

## Kline & Specter, Saltz Attorneys to Defend Congressional Hopeful

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Attorneys from Kline & Specter and Saltz Mongeluzzi & Bendesky have partnered to defend Democratic congressional candidate Ashley Ehasz in a defamation suit filed by a high-profile Bucks County gym owner who says Ehasz incorrectly accused him of being involved in the Jan. 6 insurrection.

**Kline & Specter's Helen Lawless** and Saltz Mongeluzzi's Daniel Ceisler are leading the pro bono defense, and, according to Ceisler, more attorneys are gearing up to join the team. "There are attorneys across the Bucks County and Philadelphia area that are lining up to help defend Ashley against this ridiculous

and frivolous lawsuit," he said.

Geoffrey Johnson of the Law Office of Geoffrey R. Johnson is representing plaintiff Jim Worthington, who owns Newtown Athletic Club and helped found the political advocacy group People4Trump. Worthington claims Ehasz falsely implied that he paid for buses to bring in participants to take part in the violent insurrection at the Capitol.

Johnson wrote in the complaint that "Ehasz cynically co-opted ... false and defamatory accusations in undertaking a vicious campaign to maliciously and falsely accuse Worthington of committing

federal felonies and crimes of violence by funding and organizing a group to participate in a violent insurrection at the Capitol.”

According to Worthington, neither he nor attendees of a People4Trump-organized bus to Washington, D.C., trip took part in any of the misconduct Jan. 6. The complaint, filed March 14 in the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas, said that no law enforcement agency has accused Worthington of participating in the insurrection or encouraging attendees to do so.

According to the complaint, Worthington and the approximately 200 individuals that People4Trump transported to Washington, D.C., on Jan. 6, 2021, attended the rally but did not participate in insurrectionary activities, nor did they even enter the immediate grounds of the Capitol building.

The complaint stated that “attendees paid their own way for the bus trip” and that Worthington did not fund any participation in the insurrection. It does not say whether or not he provided funding for the bus trips in general.