



## Christopher Porrino

Partner  
Chair, Litigation Department

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Chris returned to Lowenstein Sandler in 2018 after serving as the 60th Attorney General of New Jersey. A seasoned trial lawyer, negotiator, and crisis manager, he possesses a rare combination of real-world pragmatism and strategic problem-solving skills forged in courtrooms, in the halls of government, and in the glare of the national media spotlight.

As Chair of the firm's Litigation department, Chris helps Fortune 500 clients achieve critical goals and defend against seemingly insurmountable challenges. He advises and represents businesses and individuals in civil, criminal, and regulatory matters involving securities, consumer fraud, banking, insurance, tax, antitrust, real estate, and the environment, among others. He also conducts internal investigations for clients faced with allegations of wrongdoing or suspected wrongdoing by insiders.

As head of one of the most powerful Attorney General Offices in the country, Chris indicted and convicted the former mayor of New Jersey's third-largest city. He oversaw the implementation of bail reform, the most significant reform of New Jersey's criminal justice system in its history, via a model that is now being replicated nationally. He took action against antisemitism and other forms of discrimination, and pioneered the country's strictest opioid prescribing rules, paving the way for an almost immediate and very steep reduction in the number of opioid painkillers prescribed by physicians in New Jersey. In addition, Chris worked to improve trust between police and the communities they serve, and led the planned closure of a Civil War-era youth prison in one of the most significant reforms in the history of the state's juvenile justice system.

Chris first entered public service in 2012 as Director of the Division of Law within the New Jersey Attorney General's Office. In that post, he led a team of 500 civil lawyers, overseeing thousands of litigation matters and dozens of trials on behalf of the state's various departments and agencies, including the Departments of Environmental Protection, Banking and Insurance, and Transportation, as well as the Division of Consumer Affairs. As Director, he personally handled and argued some of the state's most sensitive and important cases, both at the trial court level and in the New Jersey Supreme Court.

Chris served as Governor Christie's Chief Counsel beginning on the day that the widely reported "Bridgagate" scandal broke in the media. He guided the administration through that crisis and its aftermath. As one of only two direct reports to the Governor, Chris also had broad responsibility for judicial appointments, legislative matters, and all state authorities, including the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

Before his government service, from 2004 until 2012, Chris was a partner and Vice Chair of Lowenstein Sandler's Litigation department, where he focused on criminal and civil trial practice. Earlier in his career, he served as a law clerk to then-Magistrate Judge Freda L. Wolfson, U.S. District Judge for the District of New Jersey.

## HONORS & AWARDS

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> **The ROI Influencers Power List: Lawyers (2019)**

Recognized as one of New Jersey's most powerful and influential people in the legal industry

> **New Jersey Law Journal: Attorney of the Year (2018)**

Awarded to a lawyer who "made his or her mark on the profession, and in the law, with an achievement that goes beyond service to the client." Chris received the honor in recognition of his significant achievements while serving as New Jersey State Attorney General, as profiled in the law journal's **video** and **article**.

> **Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business (all years eligible since 2009)**

Recognized as an "absolutely top-notch litigator" with a unique ability to "get matters resolved quickly," and as a trial lawyer who "invariably makes the right choices"

> **The College of New Jersey's Criminology Student Association: Gene Carte Memorial Award (2018)**

Received the Gene Carte Memorial Award for criminal justice reform efforts and other achievements while serving as New Jersey State Attorney General

> **Newark North Jersey Committee of Black Churchmen (2018)**

Received the Dr. Edward W. Verner Award for outstanding service to the people of New Jersey

> **PolitickerNJ Power List (2017)**

> **National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) (2017)**

Received Achievement Award for "Bridging the Gap" Between Communities and Police

> **Seton Hall University School of Law (2017)**

Received Public Servant Award

> **NJBIZ Power 100 List (2015 & 2017)**

> **Chabad House – Lubavitch (2016)**

Received Ner Tamid, Eternal Light Award

> **Super Lawyers (all years eligible since 2009)**

## NEWS & INSIGHTS

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### Publications

> January 16, 2019

**"Law Enforcement Ramps Up Enforcement of EDA Incentives,"** *Litigation Client Alert*

Christopher Porrino,

> November 2018

**"New Jersey's former top prosecutors: Bail reform isn't easy, but it works,"** *Westlaw Journal White-Collar Crime*

Christopher Porrino, Elie Honig

> July 16, 2018

**"Ex-N.J. attorney general: We must fix the American bail system. N.J. is the model.,"** *The Star Ledger*

Elie Honig, Christopher Porrino

### In the Media

> October 24, 2019

**Kenneth A. Rosen, Christopher Porrino, and Philip J. Gross** are mentioned in the *Jewish Standard's* piece on the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Jewish Law Symposium, which explored ethical lessons from "Fiddler on the Roof." The symposium is designed for attorneys across New Jersey who are interested in exploring the ethical and moral dilemmas they might face today, as lawyers, through the lens of both civil and Talmudic law. Rosen served as the event's chair.

> October 15, 2019

**Christopher Porrino**, Chair of the **Litigation** department at Lowenstein Sandler, comments for *ROI-NJ* on former Lowenstein partner Paul Matey, now a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit: "In 2018, Judge Matey, who was then Paul Matey, joined Lowenstein Sandler. In his short time at the firm, Judge Matey made a lasting impression. As he had done over his entire career, he was called upon to handle the most complex cases and most difficult client challenges. And he did so absolutely brilliantly. But having Judge Matey serving the public again is a great win for all of us. Because, whether you are liberal or conservative or somewhere in the middle, when a person with the integrity, skill and brilliance of Judge Matey devotes himself to public service, we all win."

> June 24, 2019

Lowenstein Chairman and Managing Partner **Gary M. Wingens** was named to *NJBIZ's Law Power 50*, which recognizes lawyers' "skills and acumen [in the] courtroom, the boardroom, legislative chambers or at the bargaining table." The article notes the growth of Lowenstein under Wingens' decade of leadership, with a 14 percent jump in revenue from 2017 to 2018 "when only 11 of the top 200 U.S. firms grew more than 10 percent." In addition to citing that "[i]n the last decade, the firm's New York office has more than tripled, and offices have grown from its Roseland HQ to offices in Palo Alto, California; Washington, D.C.; and Utah," the article states that it is "not just quantity, though, it's quality: big names like former state attorneys general **Chris Porrino** and **Anne Milgram** have joined in recent years." It also mentions Wingens' role in creating the **Lowenstein Center for the Public Interest** and its advocacy for the legal rights of immigrant children and families at the southern border.

> April 1, 2019

*The American Lawyer* features Lowenstein Sandler's recent "lateral hiring spree of government lawyers and prosecutors" in an article on the arrival of new partners and former government litigators **Rachel Maimin** and **Greg Baker**. Both Maimin, former SDNY assistant U.S. attorney, and Baker, former senior counsel at the U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission, praised Lowenstein's "commitment to growing its white-collar practice," in addition to the strength of its investment management and funds practice, as critical elements attracting them to the firm.

The piece notes that since former Attorney General of New Jersey **Anne M. Milgram** joined the firm in July 2017 as special counsel and former Attorney General of New Jersey **Christopher Porrino** returned to the firm in 2018, Lowenstein has welcomed several former prosecutors and government lawyers. The firm's **Litigation** team now includes former First Assistant Attorney General of New Jersey **Peter Slocum**; former Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of New York **Ryan M. Wilson**; former Assistant U.S. Attorney, Southern District of New York **Elie Honig**; and former Deputy Attorney General of New Jersey **Shontae D. Gray**.

Porrino, Chair of the firm's Litigation group, says that "he expected the firm's 'talent binge' to continue. ... 'We're focused on talent and we're focused on experience and I think Rachel and Greg are great examples of that.'" (*This article also appeared in the New Jersey Law Journal and on Yahoo! Finance and Yahoo! News.*) (*subscription required to access certain content*) [View Lowenstein's news announcement about Maimin and Baker joining the firm.](#)

> March 29, 2019- April 12, 2019

**Christopher Porrino** is featured in *ROI-NJ*, *NJBIZ*, and *Law360* discussing the ongoing investigation of EDA grants by the New Jersey Tax Incentive Task Force. (*subscription required to access certain content*)

> March 12-14, 2019

**Paul B. Matey's** confirmation to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit is highlighted in *NJBIZ*, *ROI-NJ*, the Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey's (CIANJ) *Business Beat* newsletter, the *New Jersey Globe*, *FindLaw*, *New Jersey Appellate Law*, and the *ABA Journal*. *ROI-NJ* and *Business Beat* quote Chairman and Managing Partner **Gary M. Wingens** and partner **Christopher Porrino**. Wingens states that Matey's background "makes him a great choice to join the Third Circuit, and his appointment to the

federal bench dovetails nicely with our firm's long-held commitment to public service." Porrino offers well wishes and notes his enthusiasm to see the "great contributions Mately will make to the Third Circuit and to the federal judiciary." **View Lowenstein's news announcement about Mately's confirmation.**

> March 8, 2019

**Law.com** highlights how Lowenstein Sandler's **White Collar Criminal Defense** practice has grown rapidly through the recent recruitment of experienced former prosecutors, including **Paul B. Mately, Ryan M. Wilson, Peter Slocum, Elie Honig, Kathleen A. McGee**, and two former New Jersey Attorneys General, **Anne M. Milgram**, and **Christopher Porrino**. The article quotes Chairman and Managing Partner **Gary M. Wingens**, who states that the practice's notable growth in business and top-tier talent is the result of a deliberate effort to increase "the depth and breadth of our skill set." He cites Milgram's heading an internal investigation on behalf of the Dallas Mavericks as an example of the caliber of work the group handles and notes that "clients want to see critical mass in the practice" and a team of lawyers "with different backgrounds who can handle lots of parallel investigations."

> February 28, 2019

A "great lawyer," **Christopher Porrino** has been named to **ROI's** 2019 Influencers Power List for his current representation of Governor Phil Murphy's office and his former roles as New Jersey Attorney General and Chief Counsel to Governor Christie.

> February 28, 2019

**Christopher Porrino** is quoted in **Real Estate NJ** in an article discussing the task force investigating incentives awarded to companies by the NJ Economic Development Authority. Those companies that have been awarded incentives ought to be proactive, according to Porrino, so as to ensure compliance rather than waiting until the investigators call.

> January 21, 2019

**Christopher Porrino** discusses the recent audit of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (EDA) and advises companies that received EDA grant incentives to ensure that they have complied with all requirements to prevent clawback claims. In an interview with **ROI-NJ**, Porrino provides insight into his time working closely with the EDA while New Jersey Attorney General, sharing his understanding of the EDA's procedure and missteps that can happen along the way. He emphasizes that it is important to have someone who understands state government, the interplay between the AG's office and the EDA, and the compliance requirements of grants, noting **Paul B. Mately's** work with the Governor's office. Porrino notes the priority of this audit for the EDA and the AG's office, and stresses that companies should ensure that required thresholds are met and adjustments for disclosure are made prior to a visit from the AG's office.

> October 21-26, 2018

**NJ Spotlight, NorthJersey.com, NJ.com (article 1; article 2), The Associated Press, NJTV News, Law360, Politico, The Daily Journal, the Asbury Park Press** and **NJTV Reporter's Roundtable** highlight **Christopher Porrino's** representation of democratic Governor Phil Murphy's Office. In anticipating collaborating with Porrino on this matter, Senate President Steve Sweeney referred to Porrino as "brilliant" and "honest" when Sweeney recalled working with him during Porrino's tenure as New Jersey State Attorney General and Governor Chris Christie's Chief Counsel.

> October 4, 2018

**Christopher Porrino** is featured in **NJ.com** for his speech addressing cannabis legalization at NJ Cannabis Insider Live. Porrino discussed practical tips for applicants, the legal risks for licensees, and law enforcement challenges.

> July 30-31, 2018

**ROI** features **Christopher Porrino** in four articles inspired by his tenure as New Jersey's 60<sup>th</sup> Attorney General. "**Porrino earns glowing praise from current AG Grewal**" includes current New Jersey Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal's highly complimentary remarks about Porrino that Grewal recorded for a video produced when Porrino was announced as a finalist for the **New Jersey Law Journal's 2018 Attorney of the Year** award. In "**Looking back—fondly**," an in-depth Q&A, Porrino reflects on his time as the state's Attorney General, the role that office plays in New Jersey, and his return to Lowenstein Sandler. He offers his perspective in another piece that asks, "**Does Porrino think New Jersey should elect its attorney general?**" The fourth article, "**Porrino on how he used the media to help him do his job as attorney general**" quotes him at length regarding how he leveraged the media's power to keep the public informed and to accomplish his goals as the state's lead prosecutor.

> July 17, 2018

**Politico's "New Jersey Playbook"** quotes **Christopher Porrino** and **Elie Honig's Star Ledger** Op-Ed, "**Ex-N.J. attorney general: We must fix the American bail system. N.J. is the model.**" (*subscription required to access article; also posted at this link*)

> June 22, 2018

The **New Jersey Law Journal** announces **Christopher Porrino** as **2018 Attorney of the Year**. The article quotes his remarks following the award announcement and discusses his accomplishments as New Jersey's 60th Attorney General. The journal also published a **video profile** featuring colleagues' personal insights and compliments about Porrino. (*subscription required to access article*)

> June 15, 2018

The **New Jersey Law Journal** profiles **Christopher Porrino**, who reflects on his tenure as New Jersey's 60<sup>th</sup> Attorney General and on how that experience has enhanced the client service he offers as a lawyer in private practice at Lowenstein. (*subscription required*)

> June 11-12, 2018

The **New York Law Journal** (including **this abbreviated coverage**), **Law360**, and **ABL Advisor** highlight **Ryan M. Wilson's** return to Lowenstein, now as partner in the **Capital Markets Litigation** and **White Collar Criminal Defense** practices, following his tenure as an Assistant U.S. Attorney on President Obama's Residential Mortgage-Backed Securities (RMBS) Task Force in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York. **Law360** quotes Wilson on his government experience and mentions **Zachary D. Rosenbaum** (Chair, Capital Markets Litigation) as a draw in coming back to the firm. All three articles quote Wilson on his reasons for returning to Lowenstein, and they note that Wilson is the latest in a series of former prosecutors and trial lawyers to join or return to the firm. Each article mentions one or more of the following former government lawyers who have come to Lowenstein in the past few years: **Christopher Porrino** (Chair, **Litigation Department**), **Kathleen A. McGee, Elie Honig, Scott B. McBride**, and **Matthew Boxer**. (*subscription required to access the New York Law Journal and Law360*)

- > June 5-6, 2018  
The **New Jersey Law Journal**, **Law360**, **NJBIZ**, and **Business Beat** (published by the Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey) highlight **Elie Honig**'s joining Lowenstein as special counsel following his tenure as Director, Department of Law and Public Safety, in the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice. All four publications quote Lowenstein **Litigation Department** Chair **Christopher Porrino** on the move. The *New Jersey Law Journal*, *Business Beat* and *Law360* quote Honig, and *Business Beat* includes a quote from **Michael B. Himmel**, Chair, **White Collar Criminal Defense**. (*subscription required to access Law360 article*)
- > May 3, 2018  
In an article discussing a U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey and Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey panel about women in the law, **Law360** quotes **Christopher Porrino** on the need for focused action to ensure women's advancement and diversity in the legal profession. (*subscription required to access article*)
- > January 2018  
**Christopher Porrino**'s return to Lowenstein Sandler following his tenure as New Jersey Attorney General is highlighted in **Law360**, **New Jersey Business**, **NJBIZ**, **Return on Information - New Jersey**, and **The New Jersey Law Journal**.
- > January 14, 2018  
In an interview with the **Star Ledger**, **Christopher Porrino** reflects on his position as New Jersey Attorney General.
- > December 2017  
**Christopher Porrino** comments on the nomination of his friend and colleague, Gurbir Grewal, as the next New Jersey Attorney General, as highlighted on **CBS 2 New York**, **NJ.com**, and **NorthJersey.com** and in the **Chicago Tribune** and **New Jersey Law Journal**.
- > November 24, 2017  
As New Jersey Attorney General, **Christopher Porrino** is quoted in a **New York Times** article focused on his "SafeStop" campaign, which is designed to educate citizens about their rights and obligations during police stops.
- > November 16, 2017  
As New Jersey Attorney General, **Christopher Porrino** published an opinion piece on **NJ.com** about the need for trust between civilians and police and his SafeStop campaign.
- > November 2017  
As New Jersey Attorney General, **Christopher Porrino** is quoted in **Observer** and **U.S. News & World Report** (among other outlets) regarding the conviction of Paterson Mayor Jose Torres for conspiracy to commit official misconduct.
- > November 2017  
As New Jersey Attorney General, **Christopher Porrino** is quoted on **NorthJersey.com** and **News12 New Jersey** (among other outlets) regarding a statewide campaign to promote safer encounters between police officers and citizens during traffic stops.
- > October 31, 2017  
As New Jersey Attorney General, **Christopher Porrino** comments in a **Philadelphia Inquirer** article about New Jersey's bail reform laws, which earned an "A" grade in a report by the Pretrial Justice Institute.
- > October 2017  
As New Jersey Attorney General, **Christopher Porrino** is quoted in the **New York Post**, **The Times of Israel**, and **The Algemeiner** (among other outlets) regarding his efforts to combat anti-Semitic and discriminatory practices in Mahwah, New Jersey, and other towns. His comments later appear in a January 31, 2018 **NJ.com** article on Mahwah's settlement with the Bergen Rockland Eruv Association.
- > October 2017  
As New Jersey Attorney General, **Christopher Porrino** is quoted in **Reuters**, **NJ Spotlight**, **Observer**, and **NJ.com** (among other outlets) on the state's suits against drug companies for their role in the opioid epidemic.
- > October 2017  
As New Jersey Attorney General, **Christopher Porrino** is quoted on **News12 New Jersey** and **NJ.com** (among other outlets) on changes to opioid prescribing rules.
- > September 28, 2017  
As New Jersey Attorney General, **Christopher Porrino** discusses phone and email scams targeting senior citizens in an interview on **Fox 5 NY**.
- > August 29, 2017  
As New Jersey Attorney General, **Christopher Porrino** discusses the Safe Care Cam program, which provides free 30-day loans to anyone who suspects their loved one is being abused or neglected by home health aides or in-home caregivers in an interview on **Fox 5 NY**.
- > August 24, 2017  
As New Jersey Attorney General, **Christopher Porrino** discusses the state's efforts to combat the rise of fentanyl in an interview with **NJTV News**.
- > July 3, 2017  
As New Jersey Attorney General, **Christopher Porrino** discusses the state's tough regulations on opioid prescriptions and focus on doctors who improperly prescribe opioid painkillers in an interview with **Fox News**.
- > July 2017  
As New Jersey Attorney General, **Christopher Porrino** is quoted in **NJTV Online** and **Courier Post** regarding mandatory de-escalation and cultural awareness training for all police across New Jersey.

- > May 2017  
New Jersey Attorney General **Christopher Porrino's** guidelines toughening New Jersey's bail reform system are highlighted in **Politico** and **NJ.com**.
- > February 13, 2017  
As New Jersey Attorney General, **Christopher Porrino** discusses the state's multifaceted approach to fighting the opioid crisis in an interview on **Fox 5 NY**.
- > October 13, 2016  
New Jersey Attorney General **Christopher Porrino's** directive for police and prosecutors on how to handle New Jersey's bail overhaul is discussed on **NJ.com**.
- > October 6, 2016  
As New Jersey Attorney General, **Christopher Porrino** is quoted in the **Star Ledger** regarding mandatory de-escalation and cultural awareness training for all police across New Jersey.
- > June 2016  
**Christopher Porrino** is highlighted in **Law360**, **NJ Spotlight**, **NJ.com**, and **NJBIZ** for his nomination as New Jersey Attorney General.
- > July 2015  
**Christopher Porrino's** return to Lowenstein Sander after his tenure as Chief Counsel to Governor Chris Christie and Director of the Division of Law within the New Jersey Attorney General's Office is highlighted in **NJ.com**, **NJBiz** and **New Jersey Business**.

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

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- > Speaker, **Corporate Counsel Symposium**, Essex County Bar Foundation, <span>Essex Fells, NJ</span>, October 17, 2019
- > Panelist, **Ethical Lessons From Fiddler on the Roof**, 2019 Jewish Law Symposium, Whippany, NJ, September 25, 2019
- > Panelist, **Natural Resource Damage Claims: A Renewed and Significant Risk for New Jersey Corporations**, Lowenstein Sandler, Roseland, NJ, November 28, 2018
- > Panelist, **NJ Cannabis Insider Live**, Rahway, NJ, October 3, 2018
- > Panelist, **The State Budget: How It Impacts Your Business**, Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey (CIANJ), Hackensack, NJ, June 1, 2018; 8:00-10:00 a.m.
- > Panelist, **Navigating Internal Investigations and Fraud Prosecutions in Healthcare and Beyond**, New Jersey State Bar Association's 2018 Annual Meeting and Convention, Atlantic City, NJ, May 17, 2018; 10:00 -11:15 a.m.
- > Panelist, **Opioid Epidemic Summit**, Daytop New Jersey, Mendham, NJ, May 15, 2018
- > Panelist, **A Woman's Place Is In the Courtroom**, U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey and Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey Brown Bag Lunch Series, Newark, NJ, May 3, 2018

## EDUCATION

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- > Seton Hall University School of Law (J.D., 1992), with honors
- > Lehigh University (B.A., 1989), high honors

## ADMISSIONS

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- > New York
- > New Jersey