

James Strommen J.D.

Education

J.D. (cum laude), University of Minnesota, 1983
B.A. (magna cum laude), Augsburg College, 1977

Professional Experience

Jim Strommen is highly regarded in the area of public utilities and construction law. Since 1990, he has been general counsel to the Suburban Rate Authority, a joint powers organization of metropolitan area cities totaling over 800,000 in population, which intervenes in electric, gas, and telecommunications matters before the Public Utilities Commission. Mr. Strommen is also general counsel to the Minnesota Valley Transit Authority, the largest “opt-out” Twin Cities suburban public transit provider. For 28 years, Jim has represented businesses, Minnesota cities and school districts in contract matters, utility rate regulation, franchises and construction matters. Over his career, Mr. Strommen has drafted legislation, model utility ordinances and utility franchises and has prosecuted criminal cases, won large damage awards and established significant legal precedent for his clients.

Mr. Strommen is a past president of Kennedy & Graven. He is a member of the Minnesota State Bar Association, the Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association, the Public Utility Law Section of the MSBA and American Bar Association where he is a member of the Construction Forum. He has been admitted to state and federal courts, including the Eighth and Ninth Circuit Courts of Appeals. Mr. Strommen has been a frequent presenter in his specialty areas for Minnesota city attorneys, public works and school district organizations and has assisted in trial practice classes at the William Mitchell College of Law.

Personal Information

Mr. Strommen lives in Minnetonka with his wife and three children, one of whom is a child with special needs. He is active on behalf of special needs children, having served on the Minneapolis and St. Paul Children’s Health Care Hospitals Institutional Review Board, the Board of Directors of Mount Olivet Rolling Acres Foundation, the Music Association of Minnetonka, and the Westwood Lutheran Church Foundation. In running five marathons, and other activities, he has raised significant funds for charitable causes. Mr. Strommen is also active in church and youth sports programs, and coaching youth basketball.

