

Terrence J. Sheahan, 39, does more than practice the law with passion; he also shares his love of the law with others, particularly young lawyers. As a partner in the Litigation and Government and Regulatory Law Practice Groups at Freeborn & Peters, Sheahan focuses his practice around complex disputes. He has represented plaintiffs and defendants in a wide range of litigation matters including claims for breach of contract, tortious interference, fraud, defamation, breach of fiduciary duties and other multi-million dollar business disputes in state and federal courts.

When Audrey Brodrick met Sheahan at Freeborn & Peters, she was a summer associate. Sheahan acted as a dedicated mentor, not only introducing her to the law but also sharing his devotion to the practice. After law school, Brodrick joined Freeborn & Peters, again working with Sheahan. "Even in the most tenuous of situations, and regardless of whether he is interacting with fellow colleagues, co-counsel, opposing counsel, clients, or the judiciary, Mr. Sheahan acts professionally and with the utmost respect for all he encounters. It is refreshing and reassuring to work with an attorney who is committed to professionalism, even in the face of difficult adversaries or unfavorable outcomes," she said.

Sheahan's legal skills draw admiration not just from young lawyers but from experienced attorneys. John Storino, a partner at Jenner & Block, worked opposite Sheahan on a civil rights case in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Storino appreciated Sheahan's common sense when the matter of attorney-client privilege arose as a point of contention. "Throughout the issue, which was intensely litigated over several months, Mr. Sheahan aggressively litigated on behalf of his clients, but, at the same time, he was professional, courteous and respectful in dealing with me, his adversary. That is something I appreciated very much and have always remembered," Storino said. "He is bright, articulate, hard working, and has the common sense to get things done inside and outside a courtroom."

Terry Burns of Dykema Gossett PLLC also worked on cases in federal court with Sheahan and was adverse to Sheahan on other cases. Burns said, "He is mature beyond his age and his legal skill and judgment are exemplary." Former colleague Rick Levy, now of Johnson & Bell said, "Sheahan displayed a depth of skill rare in one his age."

Before joining Freeborn & Peters, Sheahan served as a prosecutor in the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, Narcotics Special Prosecutions Bureau. He prosecuted more than 150 bench trials, 13 jury trials, and appeals before the Illinois Appellate Court.

Patrick Morley, who worked with Sheahan at the State's Attorney's Office, recalled Sheahan's unflinching self control while partnering with him on a jury trial. "It is a privilege to have worked with him. My experiences trying cases with him have made me a better lawyer. His meticulous attention to detail, his preparation, and strategy are what separate him from other top attorneys, and place him among the profession's elite," said Morley.

Matthew Sobolewski, a partner in a New York law firm who also tried a jury case with Sheahan, said that Sheahan was "unflappable both in and out of court, and possessed a palpable confidence due to his tireless preparation and prodigious talent."

At Freeborn & Peters, Sheahan's recent accomplishments as lead counsel include a 2010 victory in the Illinois Supreme Court in a defamation case, a dismissal of a \$30 million tortious interference with a contract lawsuit in favor of an international technology services company, a multi-million dollar settlement in favor of a global measurement product supplier in federal court, and a dismissal of the City of Naperville in a First Amendment civil rights lawsuit brought by a City Council member.

Margo Ely the City Attorney of the City of Naperville says, "TJ exudes respect, professional integrity and confidence." Ely continues, "His clients are lucky to have him."

Sheahan is a member of the Chicago Bar Association and an adjunct professor at Northwestern University Law School teaching an introductory course to trial advocacy. He is active in fundraising for Special Olympics Chicago/Special Children's Charities (including the annual Polar Bear Plunge). He and his wife Patti, also an attorney, have four children.

Sheahan received his Bachelor's degree from Indiana University in 1994 and his J.D. in 1999 from DePaul University College of Law.



TERRENCE J. SHEAHAN

age 39

law school DePaul University College of Law

area of practice Business Litigation

firm Freeborn & Peters LLP
311 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60606



Mature beyond his age.



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