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PROFILES IN LEADERSHIP

In the Trenches
ATTORNEY TIM LASOTA HAS MADE HIS NAME REPRESENTING BUSINESS, POLITICAL CLIENTS

Tim LaSota has done legal work for several high-profile conservative politicians, but says he'll represent clients from either side of the aisle.

BY MIKE SUNNUCKS
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If you are an elected official or a business in some political hot water, it might be a good idea to have an attorney like Tim LaSota on speed dial.

LaSota, a partner with Phoenix-based Tiffany & Bosco PA, specializes in high-profile and controversial political cases, which often involve business interests. His recent work includes defending:

- Final County Sheriff Paul Babeu, after he was accused of intimidating a boyfriend. The Arizona lawmaker was cleared of any criminal wrongdoing.
- The Home Builders Association of Central Arizona, in a fight with the city of Surprise over development impact fees.
- Phoenix City Councilman Sal DiCicco, in a suit (later dismissed) involving alleged campaign violations during this year's elections.
- A group called Business Leaders for Arizona, in an ongoing case involving accusations that state Attorney General Tom Horne improperly coordinated campaign activities with the group and aide Kathleen Winn. LaSota won a big ruling in that case, taking the Maricopa County Attorney's Office off the matter.

LaSota previously served as chief of staff to Scottsdale Mayor Jim Lane and worked for former Maricopa County Attorney Andrew Thomas, and he has counseled clients on the Senate Bill 1070 immigration law.

Despite such high-profile conservative names on his client list, the Phoenix attorney stresses he will defend his clients strongly no matter their political stripes. Client representation, he says, is about aggressive counsel — not whether it is in the red or blue side of the aisle.

"I pride myself on the fact that my clients come first, and I will take care of their needs — even if, in doing so, I may offend some other attorney, law firm or elected official," says LaSota. "I try not to take things personally and hope that my opponents do not, either."

He says he also is ready to put on the gloves for business clients.

"The work I do for business clients usually involves a situation in which they want something from government, or they want relief from government, or both," he says. "For example, I represent a number of businesses with government contracts who want to maintain these contracts, and that often involves help with the procurement process."

He also has helped businesses fight regulatory fines and burdens.

LaSota joined Tiffany & Bosco PA, a Phoenix-based commercial law firm, in 2012. He previously was with Rose Law Group, the Scottsdale firm headed by attorney Jordan Rose.

He has been active with Goodwill of Central Arizona, including serving on its board as the nonprofit went through growth and change.

"It was also a little bumpy in that we transitioned from our prior longtime CEO to the current CEO, Jim Teter," he says.

He's also active with the St. Thomas More Society and the Phoenix Chapter of the Federalist Society.