

# CHAD J. VILUSHIS

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cjvilushis@thetravislawfirm.net  
www.thetravislawfirm.net

400 Market Street  
Warren, PA 16365  
814-723-6120

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### The Travis Law Firm

Associate

April 2005 to present

- Practiced all aspects of adult and juvenile criminal defense in twelve (12) counties of Pennsylvania. Including but not limited to: representation at preliminary hearings, various pretrial motions, pleas, sentencing, jury and nonjury trials, ARD hearings, juvenile disposition hearings, summary and driver license appeals, and various post-sentence motions all at the Court of Common Pleas level. Also, countless traffic and non-traffic summary trials at the magisterial district judge level.
- Appointed by the Federal Court to serve as Conflict Counsel for the Federal Public Defender's office for the Western District of Pennsylvania (2009 to present).
- Practiced Social Security Disability Law in Federal Court in Erie, Pennsylvania; Seven Fields, Pennsylvania and Jamestown, New York.
- Practiced various aspects of civil litigation concerning personal injury claims as well as drafted wills, handled real estate closings, and litigation surrounding Protection From Abuse Petitions.
- Member of Erie County's Civil Arbitration Panel.

### Erie County District Attorney's Office

Deputy District Attorney/Assistant District Attorney

August 1999 until  
April 2005

- As deputy, had management responsibilities concerning all assistant district attorneys, including hiring and firing of staff as well as assigning cases.
- Also, served approximately two (2) years as the designated domestic violence prosecutor.
- Handled various aspects of appellate litigation on behalf of the Commonwealth, including writing a Petition for Writ of Certiorari to the United States Supreme Court regarding Pennsylvania's original "Megan's Law" (Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. Donald Williams), as well as oral arguments before the Superior Court, and drafting Federal *Habeas Corpus* Petitions.

### Trial Experience

- Personally tried over sixty (60) jury trials in several different counties.
- First chair on two (2) successful murder prosecutions (Taveren Robinson and Gene Wilson).

### Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

Adjunct Professor: Intro to Criminal Justice

Spring Semester 2005

### Honorable Judge Ernest J. DiSantis, Jr.

Law Clerk

January 1998 until  
August 1999

## BAR ADMISSIONS/LICENSED TO PRACTICE

Pennsylvania (1997) (Active status)  
Florida (1998) (Inactive status)

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District of Columbia (1999) (Inactive status)  
United States District Court (Western District of Pennsylvania) (1997)  
United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit (2000)

## EDUCATION

Stetson University College of Law, J.D.	1994 to 1997
Allegheny College, B.A. in Political Science	1990 to 1994
Alden Scholar (all four years), Graduated Cum Laude	
McDowell High School	1986 to 1990

## RECOGNITIONS

Selected to Super Lawyers Rising Stars in 2008, 2011, 2012  
Selected to The National Trial Lawyers Top 100 Trial Lawyers in Criminal Defense, 2015

## LECTURES WITHIN THE PAST YEAR

### DUI: Facts and Myths

- Rise and Shine Event on July 17, 2014. Presentation to counselors and law enforcement agents for continuing education credits.
- Symposium at SCI Cambridge Springs on October 29, 2014. Two presentations to State Correction Officers and employees from Western Pennsylvania.

### Erie County Drug and Alcohol Coalition

- Presenter at September 9, 2014 meeting.

## Community Service & Leadership

### Erie County VOCA Funding Committee

(previously Erie County Victim Assistance Policy Board)

2004 to present

- Recommends and votes on how state and federal dollars should be distributed to various local victim service agencies.

### Protection From Abuse Coordinated Services Advisory Board

2010 to present

- Advises on how their mission of helping individuals seek Protection From Abuse Orders can best be accomplished.

### Vice-Chair for Criminal Law Practice Committee (Erie County Bar Association)

2015

### Member of First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant in Erie, Pennsylvania

- Served as trustee from 2010 until 2012.

## MEMBERSHIPS

Erie County Bar Association  
Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers  
Pennsylvania Bar Association