



Civil Rights and Constitutional Law

Legal Services for Your Civil Rights and Constitutional Law Needs

Carter Conboy is a leader in representing governments, public officials and employees in Civil Rights and Constitutional Law investigations and cases. With matters in both state and federal courts, our attorneys are familiar with the often-complex federal and state laws, regulations, and procedural and substantive rules that govern civil rights and constitutional law claims. We successfully handle these significant and high stakes matters in discovery, at trial, and on appeal.

Accomplished Civil Rights and Constitutional Law Attorneys

At Carter Conboy, our attorneys are committed to delivering excellence through knowledge and experience. While we have decades of experience defending governments, public officials and employees, our attorneys have also served in various levels of state and federal governments, including the executive and judiciary. This unique background enables us to provide strategic and effective services to our clients founded on objective experience and institutional knowledge.

Our Civil Rights and Constitutional Law Clients

For decades, Carter Conboy has represented a wide range of clients in civil rights and constitutional law matters, including:

- Police departments
- Police officers, officials, and employees
- Fire and ambulance districts
- Colleges and universities
- School districts, boards, officials, and employees
- Jails, prisons, and correctional facilities

- Governmental agencies, officials, and employees
- State agencies, officials, and employees
- Municipalities, counties, cities, towns, and villages
- Private entities that provide services for and on behalf of governmental agencies

Comprehensive Legal Services

Having represented government and the public sector community for decades, we are trusted advocates and counselors providing representation in:

- State and federal statutory and constitutional rights claims
- 42 U.S.C. § 1981 claims
- 42 U.S.C. § 1983 claims
- 42 U.S.C. § 1985 claims
- Age Discrimination in Employment Act
- Americans with Disabilities Act
- Assault and battery
- Discrimination and harassment
- Due process
- Equal protection
- Excessive force
- Failure to provide medical care
- False arrest
- False imprisonment
- Freedom of speech and religion
- Illegal detainment
- Illegal search and seizure
- Invasion of privacy
- Malicious prosecution
- Police or official misconduct
- Police shootings and taser incidents
- Public policy violations
- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (gender, race, sexual harassment, retaliation)
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C § 1681 et seq.
- Unlawful search and seizure
- Wrongful conviction

- Wrongful death

Government Liability Claims

Carter Conboy's team of attorneys is well-versed in all facets of civil rights and constitutional litigation, from investigation through trial and appeal, including the complexities of claims founded under 42 U.S.C. §§ 1983 and 1985, the Civil Rights Act, as well as many others that expose otherwise immune entities and officials to liability.

We understand the intricacies of working with government officials and employees, corporation counsel, in-house counsel, claims counsel, and risk management personnel. We employ practical tactics and techniques including targeted discovery and depositions, early motion practice, and expert and trial strategies to effectively resolve cases in a timely and cost-conscious manner. We do so, to obtain the very best outcome for our clients.

Administrative Hearings

Our attorneys regularly appear before administrative tribunals, such as the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and the New York State Department of Human Rights (NYS DHR). We represent businesses, professionals and other individuals, and state and local public bodies and officials who are charged with alleged violations brought 42 U.S.C. §1983, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Family Medical Leave Act, and other federal and state civil rights statutes.

Counseling, Education, and Risk Management Services

At Carter Conboy, we counsel our clients on a variety of risk management issues, including best practices and strategies for handling unfolding events and mitigating potential lawsuits. Some of these concerns include heightened public scrutiny, demands for institutional transparency, and access to information and evidence by way of social media, such as the posting of photographs, videos, and audio recordings to social media.

Title IX and College Disciplinary Matters

Carter Conboy attorneys have represented institutions of higher [education](#) for decades. We remain at the forefront of current higher education issues, including Title IX. This includes the fluctuating regulatory environment since the time the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights (OCR) issued its "Dear Colleague" letter in 2011, and more recently with the U.S. Secretary of Education's proposed new rules for Title IX and sexual assault.

Our clients include colleges, universities, faculty, campus organizations and students who are facing allegations of misconduct under Title IX. We believe that sexual assault is completely unacceptable. We also believe that institutions and the accused should be afforded their civil rights and due process under the law. Our Title IX attorneys advocate for the accused, providing a vigorous defense - from the filing of the grievance, through investigation and disciplinary proceedings, to the appeal of expulsions and dismissals, and the defense of civil lawsuits.

Our attorneys also work with institutions of higher education to provide counsel on how to meet Title IX mandates including the investigation and adjudication of complaints of sexual misconduct on campus. We assist our clients with the training of staff, drafting policies, internal disciplinary procedures, and assembling the administrative tools necessary to meet the requirements issued by the Office of Civil Rights. We have also served as independent third-party Title IX investigators.

Landmark Civil Rights Victory

Carter Conboy obtained a landmark civil rights victory for police officers and municipalities in New York State in *Gonzalez v. City of Schenectady*. In that case, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit reaffirmed the 1982 decision by the United States Supreme Court in *Harlow v. Fitzgerald*, which states that the qualified immunity doctrine protects government officials from civil liability when their conduct does not violate clearly established rights of which a reasonable person would have known. We prevailed again, when, both the plaintiff and the New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU) requested, and were denied, reconsideration of the *Gonzalez* decision by the Second Circuit. This case is repeatedly cited in support of the application of the qualified immunity doctrine.

Critical Incident Response Team and Emergency Services

Day or night, whenever and wherever a critical incident occurs, Carter Conboy's Critical Incident Response Team is available to support you with immediate assistance in critical and catastrophic situations. Our Response Team, which includes our experienced attorneys, together with a group of independent and trusted industry experts - investigators, experts, analysts, and adjusters - are on-call and promptly available when a critical incident or accident occurs.

Beyond Civil Rights and Constitutional Law

At Carter Conboy, we are able to support you beyond your civil rights and constitutional law matters. Our team of experienced and dedicated attorneys, combined with our diversified practice spanning 20 industries and 40 service areas, have you covered. From helping with a real estate matter to defending you in litigation, to protecting your business interests, the strength of our team is the answer to your many legal needs.

Related Industries

- Education

- Government
- Insurance
- Law Enforcement