

Walter L. Adams

OF COUNSEL, CHICAGO

Walter Adams began his career in Chicago in 1958, a difficult time for labor relations and attorneys, like Walter, who hoped to level the playing field. Before joining Schuyler Roche, he spent 30 years at just two law firms, the first among the most widely known labor and employment firms in the country, the second a firm he created in 1974 with respected colleagues and where he continued to practice labor law representing management clients nationwide. We persuaded him to join us fifteen years later, impressed by his record of success on behalf of management and his reputation for remaining solution oriented no matter how heated the debate.

Since 1958, lawyers for management and labor have worked hard to hammer out the differences between their constituencies. Walter has enjoyed the process by which his management-side clients have sought both to achieve their business objectives by negotiating with labor and to work cooperatively with unions and their members so their companies could compete effectively with domestic and foreign companies.

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PRACTICE AREA

Labor Arbitration and Litigation

AV[®]



Additionally, Walter has witnessed and responded to the changing landscape of employment matters in non-labor settings. He has defended numerous employers regarding the panoply of legal guidelines that have been established or refined during his career, including the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Equal Pay Act, the Civil Rights Act of 1963, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Occupational Safety and Health Act, and the Family and Medical Leave Act, among others.

AREAS OF PRACTICE

Practical and intuitive, protective of his clients' interests, Walter represents large, multinational corporations and smaller, closely held businesses, in addition to distributors and manufacturers, particularly of medical supplies. He has broad experience negotiating with all major unions throughout the country and is equally conversant with the law in nonunion settings.

A labor attorney in the traditional sense, Walter has represented many corporate clients before the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) in unfair labor practice representation and in supplemental proceedings. These clients include small companies seemingly without clout and corporations substantial in worth and market share. Walter, who negotiates on behalf of such clients with the NLRB, possesses extensive before-the-board experience few labor attorneys can claim.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Walter has advocated on behalf of employers in hundreds of labor negotiations, arbitrations and settlements of labor and employment matters involving claims by individuals and labor unions. Throughout his career he has successfully represented employers before the Seventh and Sixth Circuit Courts of Appeals regarding cases that had originated at the NLRB.

Walter Adams, of counsel, is among the most knowledgeable and persistent labor negotiators in the nation. We are grateful to have him on our team and invite you to call him regarding the labor-related issues that confront your organization.

EXPERIENCE

Schuyler, Roche & Zwirner, P.C.
Chicago, Illinois
Of Counsel
1989 to Present

Adams, Fox, Marcus & Adelstein
Chicago, Illinois
Partner
1974 to 1989

Seyfarth, Shaw, Fairweather & Geraldson
Chicago, Illinois
Partner
1965 to 1974
Associate
1958 to 1965

EDUCATION AND DISTINCTIONS

J.D., University of Michigan School of Law, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1958.

Editorial Board, *University of Michigan Law Review*, 1957 to 1958.

Special Agent, United States Army, Counter Intelligence Corps, 1953 to 1956.

A.B., Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, 1953.

PEER RECOGNITION

Martindale-Hubbell, "peer review rated for ethical standards and legal ability," since 1976.

BAR AND COURT ADMISSION

Illinois, 1958

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Bar Association
(Labor and Employment Law Section)

Chicago Bar Association