

900 State Street
Suite 301A
Erie, PA 16501
(814) 459-6055 (W)

Experience

Owner **Sept. 2018 - present**
Leemhuis Legal, PLLC
Erie, PA
Denver, CO

Practice Focus:

Business Entity Formation

Contract Prep & Review

Corporate Governance

Equity Financing

Mergers & Acquisitions

Social Entrepreneurship

I am the firm's founder and owner. My practice is focused on counseling businesses and the people who own and operate them in Western Pennsylvania and the Colorado front range. My clients range from long-established manufacturing businesses to high tech start-up ventures.

Partner **Sept. 1990 – August 2018**
Quinn, Buseck, Leemhuis, Toohey & Kroto, Inc.
Erie, PA

My practice involved transactional and business-related matters covering the business life-cycle from entity selection and formation, through growth via acquisitions and debt or equity financing, to the sale or divestiture of the venture.

I represented various business entities in raising capital and in fundamental transactions such as mergers and acquisitions. These clients ranged from single shareholder organizations to mid-size public companies with international sales to non-profit organizations and foundations. Representation has included ongoing reporting and disclosure required by state and federal securities law for public companies, and preparation of offering documents in compliance with state and federal securities laws for privately held companies.

Admissions to Practice:

Pennsylvania (1987)

Colorado (1989)

I counselled entrepreneurs on choice of entity issues, structural questions, the preparation of contracts, and shareholder matters. I was often engaged to provide solutions to complex problems.

I was the chair of the firm's business practice group and was actively involved in firm marketing as a member of its marketing committee.

Representative transactions and work:

- Private placements leading to an initial public offering in the rent-to-own industry.
 - Ongoing Section 16 reporting for a publicly traded company in the electronics manufacturing industry.
 - Merger, restructuring, and equity financing for a stand-alone surgery center.
 - Numerous private placements for companies in the health care, manufacturing, and telecommunications industries.
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- Multiple asset purchases during the life of a client company in the electronics component distribution industry which helped grow the business from \$8M to over \$100M in annual sales.
- Formation of non-profit, 501(c)(3) entities in the environmental and healthcare fields.

Associations & Memberships:

American Bar Association

ABA Corporate Social Responsibility Committee

Pennsylvania Bar Association

Colorado Bar Association

Erie County, Pennsylvania Bar Association

Benefit Company Bar Association

Leadership

Economic Development

Chair, Chamber Division

2013-2016

Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership, Erie, PA

The Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership is a 501c3 corporation formed in November 2002 through the merger of the Erie Conference on Community Development, the Erie Area Chamber of Commerce and Erie Insight – three divisions, one mission. All three divisions of the Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership [Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development and Growth Partnership] support the organization’s core mission of providing the leadership to attract, retain, and expand business in the region.

During my tenure with the organization, I served as a member of the board of directors and as the Chair of the Chamber Division where I oversaw all events, fundraising, member activities, and member recruitment. As the Chair of the Chamber Division, I also served as a member of the organization’s executive committee, providing stewardship and guidance on its strategic mission.

Founding Board Member

2013-2015

BlueTree Allied Angels, Erie, PA

BlueTree Allied Angels is a group of individuals based in Pittsburgh, PA, with a satellite location in Erie, PA, that invests in regional, early-stage companies. This members-only organization operates as a network of private equity investors that meets monthly to evaluate and consider pre-institutional investments. Blue Tree leverages its members’ knowledge and experience to help mitigate investment risk, thus, strengthening the probability of investment success.

Board of Directors (for profit businesses):

Preferred Systems, Inc.

Navitek Machining, Inc.

Navitek Group, Inc.

Community & Environment

Board Chair and Founding Board Member

2006-Present

Tom Ridge Environmental Center Foundation, Erie, PA

The Tom Ridge Environmental Center Foundation’s mission is to forge a partnership between the private sector and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources at Presque Isle State Park in order to enhance educational programming, natural history research and visitor services opportunities of the highest quality to assure that the Tom Ridge Environmental Center is nationally recognized as a center of excellence now and for generations to come.

My responsibilities with the Foundation have included the formation of the non-profit organization, oversight of tax exempt filings, budgeting, formation and implementation of governance structure and policies, setting board and committee agendas, running board and committee meetings, working with various Foundation stakeholders, and recruitment and hiring of Foundation officers and employees. My present role as Board Chair involves setting the vision for the organization, developing its strategic plan, and assuring its implementation.

Representative Speaking Engagements & Publications:

Author and Speaker, Board of Directors, PA Business Law, PBI Press

Author and Speaker, Pennsylvania Business Corporations, a New Way of Doing Business – Benefit Corporations

Certificates & Awards:

Law Review Editor

Series 6 and Series 63 Securities Licenses

Martindale-Hubbell AV preeminent rating

PSIA Alpine level II Ski Instructor

Certified Yoga Instructor - RYT-200

Founding Board Member Presque Isle Partnership, Erie, PA

1994-2001

The Presque Isle Partnership is a non-profit organization established in 1994. Its mission is to enhance the Presque Isle visitors' experience by developing, funding and implementing projects and programs on Presque Isle State Park, while protecting the natural environment.

I formed this organization and was a founding board member. In those roles, I developed the organization's governance structure including bylaws and policies. I participated in numerous committees that worked to develop environmental educational curricula, engaged in beach clean-up, and worked to establish a strong public-private working relationship with DCNR, the managers of Presque Isle State Park.

Founding Board Member Regional Science Consortium, Erie, PA

2007-2010

The Regional Science Consortium is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that facilitates scientific research and education in the research wing of the Tom Ridge Environmental Center through collaboration with RSC members.

Along with representatives of the local colleges and universities, I formed this non-profit organization as a collaborative effort to provide input on the construction and lay out of the science wing at the TREC and the future research efforts at the TREC. As counsel for the organization and as a founding board member, I helped developed the organization's governance structure, bylaws, and policies.

Business, Entrepreneurship & Academia

Adjunct Professor - Mergers & Acquisitions; Business Law
Mercyhurst University, Erie, PA

Founder & Co-Owner (2016-2017)
Satya Yoga Center, Erie, PA

Ski Instructor (1991-1998)
Peek 'n Peak, Clymer, NY

Education

University of Pittsburgh, Katz School of Business
M.B.A., 1990
Pittsburgh, PA

Syracuse University College of Law
J.D., 1987
Syracuse, NY

Carleton College
B.A., International Relations, 1982
Northfield, MN
