

Hancock Estabrook represents states, cities, counties, towns, villages, public authorities and fire districts in all aspects of municipal law. We provide services in connection with board governance, capital construction, eminent domain proceedings, employment and firematics, environmental law, governmental relations, legislation drafting, public bidding and procurement, public finance, bankruptcy and tax certiorari matters. We serve businesses, banks, cities, land owners and developers, health care providers and not-for-profit entities by advocating their positions before governmental bodies, and by advancing their legislative and regulatory goals.

Our attorneys rely on extensive experience in government, politics and public service to offer our clients strategic advice, assist with crisis management, and monitor legislative and regulatory activities. Through our skill and experience in litigation, real estate, education, technology, health care, land use and other areas of law, we generate solutions to seemingly insurmountable problems.

### **OUR MUNICIPAL LAW BLOG**

Hancock Estabrook has created a Municipal Law Blog, where our clients and contacts can now find an ongoing and growing archive of articles, links and other information, related to municipal law issues and other topics of interest in the public sector. We encourage you to visit the blog for regular updates.

<http://www.hancocklaw.com/municipal-law-blog/>

### **Recent Successes**

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Our recent accomplishments for municipal clients include:

- Favorable representation of a city against a petroleum company for contamination caused by an underground storage tank leak.
- Represented the Mohawk Valley Water Authority in an action to confirm its right to withdraw the maximum amount of water from Hinckley Reservoir as permitted under an agreement with the State of New York. The action was favorably settled giving the Authority the right to withdraw the maximum amount of water sought in the litigation, free from any compensation obligation.
- Successful defense of various municipalities in tax base challenges.
- Successful defense of a county against a complaint for overtime pay sought by various deputy sheriffs under the Fair Labor Standards Act.
- Successful conversion of various city hospitals from municipally-owned facilities into private institutions, resulting in significant financial advantages to the hospitals and cities.
- Significant monetary settlement for a village, in an action against a contractor and a surety, for a default under construction contract.
- Successful appeal to New York Court of Appeals of a district attorney's removal from office on residency grounds, resulting in the restoration to office.

## Representative Matters

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Our municipal attorneys presently represent or recently represented:

- A village against a fire corporation seeking to sever itself from the village's municipal oversight.
- Several counties and other municipal entities in interest arbitration proceedings involving police, fire, and deputy sheriff bargaining units.
- A county in effort to encourage development and construction of new hotel to support county's adjoining conference center.