

AG Kathleen Kane can't do certain things during law license suspension, says PA. Supreme Court Chief Justice



[\[http://connect.pennlive.com/staff/calexandersen/index.html\]](http://connect.pennlive.com/staff/calexandersen/index.html) By **Christian Alexandersen** | calexandersen@pennlive.com

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[Email the author](mailto:calexandersen@pennlive.com) | [Follow on Twitter \[https://twitter.com/crawriter\]](https://twitter.com/crawriter)

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The Pennsylvania Supreme Court has a limited role in the ongoing saga of embattled Pa. Attorney General Kathleen Kane, according chief justice of the state's highest court.

Chief Justice of the Pa. Supreme Court Thomas Saylor fielded questions Monday during a luncheon with the Pennsylvania Press Club. The questions revolved around Kane, **whose law license has been suspended**

[\[http://www.pennlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/09/supreme_court_suspends_attorne.html#incart_m-rpt-2\]](http://www.pennlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/09/supreme_court_suspends_attorne.html#incart_m-rpt-2) in connection with charges [\[http://www.pennlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/08/criminal_charges_announced_aga.html\]](http://www.pennlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/08/criminal_charges_announced_aga.html) that she leaked grand jury information and then lied about it.

The Pa. Supreme Court recently ruled 5-0 in support of **temporarily suspending Kane's law license** [\[http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2015/08/ag_kathleen_kane_action_referr.html\]](http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2015/08/ag_kathleen_kane_action_referr.html). Saylor said will be up to the state Disciplinary Board to determine what kinds of duties and functions she can and can't participate in with her law license suspended.

"I would think you couldn't, obviously, you couldn't do things that a lawyer could do," Saylor said. "That may include executing legal documents, signing indictments."

He added, "You can't function as an attorney during the period of your suspension."

The Pennsylvania Constitution stipulates that an in order to become the attorney general, they must be a member of the bar of the Pa. Supreme Court. Even though Kane's law license is temporarily suspended, Saylor said she is still a member of the state bar association.

Saylor clarified what kind of power the Pa. Supreme Court has in the Kane situation.

"The court has no ability to remove the attorney general," Saylor said. "Those removal operations are vested to the political branches in the constitution."

Saylor balked on the chance to offer his opinion on whether or not the embattled attorney general should resign.

"I have absolutely no view on that," Saylor said.

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