

**"He is someone I would think of immediately in referring a case"**



John J. Rock, 39, devotes his entire practice to litigation, focusing on commercial and civil rights matters. One nominator says the Rock Fusco, LLC attorney combines "the intensity of a competitor with the civility of a professional."

Rock is a founding member of the firm, which opened in 2005. From 2001 to 2004, he was an associate at Rock, Fusco & Garvey, Ltd. He joined private practice after working for four years as a Cook County Assistant State's Attorney.

"At a young age, Jay has managed to excel as a prosecutor and a private practice litigator," says James R. Thompson, senior chairman of Winston & Strawn. The former governor has known Rock almost his entire life because of his ties to his father, Philip J. Rock, who was president of the Illinois Senate during Thompson's tenure.

"I think there are few others who have achieved so much so soon," he adds.

"Mr. Rock is an uncommonly effective attorney," says one Cook County Circuit Court judge, who cites Rock's integrity and his command of the factual record. "His arguments are forceful, on-point and well formed," says the nominator, "[and] at the same time, he avoids ad hominem comments, stays within the issues and is well-respected by his opponents."

Some of Rock's most prominent work involves advising and representing municipalities and governmental agencies on civil rights matters, eminent domain, tax increment financing, and labor and employment.

"He is a very committed lawyer who is tireless in his efforts to represent his clients," says Jerry A. Latherow of Latherow Law Office. "He is someone I would think of immediately in referring a case if I were to get a call regarding civil rights litigation, questions of municipal law or eminent domain."

Among Rock's most highly regarded work was his representation of the City of Chicago in two cases arising from allegations that police officers engaged in improper arrest and wrongful conviction of two individuals. One of the judges involved reports that Rock "presented and defended several complex motions with exceptional skill." One of the matters, *Evans v. City of Chicago*, went to trial and, following a month-long jury trial in the Northern District, Rock and his trial partners obtained a complete defense verdict favoring the City.

Peter M. Kramer of the Cook County Sheriff's Office says Rock has defended the office in several matters involving civil rights and labor and employment. Kramer says Rock has the ability in civil rights litigation "to ethically advise the individual clients and the municipality itself in a very logical, common-sense manner when weighing legal options and strategies."

Kramer says Rock was also able to resolve a difficult labor litigation matter with complex legal issues in a very simple fashion. The controversy involved the sheriff's office, the office of the Cook County president and a major Chicago-area union.

James R. Madler, a private practitioner, says Rock demonstrated his competency in the complex law of the global marketplace in *Wong v. WICE Logistics*. The litigation concerned an employment contract executed by an Illinois-based employee with a Hong Kong company that contained an arbitration clause requiring the application of Singapore law for dispute resolution. Rock persuaded the court to uphold the agreement.

Rock is actively involved with Loyola University Chicago School of Law, where he works with the school's mock trial teams. He serves on the judicial evaluation committee of the Chicago Bar Association and mentors for the Illinois Bar Association.

**LAW SCHOOL**  
**Loyola University**  
**School of Law**

**SPECIALITY**  
**Municipal Defense**

**Rock Fusco, LLC**  
321 N. Clark Street, Suite 2200  
Chicago, IL 60654  
T 312.494.1000