaining a preliminary injunction enjoining the Pennsylvania State Police from enforcing their unlawful policy contending that simple assault was prohibiting for Act 235 certification.
- [*Landmark Firearms LLC, et al. v. Col. Robert Evanchick*, 694 M.D. 2019 \(Pa. Cmwlth. 2019\)](#) – Obtaining a preliminary injunction enjoining the Pennsylvania State Police from implementing and enforcing its “partially manufactured frames

and receivers” policy, which was based upon Attorney General Josh Shapiro’s Legal Opinion of December 16, 2019.

Criminal Law

- [*Commonwealth v. Goslin*, 2017 PA Super 38 \(en banc\)](#) – Establishing that an individual is entitled to the defense found within 18 Pa.C.S. § 912(c), if he/she is in lawful possession of a weapon on school grounds, provided that it is possessed for a lawful purpose.

Statutory Challenges/Class Actions

- [*John Doe, et al. v. Monroe County, et al*, Docket No. 6384 cv 2015, \(Monroe County Court of Common Pleas\)](#) – Initially obtaining an injunction against the former Sheriff’s enforcement of unlawful license to carry firearm applicant requirements and thereafter, obtaining a class action settlement of \$4 million dollars for the Sheriff’s disclosure of confidential license to carry firearms applicant/licensee information through the use of un-enveloped postcards.
- [*Firearm Owners Against Crime, et al. v. City of Pittsburgh*, 276 A.3d 878 \(Pa. Cmwlth. 2022\)](#) – Establishing, for the first time, firearm field preemption in the Commonwealth and obtaining declaratory relief, striking down all three ordinances and signage erected by the City of Pittsburgh, which regulated firearms and ammunition, including, *inter alia*, a ban on “assault rifles,” “high capacity magazines,” and an extreme risk protection order provision.
- [*John Doe, et al. v. Franklin County, et al.*, 139 A.3d 296 \(Cmwlth. Ct. 2016\)](#) – Establishing that pursuant to 18 Pa.C.S. § 6111(i) that all license to carry firearms applicant information is confidential and not subject to disclosure, including through the use of un-enveloped postcards and thereafter, in docket no. 2014-cv-4623 (Franklin County Court of Common Pleas) obtaining a class action settlement of \$3 million dollars for the Sheriff’s disclosure of confidential license to carry firearms applicant/licensee information through the use of un-enveloped postcards.
- [*Barbara Hensch, et al., v. Perry County Sheriff Carl Nace*, Docket No. 2014-454 \(Perry County Court of Common Pleas, 2014\)](#) – Successfully represented Sheriff Nace, *pro-bono*, in an action by the Perry County Auditors to force him to disclose statutorily confidential information.

Select Publications

Law Journals

- Joshua G. Prince and Allen Thompson, [*The Inalienable Right to Stand Your Ground*](#), St. Thomas Law Journal, 27 St. Thomas. L. Rev. 32 (2015)
- Joshua G. Prince, *Fee Disputes in Workers' Compensation Cases: The Hendricks/Weidner Headache*, Widener Law Journal, Vol. 18, No. 2 (2009)

- Joshua G. Prince, *Violating Due Process: Convictions Based on the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record when its "Files are Missing"*, Article awaiting publication in a Law Journal, available at https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2752028

Select Legal Publications

- Joshua Prince, *Standing Your Ground in Pennsylvania: The Constitutional and Statutory Right to Defend Oneself and Others* (PA ASSOC. OF CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEYS, FOR THE DEFENSE, Vol. 9, Issue 3, September 2024)
- *11th Annual Firearms Law: What Every Texas Lawyer Need to Know*, Chapter 9, *Legislation from the Bureaucracy*, Joshua G. Prince (TX. BAR ASSOC. 2022)
- *10th Annual Firearms Law: What Every Texas Lawyer Need to Know*, Chapter 7, *Firearm Rights Restoration*, Joshua G. Prince (TX. BAR ASSOC. 2021)
- *9th Annual Firearms Law: What Every Texas Lawyer Need to Know*, Chapter 3, *Firearm Rights Restoration*, Joshua G. Prince (TX. BAR ASSOC. 2020)
- *7th Annual Firearms Law: What Every Texas Lawyer Need to Know*, Chapter 11, *Firearm Rights Restoration*, Joshua G. Prince (TX. BAR ASSOC. 2018)
- Joshua G. Prince, *Weapons on School Grounds: The En Banc Goslin Decision* (PA BAR ASSOC. AT ISSUE, Spring 2017) available at <http://www.pabar.org/public/yld/pubs/atissue/At%20Issue%20Spring2017.pdf>
- Joshua G. Prince, *Grandpop's Machine Gun in the Chest: Part II of II* (PA BAR ASSOC. AT ISSUE, Spring 2013) available at <http://www.pabar.org/public/yld/pubs/atissue/AtIssueSpring13.pdf>
- Joshua G. Prince, *Grandpop's Machine Gun in the Chest: Part I of II* (PA BAR ASSOC. AT ISSUE, Fall 2012) available at <http://www.pabar.org/public/yld/pubs/atissue/AtIssue%20Fall%202012.pdf>
- Joshua G. Prince, *Firearms Law 101: Knowing When Your Client Loses His/Her Second Amendment Rights*, (PA BAR ASSOC. AT ISSUE, Spring 2012) available at <http://www.pabar.org/public/yld/pubs/atissue/AISpring2012.pdf>
- Joshua G. Prince, *I Bequeath My Machine Gun to...* (PA BAR ASSOC. NEWSLETTER, REAL PROPERTY, PROBATE AND TRUST LAW, Issue No. 64), Fall 2007 at 18-19.

Court Admissions

State Admissions

Pennsylvania Supreme Court – October 13, 2009
Maryland Supreme Court – June 12, 2017

Federal Admissions

U.S. Supreme Court – January 22, 2013
U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit – February 15, 2019
U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit – April 11, 2012
U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit – July 17, 2017
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania – March 19, 2010
U.S. District Court, Middle District of Pennsylvania – February 10, 2012
U.S. District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania – December 20, 2012
U.S. District Court, District of Columbia – August 6, 2018 (Bar No. PA0081)
U.S. District Court, District of Maryland – March 5, 2020
U.S. District Court, District of Colorado – June 16, 2011

You can find out more about me at www.PrinceForJustice.com and on my Facebook page www.facebook.com/PrinceForPA.