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PERRETTI LLP**

## Stephen J. Pagano

Stephen J. Pagano, partner with the Firm, practices in Riker Danzig's Tax and Trusts and Estates department. He concentrates his practice in the areas of probate litigation and tax, trusts and estates matters. Mr. Pagano utilizes his knowledge from years of estate, trust and tax planning to provide insight and strategy in probate litigation matters. In addition, his experience with probate litigation gives him a unique and advantageous perspective in planning for the Firm's individual and business clients. Mr. Pagano also represents clients seeking to protect loved ones in guardianship proceedings pending before the New Jersey Superior Court and has received court appointments as counsel and guardian in such matters.

Mr. Pagano also practices in the Firm's Corporate department where he counsels closely-held businesses on a variety of corporate matters. He routinely assists clients in planning the succession of their business to the next generation of leadership. He works closely with clients to learn their business, anticipate issues and be their trusted advisor.

Mr. Pagano received a J.D. degree, *cum laude*, from Seton Hall University School of Law in 2005 where he was a member of the *Seton Hall Sports and Entertainment Law Journal*, and earned a B.A. degree, in Sociology, from Boston College in 2002. He completed his LL.M. degree in Tax Law at New York University School of Law in September 2017. Mr. Pagano is admitted to practice in New Jersey and New York. In 2019, Mr. Pagano was named a "New Leader of the Bar" by the *New Jersey Law Journal*. A high honor, the *Law Journal* selects for this recognition attorneys in their second decade of practice whose achievements in the workplace and public service involvement distinguish them from their peers. Mr. Pagano was named to Morris/Essex Health & Life magazine's "Top Lawyer" list for 2019 for his work in Wills, Trusts, Estates and Probate matters. Attorneys were selected for inclusion on the list by an online peer-voting process. The top vote-getters in selected areas were included on this list. From 2010 through 2015, he has been included on the Super Lawyers "Rising Star" list by *Thomson Reuters*.

Mr. Pagano is a frequent speaker on probate and estate planning topics, including presentations at the annual New Jersey State Bar Association convention on gift and estate taxes, to the NJ Bankers Association on fiduciary law issues, and other speaking engagements.

Mr. Pagano is a graduate of the Monmouth County Hayden Proctor Inn of Court.



### **PRACTICE AREA**

Probate Litigation  
Corporate  
Tax and Trusts & Estates

### **AREAS OF EMPHASIS**

Tax and Trusts & Estate  
Trusts and Estate Litigation

### **BAR ADMISSIONS**

New Jersey  
New York

### **EDUCATION**

Seton Hall University School of  
Law, J.D., *cum laude* 2005  
*Seton Hall Sports and  
Entertainment Law Journal*  
Boston College, B.A., 2002

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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