

# BLAKINGER | THOMAS

## LAW FIRM



### George T. Cook

George is a shareholder of Blakinger Thomas and Chair of the Agricultural group. George's primary practice areas are real estate, agricultural, zoning and subdivision and litigation relating to real estate and land use. He also is a member of the firm's Wills, Estates, Trusts, Elder Law, and Planned Giving practice group. His specific concentrations are in real estate transactions and financing, real estate settlement services, agricultural preservation, advising farmers and other landowners, Agricultural Security Areas, ACRE disputes, Clean and Green, 1031 exchanges, estate planning and similar matters. He helps administer the law firm's title insurance agency relationship for two title insurance companies, attempting to creatively produce solutions for real estate title matters.

George also has significant experience in municipal law, having represented many landowners before zoning hearing boards, municipalities, and various Pennsylvania courts of common pleas and appellate courts. He is Solicitor to several municipalities and municipal entities. George enjoys that his practice has taken him to farmhouses, municipal buildings and courthouses around the Commonwealth. He appreciates Lancaster's wonderful land and is proud that part of his practice helps preserve the land for future generations.

#### EDUCATION

- University of Connecticut Law School, J.D. (*high honors, Law Review*)
- Lehigh University, B.S.

#### CLERKSHIPS

- Law Clerk to the Honorable Madeline Palladino, Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania (1991-1992)

#### BAR ADMISSIONS

- United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, 1999
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania, 1994
- Pennsylvania, 1991

#### AWARDS

- Tabor Community Services, Board Member Service Award, 2012
- Lancaster Day Care Center, Honorary Board Member, 2007
- Public Service Award, Volunteer Representation, 1996

#### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Pennsylvania Bar Association (Agricultural Law Committee)
- Lancaster Bar Association (Past Chair of Real Estate Section)

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#### PRACTICE AREAS

Real Estate  
Land Use  
Agricultural  
Municipal  
Zoning and Subdivision  
Estate Planning and Administration  
Tax