

## Thomas B. Mooney

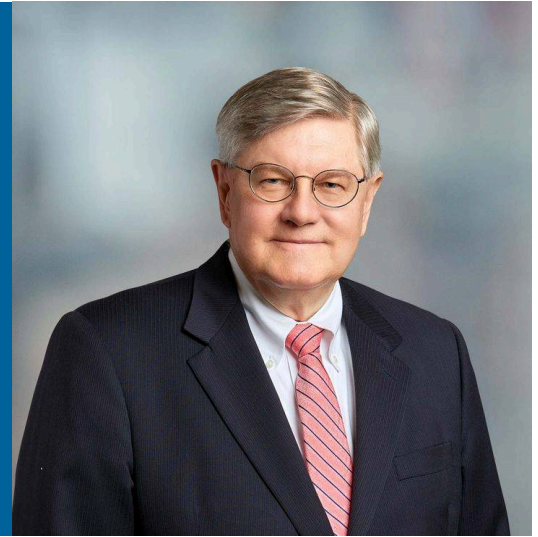
Partner

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Thomas Mooney is chair *emeritus* and former co-chair of Shipman's School Law Practice Group. Tom represents clients in all areas of school law, including labor negotiations for certified and non-certified staff, teacher tenure proceedings, grievance arbitration, freedom of information hearings, student disciplinary matters, special education disputes and all other legal proceedings involving boards of education. Drawing on his decades of legal practice, Tom's philosophy is straightforward: *The best legal problems are those that are avoided.*

Tom is committed to helping current and future education leaders, teachers, personnel, policymakers and lawyers better understand the rapidly emerging issues facing schools today. Tom has taught school law at the University of Connecticut School of Law since 1985, has served as Professor-in-Residence at the Neag School of Education at the University of Connecticut since 2001, and is an adjunct professor in both the School of Law and the School of Education of Quinnipiac University. Additionally, through presentations, panels, seminars and webinars — including numerous recent webinars addressing the questions of administrators and superintendents with respect to opening schools and providing learning opportunities during the COVID-19 pandemic — Tom provides insights that reflect lessons learned over many years.

A prolific, thoughtful writer, Tom is the author of *A Practical Guide to Connecticut School Law* (10th Edition, 2023), a comprehensive treatise on Connecticut school law published by the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) and used by teachers, administrators and board of education members throughout the state. Over the past 40 years, Tom has written hundreds of articles and essays on school law matters, including his two current columns: "See You in Court!," which appears monthly in the *CABE Journal*, and "Legal Mailbag," which appears each week in the *CAS Newsblast*, published by the Connecticut Association of Schools.

In recognition of his service and contributions to public education, Tom is the recipient of awards presented by CAFE, CAS, the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents, the New England Association of School Superintendents, and the *Connecticut Law Tribune*.

## Distinctions

- Listed in The Best Lawyers in America®: *Education Law (2006-2026); Employment Law - Management, Labor Law - Management (2011-2026)*
- Listed as a Connecticut Super Lawyer®: *Schools & Education (2007; 2014-2024)*
- Named "Lawyer of the Year" (2013, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2021, 2024): Best Lawyers® Hartford Region *Education Law*
- Named "Lawyer of the Year" (2020): Best Lawyers® Hartford Region *Employment Law*
- President's Award, Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (2020)
- Named "Lawyer of the Year" (2017): Best Lawyers® Hartford Region *Labor Law*
- President's Award, New England Association of School Superintendents (2017)
- Professional Excellence Award, *Connecticut Law Tribune* (2016)
- Distinguished Friend of Public Education Award, Connecticut Association of Schools (2001)
- Friend of Public Education Award, Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (2000)
- American Bar Foundation: Fellow
- AV Preeminent® Rated, Martindale-Hubbell
- Connecticut Bar Foundation: James W. Cooper Sustaining Life Fellow
- *Harvard International Law Journal*, Articles Editor

## Teaching Positions

- University of Connecticut: Professor in Residence, Neag School of Education
- University of Connecticut School of Law: Adjunct Professor, Law and Public Education
- Quinnipiac University School of Education, Adjunct Professor, Education Law; Quinnipiac University School of Law, Adjunct Professor, Education Law

## Professional Affiliations

- American Bar Association
- Connecticut Bar Association
- Hartford County Bar Association
- Connecticut School Attorneys Council: Former President

## Credentials

## *Education*

- Yale College, B.A., 1973, *magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa
- Harvard Law School, J.D., 1976, *cum laude*

## *Bar Admissions*

- Connecticut, 1976