

PHILADELPHIA'S BEST LAWYERS®

2011 EDITION

THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO LEGAL
REPRESENTATION IN THE GREATER
PHILADELPHIA AREA

An **ALM** Publication  Best Lawyers® *The Legal Intelligencer*
THE WORLD'S PREMIER GUIDE

2011 LAWYERS OF THE YEAR

Best Lawyers has named individuals as Lawyers of the Year in the greater Philadelphia area, based on their particularly high level of peer recognition.

For nearly 40 years, Dennis Cogan has been one of Philadelphia's top criminal defense lawyers, and while the man admits to reveling in the proverbial win, he says he never loses sight of what's important: his client.

"What makes me happy about the work that we do is that whoever the client is, whatever he may have done or may not have done, the power of the government is so awesome that the government can chew you up and spit you out," says Cogan, a Temple University Law School graduate and lifelong Phillies fan. "It's our job to stand between the government and our clients. At the end of the day, you're really helping people. When you do a good job for a client, you get gratitude like you don't get almost anywhere else with any other specialty of the law, I can tell you that."

Before opening his own practice in 1976, Cogan was working as an assistant district attorney and quickly earned a reputation as one of the city's top homicide prosecutors. "It was a wonderful office, and I was influenced by a lot of talented people," says Cogan, who has served on the Criminal Procedural Rules Committee of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

Cogan takes his job very seriously, he says, because "people are putting themselves in your hands. If a client that I like goes to jail, a piece of me goes with them. So my job is to give my client the very best possible representation I can give them."

Cogan and his wife, Caryl, have an adult son named Jon, who is an attorney in New York.



Dennis J. Cogan

Dennis J. Cogan & Associates

**CRIMINAL DEFENSE:
NON-WHITE-COLLAR**

—Chris Harris