

Paul Lancaster Adams

A member of the Legal & Corporate Affairs external leadership, Paul Lancaster Adams is Senior Director, U.S. Government Affairs for Microsoft Corporation where he advises on and supports strategic executive projects, outreach strategies for interoperability and antitrust and advocates on issues through outreach to those within the government elite ecosystem. For three years, Paul previously served as Associate General Counsel where he managed and directed the strategic and tactical handling of various industry-driven class actions and significant litigation in the areas of labor and employment, soft IP, products liability and commercial matters as well as high-level domestic, and non-U.S., corporate internal investigations related to fraud, unethical business practices and policy violations. He also provided risk assessment and daily legal counsel on various issues to business executives and managers. For the last two years Paul has lead the Legal & Corporate Affairs Diversity Team Outreach Committee which consists of 25 attorneys responsible for the department's partnering and support of diversity efforts, broadly, within national legal associations and interest groups.

Before joining Microsoft, Paul was a partner in the Philadelphia office of Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads where he represented large publically traded corporations with international operations in the areas of labor and employment, commercial litigation, soft IP and corporate investigations while also serving as co-chair of the firm's Diversity Committee. He was also a partner at Sweeney & Sheehan in Philadelphia where he practiced in the same substantive areas. Paul's public sector experience includes having served as a trial attorney with the City of Philadelphia Law Department in its Federal Trial Division. During his litigation career, Paul has successfully tried numerous cases to verdict, including high profile matters before federal and state courts.

Paul has been a repeat guest speaker on international fronts on issues involving the legal profession while evangelizing company programing and initiatives. He's been honored by a number of organizations, such as the National Bar Association, American Lawyer Media and Philadelphia Business Journal, for his commitment to the legal profession and community. Paul received his B.A., with honors, from Virginia Commonwealth University, where he also was selected as a Governor's Fellow, and his J.D. from Wake Forest University School of Law in 1993.