

Our People

We all look forward to the chance to be of service to you:

Liam G.B. Murphy is a graduate of Brown University and New York University School of Law. Mr. Murphy has practiced law for over fifteen years and in Tompkins County specifically since 1999. He is admitted in all the state and federal trial courts in New York State.

Amy Jackson is the Firm's Legal Assistant and Bookkeeper. She has served as a paralegal in private practice, a Court Clerk for the Ithaca City Court and as a professional bookkeeper. She has over 15 years of experience in the law field.

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John A. Ward is now a special partner of the Firm. Mr. Ward practiced law in Ithaca for nearly thirty years and is now retired.

Evan Webster is now "of Counsel" to the Firm, a title recognizing his retired status. Mr. Webster remains a close friend and colleague

How To Hire Us To Help

Before you hire us and before we agree to help you, we need to talk with you in a consultation. In a consultation, you will receive basic information about your options and how to hire us, including our rates. We charge a reduced rate for our initial consultations. You hire us by signing a retainer letter with us. For more information, please call 898-3190 or toll-free 877-212-4722.

**For more information, visit our web site:
www.ward-and-murphy.com**

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WARD & MURPHY

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW



Who We Are

Ward & Murphy are “real lawyers serving real people.” We pride ourselves on serving the legal needs of the citizens of Tompkins County.

Ward & Murphy was formed by the merger of the practices of Jack Ward in Ithaca and Evan Webster in Groton. Both of those practices served people in Tompkins County for nearly twenty years. Over those twenty years, both Jack and Evan built solid reputations for providing their clients with timely solutions to their legal problems. Liam Murphy joined the practice in 1999 soon after moving back to New York, having practiced law for over ten years in New York City, Pittsburgh and Wilmington.

We are proud to have served our fellow citizens: young people, couples just starting out, entrepreneurs, senior citizens – people from all walks of life. We look forward to the opportunity to bring our timely service to you.

Where We Are

Our main office is located in the Village of Groton at 170 Main Street, a blue house with cream trim, in downtown Groton. The office is directly across the street from the First National Bank of Groton and is between the Groton Historical Society and the Red Apple/Kwik Fill market. There is plenty of parking behind our office, on the street or in the municipal lots. TCAT buses pass right in front of our office.

We also have an Ithaca office to serve clients which is open by appointment only. The Ithaca office is at 109 East Seneca Street, a brick house, next to the Tompkins Trust Company’s Seneca Street parking lot and across from the Dewitt Mall, in the heart of downtown Ithaca.

Please call 898-3190 to make an appointment at either office.

What We Do

The kinds of legal needs we serve include:

- ◆ **Wills:** we can help you draft your will, create a trust to manage assets for your children or grandchildren, as well as reviewing your assets to help you create a legal framework for your long-term goals in cooperation with your brokers, accountants or other financial advisors. We can also help you appoint others to help with your affairs as your power of attorney or appoint health care proxies.
- ◆ **Estate Administration:** we can help you be an executor or administrator for the estate of a deceased loved one
- ◆ **Homes (and other Real Estate) :** we can help you negotiate and close the purchase or sale of a home or a piece of property
- ◆ **Landlord/Tenant:** we can help you understand your rights as a landlord or as a tenant under your lease and either file or defend an eviction action if needed
- ◆ **Divorce:** we can help you negotiate a property settlement with your spouse and file for divorce. We can also pursue the divorce in Court if needed.
- ◆ **Custody/Visitation:** we can help you bring an action to get a Court order giving you custody and/or visitation rights, or defend you against such an action.
- ◆ **Small Business Services:** we can help you incorporate your business or form a partnership. We can also help you with basic business advice. We can also help you defend the business’ legal rights against lawsuits and provide advice on legal action available to the business.
- ◆ **Criminal Matters:** we can help you criminal matters, including DWI (drunken driving) charges and traffic tickets
- ◆ **Litigation:** we can help you pursue your legal rights in Court if needed, either bringing a lawsuit or defending you from a lawsuit as needed.

