

## MICHAEL A. SEBASTIAN

SHAREHOLDER



### AREAS OF PRACTICE

Workers' Compensation

### CONTACT INFO

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Moosic, PA 18507

### ADMISSIONS

Pennsylvania  
1991

U.S. District Court Middle District  
of Pennsylvania

### EDUCATION

Widener University School of Law  
(J.D., 1991)

University of Scranton (B.S., 1988)

### HONORS & AWARDS

The Best Lawyers in America®,  
Workers' Compensation Law -  
Employers  
2023-2025

### ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Lackawanna County Bar  
Association

### YEAR JOINED

2021

### OVERVIEW

Michael concentrates his practice on defending workers' compensation claims. He represents employers, insurance carriers and third-party administrators, working together with his clients to achieve their desired result.

With more than 20 years of experience, Michael has appeared on behalf of his clients before many local judges, the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board, the Commonwealth Court and the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. In addition to litigating claims, Michael counsels clients on implementing risk management strategies that focus on lowering workers' compensation costs and avoiding liability exposure.

Michael is a member of the Lackawanna County Bar Association.

### CLASSES/SEMINARS TAUGHT

*Protecting Against Unreasonable Medical Expenses and Fee Reviews*, Marshall Dennehey  
Workers' Compensation Seminar, October 27, 2022

## RESULTS

### Claim Petition Denied in a Case Involving Work-Related Cervical Injury

#### **Workers' Compensation**

**December 13, 2024**

We received a decision denying a claim petition that alleged the claimant suffered a work-related cervical injury on June 29, 2023. The claimant testified that he felt a snap but did not feel the pain right away and continued to work until July 17, 2023. He then went to the emergency room and subsequently had surgery on July 20, 2023. During cross-examination, the claimant agreed he only suffered a cervical injury, not a low back injury.

### Favorable Decision Dismissing Claim Petition Involving an Alleged Work From Home Injury

#### **Workers' Compensation**

**July 30, 2024**

We received a favorable decision dismissing a Claim Petition involving a claimant who alleged injuries from working at home on the couch. Mike submitted the claimant's testimony from third-party litigation demonstrating conflicts with her testimony in the workers' compensation case to impact her credibility. He also emphasized the claimant's pre-existing condition, even though she told her medical expert that she was asymptomatic, as the claimant had been receiving chiropractic care for 38 years.

### Successful Defense of Claim Petition

#### **Workers' Compensation**

**February 2, 2023**

We defended a Claim Petition, successfully proving that a claimant's injury was not work-related. After a thorough investigation and review of the medical records, we were able to present witnesses and evidence that confirmed that the alleged injury had gone unreported and was inconsistent with the mechanism of injury. The Workers' Compensation Judge found our witnesses credible that the claimant did not report his knee condition as work-related.