



TITLE III ADA ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATION

Over the last several years, there has been a sharp increase in the number of public accommodation lawsuits brought under Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and state public accommodation laws. Spurred by the availability of attorneys' fees under the ADA, plaintiffs' firms throughout the country are aggressively pursuing such lawsuits. These firms team up with disabled individuals who travel to facilities to "test" compliance with the complex provisions of Title III. There have been numerous cases involving the obligation to provide access and accommodations to disabled fans at athletic arenas and stadiums.

Jackson Lewis attorneys have significant experience advising clients regarding access issues. We also have extensive experience defending against lawsuits for disability discrimination brought against places of public accommodation.

We partner with disabled access specialists to assist clients in reviewing accessibility issues and services provided to customers or patrons, including at sports and recreational facilities. Our work has ranged from assisting with site inspections, to assessing accessibility issues such as the obligation to provide sign language interpreters for the hearing impaired or accommodations for the mobility impaired. Whenever possible, we endeavor to assess and address issues before litigation is commenced or threatened.

Unfortunately, litigation avoidance is not always possible. We have defended hundreds of disability accommodation cases in jurisdictions across the country. We take a practical approach with the ultimate goal of meeting our clients' objectives, whether that means facilitating a quick resolution or pursuing an aggressive defense.

For more information on Jackson Lewis' Collegiate and Professional Sports Group, please contact Paul Kelly at Paul.Kelly@JacksonLewis.com or Gregg Clifton at Gregg.Clifton@JacksonLewis.com.