



## SAMUEL J. CORDES & ASSOCIATES

Few attorneys have had as much of an impact on employment law in Western Pennsylvania as Samuel J. Cordes.

The only plaintiffs' employment litigator in Pittsburgh ever to be named to the Top 100 Pennsylvania *Super Lawyers* list, Cordes was called the "archangel of employment rights in Western Pennsylvania," by the *Pittsburgh Tribune Review*. *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, meanwhile, noted that he is "extremely smart in the scholarly sense and has the practical street-smart sense. You don't see that combination in too many lawyers."

Over his 25-year career, Cordes has tried more than 50 employment discrimination cases to successful verdicts (*Chambers USA* notes, "Juries love him"). He has also successfully litigated 25 appeals before federal and state appellate courts, including the Supreme Court of the United States and the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

Cordes primarily represents individuals in employment, labor, discrimination, civil rights, and constitutional law. His firm, Samuel J. Cordes & Associates, has been ranked Tier 1 in Pittsburgh for individuals' employment law by *U.S. News-Best*

*Lawyers* "Best Law Firms," and Cordes has been included in *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2004. He was also named as the *Best Lawyers* 2012 Lawyer of the Year in Pittsburgh for labor and employment law.

"The essence of who we are and how we view ourselves is oftentimes a product of what we do for a living," Cordes notes, "so when someone loses their job, in addition to losing a stream of income they're losing that essence. It becomes very important for them to obtain justice for that loss."

Cordes, who is AV<sup>®</sup>-Preeminent<sup>™</sup> rated by Martindale-Hubbell, has tried many high-profile employment cases during his career. As lead counsel, he secured the largest individual age discrimination and the largest individual pregnancy discrimination verdicts ever awarded in the Western District of Pennsylvania. His firm has also changed or advanced employment law in the region through its active appellate practice.

"Making a difference in people's lives is very rewarding," Cordes says. "For example, we tried one case back in 2009 where the company was ordered to reinstate my client, and now she is one of its best salespeople."

### Samuel J. Cordes & Associates

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